

RUBY PLUS YEAR (300)

DALLAS, TEX., NOV. 24 (AP)-JACK RUBY SAT IN A COUNTY JAIL CELL TODAY, DABBED AT A LUNCH OF GRILLED LIVER WITH RICE AND ONION GRAVY, AND LET HIS THOUGHTS DRIFT BACK ONE YEAR.

IT WAS ABOUT THE SAME TIME NOV. 24, 1963, THAT RUBY LUNGED FORWARD IN THE CITY HALL BASEMENT AND FIRED A BULLET INTO LEE HARVEY OSWALD WHILE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WATCHED ON THEIR TELEVISION SCREENS.

THAT ACT MADE RUBY'S NAME A HOUSEHOLD WORD. IT ALSO BROUGHT HIM THE DEATH PENALTY.

SHERIFF BILL DECKER SAID THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE MURDER OF OSWALD, A 24-YEAR-OLD MARXIST ACCUSED OF ASSASSINATING PRESIDENT KENNEDY HERE, WAS "JUST ANOTHER DAY" FOR RUBY.

"HE FOLLOWED THE SAME ROUTINE HE FOLLOWS ON OTHER DAYS. AND HE ATE THE SAME FOOD AS OTHER PRISONERS," THE SHERIFF SAID.

DECKER SAID RUBY, WHO MANAGED A DOWNTOWN STRIPTease CLUB BEFORE SHOOTING OSWALD, SPENDS MUCH OF HIS TIME PLAYING CARDS AND DOMINOS WITH GUARDS ASSIGNED TO HIS CELL.

DECKER KEEPS RUBY APART FROM OTHER PRISONERS TO MAKE CERTAIN THEY DO NOT HARK HIM.

DECKER REFUSES TO LET REPORTERS SEE RUBY. AS A RESULT, THEY MUST DEPEND ON HEARSAY ACCOUNTS WHEN WRITING ABOUT RUBY'S PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CONDITION.

DEFENSE ATTORNEYS SAY RUBY WAS "GONE STEADILY DOWN HILL" SINCE HIS ARREST.

DRIVEN BEYOND THE BREAKING POINT, THE LAWYERS SAY, RUBY ATTEMPTED TO KILL HIMSELF.

DIST. ATTY. HENRY WADE SCOFFS AT THE SUICIDE CLAIM AND SAYS HE IS CONVINCED RUBY MERELY "PUT ON AN ACT."

DECKER, WHO SAYS HE BARRED REPORTERS "FOR SECURITY REASONS," DECLINES TO EXPRESS AN OPINION ABOUT RUBY'S MENTAL CONDITION. "I'LL WAIT UNTIL THEY PUT ME ON THE WITNESS STAND," THE SHERIFF SAYS.

ALTHOUGH THE SLAYER IS PALE FROM HIS LONG STAY BEHIND JAIL BARS, DECKER SAYS HE EATS WELL AND "APPEARS TO WEIGH ABOUT THE SAME AS HE DID WHEN HE CAME IN."

PROSECUTORS SAID RUBY SQUEEZED THE TRIGGER OF HIS COLT COBRA IN THE BELIEF THAT THE MURDER OF OSWALD WOULD MAKE HIM KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

IF THIS WAS RUBY'S GOAL, HE SUCCEEDED. BUT HIS FAME MAY STILL COST HIM HIS LIFE.

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