

83

RUBY'S DEATH 'NO CALL FOR NEW PROBE'

Joseph A. Ball, senior attorney in the Warren Commission investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, today branded criticisms of the "findings" as mostly scandal-mongering with some libel mixed in.

Prior to addressing Town Hall in the Biltmore Hotel, the Long Beach attorney said no new evidence has been presented to indicate the necessity of a new inquiry.

The death today of Jack Ruby is no reason for any further probe, he added.

But to answer what he described as the "idle rumors and untruths" in at least four books, Ball said he would like

to see "the autopsy surgeons testify truthfully, describing the wounds received by the President."

REST MYTHS

"This should have set at rest all myths made by the literary scandal-mongers," he said.

"I think, to show that this testimony is true, the X-rays and colored pictures which showed the wounds of the President should be examined by a group of pathologists who would in turn report their independent findings to the public.

"That would be the way to further report on the facts of the autopsy and

would do much to stop the idle rumors and scandalous statements of the book writers."

Attorney Ball expressed the view that the reports of recordings made recently in the hospital by Ruby "might be of some value" but "I have my doubts about his competence."

"The last time I talked to Jack Ruby, in 1964, I felt that he lacked competence," he declared.



—United Press International Text
CANCER TOOK CONDEMNED SLAYER, JACK RUBY
p to the last he claimed no conspiracy in killing of Lee Harvey Oswald

The doctors shrugged off as too speculative family complaints last week that Ruby was neglected and received inadequate medical care in the jail.

The title of books criticizing the Warren Report simply "chewed over old arguments which the commission had heard and considered," Ball said, adding: "One of the things that has been done is to take the Warren Report and make it a book."

Some of the statements in the book are libelous, and I have written the publishers to that effect. One of the authors, Mr. Epstein, quoted me as saying that the book was a "piece of trash."

Ball said he issued an apology, noting his mistakes. "I have written to other books, including one by Mark Lane, he described them as 'garbage' and 'a piece of trash'."

The Warren Commission attorney expressed regret that Lee Harvey Oswald, the President's assassin was prevented from coming to trial by the shooting by Jack Ruby.