

Council asked to buy Ruby trial drawings

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City Council has been asked to approve a \$7,500 expenditure for the purchase of 130 drawings depicting various scenes from Jack Ruby's murder trial.

Photographs were not permitted during Ruby's March 1964 trial on charges that he murdered Lee Harvey Oswald, the alleged assassin of President John Kennedy, and the drawings "offer the City of Dallas one of the only visual records of the trial which are available," said Asst. City Manager Gerry Henigsman.

"Our interest in the drawings relates to their potential historical value," Henigsman said. "They would become part of the Dallas Public Library's collection and would be available for research purposes."

Included in the collection are 13 sketches of the jurors, 12 of the prosecution attorneys, 32 of the testimony phase of the trial, 33 of Ruby with his attorneys, 39 of the courtroom it-

self, and a 25-inch by 40-inch courtroom scene that includes the trial's principal participants.

The drawings were done by John Groth of New York City, a major American book illustrator. His work has appeared in editions of "Gone With the Wind," "All's Quiet on the Western Front" and "Exodus."

Some of Groth's work has been collected for display in the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Dick Waters, assistant director of the library, said his staff became aware of the availability of the drawings through an executive of Encino Press in Austin. "We buy a lot of our art through them, and one of their executives, who is a close personal friend of Groth, told us of the drawings," said Waters.

Several of the drawings will be displayed for the council members Wednesday when they consider approval of the expenditure.

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