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Ferrie Not Linked to Oswald, Attorney Says

An attorney for the Warren Commission said here Thursday that an extensive FBI investigation failed to establish any connection between David William Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald.

Prof. Wesley J. Liebeler of UCLA law school, whose interview of a New Orleans policeman contained the only mention of Ferrie in the Warren Commission report, said the FBI had checked him out long before.

"There were a substantial number of reports from the bureau, containing all details of Ferrie's trip to Texas and tracing any possible connection with Oswald," Liebeler said.

Clear Memory

"There isn't anything in them that would indicate any connection. I remember them very clearly."

Liebeler said the FBI reports, which he estimated to be more voluminous than the 40 pages mentioned by New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, are in the national archives. He said he does not know why they have not been released.

(Sources in Washington said that some of the

material on the investigation of Ferrie has been declassified. That which remains classified is in accordance with the federal government's policy that information which would cause personal embarrassment to innocent persons would be withheld.)

While Oswald and Ferrie may have had some "peripheral contact" while in the Civil Air Patrol when Oswald was in junior high school in New Orleans, Liebeler said the FBI reports showed no relationship between them at the time of the assassination.

As for the investigation being conducted by Garrison, Liebeler had this to say:

"I personally don't think he has anything, because everything I have seen so far was aware to us then."

Edward Butler, a New Orleans publicist who participated in a taped interview with Oswald prior to Mr. Kennedy's death, said here Thursday that Ferrie had made an attempt to contact him after the assassination. Butler said he was told Ferrie contended he was innocent and was being unjustly linked with Oswald.