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Prosecutive Action

Examination of prospective jurors to serve in "the State of Texas vs. Jack Rubenstein, alias Jack Ruby, No. E 4010J," Criminal District Court No. 3, Dallas County, Texas, was begun on February 17, 1964, Judge JOE B. BROWN presiding. RUBY was represented by Attorneys MELVIN BELLI of San Francisco, JOE H. TONAHILL of Jasper, Texas, and PHIL BURLESON, Dallas, Texas. The State was represented by District Attorney HENRY WADE and Assistant District Attorneys WILLIAM F. ALEXANDER, A. D. JIM BOWIE, and FRANK WATTS. Jury selection was completed on March 3, 1964.

Testimony was begun on March 4, 1964, and completed on March 13, 1964, followed by the charge of the court and arguments to the jury. The prosecution asked for the death penalty for Murder With Malice; the defense asked for acquittal on the basis of temporary insanity. Arguments were concluded at 1:05 a.m., March 14, 1964.

After deliberating from approximately 9:10 a.m., to approximately 11:30 a.m., March 14, 1964, the jury returned a verdict of guilty of Murder With Malice and assessed the death penalty at 12:23 p.m., March 14, 1964.

The trial of RUBY was observed by SA MANNING C. CLEMENTS.

Dallas newspapers reported on March 19, 1964, that RUBY had dismissed MELVIN BELLI as his attorney by letter on March 18, 1964. The newspapers reported Attorneys TONAHILL and BURLESON had on March 20, 1964, filed application for a new trial. Coincidentally, it was announced PERCY FOREMAN, Houston, Texas, attorney, had been retained as Chief Defense Counsel.

Newspapers on March 24, 1964, announced that FOREMAN had quit the RUBY defense on the previous day on the basis of conflicts regarding direction of the case. On March 25, 1964, newspapers