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**Kennedy Not in Race,  
O'Neill Now Says**

Associated Press

Rep. Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. (D-Mass) said yesterday Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) told him "Tip, I am not going to be a candidate for President of the United States." O'Neill added: "I see this as a final decision."

O'Neill, House majority leader and a close friend of the senator, had revived speculation that Kennedy would run despite the senator's previous denials.

When <sup>27</sup>he appeared last Sunday on the CBS television program "Face the Nation," O'Neill said, "I think Ted Kennedy will be a candidate." And he quoted Kennedy as telling him "Keep me alive."

Talking to a few reporters yesterday, O'Neill said, "Anything I said in the past is absolutely accurate and true." However, he said Kennedy telephoned him Wednesday night, they talked about the presidency, and Kennedy then made his disclaimer.

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