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DALLAS: A jury June 13 found condemned slayer Jack Ruby sane following a dramatic personal appeal by Ruby to the jury to find him of sound mind. The sanity trial had been ordered by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals to see whether Ruby had the mental capacity to fire J. H. Tonahill, one of the original lawyers in the case. Ruby is shown here as he was returned to the Dallas County jail for lunch before the verdict came in. Behind him is the Texas School Book Depository Building, the building from which Lee Harvey Oswald, the man Ruby is convicted of murdering, fired the fatal shots that killed President Kennedy. UPI TELE - PHOTO

Ruby Ruled Sane by Jury in Texas Court

DALLAS, Tex. AP - The Jack Ruby murder case, plagued by legal complications and wrangles among defense lawyers, appears finally to be on its way to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Ruby's conviction and death sentence for the Nov. 24, 1963, killing of Lee Harvey Oswald has not yet technically progressed beyond the trial court level. Oswald was named by the Warren Commission as the assassin of President John F. Kennedy. Kennedy was shot Nov. 22, 1963.

But one major obstacle to the movement of Ruby's trial was removed Monday when a Dallas District Court jury ruled that the 55-year-old former strip joint operator was legally sane.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals--the highest court in the state for noncivil cases--had indicated that it would not take up the appeal of the murder conviction until the sanity issue was settled.

Ruby was convicted of murder March 14, 1964, in the same

court--Criminal District Court No. 3-- that adjudged him sane.

The defense, claiming that Ruby was insane, had requested a sanity hearing a month after the conviction. It was repeatedly delayed for various reasons.

The Texas appeals court, ordered May 18 that Ruby's sanity be judicially determined without delay.

It took a seven-man-five-woman jury only 10 minutes Monday to rule that Ruby was sane.

Ruby himself took the witness stand for one minute during the trial to say: "Never at any time have I tried to make anyone believe that I was of unsound mind. I never tried to camouflage my mental capacities."

The defense put on no witnesses, conducted no cross-examination and gave no final arguments.