

Liebeler To Defend Warren Report In Public Rebuttal To Critic Lane

Speaking for the Warren Commission, UCLA Professor Wesley Liebeler will offer a public rebuttal to Mark Lane, critic of the administration's report on Kennedy's assassination, today at noon in Cubberley auditorium.

New York attorney Lane, author of *Rush to Judgment*, spoke to capacity crowds at Cubberley and Tresidder on Friday. He condemned the report as "having no semblance to the truth."

According to Lane, he and Liebeler did not debate on the same stage because Lane plans to sue Liebeler for libel. The Law Forum scheduled today's speech as the best alternative to a debate.

'2 Persons Fired'

Liebeler, acting professor of law at UCLA, was an assistant attorney for the Warren Commission. In Edward Epstein's *Inquest*, Liebeler is commended as the lawyer who did his best to "plug up the holes" in the commission's report. According to Professor John Kaplan of the Stanford Law School, "Liebeler is the most sophisticated and knowledgeable

man to speak on the text of the Warren Commission's report."

Liebeler has debated with Lane before, and is scheduled to meet him publicly at UCLA on January 25. Today he will probably be asked to answer several charges made by Lane.

Lane contended that there is "overwhelming and conclusive evidence" proving that at least two persons killed President Kennedy.

Using his dry wit plus facts taken from the Warren Commission report and televised interviews of witnesses, Lane won an enthusiastic hand from both audiences.

Evidence Doctored

He charged that evidence and eyewitness testimony were doctored for the final Warren Commission report, and showed photographs which had been cropped or superimposed "to tell the Commission's story."

Witnesses, he said, were intimidated. Seventeen witnesses have mysteriously died or disappeared since the assassination, but their deaths are not being investigated because, ac-

ording to Lane, they don't fit into any of the panels of investigation. Most of these panels deal with Lee Harvey Oswald.

"The Commission's first question was not whether Oswald murdered Kennedy," noted Lane, "but why Oswald murdered Kennedy."

Ruby In Danger

Lane believes that Jack Ruby faces serious danger of physical harm, as he is the only known party who can give concrete information on the assassination and subsequent murders.

"If Ruby were to take the stand at his re-trial, recently ordered by a Texas court," said Lane, "he could answer two key questions: why he shot Oswald and how he gained access to the heavily-guarded Dallas police station at precisely the time Oswald was being transferred."

Lane attacked the news media for failing to dissent when the Warren Commission report was released. But he was even more critical of law faculties for not investigating the document.

He called for a petition campaign "in every city and campus" to persuade President Johnson to declassify more of the commission's documents and provide for public access to physical evidence in the case.