

Murderer of Oswald Portrayed as Tough Guy, Loner, Emotional

By WILBUR MARTIN
(Associated Press Writer)

DALLAS — He's a tough guy, this Jack Ruby.

He's a loner, too.

He's emotional — real emotional — and he flies off the handle.

A policeman who saw him moving in on Lee Harvey Oswald, the self-styled Communist accused of assassinating President Kennedy, screamed: "Jack, you son-of-a— . . ."

Jack Ruby rammed the nickel-plated pistol he always carried into Oswald and pulled the trigger.

Crashes Conference

Oswald died a little more than an hour later.

"I'll charge Ruby with murder," said Dist. Atty. Henry Wade of the man Wade had met only the night before, when the strip-tease joint owner crashed a news conference as police revealed more details of their case against Oswald.

"I can take care of myself," Ruby always boasted.

"Yeah, he could do that," said a close personal friend, a man who used to run public social dances with the stocky health fadist.

Police Knew Him

"Yeah, man. He's always after it. He lives for that business . . .

to make a buck," said his one-time business associate.

His real name is Jack Rubenstein and he showed up in Dallas about 15 years ago, moving in on the city's night life with a little place called the Silver Slipper.

The police know Ruby, too.

"I know all the policemen," Ruby told Wade at the press conference. "And the newsmen. I just came down to listen in."

Fought With Heckler

That's why it didn't seem strange to have Jack Ruby pop up among the crowd of newsmen, photographers, and detectives forming a human barrier that Oswald had to cross in his transfer from one jail to another.

He was used to being around.

The police had had him around for other reasons. Like two arrests for carrying a concealed weapon, once in July of this year; once in May, 1954. For violating a dance hall ordinance in 1959. And just a few days ago for aggravated assault. He had a fight in another night spot. A man heckled him.

"He's a little odd," said Bill DeMar, the master of ceremonies who brings on the strippers at the Carousel Club, "but tremendously patriotic."

"For a buck," said his ex-partner.

"You know, this just about would have killed him. Not the President's death. But the business. You live for the holidays in this town. Two months of the free spending and it carries you the rest of the year.

Ruby Liked Animals

"The business is shot for Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's. Man, who's gonna live it up now?"

Women like Jack Ruby, but he wasn't interested.

"You know what it was with him. Animals. Three dogs. Cats. He'd do anything for them."

Ruby is a character in a business of characters.

He doesn't drink or smoke. He doesn't curse.

"He's a real gentleman with the ladies."

Didn't Need Bouncer

But he is rough.

"He didn't need a bouncer. He could handle himself. He was proud of that."



Mrs. Marina Oswald, Russian wife of Lee Harvey Oswald, arrives at Parkland hospital in Dallas where the accused assassin of President Kennedy died of a bullet wound inflicted

while he was being moved from the Dallas city jail. Jack Ruby, nightclub owner, has been charged with murder in Oswald's slaying.

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