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**'Oswald
Killed by
Embolism'**

LAS VEGAS — (UPI) — One of Jack Ruby's defense attorneys said yesterday Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, undoubtedly died from an air embolism rather than the gunshot fired by Ruby.

Attorney Joe Tonahill said the embolism — an air bubble in the bloodstream — was believed to have developed while Oswald was receiving a plasma transfusion at Parkland Hospital in Dallas and eventually resulted in a cardiac arrest.

Tonahill said he definitely was not accusing anyone at the hospital of Oswald's death. He said his theory was supported by Dr. Howard Wilcox of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Beaumont, Texas.

PLASTIC BAGS

"Dr. Wilcox would have testified that Oswald died of an air embolism and not a gunshot wound," Tonahill said at a news conference in connection with a clinic for the American Trial Lawyers Association.

Tohahill said that he and fellow defense attorney Melvin Belli of San Francisco disagreed on the use of the air embolism testimony and finally decided to omit it from the Ruby trial.

(In San Francisco, attorney Belli commented:

"There's no better lawyer, nor personal friend than Joe Tonahill, but on this one, I think he's wrong.

"I had this (information) presented to me during the trial, and as you know I love to take on doctors, but it simply was not feasible in this case. Oswald died from the gunshot wounds.")

"We issued a subpoena to

—From Page 1

Parkland Hospital but I was told the man in charge had Oswald's medical records locked in a safe and that he had left the state," Tonahill said.

He said Dr. Wilcox did not believe that the air embolism developed as a result of the gunshot wound.

"They used plastic bags in administering a plasma transfusion and it may have happened then," said Tonahill.

The attorney also referred to the death of Jack Ruby,

who died 24 days after having being admitted to Parkland Hospital with what was diagnosed as cancer.

"He went awfully fast and had far less care than the average citizen in the Dallas jail. Ruby was allowed to die of cancer," said Tonahill. Again he stressed that he did not feel it was deliberate.

He theorized that powerful drugs used on Ruby may have "activated cancer cells and sped them up." He pointed out in other cases that the same powerful drugs could slow the growth of cancer.