

BELLI (310)

FORT WORTH, TEX., NOV. 30 (AP)-ATTORNEY MELVIN BELLI SAID HE FELT THE DALLAS POLICE OFFICIALS DID RIGHT IN RELEASING INFORMATION IDENTIFYING LEE HARVEY OSWALD AS PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSIN LAST NOVEMBER.

THE SAN FRANCISCO LAWYER, WHO DEFENDED JACK RUBY, THE MAN WHO SHOT DOWN OSWALD TWO DAYS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION, ADMITTED YESTERDAY HE DID NOT KNOW THE ANSWER TO PRETRIAL PUBLICITY FOR CASES OF SUCH MAGNITUDE.

HE SAID THE NATION "SLEPT BETTER" AFTER IT LEARNED QUICK OF OSWALD'S IDENTITY. "RUMORS SPREAD QUICKLY. PEOPLE WONDERED IF IT WAS A PLOT, A COMMUNIST TAKEOVER OR A REVOLUTION."

"HAD THERE BEEN A NEWS BLACKOUT," BELLI SAID, "I DOUBT THAT PEOPLE WOULD HAVE VENTURED OUT OF THEIR HOMES THAT NIGHT."

HE SAID THAT ON THE ONE HAND "EVERYONE HAD THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHO KILLED THE PRESIDENT. ON THE OTHER HAND WAS A DEFENDANT WHO RECEIVED EVERYONE'S WRATH BECAUSE OF THAT VERY INFORMATION.

"PERHAPS THE ONLY SOLUTION IS THAT WE PRAY WE ARE NEVER AGAIN CONFRONTED WITH THE SITUATION."

THE WARREN COMMISSION AND ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION HAVE CRITICIZED THE POLICE OFFICIALS' DISCLOSURE OF VARIOUS INFORMATION IN THE FRANTIC HOURS AFTER KENNEDY'S DEATH.

BELLI ALSO SAID IF RUBY HAD BEEN TRIED IN FORT WORTH, HE WOULD NOW BE IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL. A DALLAS JURY CONVICTED RUBY OF MURDER AND SENTENCED HIM TO DEATH.

"THE PEOPLE OF DALLAS WERE SADDLED WITH TRYING THEIR CITY AS WELL AS A SICK MAN," BELLI SAID IN AN INTERVIEW. "IT WAS UNFAIR FOR THEM TO HAVE THAT RESPONSIBILITY."

BELLI ALSO SAID HE FOUND FORT WORTH HAD A COSMOPOLITAN ATMOSPHERE SIMILAR TO SAN FRANCISCO WHILE DALLAS SUFFERED FROM A "COMPLEX."

HE WAS HERE TO INVESTIGATE A POSSIBLE CONTEST OF THE WILL OF THE LATE MULTIMILLIONAIRE KAY KIMBELL.

BELLI REVEALED HE RECENTLY WROTE A LETTER TO DIST. JUDGE JOE BROWN OF DALLAS, WHO PRESIDED OVER THE RUBY TRIAL, AND ASKED HIM TO COMMIT RUBY TO A MENTAL HOSPITAL.

"IT WAS A LETTER FROM ONE HUMAN BEING TO ANOTHER," BELLI SAID. "I ASKED THAT HE REMEMBER THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND PUT JACK WHERE HE BELONGS."

HE SAID HE RECENTLY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM BROWN IN WHICH THE JURIST SAID THAT BOTH HE AND BELLI HAD BEEN "MISUNDERSTOOD."