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Subject: Sprague Photo Collection at Western New England College [HARD COPY WITH ATTACHMENTS IN YOUR "IN" BOX]

introduction On Monday, March 4, 1996, I reviewed the Richard Sprague Photographic Collection on the assassination of President Kennedy at Western New England College in Springfield Massachusetts. My contact was Ms. Kathie Burns, College Archivist at (413) 782-1495. As previously discussed, there is a possibility that the College may be willing to donate the Sprague Collection and some materials from Itek to the JFK Collection at the National Archives. We need to contact Dr. Beverly Miller, President of Western New England College. I recommend that we make an inquiry about acquiring the Collection. I have drafted a letter to Miller which is attached to this memorandum. The following is a review of the Sprague Collection (an inventory created by the College is attached). Richard Sprague Collection Film The College put various 16 mm and 8 mm films that Sprague had collected on videotape for easy viewing by researchers. The tape contains an interesting collection of various films, but is of poor quality. I do not know how much of the lack of quality is due to the films being transferred to videotape. The videotape includes the Zapruder film, F.M. Bell film, the Robert Hughes film, the Dallas Cinema Associates (DCA) film "President Kennedy's Final Hour," Sprague's 1967 film of Dealey Plaza, and the Malcolm Couch (WFAA-TV) film. Sprague Photograph Files Sprague collected various assassination photographs. The quality of the photographs varies greatly. Some are very good reproductions, while others are grainy black and white photographs. All of the Murray/Black Star photographs taken in the immediate aftermath of the assassination are of good quality. In these files Sprague also included his personal theories on what can be seen in certain photographs. He also has a lot of photographs of individuals he thought were important to the assassination. There is a separate box of "oversized photographs" which includes some good quality enlargements of well-known photographs. Book of Slides The College put Sprague's collection of approximately slides in a binder. This may very well be the most valuable part of the Sprague Collection. Most of the slides, some of which are the same as what is in the Sprague Photographic Files, appear to be of very good quality. The slide book includes some high quality Willis and Towner slides which may be first generation from the camera originals. Each of these have copyright notes on the mat around the slide. Itek Materials Ms. Burns showed me a box of materials that Itek had used in its analysis of various Kennedy assassination films. Stephen Lyons of PBS' Nova donated the materials that came from the Itek vault after Itek representatives said they had no use for it. I have attached a letter from Stephen Lyons to the College. There are references to films in the letter. I did not see any of these films and can follow-up with Ms. Burns about them. I also have attached a nine-page analysis of the work done by Itek on the Zapruder film and the Hughes film. The Itek materials are not organized, but the box contained some interesting items which

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