

A109DS

Rby

14 mm 1964
500 PCS

THIRD NIGHT LEAD RUBY (260)

BY ARTHUR EVERETT

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DALLAS MARCH 14 (AP)—JACK RUBY, HIS PALLID FACE DEVOID OF THE TINIEST TRACE OF EMOTION, WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH TODAY IN A JURY'S SWIFT VERDICT OF MURDER WITH MALICE.

IT TOOK THE PANEL OF FOUR WOMEN AND EIGHT MEN ONLY TWO HOURS AND 19 MINUTES TO ORDER THE MAXIMUM PENALTY AGAINST RUBY FOR THE NOV. 24 SLAYING OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD, ACCUSED OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

THE JURY FLATLY REJECTED THE PLEA OF RUBY, 52-YEAR-OLD OPERATOR OF A DALLAS STRIP TEASE JOINT, THAT HE WAS TEMPORARILY INSANE WHEN HE SHOT OSWALD.

MRS. MILDRED MCCOLLUM, ONE OF THE 12 JURORS, SAID AFTERWARDS THEY HAD AGREED NOT TO DISCLOSE HOW MANY BALLOTS THEY TOOK. BUT SHE ADDED, "WE DID TAKE MORE THAN ONE."

RUBY'S CONVICTION WAS AN AFTERMATH TO A STARK SEQUENCE OF AMERICAN TRAGEDY THAT BEGAN JUST 70 YARDS FROM THE COURTHOUSE WHERE HE WAS CONDEMNED. THAT WAS THE SPOT WHERE THE ASSASSIN'S BULLETS STRUCK KENNEDY ON A SUNNY DAY LAST AUTUMN.

CHIEF DEFENSE ATTORNEY MELVIN BELLI, KNOWN AS AN OUTSTANDING CIVIL COURT TRIAL LAWYER, BUT A LOSER IN THE BIGGEST CRIMINAL CASE OF HIS CAREER, TOLD NEWSMEN AFTER THE VERDICT THAT ONE JUROR, WHOM HE DID NOT IDENTIFY, HAD BOASTED TO HIS EMPLOYER THAT IF HE GOT ON THE RUBY PANEL HE WOULD VOTE THE DEATH PENALTY.

IN REPLY, TRIAL JUDGE JOE B. BROWN SAID:

"I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT THAT, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHEN, WHERE OR UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES IT OCCURRED. IT WAS HEARSAY TO ME. ALL SORTS OF RUMORS GO AROUND. MR. BELLI HAS A RIGHT TO HIS OPINION."

"UNQUESTIONABLY THEY HAD THEIR MINDS MADE UP," BELLI SAID OF THE JURORS. HE CONDUCTED A LONG, FUTILE FIGHT TO HAVE THE TRIAL TRANSFERRED OUTSIDE OF DALLAS, CLAIMING THAT RUBY COULD NOT GET A FAIR HEARING HERE.

A PORTLY, GRAY-HAIRED SAN FRANCISCO ATTORNEY, BELLI WAS BESIDE HIMSELF WITH RAGE IN THE COURTROOM IN THE INSTANT AFTER THE VERDICT WAS RETURNED AT 12:22 P.M. (CQ). HE SPRANG TO HIS FEET. HIS FACE REDDENED. JUDGE BROWN TRIED VAINLY TO QUIET HIM. BUT HE SHOUTED:

"THIS IS XXX 6TH GRAF A68.

JA500PCS

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A68

URGENT

THE FOLLOWING SUB INTRO ON THE NIGHT LEAD RUBY IS SENT TO AVOID THE EDITORIAL OVERTONES OF THE ORIGINAL NIGHT LEAD (A53) AND THE SECOND NIGHT LEAD ON A64.

SUB INTRO NIGHT LEAD RUBY

DALLAS, TEX. (AP)-JACK RUBY, NO TRACE OF EMOTION ON HIS PALLID FACE, WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH SATURDAY BY A JURY THAT SWIFTLY CONVICTED HIM OF MURDER WITH MALICE.

IT TOOK X X UPPICKING SECOND GRAF ORIGINAL (A53).

KM315PES

AMS BUDGET

NIGHT LEAD RUBY (480)

BY ARTHUR EVERETT
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

DALLAS MARCH 14 (AP)-JACK RUBY, TRANCELIKE AND WITHOUT A VISIBLE TRACE OF EMOTION, WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH TODAY, BY A JURY WHOSE BRAND OF TEXAS JUSTICE WAS SWIFT AND MERCILESS.

IT TOOK THE PANEL OF FOUR WOMEN AND EIGHT MEN ONLY TWO HOURS AND 19 MINUTES TO EXACT THE MAXIMUM PENALTY ON THE 52-YEAR-OLD OPERATOR OF A DALLAS STRIP TEASE JOINT FOR THE NOV.24 SLAYING OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD, ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

CHIEF DEFENSE ATTORNEY MELVIN BELLI, A NOTED CIVIL COURTS LAWYER BUT A LOSER IN THE BIGGEST CRIMINAL CASE OF HIS CAREER, CHARGED TO NEWSMEN THAT HE HAD INFORMATION THAT ONE JUROR, WHOM HE DID NOT IDENTIFY, HAD BOASTED TO HIS EMPLOYER THAT IF HE GOT ON THE RUBY PANEL HE WOULD VOTE THE DEATH PENALTY.

"UNQUESTIONABLY THEY HAD THEIR MINDS MADE UP," BELLI DECLARED.

BELLI, A PORTLY, GRAY SAN FRANCISCO LAWYER, WAS BESIDE HIMSELF WITH RAGE IN THE INSTANT AFTER THE VERDICT WAS RETURNED AT 11:22 A.M. HE LEAPED TO HIS FEET. HIS FACE GREW RED. AT THE TOP OF HIS VOICE HE SHOUTED, DEFYING JUDGE JOE B. BROWN'S ATTEMPTS TO QUIET HIM:

"THIS IS A VICTORY FOR BIGOTRY. WE'LL APPEAL THIS TO A COURT WHERE WE CAN GET DUE JUSTICE AND LAW."

A54DS

THEN AS RUBY, STILL SEEMINGLY UNCOMPREHENDING, WAS LED PAST HIM IN THE CUSTODY OF A PHALANX OF BURLY SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES, THE DEFENSE CHIEF CRIED:

"DON'T WORRY JACK! WE'LL APPEAL THIS AND TAKE IT OUT OF TEXAS."

THE PACKED COURTROOM WAS THROWN INTO WILD CONFUSION IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE VERDICT, ALTHOUGH JUDGE BROWN HAD WARNED AGAINST ANY DEMONSTRATIONS. NETWORK TELEVISION CAMERAS, ADMITTED TO THE COURT FOR THE VERDICT BY A LAST-MINUTE DECISION OF THE COURT, RECORDED THE SCENE. IT WAS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF MAJOR AMERICAN CRIMINAL TRIALS THAT SUCH A SCENE WAS TELEVISED.

DIST. ATTY. HENRY M. WADE, 50, A BLUNT-FACED, GRAY-HAIRED PROSECUTOR WHO 24 TIMES BEFORE HAS SENT A DEFENDANT TO THE CHAIR, SAID HE ANTICIPATED IT WOULD BE AT LEAST TWO YEARS BEFORE RUBY CAN BE EXECUTED, ASSUMING THE VERDICT STANDS. HE SAID THE APPEAL PROCESS WOULD PROBABLY TAKE AT LEAST THAT LONG.

A55DS

MEANWHILE, RUBY WAS RETURNED TO THE DALLAS COUNTY JAIL WHERE HE HAS BEEN HELD WITHOUT BOND SINCE THE DAY HE KILLED OSWALD. SHERIFF BILL DECKER SAID HE WILL REMAIN THERE UNTIL HIS LAST APPEAL IS EXHAUSTED. THEN THE ACTUAL DATE FOR EXECUTION WOULD BE SET BY JUDGE BROWN.

RUBY, A PAUNCHY, SLIGHT MAN WITH A FEW WISPS OF DARK HAIR ACROSS A NEARLY BALD HEAD, STEPPED FROM A CROWD IN THE BASEMENT OF DALLAS POLICE HEADQUARTERS AT 11:21 A.M. CST SUNDAY, NOV. 24. WITH A SINGLE BULLET, HE CUT DOWN THE 24-YEAR-OLD OSWALD, A LONER, A PROFESSED MARXIST AND THE MAN CHARGED OFFICIALLY WITH THE ASSASSINATION 48 HOURS EARLIER OF THE 35TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE STATE CALLED THE CRIME MURDER WITH MALICE. WADE DESCRIBED RUBY AS A GLORY SEEKER, AND TOLD THE JURY HE HOPED TO GAIN MATERIALLY AS THE KILLER OF AN ACCUSED PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSIN. STATE TESTIMONY QUOTED RUBY AS SAYING HE KILLED OSWALD "TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT JEWS DO HAVE GUTS."

THE DEFENSE PLEADED TEMPORARY INSANITY. THEIR WITNESSES TOLD OF YOUTHFUL HEAD INJURIES WHICH THEY SAID LED TO RUBY'S SUFFERING PSYCHOMOTOR EPILEPSY. THIS WAS DESCRIBED AS A RARE FORM OF THE DISEASE, CHARACTERIZED BY VIOLENT RAGES, AND BLACKOUT SEIZURES. DURING SUCH A ROBOT PERIOD, BELLI INSISTED, RUBY KILLED OSWALD, WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT HE WAS DOING IN ADVANCE AND WITHOUT ANY CLEAR MEMORY AFTERWARDS OF WHAT HE HAD DONE.

JA130PCS

A61DS (ADD NL)

DALLAS--FIRST ADD NIGHT LEAD RUBY (A53DS ET SEQ) XXX HAD DONE.

IN TEXAS A JURY SETS THE PENALTY IF IT CONVICTS A CRIMINAL. IT HAD A WIDE RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES IN RUBY'S CASE. HE COULD HAVE BEEN ACQUITTED. HE COULD HAVE RECEIVED A TWO- TO FIVE-YEAR SUSPENDED SENTENCE. HE COULD HAVE BEEN PUT IN PRISON FOR ANY NUMBER OF YEARS UP TO LIFE.

BUT THE JURY CHOSE THE MAXIMUM PUNISHMENT--DEATH IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR AT THE HUNTSVILLE STATE PRISON.

THE TRIAL BEGAN FEB.17 AND THE CASE WENT TO THE ALL-WHITE, ALL-PROTESTANT JURY AT 1:05 A.M. TODAY AFTER A GRUELLING NIGHT SESSION, MARKED BY FINAL HOURS OF SUMMATION ORATORY BY THE DEFENSE LAWYERS AND THE PROSECUTORS.

THE JURY HAD BREAKFAST THIS MORNING, THEN BEGAN ITS DELIBERATIONS AT 9:15 A.M. IN A MEZZANINE ROOM ABOVE AND BEHIND THE SECOND FLOOR COURTROOM.

THE JURY'S FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS WAS THE SELECTION OF A FOREMAN. THEY CHOSE MAX E. CAUSEY, 35, A HUSKY, RED-HAIRED COST ANALYST FOR AN ELECTRONICS FIRM, A BAPTIST, AND THE FATHER OF TWO BOYS.

ATTORNEYS FOR BOTH SIDES HAD FORECAST A SPEEDY VERDICT. BUT EVEN THEY WERE CAUGHT BY SURPRISE WHEN, AT 11:34 A.M., CAUSEY KNOCKED ON THE COURTROOM DOOR AT THE BOTTOM OF A FLIGHT OF STAIRS LEADING TO THE JURY ROOM.

A62DS

"WE HAVE A VERDICT," HE ANNOUNCED.

TELEPHONE SUMMONSES WENT OUT TO ATTORNEYS AND TO JUDGE BROWN.

BELLI, A MODEL OF SARTORIAL PERFECTION THROUGHOUT THE TRIAL, RUSHED TO THE COURTROOM IN A DARK SUIT, BUT WEARING A BLACK SPORT SHIRT, BUTTONED AT THE NECK BUT WITHOUT A TIE.

AT 12:10 P.M. JUDGE BROWN, WHO HAD BEEN ALERTED AT HIS HOME, ASCENDED THE BENCH.

THEN RUBY WAS BROUGHT IN, HIS MODEST STATURE DWARFED BY HIS GUARDS. FOUR OF THE SECURITY MEN TOOK SEATS BEHIND HIM AT THE DEFENSE TABLE. THREE OTHERS SAT IN A FRONT ROW COURTROOM SEAT OUTSIDE THE RAILING, READY TO SPRING UP AND FORM A HUMAN BARRICADE AT THE VERDICT.

RUBY WAS GARBED THE SAME AS HE HAS BEEN ON EVERY SINGLE DAY OF HIS TRIAL. HE WORE A DARK SUIT, A WHITE SHIRT AND A DARK TIE.

THE DEFENDANT BLINKED HIS EYES ONCE OR TWICE, THEN COCKED HIS HEAD SLIGHTLY TO THE LEFT AND SETTLED INTO A SEEMINGLY COMPOSED ATTITUDE OF WAITING.

THE JURORS FILED IN AND RUBY SHIFTED HIS EYES TO THEIR BOX, ABOUT 20 FEET TO HIS LEFT. HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN WATCHING AN ORCHESTRA FILE INTO ITS CHAIRS TO BEGIN AN OVERTURE, SO EXPRESSIONLESS WAS THE MASK HE WORE.

"YOU HAVE YOUR VERDICT READY?" JUDGE BROWN ASKED. AS SEVERAL JURORS SPOKE ASSENT, A BAILIFF TOOK THE WRITTEN VERDICT UP TO THE BENCH.

NOW RUBY'S EYES MOVED SLOWLY TO THE LEFT UNTIL THEY WERE FIXED ON JUDGE BROWN. HIS LIPS WERE FIRM, HIS BODY MOTIONLESS.

A63DS

JUDGE BROWN READ THE VERDICT--"WE, THE JURY, FIND THE DEFENDANT GUILTY OF MURDER WITH MALICE AND ASSESS THE PENALTY AT DEATH."

RUBY KEPT LOOKING AT THE JUDGE, AS THOUGH NOT A WORD HAD BEEN SPOKEN.

"IS THIS UNANIMOUS?" BROWN ASKED. "SO SAY YOU ALL? PLEASE HOLD UP YOUR RIGHT HANDS."

TWELVE HANDS SHOT UP.

BY NOW HIS GUARDS WERE ON THEIR FEET AND SO WAS JACK RUBY. HE AUTOMATICALLY TOOK HIS FAMILIAR POSITION IN THEIR MIDST AND MARCHED TO HIS LEFT AND OUT A COURTROOM DOOR. FROM THE TIME HE ENTERED TO THE TIME HE LEFT--A SPACE OF NO MORE THAN THREE MINUTES--RUBY ACTED LIKE THE MOST DISINTERESTED MAN IN THE ENTIRE PACKED COURTROOM.

NOT SO BELLI. AS BROWN ADJOURNED COURT, THE LAWYER WAS ENGULFED BY A WAVE OF NEWSMEN, PHOTOGRAPHERS, RADIO MEN AND TELEVISION CAMERAMEN.

"ANY INDEPENDENT APPRAISAL OF THIS ALL OVER THE WORLD," THE DEFENSE CHIEF SHOUTED, PERSPIRATION BOILING UP ON HIS FOREHEAD, "WILL GIVE A PRETTY GOOD IMPRESSION OF ONE OF THE SORE SPOTS OF AMERICA.

"IF THIS VENOM SPREADS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, GOD HELP US ALL. THIS IS THE MOST DISGUSTING THING I HAVE EVER SEEN IN MY LIFE."

WOULD HE APPEAL, SOMEONE SHOUTED.

"APPEAL?" BELLI CRIED. "APPEAL? TODAY!"

HE WAS ASKED IF HE CONSIDERED THAT RUBY WAS RAILROADED.

"RAILROADED--YES RAILROADED," BELLI RESPONDED, SO EMOTIONALLY WORKED UP THAT HE SEEMED UNABLE TO FORM A COMPLETE SENTENCE. "THIS IS A KANGAROO RAILROAD...I HOPE THE PEOPLE OF DALLAS ARE PROUD."

JA200PCS