

EA128WX

(500) WARREN-SORRELS-RUBY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, NOV. 23 (AP)-NIGHT SPOT OPERATOR JACK RUBY EXPLAINS WHY HE AVENGED THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY BY KILLING LEE HARVEY OSWALD: "I GUESS I JUST HAD TO SHOW THE WORLD A JEW HAS GUTS."

THE SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE DALLAS DISTRICT OF THE U. S. SECRET SERVICE, FORREST V. SORRELS, PUT THIS DOWN IN NOTES HE MADE OF AN INTERVIEW WITH RUBY SHORTLY AFTER GUBY GUNNED DOWN OSWALD.

HIS ACCOUNT APPEARS IN ONE OF THE VOLUMES OF TESTIMONY, RELEASED TODAY, TAKEN BY THE WARREN COMMISSION WHICH INVESTIGATED THE ASSASSINATION.

SORRELS SAID RUBY ALSO TOLD HIM HE GUESSED HE HAD WORKED HIMSELF INTO A STATE OF INSANITY, THAT HE DID NOT KNOW OSWALD PRIOR TO THE ASSASSINATION, AND THAT NOBODY ELSE WAS INVOLVED IN THE SLAYING OF OSWALD.

THE SPECIAL AGENT SAID HE HAD INFORMED THE DALLAS POLICE HE MIGHT BE UNABLE TO TESTIFY AT THE RUBY TRIAL TO THE INFORMATION HE RECEIVED, SINCE HAD HAD NOT WARNED RUBY OF HIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO THE QUESTIONING.

ASKED WHETHER THE FAILURE TO WARN RUBY OF HIS RIGHTS WAS AN OVERSIGHT, SORRELS SAID, "NO, IT WAS NOT."

HE SAID HIS PURPOSE IN GETTING TO RUBY AS QUICKLY AS HE COULD WAS TO TRY TO DETERMINE WHETHER OTHERS WERE INVOLVED IN THE CASE, SINCE "THAT WOULD BE OF CONCERN TO THE SECRET SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR PROTECTIVE DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT. . ."

SORRELS QUIZZED RUBY IN THE JAIL AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING. HE SAID HE TOLD RUBY HE KNEW A NUMBER OF JEWISH MERCHANTS WHOM RUBY KNEW AND RUBY REMARKED:

"THAT IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME. WHAT IS IT YOU WANT TO KNOW?"

SORRELS WENT ON:

"AND I SAID THESE TWO WORDS, 'JACK--WHY?'"

"HE SAID, 'WHEN THIS THING HAPPENED'--REFERRING TO THE ASSASSINATION, THAT HE WAS IN A NEWSPAPER OFFICE PLACING AN AD FOR HIS BUSINESS. THAT WHEN HE HEARD ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION HE HAD CANCELED HIS AD AND HAD CLOSED HIS BUSINESS AND HE HAD NOT DONE ANY BUSINESS FOR THREE DAYS.

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"THAT HE HAD BEEN GRIEVING ABOUT THIS THING. THAT ON THE FRIDAY NIGHT HE HAD GONE TO THE SYNAGOGUE AND HAD HEARD A EULOGY ON THE PRESIDENT. . . THAT WHEN HE SAW THAT MRS. KENNEDY WAS GOING TO HAVE TO APPEAR FOR THE TRIAL, HE THOUGHT TO HIMSELF, WHY SHOULD SHE HAVE TO GO THROUGH THIS ORDEAL FOR THIS NO-GOOD SO-AND-SO."

SHORTLY BEFORE OSWALD WAS TO BE MOVED FROM THE CITY TO THE COUNTY JAIL--RUBY SHOT HIM IN A BASEMENT DRIVEWAY AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

SORRELS SAID HE HAD SUGGESTED TO POLICE CAPT. WILL FRITZ THAT HE NOT MAKE THE SHIFT AT AN ANNOUNCED TIME BUT AT 3 OR 4 A.M. WHEN NO ONE WAS AROUND.

FRITZ TOLD HIM, HE SAID, THAT POLICE CHIEF JESSE CURRY "WANTED TO GO ALONG WITH THE PRESS AND NOT TRY TO PUT ANYTHING OVER ON THEM."

POLICE DETECTIVE J. R. LEAVELLE, WHO WAS HANDCUFFED TO OSWALD AT THE TIME RUBY SHOT OSWALD, TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD RECOMMENDED THAT OSWALD BE TAKEN OUT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING BY A DIFFERENT ROUTE THAT WOULD BE QUICKER AND EASIER.

HE SAID FRITZ TOLD HIM HE DIDN'T THINK CURRY WOULD GO FOR THAT "BECAUSE THE CHIEF HAD GIVEN HIS WORD TO THE PRESS THAT THEY WOULD TRANSFER HIM AT A TIME WHEN THEY COULD MAKE PICTURES."

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