

'Murder Without Malice'

By The Associated Press

Jack Ruby's death has prompted statements from various individuals connected with the case in one way or another.

In New York, William F. Kunstler, one of Ruby's lawyers, said his death denied him the opportunity "to have a jury decide that he was guilty of nothing more than murder without malice — a crime that carries a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment."

Kunstler added such a verdict — of murder without malice — "would have helped to establish that what Ruby did in Dallas on Nov. 24, 1963, was solely the result of spontaneous reaction to the President's assassination."

WARREN COUNSEL

In Los Angeles, Joseph A. Ball, who was senior staff counsel to the Warren Commission, said he did not see how Ruby's death could have any effect on the validity of the commission's report on Kennedy's assassination.

Ball said he is sure some persons who have been writing critical books about the report "will spread the word that there was something sinister about Ruby's death."

Ball said he saw no reason to reopen the Warren inquiry unless new evidence develops. He said he had received no communication from any commission officials about any such review.

HOSPITALIZED

Ruby was moved to Parkland Hospital in Dallas Dec. 9 from the Dallas County Jail, where he spent more than three years.

Ruby died without knowing whether the world believed his story about why he killed Lee Harvey Oswald.

He told his family he was motivated by an angry passion to save Mrs. Kennedy from having to return to Dallas for the Oswald trial.

He also maintained his path crossed Oswald's only by an accident of timing.

Ruby had lost about 20 pounds in his 3½-week stay in the hospital, doctors said. He died weighing 147 pounds.

Ruby Death Revives Old Doubts

By United Press International and The Associated Press

The world reacted to the death of Jack Ruby in banner headlines today — many reviving suspicions of a Dallas conspiracy.

In some quarters, Ruby's death set off a new round of doubt, rumor and speculation concerning whether a conspiracy was involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy:

Paris newspapers hinted Ruby's passing may prevent "the truth" about the assassination from ever becoming known.

"Jack Ruby took his secret with him," headlined the tabloid Paris Jour over a story that asked:

"Was Lee Oswald really the killer of Kennedy? Or was there, as many Americans feel, a plot in Dallas?"

While the London Times reported Ruby's death straightforwardly, the mass circulation newspapers in Britain used it as one more straw in building the fabric of mystery around the assassination.

"Ruby's death removes the last link in the controversy over whether there was a conspiracy," the London Times said.

The Sun splashed the headline:

"Mystery of Ruby Death." It said Ruby died "when many people were questioning whether he was one of a ring of conspirators behind the shooting of the President."

The Sun quoted "people who saw him near the end" as saying, "He insisted that cancer cells had been injected into him in prison."

The Guardian headlined, "Ruby is Dead — in JFK's Hospital," and said Ruby had "shot and killed the assassin of President Kennedy."

The Daily Mirror's front page headline said, "Tape Drama as Jack Ruby Dies," and its rival, The Express, reported:

"Deathbed Voice Recalls Moment of a Killing."