

25 Nov 1963

RBY

11/25/63

# Oswald

## Profile of Killer

### A Hanger-On, He Liked 'Class'

#### Dallas

The man who shot the accused assassin of President Kennedy was constantly seeking and apparently enjoying the company of policemen.

He had a press pass on his windshield.

He sought personal publicity with regular appearances at Dallas newspaper offices.

#### HANGER-ON

Yesterday he spent the day with a police and press group at city hall, where Lee Harvey Oswald, the man he was to kill, was confined. He was a familiar hanger-on.

A Dallas reporter who knew the night club owner on the amusement scene said:

"He never quit trying. He was a frustrated man. He had a limited education and he always wanted to be a big person.

"The biggest world in his vocabulary was 'class.' He thought President Kennedy had class. He took the assassination very personally. President Kennedy was everything Ruby wasn't and would like to have been."

Ruby was born Jack Leon Rubenstein, March 19, 1911, in the "Jewish ghetto" on the northwest side of Chicago.

Early in his boyhood he became known as "Sparky" because of his short temper. The Chicago Sun-Times said yesterday that Ruby had a reputation as an habitual street brawler and hustler who had a fierce admiration for the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

He led a hand-to-mouth existence for the most part, working at various times as a ticket scalper, salesman and smalltime promoter. He had no arrest record in Chicago

although he was involved in a flood of minor law infractions.

Ruby, who is now 52, left Chicago 15 years ago. He liked to tell people in Dallas he left Chicago because of run-ins with Chicago hoodlums.

He was a new man in Dallas, down to his name. He changed it to Jack Ruby. His sister, Eva L. Grant, ran a bar in Dallas and in 1948, he came to the Texas city to work for her, as a sometime bartender and bouncer.

He opened the 2nd-floor walk-up Carousel Club, a small, dimly-lit room with a traditional burlesque theater runway, and he went out of his way to make friends with policemen.

#### FIGHT

Once, said an attorney, he rushed to the side of a patrolman being beaten by a group of thugs and fought them off "like a tiger."

In Dallas in 1949, he was picked up for disturbing the peace.

In 1953 and 1954 he was picked up for investigation. Somebody said he had a concealed weapon. There were charges of violating the dance hall ordinance and the state liquor laws. Ruby rode through them all.

A bachelor, and a dude, he liked to talk of dating strip-teasers and chorus girls. He dressed the part.

He had been watching television ever since the President was shot on Friday.

## Ruby Talks To His Sister <sup>Sf</sup> <sub>Arson</sub>

#### Dallas

Jack Ruby, night club operator who shot and killed accused assassin Lee Oswald, told his sister last night: "I couldn't help it."

Eva Grant was taken to see Ruby in his cell at city hall and spent ten minutes with him.

"... but I couldn't help it," newsmen heard Ruby tell her. Then, "don't worry about me."

Mrs. Grant said Ruby told her: "I'm in good health. The FBI and police are treating me well. I've got friends."

Mrs. Grant said that after Friday, when Mr. Kennedy was slain, Ruby "kept talking about Jackie and the Kennedy kids. He told me 'he (Mr. Kennedy) could have been anything—anything he wanted to be—anything in life—and he had to wind up this way.'"

She said Ruby grieved more for Mr. Kennedy than he did for his own dead father.

U.P. & A.P.

He ordered his clubs closed all weekend. And he was angered by other clubowners. "Geez, they opened," he told a friend, "they shoulda closed. Don't they have any respect? A bunch of money grubbers."

#### DOWNTOWN

Only a few hours later, after spending still another night in front of the television set in his \$165-a-month apartment with all his dogs and cats, thinking about the Kennedy family and especially about the Kennedy children, Ruby got up from his chair and told his roommate, and partner, George Senator:

"George, I'm going downtown and take the dog to the club."

Instead, he went to City Hall. There, at 11:30 a. m., he shot Oswald.

Two law firms will represent Ruby — Sullivan and Howard and Bruner and Daugherty. Tow Howard said Ruby had asked both law firms to represent him.

Howard, a friend of his for years, tried to define Ruby yesterday. He called him "a very emotional man."

Then he said:

"Buby is a very fine man, a great admirer of President Kennedy and police officers."

U.P. & A.P.