

Assails the 'Lynch Mob'

New York

The Rev. John McLaughlin, deputy special assistant to President Nixon, charges yesterday that unfair news reporting of the impeachment issue is creating a "lynch mob" atmosphere in Washington reminiscent of the McCarthy era.

Father McLaughlin, a Jesuit priest who attained national attention when he was chastised by his superior for defending the President's use of profanity in the White House tapes, said the media had surrendered virtually all impartiality to the use of "the sneaky leak and back-room smear."

"The atmosphere in Washington, D.C., is reminiscent of Joe McCarthy," Father McLaughlin told a gathering of the Overseas Press Club. He urged that a "sense of history" be retained by those responsible for writing it.

United Press