

SB126DN

NIGHT LEAD JACK RUBY (180)

DALLAS, MARCH 16 (AP)—DIST. ATTY. HENRY WADE, WHO PROSECUTED JACK RUBY FOR THE SLAYING OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSIN, SAID TODAY THAT RUBY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SELECT HIS OWN LAWYERS.

A SANITY HEARING FOR RUBY IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 29. RUBY'S CONVICTION AND DEATH SENTENCE FOR SLAYING LEE HARVEY OSWALD IS ON APPEAL.

"IT'S NOT OUR CONCERN, BUT I DON'T THINK ANY LAWYER OUGHT TO BE FORCED ON HIM," WADE SAID. "I THINK THE MATTER OF WHO REPRESENTS RUBY OUGHT TO BE LEFT UP TO RUBY."

RUBY'S FAMILY HAS LONG SOUGHT TO DISMISS JOE TONAHILL AS A LAWYER. HE WAS ON THE ORIGINAL RUBY DEFENSE TEAM.

THE FAMILY HAS PRESENTED A DOCUMENT SIGNED BY RUBY DISMISSING TONAHILL. BUT TONAHILL SAYS RUBY IS NOT IN A MENTAL CONDITION TO MAKE SUCH A DECISION AND THAT HE FEELS IT IS HIS DUTY TO RUBY TO REMAIN ON THE STAFF.

DIST. JUDGE JOE B. BROWN, AT A HEARING MARCH 8, APPOINTED TONAHILL AND PHIL BURLESON AS RUBY'S LAWYERS. BURLESON ALSO WAS AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE TEAM.

JUDGE BROWN SAID YESTERDAY HE MIGHT REMOVE TONAHILL IF RUBY ASKED SUCH ACTION. SO FAR, HE HAS RECEIVED NO REQUEST FROM THE DEFENDANT.

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