

(HOLD HOLD HOLD -- ADVANCE FOR USE ONLY IN THE EVENT OF THE DEATH OF JACK RUBY)

EA149(ADV)DN

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RUBY (750)

DALLAS, TEX. (AP)-JACK RUBY, A PRODUCT OF THE CHICAGO SLUMS, WAS LITTLE KNOWN OUTSIDE OF DALLAS POLICE AND ENTERTAINMENT CIRCLES UNTIL HE STEPPED TO THE CENTER OF THE WORLD STAGE NOV. 24, 1963, AND SHOT LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

OSWALD, HIMSELF AN OBSCURE MAN UNTIL HE HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY TWO DAYS EARLIER, DIED IN PARKLAND HOSPITAL SEVERAL HOURS AFTER HE WAS GUNNED DOWN IN POLICE CUSTODY.

RUBY WAS A 52-YEAR-OLD SEMI-SUCCESSFUL GIRLIE SHOW OPERATOR WHEN HE DARTED BETWEEN OFFICERS AND NEWSMEN IN THE BASEMENT OF THE DALLAS CITY HALL AND PUMPED A PISTOL BULLET INTO OSWALD DURING A TRANSFER FROM THE CITY TO THE COUNTY JAIL.

HE SAID HE DID IT TO SPARE THE PRESIDENT'S WIDOW THE ANGUISH OF HAVING TO COME BACK TO DALLAS FOR OSWALD'S MURDER TRIAL. HE MAINTAINED HE HAD NOT KNOWN OSWALD, AND THAT HE WAS PART OF NO CONSPIRACY.

~~THE WARREN COMMISSION,~~ APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON TO TELL THE WORLD THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION, SAID RUBY HAD ACTED ALONE.

THERE WAS LINGERING DOUBT, HOWEVER, IN THE MINDS OF MANY ON THIS POINT. RUBY WAS AWARE OF THAT HIS VERSION WAS NOT UNIVERSALLY BELIEVED, AND HE ASKED TO THE END TO BE GIVEN A LIE DETECTOR TEST SO THAT THE WORLD WOULD BELIEVE HIM.

A DALLAS JURY SENTENCED HIM TO DEATH AFTER A STORMY, MONTH-LONG TRIAL IN MARCH 1964, BUT A STATE APPELLATE COURT OVERTURNED THE CONVICTION ONLY TWO MONTHS BEFORE HIS CANCER WAS DISCOVERED DEC. 9.

A NEW TRIAL WAS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR WICHITA FALLS IN FEBRUARY BUT ALL PLANS WERE SUSPENDED WHEN RUBY WAS HOSPITALIZED DEC. 8.

DALLAS DIST. ATTY. HENRY WADE HAD INDICATED THAT THE STATE WOULD AGAIN SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY. BUT DEFENSE LAWYERS SAID THE MOST RUBY WOULD GET UPON A SECOND CONVICTION WOULD BE FIVE YEARS IN PRISON.

RUBY'S TRIAL AND THE SUBSEQUENT APPEALS DEVELOPMENTS WERE AMONG THE MOST TEMPESTUOUS IN TEXAS LEGAL HISTORY, INVOLVING CHARGES OF A JUDGE'S DISQUALIFICATION AND A LAWYER'S MISREPRESENTATION.

RUBY WAS KNOWN TO ONE ASSOCIATE AS A MAN ON A LIFELONG SEARCH FOR CLASS.

HIS CHECKERED LIFE BEGAN MARCH 25, 1911, IN THE MAXWELL STREET GHETTO OF CHICAGO. HE WAS THE SIXTH OF NINE CHILDREN BORN TO AN IMMIGRANT CARPENTER FROM POLAND AND HIS WIFE.

NAMED JAKE RUBENSTEIN BY HIS PARENTS, JOSEPH AND FANNIE RUBENSTEIN, HE SPENT MUCH OF HIS CHILDHOOD FIGHTING THE TOUGH ITALIAN BOYS FROM UP THE STREET, AND LEARNING HOW TO WIN AT THE SIDEWALK GAMES OF RUN-SHEEP-RUN AND KICK-THE-CAN.

HIS SISTER, EVA (NOW MRS. EVA GRANT OF DALLAS), NICKNAMED HIM "SPARKY," AND THE TAG STUCK.

"SPARKY WAS A REAL SCRAPPER, EVEN WHEN HE WAS 10," RECALLED BROTHER EARL. "HE WAS ALWAYS GETTING INTO FIGHTS AND WINNING 'EM."

RUBY'S PARENTS SEPARATED IN 1923, AND HE WAS PLACED IN A FOSTER HOME UNTIL HE REACHED THE AGE OF CONFIRMATION, 13. HE NEVER HAD A BAR MITZVAH, A TRADITIONAL CEREMONY IN JEWISH LIFE.

NEVERTHELESS, SAID EARL, "HE WAS A SCRAPPER, A GO-GO GUY."

RUBY DROPPED OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL AT 16, AND FELL INTO A VARIETY OF ODD JOBS, FROM SCALPING TICKETS AT SPORTING EVENTS TO VENDING PENNANTS AND THE LIKE.

EA151DN

HE AND SOME FRIENDS MOVED TO SAN FRANCISCO IN 1933. THEY EARNED A LIVING MAINLY BY SELLING NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM DOOR TO DOOR.

IN 1937, HE MOVED BACK TO CHICAGO, TO HELP OLD FRIEND LEON R. COOKE ORGANIZE JUNK YARD WORKERS.

BUT COOKE DIED IN 1939, AND, AFTER TWO MORE YEARS OF SELLING THIS AND THAT, RUBY WAS DRAFTED.

HE WAS TRAINED AS AN AIR FORCE MECHANIC, GOT A "VERY SATISFACTORY" RATING, AND WAS MUSTERED OUT IN 1946 WITHOUT HAVING LEFT THE COUNTRY.

EVA GRANT ASKED HIM TO JOIN HER IN DALLAS, AND HE DID IN 1947. THEY OPENED TWO NIGHT CLUBS AND RUBY DEVOTED MOST OF HIS TIME TO THE DOWNTOWN STRIP JOINT CALLED THE CAROUSEL, WHICH HE MANAGED UNTIL IT WAS CLOSED AFTER THE ASSASSINATION.

HE LEGALLY CHANGED HIS NAME FROM JAKE RUBENSTEIN TO JACK LEON RUBY IN 1948. HE WAS SOON KNOWN IN DALLAS AS A MAN WHO WANTED CLASS. HE REMAINED A BACHELOR.

"HE WANTED TO BE LIKED, AND HE WAS," SAID AN ACQUAINTANCE.

"JACK DIDN'T LIKE HECKLERS," SAID ONE OF HIS STRIPPERS. HE GOT A REPUTATION AS A MANAGER WHO WOULD BEAT UP A DRUNK AND TOSS HIM DOWN THE STAIRS AT HIS CLUB.

POLICE LIKED HIM BECAUSE HE WOULD TIP THEM OFF WHEN HE FELT THEY NEEDED TO KNOW SOMETHING.

IT WAS THIS IMAGE, AS A SHARP DRESSER AND A TOUCH CUSTOMER, THAT HE CARRIED W

IT WAS THIS IMAGE, AS A SHARP DRESSER AND A TOUGH CUSTOMER, THAT HE CARRIED WITH HIM AS HIS PATH CROSSED OSWALD'S TWO DAYS AFTER KENNEDY WAS SLAIN.

RUBY DID NOT TAKE THE WITNESS STAND AT HIS TRIAL. BUT CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN PROVIDED A LIE DETECTOR TEST FOR HIM IN JAIL IN THE SUMMER OF 1964, AND HE SWORE HE DID NOT KNOW OSWALD. HE ALSO SAID HE DID NOT WANT MRS. KENNEDY TO HAVE TO COME BACK TO DALLAS.

ONE OF HIS LAWYERS, JOE TONAHILL OF JASPER, TEX., SAID RUBY TOLD HIM MORE THAN ONCE:

"I'M JUST A NOBODY FROM THE GHETTOS OF CHICAGO."

END ADV FOR RUBY DEATH.

JS/MM1010PCS