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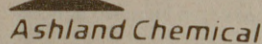
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# Attorney general stresses fair trial

DALLAS (AP) — U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh stressed defendants' rights to a fair trial over the media's "ill-defined right to know" Tuesday during a luncheon with newspaper editors.

Thornburgh said he supports, and as attorney general must defend, the media's right to publish without censorship. That right, however, is not a prosecutor's first concern, he told about 400 editors attending the 56th annual Associated Press Managing Editors convention in Dallas.

The APME meeting concludes Friday. Thornburgh said the tension between prosecutors and reporters often stems from each side's different agenda.

A prosecutor's first duty, he said, is to ensure a fair trial.

"A prosecutor's duties do not encompass the exposure of suspected criminal activities for exposure's sake," the attorney general said.

That stance, Thornburgh said, often means facing what he called "false" accusations of censorship or "a cover up" from the public or the press about pending investigations.

"As much as the defendant has the right to remain silent before the court, the prosecutor has the obligation to remain silent outside the court," Thornburgh, who has

headed the U.S. Department of Justice since 1988, said.

By leaking or releasing information on pending criminal cases, a prosecutor jeopardizes not only a basic civil right, he or she places the integrity of the judicial system at risk, he said.

The public's right to a free press also is important, he said.

"I share with you an abiding interest in the freedom of the press, no matter how uncomfortable your copy makes us," Thornburgh told the editors.

And in light of the nation's increasing crime rate, an effective press is an essential public right, he said.

During such times, the public wants to know if they have received the "truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth," he said.

On a less serious note, Thornburgh joked that he expected to be "mobbed" upon his arrival to Dallas by Texas Rangers fans mistaking him for pitcher Nolan Ryan.

In the current issue of "Spy," a humor magazine, pictures of Ryan and Thornburgh are published below the headline: "Separated at Birth."

The magazine often includes pictures of famous people who are thought to look alike under the headline as a regular feature.

## Oswald case resurfaces

# Gun, clothes, papers stir up controversy

DALLAS (AP) — Jurors got a glimpse Wednesday of the revolver Jack Ruby used to kill accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald and the clothing he wore during the shooting.

The .38-caliber Colt Cobra revolver and Ruby's other effects have remained for the most part under lock and key since his death 23 years ago.

A six-member jury was considering who has legal authority over the gun and Ruby's other effects. At issue are the distribution of Ruby's assets and whether Dallas attorney Jules Mayer should be removed as the estate's executor.

Earl Ruby, 75, has been waging a legal battle since his brother's death, trying to wrest control of the gun and estate from Mayer. The Ruby heirs contend Mayer, 82, has failed to perform his duties.

Mayer had fought a subpoena from Earl Ruby's attorneys ordering him to produce the items in Dallas County probate court. Mayer and his attorneys contended it could constitute a security risk to transport the gun from its depository in a North Dallas bank vault to the courtroom, located less than 500 yards from where Kennedy was shot.

Earl Ruby disclosed Tuesday the existence of a cache of Jack Ruby's business papers.

"They're of no value," Ruby said while on the witness stand. But John F. Kennedy assassination buffs say the papers could provide valuable information.

Ruby said that at his brother's request, he removed documents from Jack Ruby's Dallas nightclub after his arrest in 1963.

"It's absolutely new territory to my knowledge," said Gary Mack, a Fort Worth researcher and consultant to The Sixth Floor, the

Dallas assassination exhibit. "I don't think the researchers have ever known that Earl Ruby went and cleaned out Jack's office."

The papers are of special interest because some theorists believe Jack Ruby silenced Oswald as part of a Mafia-led conspiracy to kill the president, Mack said.

Earl Ruby continues to refute that theory, saying that his brother acted alone and never intended to kill Oswald but merely make him suffer.

Ruby testified that neither the Warren Commission nor subsequent congressional panels examined his brother's papers.

"We don't know what Jack Ruby was up to in the days prior to the assassination," Mack said.

The papers contain contracts, Ruby said, and are of no interest to anyone.

It's not likely the papers will become public any time soon. On the advice of a lawyer, Ruby has kept the papers for years.

The Ruby family is contesting an estimated \$65,000 in expenses Mayer claims he is owed for his work on behalf of the estate. Including attorney's fees, Mayer claims he is owed an estimated \$110,000 from the estate.

Other than the gun, which Mayer valued at \$115,000, Ruby's estate includes the clothing and jewelry he wore at the time he shot Oswald, some personal papers and other clothing.

The IRS also wants a piece of the estate, claiming that Ruby owed \$17,000 when he died. That amount, the IRS said, has grown to \$86,010 with interest and penalties.

Ruby was convicted of murder in 1964 and sentenced to death in the electric chair. But the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals overturned the conviction in 1966.

## ALAN

Continued from page 7

came about halfway through the set with an original called "Knocking Off." Using some delay effects, Alan pounds rhythm on the body and neck of the guitar, while picking away at the strings to provide a melody. The echo from the delay gives the song an appropriate title, but whatever it was named, it would sound downright cool.

But Alan is a writer as well, and while his guitar work is incredible, his lyrics deserve a second look as well. Alan played "Famous and Poor," a number about people in America who "suffer from both diseases—fame and poverty."

He also performed a Leiber and Stoller (the pair that brought out "Hound Dog" and "Jailhouse Rock") song written in the '50s but never recorded. "It's called 'Strike a Match,' and it's about two black folks who can't see each other in this dark club they're in."

Alan's most successful song to date, still available at a 45 in Dallas record stores, is "Thanksgiving at McDonald's in Time Square." Written as sketches of some of the char-

acters Alan saw as a reporter in New York City, the song's chorus chimes in "Thanksgiving at McDonald's, Thank You, Lord, I pray, If I die before I wake, Somebody please dump my tray."

Alan filled the set with punchy lyrics and incredible guitar work. The diversity of his set included an acoustic rendition of some Led Zepplin metal as well as Bob Dylan's "Highway 61." Alan closed the night with his own song, "Happy Hour," a number about every bad bar and saloon that musicians have to play in.

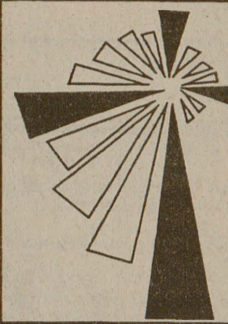
"I like to try and surprise the audience," Alan said. "There are lots of ways you can reach people—use your voice, be funny, play a lot of fancy guitar licks. I'm trying to cover a lot of bases—you need a hundred things going on at once to get through to an audience."

Alan had no trouble reaching the audience at the Front Porch Cafe. Next time around (probably sometime in early spring), check out his great guitar work mixed with some intelligent and humorous lyrics. And *Warts and All* can keep you laughing until then.

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