

Sanity Hearing

Ruby Says It Was His Destiny

Dallas

Jack Ruby, testifying for the first time since he shot Lee Harvey Oswald, said yesterday "I guess it was my destiny" to kill the President's assassin.

He swore he pulled the trigger on the spur of the moment and was no part of any conspiracy.

A Federal court listened to the 54-year-old condemned slayer's rambling testimony and then ruled against him. The defense had moved to have the question of Ruby's sanity brought to a Federal court.

COURT

Judge T. Whitfield Davidson ordered the sanity issue returned to State court with the suggestion that the case be heard by a judge other than Judge Joe E. Brown, who presided at Ruby's murder trial more than a year ago.

Ruby, all smiles, was brought in handcuffs from the Dallas county jail and courthouse to the Federal Court Building.

"If it had been three seconds later, I would never have met this person (Oswald), I guess God was against me," Ruby said. I guess it was my destiny.

"Don't ask me what took place in my mind. I don't know."

CHARGE

The hearing stemmed from a charge by the Texas Civil Liberties Union that Ruby's constitutional rights were being violated, the issue was the presence of defense attorney Joe H. Tonahill of Jasper, Tex.

The Ruby family and Ruby himself want him removed. But Tonahill refused to quit.

Ruby started talking in court about his troubles with attorneys—he has had six chief defense counsels—and he talked on for 35 minutes.

"This is the most tragic thing in the history of the world," he said. There was "a terrible conspiracy to show the world I am insane."

"They're going to say I

was part of a conspiracy—that I did know Oswald."

"I guess it was my destiny."

"Me, Jack Ruby—Jack Rubinstein—am the greatest scapegoat in the history of the world," he said.

"I am going down in history as the most despicable person that ever lived."

United Press