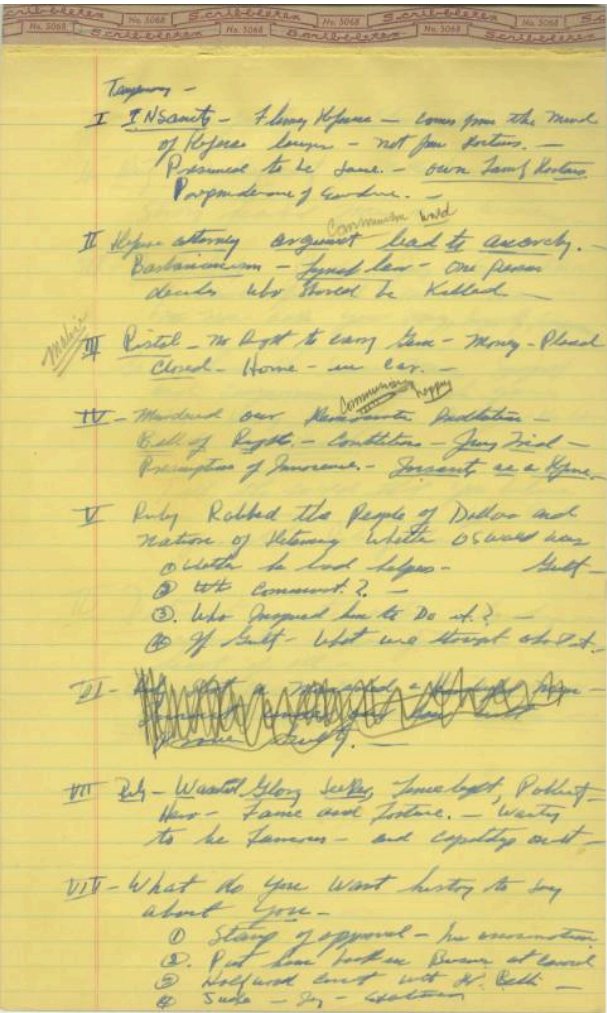


# Basic Detail Report



## Henry Wade's handwritten notes for closing arguments in Ruby trial

**Date**  
March 1964

**Primary Maker**  
Henry M. Wade

**Medium**  
Paper, Cardboard

**Dimensions**  
14 1/16 x 8 1/2 in. (35.7 x 21.6 cm)

**Object number**  
L2017.1.43

**Description**  
Yellow legal pad with two pages of Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade's handwritten outline and notes for his closing argument during the Jack Ruby trial. The full text of the notes is as follows: "Temporary - I Insanity - Flimsy defense -- comes from the mind of defense lawyers - not from doctors. -- Presumed to be sane. - own family

doctors. [underlined] Preponderance of Evidence (?). - II Defense attorney argument communism lived (?) [handwritten in pencil above argument] lead to anarchy. - Barbarianism - Lynch law - one person decides who should be killed. -- III Malice [handwritten in pencil in margin next to Roman numeral] Pistol - no right to carry gun - Money (?) - Plead (?) Closed - Home - in car. - IV - Murdered our Democratic Institution (?) --\ Commission - happy (?) [handwritten in pencil above Democratic] Bill of Rights. Constitution -- Jury Trial -- Presumption of Innocence. - Insanity as a defense. -- V Ruby Robbed the people of Dallas and Nation of Determining whether Oswald was Guilt [sic] -- 1 [written inside circle] whether he had helpers - 2 [written inside circle] wh [scratched out] Communist. ? [sic] -- 3 [written inside circle] Who Inspired him to Do it. ? [sic] -- 4 [written inside circle] If Guilt [sic] - what we thought shot at (?). -- VI - [three lines of handwritten text; all marked through several times with pencil making it illegible] VII Ruby -- Wasted Glory Seeker, Limelight, Publicity -- Hero - Fame and Fortune. -- Wanting to be Famous -- and capitalize on it -- VIII - What do you want history to say about you - 1 [written inside circle] Stamp of approval - his assassination 2 [written inside circle] Put him back in Business at Carousal 3 [written inside circle] Hollywood court with Mr. Belli -- 4 [written inside circle] Judge -- Jury -- Executioner [second page] Claim - I - Law Enforcement -- no stronger than weakest link (?). II - Duty and Responsibility = Noble words -- Strong headed (?) Men and

Women -- III - Jack Ruby - Judge - Jury - Executioner of handcuffed and - [illegible] man (?) -- [scribbled through] Now asks your Mercy, Sympathy, Compassion -- Give him the same Mercy, Sympathy and Compassion that he gave Lee Harvey Oswald = and your verdict will be Death Tell the world that you believe in Democracy - way of life - Bill of rights. - Rule of Law - IV Deterrant [sic] - to others - legality (?) - assassination. - Fear Justice in the heart of all - Let the world know what you think of the assassination in Dallas --". The rest of the pad is blank after the first two pages of notes. This object was originally part of the evidence collected by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office and specifically prosecutors Henry Wade and Bill Alexander during the investigation leading up to the Jack Ruby trial for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald.