

B17DN

RUGY (280)

DALLAS, TEX., MARCH 10 (AP)-JACK RUBY'S SISTER SAID TODAY THAT LAWYERS MELVIN BELLI AND JOE TONAHILL FORCIBLY RESTRAINED RUBY FROM FIRING THEM BEFORE HIS MURDER TRIAL THAT ENDED IN THE DEATH PENALTY.

SHE SAID HER BROTHER TRIED TO STAND UP IN COURT DURING A CHANGE OF VENUE HEARING IN JANUARY, 1964, AND ASK DIST. JUDGE JOE B. BROWN TO REMOVE BOTH LAWYERS FROM HIS DEFENSE.

"BUT BELLI AND TONAHILL PUSHED HIM BACK DOWN IN HIS SEAT AND WOULDN'T LET HIM TALK," MRS. EVA GRANT SAID.

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INSERT & SUB

DALLAS--RUBY (B17DN), TO CLARIFY, THE FOLLOWING MAY BE INSERTED AFTER 3RD GRAF "BUT BELLI XX GRANT SAID."

SHE MADE HER REMARKS TO REPORTERS QUESTIONING HER ABOUT THE LATEST WRANGLE CONCERNING ATTORNEYS FOR RUBY.

NEWSMEN ALSO TALKED WITH JUDGE BROWEE

NEWSMEN ALSO TALKED WITH JUDGE BROWN, WHO PRESIDED OVER THE MONTH-LONG MURDER TRIAL THAT SAW A DEATH VERDICT BE RETURNED A YEAR AGO THIS COMING SUNDAY.

THE QUESTION OF WHICH LAWYERS SHOULD REPRESENT RUBY FLARED AGAIN AT A HEARING MONDAY DURING WHICH BROWN SET MARCH 29 AS THE DATE FOR A SANITY TRIAL FOR RUBY.

HE ALSO NAMED TONAHILL, OF JASPER, TEX., AND DALLAS LAWYER PHIL BURLESON AS RUBY'S ATTORNEYS OF RECORD FOR THE APPEAL OF HIS CONVICTION.

BROWN SAID TODAY, ETC., PICKING UP 4TH GRAF AS BEFORE AND SUBBING OUT 11TH GRAF "BURLESON AND XX MARCH 29" AS REPETITIVE.

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BROWN SAID TODAY THAT "RUBY IS PRESUMED TO BE SANE BY THE COURT UNTIL FOUND INSANE. AND HE IS ENTITLED TO HIRE ANY LAWYERS HE CHOOSES."

THE JUDGE SAID HE HAS NO OBJECTION TO OUT-OF-STATE LAWYERS IN THE CASE IF THEY ARE PROPERLY PRESENTED TO THE COURT, AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED ATTORNEYS SOL DANN OF DETROIT AND ELMER GERTZ OF CHICAGO AND THE NEW YORK FIRM OF KUNSTLER, KUNSTLER AND KINOY AT MONDAY'S HEARING HAD THEY BEEN SO INTRODUCED.

MEANWHILE, PHIL BURLESON, A RUBY LAWYER, DENIED THAT DISPUTES BETWEEN LAWYERS FOR THE CONDEMNED MAN HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH DEFENSE STRATEGY.

BURLESON SPOKE OUT AFTER ASST. DIST. ATTY. BILL ALEXANDER SAID HE FELT THE RUBY DEFENSE IS ATTEMPTING TO USE DISPUTES OVER LEGAL COUNSEL AS A BASIS FOR MANUFACTURING REVERSIBLE ERRORS.

THE CASE HAS BEEN APPEALED TO THE TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS.

"IT'S MOST OBVIOUS TO ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN AROUND THE SITUATION THAT THE LAWYERS INVOLVED HAVE NOT BEEN PUTTING ON AN ACT," BURLESON SAID.

~~BURLESON AND JOE TONAHILL OF JASPER, TEX., WERE NAMED BY JUDGE JOE BROWN TO REPRESENT RUBY IN A SANITY TRIAL SET FOR MARCH 29.~~

MEMBERS OF RUBY'S FAMILY ARE SEEKING TO HAVE TONAHILL REMOVED FROM DEFENSE COUNSEL.

RUBY IS UNDER DEATH SENTENCE FOR GUNNING DOWN PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

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