

'Tissue of distortion' (PA Times - Oct 18 - 66

Assassination book attacked

"Rush to Judgment," the controversial book by Mark Lane attacking the findings of the Warren Commission, was described Tuesday as a "tissue of distortion" by one of the lawyers who helped prepare the commission report on the assassination of President Kennedy.

The lawyer, Prof. Wesley J. Liebeler, of the University of California at Los Angeles, addressed 500 students in Stanford University's Cubberley Auditorium in a speech sponsored by Stanford's Law Forum.

He devoted much of his speech to attacking parts of the book by Lane.

Liebeler said "Rush to Judgment" is "dishonest" because "time after time after time" it makes accusations on just part of the information available in the Warren Commission Report.

The professor, who was as-

sistant counsel to the Warren Commission, urged students to study the full record of the 26-volume commission report before accepting Lane's conclusions.

"Anybody who reads it (Lane's book) without going back to the record is doing himself a disservice," he said. "You read Lane's book but nobody seems to want to read the report."

As for some conflicting reports on the shooting of Kennedy, he said:

"There were witnesses all over the place who saw all kinds of things."

He said he personally thinks photos and X-rays of the Kennedy autopsy should be made a part of the record to help clear up the doubts and he has a

"hunch" they will be made public before long.

NOT PERFECT

Liebeler said he doesn't consider the Warren Commission Report "perfect" and admitted there were "bitter and sometimes violent arguments" among staff members about the wording and contents of the report.

But he insisted that the final conclusions are honest and were reached after thorough investigation. He said that although "nothing is certain . . . the probabilities are overwhelming" that Kennedy was killed by one man — Lee Harvey Oswald.

He said one reason for the success of books such as Lane's is that there is a "credibility gap" and people "tend to doubt seriously what the government says."



WESLEY J. LIEBELER