

B33DN (ALSO RUBY SIDEBAR)

WITH RUBY (330)

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DALLAS, FEB. 12 (AP)-JACK RUBY SAT WAN AND LISTLESS IN COURT TODAY. DRESSED IN HIS CUSTOMARY DARK SUIT AND SILVER TIE, THE 52-YEAR-OLD FORMER STRIP JOINT OWNER SEEMED FAR LESS INTERESTED IN THE ATTEMPT TO TRANSFER HIS MURDER TRIAL TO ANOTHER CITY THAN HE HAD IN PREVIOUS DAYS.

HIS IMPASSIVENESS CONTRASTED SHARPLY WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS CHIEF COUNSEL, MELVIN BELLI OF SAN FRANCISCO.

IN A WELL-TAILORED DARK SUIT, WITH HIS SILVER-GREY HAIR WELL BRUSHED, THE HANDSOME BELLI PROVIDED A FIERY DISPLAY OF LEGAL ERUDITION IN DEMANDING THAT PAPERS PERTAINING TO THE PRESS HANDLING OF THE RUBY CASE BE ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.

STRIDING AROUND THE SMALL COURTROOM, THE CENTER OF ATTENTION, BELLI BATTLED AGAIN AND AGAIN WITH ASST. DIST. ATTY. JIM BOWIE.

"I WANT THESE PAPERS ADMITTED AS THE RIGHT OF AN AMERICAN LAWYER DEFENDING AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, NOT AS LARGESSE," HE SAID HEATEDLY.

WHEN ONE OF HIS QUESTIONS WAS STRICKEN BY THE COURT, BELLI WOULD REPHRASE IT QUICKLY AND POSE IT FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE.

BOWIE, A CURLY HAIREED MAN WITH A STRONG VOICE, AT TIMES PLEADED WITH JUDGE JOE B. BROWN TO HALT THE PROBING DEFENSE QUESTIONS.

"YOUR HONOR," HE SAID AT ONE POINT, "WE HAVE BEEN ON A FISHING EXPEDITION SINCE EARLY THIS MORNING."

BOWIE, WHO DID MOST OF THE ^{STATES?} STAT TALKING IN THIS MORNING'S SESSION, ALSO TOOK SHARP ISSUE WITH THE WAY DEFENSE ATTORNEY JOE TONAHILL CONDUCTED QUESTIONING.

TONAHILL, A HUGE MAN WHO KEEPS HIS GLASSES PUSHED UP ON HIS FOREHEAD, IS TENACIOUS. BOWIE DESCRIBED TONAHILL'S QUESTIONS AT ONE POINT AS "INSULTING TO THE WITNESS."

SAM BLOOM, THE HEAVY-SET PUBLIC RELATIONS MAN WHO OCCUPIED THE WITNESS STAND FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS, GOT INTO HEATED WORDS WITH BELLI.

"MR. BELLI, DON'T BARK AT ME," HE SAID ONCE.

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"THEN DON'T SMILE AT ME," BELLI FIRED BACK.

SOMETIMES AS MANY AS FIVE LAWYERS STOOD UP AT THE SAME TIME TO ARGUE A LEGAL POINT.

JUDGE BROWN SAID PATIENTLY THAT HE COULD ONLY HEAR ONE PERSON AT A TIME, AND TOLD THEM TO SIT DOWN.

BELLI FOUND HE COULDN'T ESCAPE THE PRESS EVEN AT LUNCH. HE WENT DOWN THE STREET TO JOE BANKS CAFE (FOOD AND BEER) AND THE TELEVISION CAMERAS AND LIGHTS WENT RIGHT IN WITH HIM.