

2

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
27 May 1985

WEST VIRGINIA MAN SEEKING JFK ASSASSINATION 'TRUTH' AFTER 17 YE

By COLIN McNICKLE

WEST LIBERTY, W. VA.

Charles Campanizzi says his loyalty to the United States has been questioned and the government has harassed him during his 17-year quest to unravel the mysteries surrounding President John F. Kennedy's assassination, but the truth will not be deterred.

Campanizzi, 47, is a professor of psychology at West Liberty State College, a small institution in West Virginia's Northern Panhandle. His first interest in the Kennedy murder was sparked in 1965, but only from a psychological standpoint. Campanizzi wanted to probe into the mind of Lee Harvey Oswald, the president's accused killer.

"It wasn't until Jim Garrison, then the New Orleans district attorney, began his investigation as to the possibility of a conspiracy that I began to expand my interest in reading and research," he said.

"It's been a rocky path in several instances, especially prior to Watergate. To even speculate as to the possibility of a conspiracy, one could immediately draw frowns, probably suspicion as to one's loyalty to the good ol' U.S.A."

Campanizzi believes Watergate forced the public to accept the "ugly" and "eerie" side of politics and gave assassination researchers more legitimacy.

"There have been some people over the years who have cast a very cautious eye to my research and my lectures. It smacks at the government in terms of possible involvement," he said.

Campanizzi said two incidents in the late 1970s led him to believe that the government was monitoring his research. The first involved a phone call prior to one of Campanizzi's many public service lectures on the assassination.

"One evening at home, I received a call from a man who initially did not identify himself. He wanted to know where I got my information on the JFK assassination and said he was doing an intelligence check on me."

Campanizzi said he would not name the man but believes he is a CIA "contract man" who lives and works in the Ohio Valley to this day. He has not had contact with him since that time.

The second incident involved a friend's wife who overheard a telephone conversation in which Campanizzi said agents from the CIA, FBI and West Virginia State Police mentioned him by name and said his "efforts would have to be neutralized."

"It wasn't long after that, that the state police did visit me and asked for some kind of help in an investigation on another matter. I never did find out what was going on."