

PARKLAND HOSPITAL (300)

BY TOM JOHNSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

DALLAS, TEX., JAN. 4 (AP)-DEATH IS PART OF THE WAY OF LIFE AT ANY BIG CITY HOSPITAL.

YET, WHEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE MAN ALLEGED TO HAVE ASSASSINATED HIM, AND EVEN THE MAN WHO KILLED THAT MAN, ALL DIE AT ONE HOSPITAL, DEATH IS DIFFERENT.

THAT IS THE LEGACY OF PARKLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN DALLAS, THE SPRAWLING, MULTI-STORIED, CITY-COUNTY MEDICAL COMPLEX WHERE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND JACK RUBY ALL DIED.

THINGS WERE ROUTINE AT PARKLAND BEFORE 12:30 P.M. ON NOV. 22, 1963. BABIES WERE BEING BORN, ARMS BROKEN IN CAR WRECKS WERE BEING SET, AND THE DEATHLY ILL WERE EXPIRING.

"GET TO PARKLAND HOSPITAL ON CODE III (HIGHEST EMERGENCY STATUS)," RADIOED THE DALLAS POLICE CHIEF WHEN HE REALIZED THAT SHOTS HAD BEEN FIRED AT PRESIDENT KENNEDY, RIDING A FEW CARS BEHIND HIM IN THE DALLAS MOTORCADE.

KENNEDY, HIS SKULL SHATTERED BY A HIGH-POWERED RIFLE BULLET, AND TEXAS GOV. JOHN CONNALLY, HIS CHEST, ARM AND LEG ALSO PIERCED BY A PROJECTILE, WERE RUSHED TO GROUND-FLOOR TRAUMA ROOMS.

ON-DUTY SPECIALISTS FROM THE ADJOINING UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL WORKED FRANTICALLY ON BOTH MEN AND SAVED CONNALLY'S LIFE.

BUT IT WAS TOO LATE FOR THE PRESIDENT.

TWO DAYS LATER, ON SUNDAY, NOV. 24, POLICE AUTHORITIES MADE READY TO TRANSFER LEE HARVEY OSWALD, CHARGED AS THE ASSASSIN, FROM THE CITY JAIL TO THE COUNTY JAIL.

JACK LEON RUBY, A DALLAS STRIP-JOINT OPERATOR, DARTED INTO THE BASEMENT WHERE THE TRANSFER WAS BEING INITIATED AND FIRED A PISTOL BULLET INTO OSWALD'S STOMACH.

AN AMBULANCE SPED INTO THE BASEMENT, LOADED IN OSWALD ON A STRETCHER AND HEADED FOR PARKLAND.

OSWALD WAS RUSHED INTO EMERGENCY SURGERY, BUT SHORTLY BEFORE 2 P.M., A HOSPITAL SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED HIS DEATH.

B52

THREE YEARS LATER, JACK RUBY, IN THE DALLAS COUNTY JAIL AWAITING HIS SECOND MURDER TRIAL FOR HAVING KILLED OSWALD, WAS HOSPITALIZED AT PARKLAND.

IT WAS ANNOUNCED DEC. 10 THAT HE HAD CANCER, AND SUBSEQUENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE IT CLEAR THE DISEASE WAS INCURABLE.

HE DIED TUESDAY MORNING.

KK739PCS