

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE B-6

NEW YORK TIMES  
20 JUNE 1980

## Barnaby C. Keeney Is Dead at 65; Ex-Brown University President

By JOAN COOK

Dr. Barnaby C. Keeney, the 12th president of Brown University and the first chairman of the National Endowment and Council on the Humanities, died of a stroke Wednesday at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence. He was 65 years old.

As president of Brown from 1955 to 1966, Dr. Keeney was the architect of the university's greatest period of educational and physical growth. During his tenure Brown's operating budget more than tripled; its endowment doubled and 11 major building projects that cost a total of \$22 million were completed.

"Brown University owes an incalculable debt of gratitude to Barnaby Keeney," Howard R. Swearer, the current president of the university, said yesterday. "During his 20 years here, he left his imprint on every aspect of university life."

Dr. Keeney, a blunt, outspoken scholar who specialized in medieval history, had little patience with intellectual pomposity and rhetoric. "I never hurt anyone's feelings on purpose," he once said drily, "unless, of course, I'm trying to."

### Finding 'the Best People'

Dr. Keeney was concerned about students and what happened to them after their graduation. "At college age, you can tell who is best at taking tests and going to school," he said, "but you can't tell who the best people are. That worries the hell out of me."

He was born in Halfway, Ore., on Oct. 17, 1914, and received a bachelor of arts degree at the University of North Carolina in 1936. He earned his master's at Harvard University in 1937 and his doctorate at Harvard in 1939.

Dr. Keeney became a history instructor at Harvard after completing graduate work. In 1942 he joined the Army and served in Europe as an infantry captain. He was awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

He went to Brown as an assistant professor of history in 1946, became a professor in 1951 and rose rapidly through the university's administrative hierarchy.

When he left Brown in 1966, Dr. Keeney was chosen by President Johnson to head the National Endowment and Council on the Humanities, an organization designed to attract some of the attention and funds then lavished on the sciences.

### The Pleasure In Giving

"It's easy to raise money if you have a good case," he said in an interview shortly after taking over the endowment post. "One of the nice things about it is the pleasure you give people."

Dismissed by President Nixon in 1970, Dr. Keeney served for a year as chief executive officer of the Washington Consortium of Graduate Schools. He then became president of the Claremont Gradu-



Dr. Barnaby C. Keeney

ate School in Claremont, Calif, a post he held until his retirement in 1978.

In 1978 the now defunct New Times magazine published an article contending that the Central Intelligence Agency had secretly appointed Dr. Keeney as chairman of the "Human Ecology Fund," which the article described as one of many dummy corporations that channeled "millions of dollars into mind control research, including LSD testing on human subjects."

Dr. Keeney conceded that he had worked for the C.I.A., but refused to disclose the nature of the work.

### 'Doing What I Should'

"I suppose it is improper to attempt to serve your country," Dr. Keeney said, "but I felt I was doing what I should. I am a citizen of this country. I felt I should do whatever I was asked."

Adm. Stansfield Turner, Director of Central Intelligence, said later that there was no indication that Dr. Keeney or anyone else at Brown was involved with the ecology fund.

Dr. Keeney, who lived in Little Compton, R.I., is survived by his wife, the former Mary Elizabeth Critchfield; a son, Thomas Keeney of Washington; two daughters, Barbara Clark of Santa Cruz, Calif., and Elizabeth Barnaby Keeney, a student at the University of Wisconsin, and three grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at noon Monday at the Central Congregational Church, 296 Angell Street, Providence.