



university of wisconsin/stevens point • stevens point, wisconsin 54481

March 23, 1978

Congressman David Obey  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Obey:

In a phone call today to your home representative Jerry Madison I expressed my dismay over the March 16 letter you sent to James Rhoads, Archivist of the United States, regarding my request to you for assistance in obtaining documents in the hands of federal agencies relating to the assassination and the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy that could be placed in the Assassination Archives at this University.

The letter sent to Mr. Rhoads requested help for "establishing an archives" at Stevens Point. One is already established here.

My letter was not for help in setting up an Archives but for help in obtaining documents now in the possession of federal agencies. These are not in the Archives of the United States and will not be in the Archives and the Archives has no relationship with these records.

I requested that you approach each agency and ask that a copy of their released documents be deposited in our archives here at the University. They are of course for sale but the cost of them makes them prohibitive to all except the rich and the well placed and certainly excludes them from being in Wisconsin. These documents are of a limited nature, have distinct bounds, and are not like the Congressional serial set, an eternal operation.

Since the only way to study these documents is for scholars to journey to Washington and visit the several agencies one at a time the individuals with limited resources such as scholars at Wisconsin universities will not be able to utilize them except at great cost and discomfiture and then over a long period of time when they can wend their way for a few days at a time. Placing the documents here assists the agencies in making them available to the public and helps the citizens in gaining access.

It appears to me that your assistant completely misunderstood my request. I wish that you could ask each of the following agencies to deposit a copy of their documents released in the past as well as those to be released in the future in our Assassination Archives:

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1) All past and future Secret Service releases. The Secret Service office must be asked.

2) All past and future Central Intelligence Agency releases. The Central Intelligence Agency must be asked.

3) Federal Bureau of Investigation records to be released in the future from New Orleans and Dallas offices and not the releases made by the Bureau in December, 1977, and January, 1978. The Federal Bureau of Investigation must be asked.

Sincerely

*David R. Wrone*

David R. Wrone

Professor

7TH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

DAVID R. OBEY

COMMITTEES:  
BUDGET  
APPROPRIATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
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DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE:  
JERRY MADISON

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE:  
MARTIN HANSON

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 16, 1978

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
LABOR-HEW  
FOREIGN OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2349 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE  
BUILDING  
PHONE: 202-225-3365  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:  
LYLE STITT

Honorable James B. Rhoads  
Archivist of the United States  
7th and Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20408

Dear Mr. Rhoads:

I am enclosing a copy of a self explanatory letter from Professor David R. Wrone of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Professor Wrone is interested in assistance in the establishment of an archive relating to the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I would be most grateful for any assistance and advice you could provide.

Sincerely yours,

David R. Obey  
Member of Congress

DRO/LHS/c  
Enclosure