

The Speaker's Rooms
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 24, 1981

The President and Members of the
Board of Trustees
Western New England College
Springfield, Massachusetts 01119

Dear Friends:

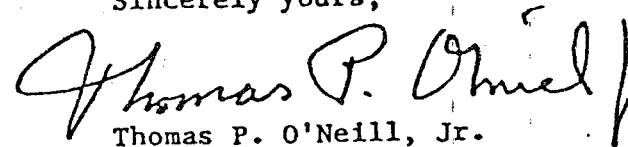
I wish to lend my individual voice in support of your efforts to establish a Center for the Study of American Assassinations at Western New England College.

Though the recent tragic episode involving President Reagan reemphasized the importance and currency of the subject, political assassinations have sapped the strength of American democracy almost since its inception. The effects of these assassinations have had an enormous impact upon American politics, business, and society. The constant reminder that another public figure might be struck down again clouds the future of this country.

I applaud the efforts of an educational institution such as yours to gather together as many materials as possible in one place, where scholars can pursue deliberate, thorough, and scientific study. Such will surely be a significant educational contribution to the community of America.

I hope that your quiet and scholarly research will yield more light and understanding in this difficult but vitally important field. I wish you the best in this significant undertaking.

Sincerely yours,


Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.

TPO/is