

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Southeastern Massachusetts University

North Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02747

Robert F. Kennedy Assassination Archives

Library Communications Center

The S.M.U. Library Communications Center has recently established an archive for materials relating to the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. The Archive is housed in the Library and already contains approximately twenty cubic feet of relevant information - 600 hours of taped interviews and recorded hearings and events, government documents, trial exhibits, newspapers and magazines, diaries and journals, photographs, and diagrams and charts. To date, the collections include:

- -- the Castellano-Nelson collection, which is perhaps the richest and largest privately assembled collection,
- -- the papers of journalist Robert Blair Kaiser, whose critically acclaimed book RFK Must Die chronicled Sirhan's trial,
- --- papers from the Lowenstein-Stone collection (the late Congressman Allard K. Lowenstein and his Administrative aide Gregory Stone),
- -- the papers of Dr. Philip Melanson, Professor of Political Science, SMU,
- -- copies of documents and exhibits from the National Archives.

The Archive is the only one of its kind in the nation. This is especially important given the fact that, in comparison with the assassination of President Kennedy and of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., there has been very little material released by federal or local government agencies, thus leaving a scant historical-investigative record for researchers.

The facility will allow historians, law students, journalists, criminoligists, and assassination researchers to have access to primary, original materials relating to this historical tragedy. Since the J.F.K. Library does not actively seek out material of this type, S.M.U.'s proximity to Boston will be advantageous to researchers who are interested in the R.F.K. assassination as well as other aspects of Kennedy-oriented research. Not only is this material of historical interest to students and scholars in a variety of fields, but it will serve as a focus for research into the serious and unresolved questions which persist after nearly two decades.

The Archive is expected to open to the public in the Fall of 1985. In the meantime, researchers with particular queries or requests can contact Ms. Helen Koss, the university archivist (617-999-8686).

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