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RBY

12 DEC 1966

AMS BUDGET

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WIREFOTO DN3 AND 4

BY TOM JOHNSON

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

DALLAS, TEX., DEC. 12 (AP)-JACK RUBY'S FATE REMAINED UNCERTAIN TODAY AS DOCTORS HUNTED THE SOURCE AND SOUGHT TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF HIS CANCER.

RUBY, 55, FORMER DALLAS NIGHT CLUB OPERATOR, WAS TAKEN FROM THE COUNTY JAIL TO PARKLAND HOSPITAL FRIDAY. THE HOSPITAL FIRST SAID HE APPEARED TO HAVE PNEUMONIA, THEN DIAGNOSED THE ILLNESS AS CANCER.

RUBY REMAINED IN THE HOSPITAL UNDER A SPECIAL SECURITY GUARD.

IN A LATE AFTERNOON MEDICAL REPORT SENT BY THE HOSPITAL TO SHERIFF BILL DECKER, WHO HAS CUSTODY OF RUBY, ATTENDING PHYSICIANS SAID THERE WAS "NO ESSENTIAL CHANGE" IN RUBY'S CONDITION.

DECKER CALLED ANOTHER NEWS CONFERENCE AT HIS OFFICE FOR 10 A.M. (EST) TOMORROW.

PARKLAND IS WHERE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY DIED FROM GUNSHOT WOUNDS NOV. 22, 1963. LEE HARVEY OSWALD, THE ALLEGED ASSASSIN, DIED THERE TWO DAYS LATER AFTER RUBY GUNNED HIM DOWN DURING A ROUTINE JAIL TRANSFER.

A DALLAS JURY SENTENCED RUBY TO DEATH IN MARCH 1964 BUT A STATE APPELLATE COURT REVERSED THE CONVICTION. THE SECOND TRIAL WAS SET FOR WICHITA FALLS, PROBABLY IN FEBRUARY, ONLY SHORTLY BEFORE RUBY BECAME ILL.

DR. JAY SANFORD, PROFESSOR OF INTERNAL MEDICINE AT SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL, ADJOINING PARKLAND HOSPITAL, SAID AT A NEWS CONFERENCE TODAY THAT RUBY'S CANCER IS "NOT NECESSARILY A HOPELESS CASE."

SANFORD SAID HE TALKED WITH RUBY EARLIER IN THE DAY AND QUOTED HIM AS SAYING:

"I'M FEELING BETTER THIS MORNING THAN I HAVE IN MANY MONTHS."

SANFORD SAID IT MIGHT TAKE MORE THAN A WEEK TO LOCATE THE SOURCE OF THE MALIGNANCY. HE ADDED THAT MEDICAL SPECIALISTS SPECULATE THAT THE MAIN CANCEROUS GROWTH LIES IN RUBY'S GASTRO-INTESTINAL TRACT, A LUNG OR THE PANCREAS.

"HIS CHANCES OF RECOVERY DEPEND ON THE LOCATION OF THE PRIMARY SITE," SANFORD SAID.

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A MALIGNANT TUMOR WAS FOUND SATURDAY IN A LYMPH NODE IN RUBY'S NECK. DOCTORS SAID OTHER SITES EXIST AND THAT THE DISEASE IS OF AN ADVANCED NATURE.

THE DALLAS TIMES HERALD QUOTED AN UNNAMED "SOURCE CLOSE TO THE MEDICAL ASPECTS OF THE CASE" THAT THE TUMOR HAS SPREAD INTO TOO MANY VITAL AREAS, HAS ESCAPED DETECTION TOO LONG, AND THAT DOCTORS FEAR RUBY IS "BEYOND HELP."

SANFORD SAID HE DID NOT AGREE WITH THAT DIAGNOSIS, SAYING IT WAS TOO EARLY TO TELL.

HE SAID RUBY'S GENERAL CONDITION IS REASONABLY GOOD, AND THAT IT IS "IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT" IF RUBY'S DISEASE IS TERMINAL.

DR. WATTS WEBB, A PARKLAND SURGEON, SAID RUBY MAY SURVIVE "TWO WEEKS OR FIVE YEARS."

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SANFORD SAID THE SOURCE OF THE CANCER WOULD DETERMINE WHETHER RUBY IS TO UNDERGO SURGERY.

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SPECIALISTS BEGAN USING X-RAYS TODAY IN THEIR SEARCH FOR THE SOURCE OF THE CANCER.

DR. SANFORD SAID THAT IF SURGERY IS NOT THE INDICATED TREATMENT, CHEMICAL AND RADIOLOGICAL MEDICATION WILL BE GIVEN.

THE PATIENT'S CONDITION STILL WAS LISTED AS SERIOUS.

DETAILED X-RAY EXAMINATION WITH WITHHELD UNTIL A PARTIALLY DEPRESSED RIGHT LUNG EXPANDED SUFFICIENTLY FOR TESTS.

DR. SANFORD SAID THE LUNG HAS EXTENDED TO "ABOUT 75 PER CENT OF NORMAL," AND THIS WAS SUFFICIENT FOR EXAMINATION.

THE LUNG WAS SQUEEZED BY THE PRESSURE OF FLUID WHICH COMPLETELY FILLED THE RIGHT CHEST CAVITY. MORE THAN FOUR QUARTS OF FLUID WERE REMOVED THROUGH A DRAIN WHICH STILL IS IN RUBY'S CHEST.

THE PHYSICIAN SAID MEDICINE IS BEING PUT INTO RUBY'S WINDPIPE TO ACT DIRECTLY ON THE LUNG.

"THIS HAS MADE HIM THROW UP OCCASIONALLY, BUT IT PROBABLY WOULD HAVE THE SAME EFFECT ON YOU OR ME," THE PHYSICIAN SAID.

DR. SANFORD SAID THAT ALTHOUGH ATTENTION IS CENTERED ON THE LUNG, THIS DOES NOT MAKE IT THE PRIME SUSPECT NECESSARILY. "IT (THE CANCER) COULD BE ANYWHERE," HE SAID.

THE DOCTOR SAID CHANCES WERE BETTER THAN 50-50 THAT THE CANCER CAN BE FOUND WITH X-RAYS. TWO X-RAYS WERE MADE OF THE LUNG YESTERDAY BUT TOLD LITTLE SINCE THE LUNG STILL WAS PARTIALLY COLLAPSED.

DR. SANFORD SAID A SAMPLE OF RUBY'S RIGHT LUNG WAS TAKEN WITH A SPECIAL INSTRUMENT SATURDAY FOR PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION. RESULTS MAY BE KNOWN TOMORROW.

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