

A197 (AGENCIES AND RADIO OUT)

RBY

Advance for Jan. 26, 1964

moved Jan. 18, 146AES

ADVANCE FOR AMS SUNDAY, JAN. 26-NOTE DATE-FROM AP NEWSFEATURES

JACK RUBY (2,200)

APN PRINT SUBSCRIBERS WILL BE MAILED ART.

EDITOR'S NOTE: SOMETIMES IT TAKES ONLY ONE MAN TO FOUL UP HISTORY. JACK RUBY BECAME THAT MAN WHEN HE SHOT LEE HARVEY OSWALD BEFORE THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY COULD TELL WHAT HE KNEW OF THE SLAYING. WHO IS JACK RUBY? AP NEWSFEATURES WRITER BERNARD GAVZER TRACED HIS PATH THROUGH CHICAGO, SAN FRANCISCO AND DALLAS FOR THIS LIVELY PROFILE.

BY BERNARD GAVZER
AP NEWSFEATURES WRITER

1964

(ADVANCE) DALLAS, JAN. 25 (AP)-JACK RUBY KILLED MORE THAN A MAN. HE KILLED A SECRET.

THE BULLET HE FIRED SUNDAY, NOV. 24, 1963, WHILE MILLIONS WATCHED ON TELEVISION, DESTROYED LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND GAVE HISTORY AN UNANSWERABLE RIDDLE:

WHY WAS PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATED?

A MOUNTAIN OF EVIDENCE--CIRCUMSTANTIAL THOUGH IT IS--POINTS TO OSWALD AS THE KILLER. BUT BEFORE OSWALD COULD BEGIN TO PROVIDE ANSWERS TO THE RIDDLE, RUBY PUSHED HIS WAY INTO THE PICTURE AND KILLED OSWALD.

WHY?

THERE HAVE BEEN QUICK ANSWERS: HE WAS INSANE WITH GRIEF AND KILLED IMPULSIVELY TO AVENGE THE PRESIDENT. HE KILLED TO GET PUBLICITY FOR HIMSELF AND THE STRIP JOINT HE OPERATED. HE WAS PART OF A SUPER-PLOT...

RUBY'S BEHAVIOR IN JAIL INDICATES HE MAY BE TROUBLED BY THE QUESTION, TOO.

HE APPARENTLY GIVES LITTLE THOUGHT TO HIS FATE.

"HE TALKS, OH MY, HOW HE TALKS," SAYS ONE OF RUBY'S VISITORS, "BUT NOT ONCE HAVE I HEARD HIM ASK, 'WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME' HE DOES ASK, 'DO PEOPLE APPROVE OF ME?'"

"JUST THIS WEEK, HE SPOKE WITH ME NEARLY TWO HOURS, AND OVER AND OVER HE TALKED ABOUT THAT SUNDAY MORNING. IT WAS LIKE HEARING A MAN TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN TO HIM, AS THOUGH HE WAS

TRYING TO FIGURE OUT TO WHOM IT DID HAPPEN. HE GOES OVER EVERY SINGLE DETAIL, OVER AND OVER, AS THOUGH HE IS TRYING TO LEARN SOMETHING OR FIND SOMETHING."

ONE OF HIS MOST FREQUENT VISITORS IS HIS SISTER, MRS. EVA GRANT. HER VISITS ARE WELCOME, BUT DECADES OF BROTHER-SISTER BICKERING DO NOT VANISH EASILY. SOMETHING ABOUT A RECENT VISIT CAUSED MRS. GRANT TO RECALL THAT WHEN THEY LIVED IN SAN FRANCISCO IN THE EARLY 1930S, RUBY GOT SO ANGRY WITH HER ONE NIGHT HE FLED THEIR APARTMENT COMPLAINING, "IF THIS WAS MY WIFE, I'D DIVORCE HER, BUT HOW CAN YOU DIVORCE A SISTER?"

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HE DOESN'T HERALD HER VISITS WITH THE PRIDE AND SATISFACTION THAT HE DISPLAYS FOR SOME PEOPLE, SUCH AS THE RABBI OF A SUBSTANTIAL CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE IN DALLAS.

"AH, SEE, YOU GUYS," HE CALLED OUT TO JAILERS DURING A VISIT BY DR. HILLEL SILVERMAN OF CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL, "I'VE GOT A CLASSY VISITOR NOW."

AMONG OTHERS STAMPED CLASSY BY RUBY ARE THE NOTED PSYCHIATRIST, DR. MANFRED GUTTMACHER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MERYLAND AND JOHNS HOPKINS; DR. ROY SCHAFER, A PSYCHOLOGIST FROM YALE UNIVERSITY; MELVIN BELLI, THE HANDSOME AND ARTICULATE LAWYER FROM SAN FRANCISCO. BELLI HEADS RUBY'S DEFENSE; SCHAFER HAS GIVEN RUBY A BATTERY OF TESTS, AND GUTTMACHER HAS EXAMINED HIM PSYCHIATRICALY.

PRISON ROUTINE HASN'T COOLED RUBY'S PASSION FOR KEEPING TRIM. WITH CLOSE TO 185 POUNDS ON HIS 5-FOOT-9 FRAME, HE IS STOCKY. BUT EXERCISE KEEPS HIM SOLID. HIS THINNING HAIR WORRIES HIM. WHEN HE COMBS OR BRUSHES HIS HAIR, HE CAN GET LOST DOING IT, AS THOUGHT IT IS A MAJOR ENTERPRISE.

HE STILL SWINGS BETWEEN EMOTIONAL EXTREMES. OLD DALLAS ACQUAINTANCES SAY "RUBY IS THE KIND OF GUY WHO READS A NEWSPAPER AND LIVES IT. HE READS ABOUT A KID GETTING POLIO OR A DOG GETTING RUN OVER, AND HE CRIES. THE SAME WAY IN A MOVIE. IF THE GOOD GUY GETS DOUBLE-CROSSED, RUBY ACTS LIKE IT HAPPENS TO HIM."

MOST OF ALL HE WORRIES ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF HIM.

"WHEN HE READS LETTERS FROM PEOPLE WHO TELL HIM HE DID RIGHT, OR OTHERWISE COMPLIMENT HIM," SAYS ONE OF HIS VISITORS, "HIS SPIRITS GO WAY UP. HE SAYS HE HAS HAD NO MAIL FROM ANYONE CRITICIZING HIM. MAYBE THEY ONLY GIVE HIM THE COMPLIMENTARY MAIL. I DON'T KNOW."

"CLASS" IS AN IMPORTANT WORLD TO RUBY.

A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE PROSECUTION SAYS:

"RUBY IS A CLASS-CONSCIOUS NOBODY WHO SAW AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING THAT WOULD PUT HIM IN THE PUBLIC EYE AND EVEN MAKE HIM A HERO. HE WASN'T INSANE. HE WAS RATIONAL. BUT HE FIGURED WRONG. HE'S NOT A HERO; HE'S A HEEL. BECAUSE OF FOULING UP HISTORY."

THE DEFENSE SEEMS TO AGREE TOO. INDICATIONS ARE IT WILL TRY TO SHOW THAT RUBY'S PRE-OCCUPATION WITH CLASS NOT ONLY WAS IRRATIONAL BUT AT CERTAIN TIMES BORDERED ON INSANITY.

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RUBY WAS THE SIXTH OF NINE CHILDREN BORN TO JOSEPH RUBENSTEIN, A CARPENTER FROM SOKOLOV, POLAND, AND HIS WIFE, FANNIE. HE WAS BORN MARCH 25, 1911, IN A FLAT ON JOHNSON STREET NOW PEORIA STREET, IN AN AREA OF CHICAGO KNOWN AS THE MAXWELL STREET GHETTO.

A FEW NEIGHBORS AND A MIDWIFE ATTENDED MRS. RUBENSTEIN. THE DELIVERY WAS MADE BY DR. JOSEPH BOLIVAR DELEE, LATER MEMORIALIZED IN "THE FIGHT FOR LIFE," A BOOK ABOUT MEDICAL HEROES. MRS. MARIAN CARROLL, THEN A GIRL OF 6, REMEMBERS DR. DELEE BRINGING THE BABY INTO THE KITCHEN AND HEARING HIM SAY:

"HE'S GOING TO BE A BASEBALL PLAYER."

THEY CALLED THE YOUNGSTER JAKE.

IN THE SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YARD, YOUNG JAKE LEARNED THE TOUGHENING GAMES OF BUCK-BUCK AND RUN-SHEEP-RUN AND KICK-THE-CAN. HE ALSO LEARNED TO FIGHT THE ITALIANS WHO CAME DOWN FROM TAYLOR STREET IN LITTLE SICILY.

HIS SISTER, EVA, REMEMBERS HIM AS A KID WHO MOVED LAZILY. SHE CALLED HIM "SPARKPLUG," AFTER A PLUG-HORSE IN A POPULAR COMIC STRIP. HE ALSO WAS CALLED JACK.

THE GHETTO KIDS WERE SHUNTED ONTO THE STREET AND STAYED THERE UNTIL IT GOT TOO DARK OR TOO COLD. BUT ONE PLACE IN RUBENSTEIN CHILDREN ALWAYS FOUND A WARM WELCOME WAS THE HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL.

"WE PLAYED A LOT IN THE BASEMENT AT HOLY FAMILY," RECALLS EARL RUBY, NOW 48 AND PROPRIETOR OF A CLEANING AND DYEING BUSINESS IN DETROIT. "THE NUNS WERE WONDERFUL TO US. THEY GAVE US MILK AND COOKIES IN THE AFTERNOON."

THE RUBENSTEINS KEPT MOVING FROM FLAT TO FLAT WITH THEIR EIGHT CHILDREN. ONE DAUGHTER, JEANETTE, DIED IN 1909 AT THE AGE OF 2 FROM INJURIES SUFFERED WHEN SHE WAS SCALDED IN THE KITCHEN.

BY THE TIME JAKE ENTERED THE SHEPARD SCHOOL, HE APPARENTLY WAS

A HELLION. "SPARKPLUG" BECAME SPARKY, A NAME THAT HAS REMAINED WITH HIM, SPECIALLY AMONG HIS CHICAGO FRIENDS.

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"SPARKY WAS A REAL SCRAPPER, EVEN WHEN HE WAS 10," SAYS BROTHER EARL. "HE WAS ALWAYS GETTING INTO FIGHTS AND WINNING 'EM." I THINK THAT'S THE MAIN REASON PA LIKED HIM SO MUCH. HE WAS THE OLD MAN'S FAVORITE. I REMEMBER PA WAS ALWAYS BRAGGING ABOUT 'MY BOY, JAKE.'"

THE BOYS--HYMAN, NOW 61 AND SALESMAN OF FLORIST SUPPLIES IN CHICAGO; SAM, NOW 50 AND OPERATOR OF A LAUNDROMAT SERVICING BUSINESS IN DALLAS; EARL AND JACK--ALL HAD TO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AFTER REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS.

"IT WAS WORSE THAN ANYTHING," EARL RECALLS. "THEY COULD DO ANYTHING TO YOU. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES SPARKY TOOK A HIT ON THE HEAD. WE USED TO GET SUCH A HIT WITH THE RULER."

BUT EARL AND ANOTHER SISTER, MARIAN, CALLED MARY BY HER BROTHERS, AGREE THERE WAS A LOT GOOD THAT COULD BE SAID FOR THE OLD DAYS.

"LISTEN, EVERYBODY WAS THE SAME, EVERYBODY SPOKE THE SAME LANGUAGE," EARL SAYS. "WHEN WE LIVED ON THE WEST SIDE, AWAY FROM MAXWELL STREET, IT WAS A PLACE WITH COMPENSATIONS. THERE WERE WONDERFUL PLACES TO EAT. I THINK IT WAS NEAR THE GOLD THEATER THERE WAS FLUKY'S WHERE THEY HAD NICKEL HOT DOGS WITH EVERYTHING ON THEM --EVERYTHING."

THE FAMILY WAS HAVING TROUBLES THAT THE YOUNGER KIDS COULDN'T UNDERSTAND. JOSEPH AND FANNIE SEPARATED IN 1923. SPARKY, EARL, SAM AND BABY SISTER, EILEEN, WERE PLACED IN FOSTER HOMES.

RUBY REACHED CONFIRMATION AGE, 13, WHILE IN A FOSTER HOME. BUT HE NEVER HAD A BAR MITZVAH, THE TRADITIONALLY VITAL EVENT IN JEWISH LIFE.

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BEING 13 ALSO MEANT A BOY GOT HIS FIRST LONG PANTS, AND HE COULD GO INTO DAVEY MILLER'S, A POPULAR POOLROOM HANGOUT ON ROOSEVELT ROAD, THE BIG STREET OF THE "GREAT WEST SIDE," AS THE AREA WAS CALLED, SOMETIMES DERISIVELY, BY ITS INHABITANTS.

THE ELDER RUBENSTEINS RECONCILED IN 1925 AND MOVED INTO A NEW FLAT ON THE WEST SIDE. SPARKY AND THE OTHERS HAD THEIR FIRST THANKSGIVING TURKEY IN THIS FLAT, SISTER MARIAN SAYS, "AND MA ALSO LEARNED HOW TO MAKE CHOP SUEY WITH KOSHER FOOD BECAUSE WE TOLD HER HOW DELICIOUS IT WAS."

THE BIG EVENT IN JEWISH SOCIAL LIFE WAS THE SUNDAY SOFTBALL GAME. AND, AS THOUGH TRUE TO DR. DELEE'S CASUAL PREDICTION, SPARKY WAS GOOD AT IT.

"HE WAS A HELL OF A BALL PLAYER," SAYS BROTHER EARL. "SPARKY WASN'T JUST GOOD, HE HAD THAT EXTRA SOMETHING. HE WAS A SCRAPPER, A GO-GO GUY."

A SCRAPPER WAS ADMIRER, SO IT WAS NO SURPRISE THAT SPARKY'S FIRST HERO SHOULD BE BARNEY ROSS, LATER WORLD WELTERWEIGHT AND LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION.

"WHEN I WAS IN THE AMATEURS, SPARKY WAS WITH ME. HE'D COME AROUND TO CARRY MY BAGS AND GO IN FREE AT THE CLUB FIGHTS," SAYS ROSS. "HE WAS WITH ME THE NIGHT I WON THE GOLDEN GLOVES IN '29. I'VE BEEN HIS FRIEND EVER SINCE."

SPARKY HAD LITTLE KNACK FOR SCHOOLING. HE DROPPED OUT OF ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL AFTER SIX MONTHS. HE WAS THEN 16

THE DEPRESSION BROUGHT POLITICAL ZEALOTS OF ALL HUES INTO THE GHETTO, BUT IF THE RUBENSTEINS PAID ANY ATTENTION IT ESCAPED NOTICE.

"THE ONLY THING POLITICAL I REMEMBER," SAYS EARL, "WAS WRESTLING AT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETINGS FOR A COUPLE OF BUCKS.

"WE WERE TOO BUSY HUSTLING FOR EVERY CENT WE COULD. WE'D DO EVERYTHING. SCALP TICKETS AT WRIGLEY FIELD AND AT COMISKEY PARK AND AT SOLDIER FIELD. AT THE FOOTBALL GAMES WE'D ASK PEOPLE IF WE COULD WATCH THEIR CARS. THE IDEA WAS THAT IF THEY DIDN'T TELL YOU OKAY, THEY COULD EXPECT THE AIR OUT OF THEIR TIRES."

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THE GUYS WHO USED TO HANG OUT AT DAVEY MILLER'S STILL REMEMBER THE 1927 DEMPSEY-TUNNEY FIGHT MOSTLY FOR THE GUYS WHO GOT IN FREE. SPARKY WAS ONE.

"WE SNUCK IN ALL RIGHT," SAYS BENNY BARRISH, NOW A LIQUOR SALESMAN IN SAN FRANCISCO. "BUT THAT STORY ABOUT SPARKY HAVING A METAL PLATE IN HIS HEAD BECAUSE A COP CLOBBERED HIM WITH A NIGHT STICK IS BUNK. A COP DID THROW A STICK. BUT HE DIDN'T HIT ANYONE."

IN 1933, SPARKY WENT WEST, ALONG WITH BENNY BARRISH AND A FEW OTHERS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

"I WAS FIGHTING AS A FEATHERWEIGHT," SAYS BARRISH, "AND WORKING MY WAY WEST BY FIGHTING. BUT WHEN WE GOT TO FRISCO, WE ALL WENT INTO THE CANVASSING BUSINESS, WHAT THEY CALL 'CONNING THE DOORS.'"

SISTER EVA ALSO JOINED THE SUBSCRIPTION SELLERS. THE NEWSPAPERS PAID THE SALES COMPANY FROM 75 TO 90 CENTS FOR EACH ONE-MONTH SUBSCRIPTION. A SALESMAN COULD MAKE \$15 A DAY, AND A REAL HUSTLER COULD EVEN PICK UP \$30.

"SPARKY WAS DAMN GOOD AT IT," SAYS BENNY BARRISH. "HE CONNED THE DOORS FOR THE EXAMINER AND WOULD TELL PEOPLE ALL KINDS OF STORIES, LIKE IF HE SOLD 10 SUBSCRIPTIONS THE SALES CREW WOULD WIN A RADIO TO GIVE TO THE BLIND, OR WITH ONE MORE SUBSCRIPTION HE COULD GET A SCHOLARSHIP."

EVA GRANT, MARRIED AND DIVORCED, SET UP A HOME FOR HER YOUNG SON, BROTHER SPARKY, FRIEND BENNY AND ANOTHER YOUNG MAN FROM CHICAGO ON JONES STREET, IN THE SAN FRANCISCO TENDERLOIN. THE NEIGHBORHOOD GAVE EVA MANY SECOND THOUGHTS.

"THAT PLACE WE LIVED IN," SHE REMEMBERS, "EVERY NIGHT GUYS WOULD COME LOOKING FOR OPAL, VIOLET, DENISE, MAUREEN. I NEVER EVEN HEARD SUCH NAMES."

EASY WOMEN WERE ALL RIGHT, BUT RUBY, IT IS SAID, SOUGHT SOMETHING ELSE IN A WOMAN. HE FOUND IT IN A GIRL BEARING THE NAME OF A REVERED THEATER FAMILY.

"SHE WAS A VERY HIGH CLASS, REFINED GIRL," RUBY TOLD ONE OF HIS VISITORS RECENTLY. "BUT HER MOTHER COULDN'T SEE ME. SHE BROKE

VISITORS RECENTLY. "BUT HER MOTHER COULDN'T SEE ME. SHE BROKE IT UP."

RUBY LEFT SAN FRANCISCO IN 1937 TO JOIN AN OLD FRIEND, LEON R. COOKE, IN A PLAN TO ORGANIZE JUNK YARD WORKERS IN CHICAGO.

ABOUT THE SAME TIME HIS MOTHER WAS COMMITTED TO ELGIN STATE HOSPITAL AT THE REQUEST OF HYMAN, THE OLDEST CHILD. DRs. JOHN J. MADDEN AND FRANCIS A. BULAK CONCLUDED THAT "HER DISEASE IS SENILE DETERIORATION, PARANOID STATE." SHE WAS PAROLED ONCE, READMITTED AND FINALLY DISCHARGED AS IMPROVED IN 1938.

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"MAMA'S ILLNESS REALLY BEGAN WHEN JEANETTE DIED," SAYS MRS. MARIAN CARROLL. "THAT'S WHAT THE REPORT DOESN'T SHOW. IT DOESN'T SHOW HOW SHE RAN OUT TO WALDHEIM CEMETERY ALMOST EVERY WEEK FOR SO MANY YEARS."

WITH COOKE, RUBY IMPRESSED SOME PEOPLE AS BEING A CARICATURE OF A MOVIE BODYGUARD.

"SPARKY WOULD JUST STAND THERE WITH COOKE," RECALLS AN ATTORNEY WHO HAD AN OFFICE NEAR COOKE'S LAW OFFICE ON CHICAGO'S RANDOLPH ST. "HE'D STAND THERE, SAYING NOTHING, NICELY DRESSED, HOLDING HIS HANDS IN FRONT OF HIM LIKE SOME GOOF."

COOKE WAS KILLED IN DECEMBER 1939 AND ACCORDING TO AN ATTORNEY WHO WAS VERY CLOSE TO THE SITUATION "IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE THERE WAS ANY ROOM FOR SPARKY ANY MORE. ONE THING I'M SURE OF THOUGH IS THAT HE NEVER WAS ON THE PAYROLL OF THE WASTE MATERIAL HANDLERS UNION."

THE UNION WAS EXPELLED FROM THE AFL-CIO DURING A CORRUPTION PURGE IN 1957.

RUBY WORKED AROUND CHICAGO "CONCESSIONING SPORTING EVENTS AND CONCERTS AND THINGS LIKE THAT," AS HE PUTS IT. OTHERS TRANSLATE THIS TO MEAN HE SOLD SOUVENIRS, PROGRAMS, ETC., UNTIL HE WAS DRAFTED.

HE RECEIVED TRAINING AS AN ARMY AIR CORPS MECHANIC AT REPUBLIC AVIATION CORP.'S FACTORY-TRAINING COURSE AT FARMINGDALE, N.Y. HE EMERGED WITH A RATING OF "VERY SATISFACTORY."

HE SAW SERVICE AT FIVE CAMPS--KEESLER FIELD, MISS., SEYMOUR JOHNSON FIELD, S.C. (WHERE HE QUALIFIED AS A SHARPSHOOTER WITH A CARBINE), BLUEHENTHAL FIELD, N.C., CHATHAM FIELD, GA., AND DREW FIELD, FLA. MUSTERED OUT IN 1946, HE WENT TO DALLAS A YEAR LATER AT THE SUGGESTION OF EVA GRANT, WHO HAD MOVED THERE EARLIER.

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THEY OPENED A NIGHT CLUB CALLED THE SILVER SPUR ON SOUTH ERVAY STREET. IT SUBSEQUENTLY WAS SUCCEEDED BY A PLACE CALLED THE CLUB VEGAS. BACKED IN PART BY A FRIEND, HE OPENED THE CAROUSEL, A BRASSY STRIP-TEASE JOINT IN DOWNTOWN DALLAS.

RUBY, WHO CHANGED HIS NAME LEGALLY FROM JAKE RUBENSTEIN TO JACK LEON RUBY IN 1948, SOON HAD A REPUTATION IN DALLAS AS A GUY WHO WANTED CLASS.

"HE WANTED TO BE LIKED, AND HE WAS," SAYS JOE CAVAGNAERO, A HOTEL EXECUTIVE. "HE'D DO ANYTHING FOR YOU IF HE LIKED YOU. HE COULD BE IN THE HOLE TO SOMEONE BUT HE'D STILL LOAN YOU MONEY IF YOU NEEDED IT."

HIS IDEA OF THE ULTIMATE IN CLASS WAS A MAN WHO WOULD DEDICATE HIS LIFE TO SOMETHING, DESPITE ITS HEARTACHES AND AGGRAVATION.

"THAT KENNEDY, WHAT DOES HE NEED SUCH HEADACHES FOR?" HE WOULD ASK. "HE'S GOT EVERYTHING, A NICE WIFE AND KIDS AND MILLIONS OF BUCKS. MILLIONS. WHAT DOES HE NEED WITH THOSE CUBANS OR THOSE NUTS WHO ARE AGAINST HIM? WHO NEEDS IT?"

IT WAS THE SEARCH FOR CLASS--WHICH IN A SENSE MAY HAVE BEEN RUBY'S WORD FOR THE AMERICAN DREAM--THAT DREW HIM TO A SOFT-VOICED, GENTLE WOMAN WHO IS NOW SECRETARY TO AN INSURANCE COMPANY EXECUTIVE.

"WE WENT TOGETHER MOST IN 1955 AND 1956," SHE SAYS. "I WAS DIVORCED THEN AND MY FORMER HUSBAND HAS SINCE PASSED AWAY. MR. RUBY AND I TALKED OFTEN ABOUT MARRIAGE BUT WE NEVER BECAME FORMALLY ENGAGED. WE BEGAN TO DRIFT APART AND STOPPED SEEING ONE ANOTHER IN 1959.

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"HE CERTAINLY WAS A GENTLEMAN TO ME. HE WAS KIND AND CONSIDERATE. ANYTHING I WOULD SAY ABOUT HIM WOULD BE NICE. IT WAS SUCH A SHOCK TO ME WHEN HE SHOT OSWALD."

BUT FOR ALL HIS GENTLEMANLY BEHAVIOR, HE STILL WAS A FAST MAN WITH HIS FISTS. HE BROKE HIS HAND IN 1958 HITTING AN OBSTREPEROUS PATRON.

"JACK DIDN'T LIKE HECKLERS," SAYS ONE OF HIS STRIPPERS.

HE WAS QUICK TO TIP POLICE ABOUT SHADY CHARACTERS, TOO.

"RUBY WAS NO STOOL PIGEON, BUT HE WAS DAMN GOOD ABOUT TIPPING THE COPS ABOUT DRUNKS OR POLICE CHARACTERS," SAYS A WELL-INFORMED SOURCE IN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

DESPITE HIS READINESS TO SCRAP, RUBY STAYED CLEAR OF SERIOUS TROUBLE. THERE IS NO POLICE RECORD ON HIM IN CHICAGO OR SAN FRANCISCO, AND THE ONLY MARKS AGAINST HIM IN DALLAS ARE FOR AFTER-HOUR SALES OF BEER.

MOSTLY, HE SEEMED PREOCCUPIED WITH HIS FOUR DACHSHUNDS. HE OFTEN CALLED THEM "MY CHILDREN." ONE OF THEM, SHEBA, WAS A PARTICULAR FAVORITE. "SHE'S MY WIFE," HE WOULD SAY OF HER LOVINGLY. HE HAD A SPECIAL PLACE FOR HIS DOGS BEHIND THE STAGE OF THE CAROUSEL.

AS A RULE, HE LEFT HIS \$125 A MONTH APARTMENT AT 223 S. EWING EACH DAY FOR A WORKOUT AT THE YMCA. HE SHARED THE APARTMENT WITH GEORGE SENATOR, WHO DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS A WHOLESALER OF POSTCARDS AND AN OCCASIONAL TICKET-TAKER AT THE CAROUSEL.

RECENTLY A VISITOR ASKED ABOUT HIS AMBITION IN LIFE. RUBY THOUGHT ABOUT IT A WHILE. THEN HE SAID:

"A SUCCESS."

END ADVANCE FOR AMS SUNDAY, JAN. 26, MOVED JAN. 18.

HP/MC146AES