

Rby

'Ruby Couldn't Tell Right From Wrong'



A.P. Wirephoto

"WITNESS" MARGUERITE OSWALD
The subpoena prevented her from viewing the trial

Dallas

A defense psychiatrist testified yesterday that he believes Jack Ruby was insane when he shot Lee Harvey Oswald, the man accused of assassinating President Kennedy.

Dr. Manfred Guttmacher, chief officer of the Baltimore court clinic, said he did not believe Ruby was capable of knowing right from wrong, nor the nature and consequences of his act, at the time.

"What happened at the time?" asked chief defense attorney Melvin Belli of San Francisco.

'WEAK EGO'

"I think we're dealing with an abnormal individual with a very abnormal personality structure," Guttmacher replied. "He has a very weak ego structure and was under tremendous emotional impact over a period of several days. He was struggling to keep his sanity during this period."

"I think he had an unusual degree of involvement in the whole tragedy. I think he came upon the perpetrator of the assassination, that there was a disruption of his ego.

"All his defenses crumbled. The deep, hidden, hostile part of his makeup, which was very strong, became focused on this one individual and the homicide was the result of it."

Guttmacher said he agreed with other defense expert witnesses that Ruby suffered from "psychomotor epilepsy."

HOSPITAL

The fact that his mother spent 17 years in a mental hospital with paranoid schizophrenia contributed to his personality structure, the psychiatrist said.

Another psychiatrist testified that brain wave tests given Ruby showed he has a seizure disorder which could make him act as an "automaton" at times.

But Dr. Martin Towler, professor of neurology of the Galveston Branch of the University of Texas, was unable to render an opinion as to whether Ruby was in such a seizure when he shot Oswald. Towler delivered highly technical testimony for nearly three hours.

The mother of Ruby's vic appeared at this session but the prosecution used a technicality to prevent her from watching the trial.

LECTURES

Mrs. Oswald has been on a lecture tour protesting her son's innocence and claiming he was an agent of the FBI and CIA.

Before she could enter the courtroom she was served with a subpoena by the prosecution. She was brought before District Judge Joe B. Brown and sworn in, then was excluded from the courtroom as other witnesses have been.

Assistant District Attorney William Alexander said the action was taken to prevent her from making some wild statement in the courtroom which "might blow the case out of the water." He said the State had no intention of putting her on the witness stand.

A scuffle occurred outside the courtroom when Leo C. Torti, a former employee at Ruby's Carousel Club, tried to enter. He was grabbed by a deputy sheriff and dragged down a flight of stairs to the sheriff's office.

There it was learned that Torti is a defense witness and merely wanted permission to go out to breakfast.