

C47GOC

AMS PMS (600)

SAN DIEGO, CALIF., NOV. 17 (AP)-TWO ATTORNEYS FOR THE WARREN COMMISSION WHICH INVESTIGATED THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY CLASHED TODAY WITH WORLXXXX WORDS--AND A CHALLENGE TO FILE LIBEL ACTION--WITH TWO CRITICS OF THE COMMISSION'S REPORT.

JOSEPH A. BALL, A SENIOR COUNSEL FOR THE COMMISSION, AND LAW PROFESSOR WESLEY J. LIEBELER, A COMMISSION JUNIOR ATTORNEY, TRADED SHARP STATEMENTS WITH AUTHORS MARK LANE AND EDWARD J. EPSTEIN. AT SEVERALPOINTS, LANE, AUTHOR OF "RUSH TO JUDGMENT" AND THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MOTHER OF ACCUSED ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD, CALLED THE COMMISSION REPORT FRAUDULENT.

APPEARING ON A PANEL AT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS MANAGING EDITORS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, BALL AND LIEBELER CALLED THE REPORT FAIR AND CONCLUSIVE AND CRITICIZED LANE AND EPSTEIN, AUTHOR OF "INQUEST." BALL HINTED THE CRITICS OF THE REPORT IGNORED EVIDENCE IN SHAPING THEIR VERSIONS OF THE KENNEDY SLAYING. THE COMMISSION FOUND THAT HARVEY LEE OSWALD ALONE KILLED PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

AT THE CORE OF THE CONTROVERSY WAS THE DECISION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE KENEDY FAMILY TO WITHHOLD FROM PUBLIC RELEASE AUTOPSY PHOTOS AND X-RAYS OF THE DEAD PRESIDENT'S BODY.

EPSTEIN SAID MOST THEORIES THAT THE ASSASSINATION WAS THE RESULT OF A CONSPIRACY DEPEND ON THE AUTOPSY PHOTOS.

HE SAID THE AUTOPSY REPORT INDICATED ONE BULLET WENT THROUGH KENNEDY'S THROAT AND HIT GOV. JOHN CONNALLY OF TEXAS. BUT, HE SAID, A REPORT BY TWO FBI AGENTS WHO WERE PRESENT AT THE AUTOPSY SAID ONLY ONE BULLET HIT KENNEDY'S BACK AND IT FELL OUT OF THE WOUND.

"THE AUTOPSY PHOTOS MIGHT RESOLVE THIS MYSTERY," EPSTEIN SAID. "IN A NUTSHELL, IF THESE AUTOPSY PHOTOS REVEAL THAT THE BULLET EXITED THE THROAT, THE POSSIBILITY THERE WAS A SECOND ASSASSIN WILL BE VIRTUALLY REDUCED TO NIL.

"IF THEY REVEAL THAT THE BULLET IN QUESTION DID NOT PASS THROUGH THE ODXXXX BODY...THAT WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE THE PROBABILITY

THREATENED TO SUE HIM.

"I'VE BEEN WAITING ANXIOUSLY FOR THOSE PAPERS EVER SINCE,"
LIEBELER SAID. "IF YOU HAVE THEM HERE...I'LL BE GLAD TO ACCEPT SERVICE
OF PROCESS...BECAUSE YOU KNOW VERY WELL AS SOON AS YOU DO THAT,
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SUBMIT YOURSELF TO DEPOSITION UNDER OATH, AND
GO THROUGH DISCOVERY PROCEEDINGS, AND THAT DAY I'LL WAIT FOR, MR.
LANE."

LANE, SITTING NEXT TO LIEBELER, SAID QUIETLY, "YOU'LL HAVE THEM
VERY SOON."

(MORE)

SD155PPS

C4960C

**SAN DIEGO--FIRST ADD NIGHT LEAD WARREN REPORT-APHE X X X
VERY SOON."**

**EPSTEIN CHARGED THAT WARREN COMMISSION ATTORNEYS DID NOT
RESOLVE THE CONTRADICTION IMPOSED BY THE AUTOPSY REPORT AND THE
FBI VERSION AND DID NOT INCLUDE THE FBI STATEMENT IN THE FINAL
REPORT.**

**CRITICS OF THE WARREN COMMISSION HAVE SAID OSWALD COULD NOT
HAVE FIRED THREE BULLETS QUICKLY ENOUGH AND, THEREFORE, THERE MAY
HAVE BEEN MORE THAN ONE ASSASSIN.**

**HE URGED THAT X - RAYS AND AUTOPSY PICTURE S BE RELEASED FOR
EXAMINATION.**

**"AS LONG AS THE PHOTOS ARE NOT ANALYZED," HE SAID, "THE
COMMISSION HAS NOT FINISHED ITS JOB."**

**LIEBELER, IN CRITICIZING EPSTEIN'S BOOK, SAID FAULTY RESEARCH
AND SCHOLARSHIP WENT INTO ITS PREPARATION.**

**"THIS BOOK," HE SAID, "HAS DONE MORE TO INHUR THE INTEGRITY OF THE
WARREN REPORT THAN MARK LANE DID. EPSTEIN OWES AN OBLIGATION TO THE
PUBLIC TO EXPLAIN HIS WORK.**

"IF WE HAD FOLLOWED THE SAME DISTORTIONS AS LANE DID IN HIS BOOK, I WOULD BE ASHAMED OF MYSELF AS A LAWYER," BALL SAID.

HE SAID LANE DREW CONCLUSIONS WHICH WERE NOT WARRANTED BY THE EVIDENCE AND CALLED THIS "THE TECHNIQUE OF PROPAGANDA."

LANE ACCUSED THE PRESS OF FAILING IN ITS DUTY FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION.

"WHERE WAS THE PRESS DURING THE INVESTIGATION BY THE WARREN COMMISSION," HE ASKED. "THE PRESS MISERABLY FAILED THE AMERICAN PUBLIC BY NOT DEMANDING OPEN HEARINGS OF THE WARREN COMMISSION."

LANE CALLED FOR CREATION OF A NEW COMMISSION "COMPOSED OF PERSONS IN WHOM THE AMERICAN PUBLIC COULD HAVE FAITH."

LANE SAID SUCH A COMMISSION SHOULD HOLD OPEN HEARINGS AT WHICH THE INTERESTS OF OSWALD WOULD BE REPRESENTED.

SB210PFS

CS060C

SECOND ADD MR. APPE X X X BE REPRESENTED.

BALL IS A LONG BEACH, CALIF., ATTORNEY AND A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE CALIFORNIA BAR ASSOCIATION. LIEBELER IS A PROFESSOR OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES. LANE AND EPSTEIN LIVE IN NEW YORK.

SB213PFS