

# Oswald's Killer Like Sgt. Bilko Says Willowdale Man Who Met Him

A Willowdale man who witnessed the shooting of President Kennedy also met the Dallas night club owner charged with the killing of his assassin.

"I went to Jack Ruby's club the evening before the President was shot," Norman Similas, Sheppard ave. e., recalled last night.

## PAST-TALKING

"Ruby is a fast-talking, anecdotal guy, like Sgt. Bilko," Similas said.

Ruby is accused of the slaying of assassin Lee Oswald.

"He came to our table several times during the by-the-way and comedy act."

Similas, 34, advertising

manager for a trade magazine, returned to Toronto during the week end after five days attending a convention in Dallas.

Keynote speaker was U.S. Vice-President Lyndon Johnson.

## 15 FEET AWAY

Two days after the speech, Similas was standing 15 feet from President Kennedy's limousine when he was cut down by rifle shots fired from ambush.

Similas was in the sniper's line of fire but he was more terrified by the heavily-armed police and secret servicemen in the Presidential procession.

"The sniper knew what he was shooting at but the

police seemed likely to open fire in any direction," he said. "They wanted to shoot somebody, anybody."

The momentary panic among police spread quickly to other Dallas residents.

## HOSPITABLE

"Before the President was killed, Dallas was the most hospitable city I've ever seen," said Similas.

"This is the end of Dallas," a hotel manager told Similas.

"At first," Similas said, Dallasites refused to believe that a resident of the city had killed the President."

"Many I talked to were

ready to take the law into their own hands," he said.



NORMAN SIMILAS  
Ruby "on the shady side"

Toronto Telegram, Nov. 25th, 1963.