

BSS (180)

BOSTON, AUG. 22 (AP)—MELVIN BELLI, THE CONTROVERSIAL CALIFORNIA LAWYER, SAYS HE'S "SHOCKED AND HORRIFIED" BY THE PREMATURE DISCLOSURE OF WARREN COMMISSION TESTIMONY TAKEN FROM HIS FORMER CLIENT, JACK RUBY.

"IT IS A TERRIBLE THING FOR AMERICAN JUSTICE," BELLI SAID LAST NIGHT UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN BOSTON TO TAPE A TELEVISION INTERVIEW.

A COPYRIGHTED SERIES OF STORIES BASED ON RUBY'S RESPONSES TO WARREN COMMISSION QUESTIONS WAS WRITTEN LAST WEEK BY DOROTHY KILGALLEN OF THE NEW YORK JOURNAL-AMERICAN. EXCERPTS FROM THESE ARTICLES WERE DISTRIBUTED BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

RUBY, CONVICTED SLAYER OF SUSPECTED PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD, DISMISSED BELLI AS HIS DEFENSE COUNSEL SHORTLY AFTER HIS CONVICTION LAST MARCH 14.

"IMAGINE," SAID BELLI, "HERE IS A COMMISSION PRESIDED OVER BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES AND TESTIMONY TAKEN BEFORE IT BECOMES PART OF THE PUBLIC RECORD THROUGH A LEAK TO A COLUMNIST."

BELLI SAID THIS "AMOUNTS TO A CONFESSION BY RUBY, TRAPPED INTO IT, AT A TIME WHEN HE FACES THE ELECTRIC CHAIR AND BEFORE HIS APPEAL HAS BEEN HEARD."

BELLI SAID HE WILL PREPARE BRIEFS FOR RUBY'S APPEAL TO THE TEXAS COURT OF APPEALS. "THAT IS MY DUTY TO MY CLIENT," HE AID, "AND I WILL FULFILL IT."

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