

Benjamin S. Loeb

A Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Margaret H. McAleer



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Collection Summary

Title: Papers of Benjamin S. Loeb

Span Dates: 1945-1999

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1961-1971)

ID No.: MSS84718

Creator: Loeb, Benjamin S., 1914-

Extent: 6,000 items; 17 containers plus 1 classified; 6.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Economist, author, and government official. Research files containing journal excerpts, correspondence, memoranda, cables, reports, minutes, interview transcripts, writings, speeches, newspaper clippings, and printed matter compiled by Benjamin S. Loeb concerning Glenn Theodore Seaborg's chairmanship of the Atomic Energy Commission from 1961 to 1971. Loeb assisted Seaborg in writing several books on his chairmanship which feature Seaborg's efforts to promote arms control and peaceful uses of nuclear power.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Names:

Loeb, Benjamin S., 1914-

Bundy, McGeorge--Correspondence

Bundy, McGeorge--Interviews

Harriman, W. Averell (William Averell), 1891-1986--Correspondence

Harriman, W. Averell (William Averell), 1891-1986--Interviews

Seaborg, Glenn Theodore, 1912-

Shapiro, Zalman M. (Zalmon Mordecai), 1920-

Sorensen, Theodore C.--Correspondence

Sorensen, Theodore C.--Interviews

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission

Subjects:

Arms control

Espionage--Israel--United States

International security

Nuclear energy--Government policy--United States

Political crimes and offenses--Investigation--United States

Uranium enrichment

Occupations:

Authors

Economists

Public officials

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Benjamin S. Loeb, economist, author, and government official, were given to the Library of Congress by Loeb in 2000.

Transfers:

Audio cassette recordings have been transferred to the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status:

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Benjamin S. Loeb in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Security Classified Documents:

Government regulations control the use of security classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified items.

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Benjamin S. Loeb Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1914, Mar. 5	Born, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1935	A.B., Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.
1939-1942	Analyst, Security and Exchange Commission
1942-1945	Economist and statistician, War Production Board
1945-1948	Management research, Saks and Co., New York, N.Y.
1948	M.B.A., New York University, New York, N.Y.
1948-1951	Research economist, National Security Resources Board
1951-1953	Statistician, Defense Electric Power Administration
1953-1955	Instructor in management and retailing, Columbia University and City College of New York, New York, N.Y.
1955-1960	Writer, Atomic Energy Commission
1958	Ph.D., Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1960-1962	Editorial specialist on nuclear power, Division of Public Information, International Atomic Energy Commission
1964	Published with John Lawrence and Bernard Manowitz <i>Radioisotopes and Radiation</i> (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co. 131 pp.)
1970-1971	Conducted special research and writing projects for Glenn Theodore Seaborg, chairman, Atomic Energy Commission

1971-1974	Speech writer, Atomic Energy Commission
1974-1976	Editor, Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1977-	Writer and consultant
1981	Assisted Glenn Theodore Seaborg in writing <i>Kennedy, Khrushchev and the Test Ban</i> (Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press. 320 pp.)
1987	Assisted Glenn Theodore Seaborg in writing <i>Stemming the Tide: Arms Control in the Johnson Years</i> (Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books. 495 pp.)
1995	Assisted Glenn Theodore Seaborg in writing <i>The Atomic Energy Commission under Nixon: Adjusting to Troubled Times</i> (New York: St. Martin's Press. 268 pp.)

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Benjamin S. Loeb (1914-) span the years 1945-1999, with the bulk of the material dating from 1961 to 1971. The papers concern Loeb's collaboration with Glenn Theodore Seaborg on several books concerning Seaborg's chairmanship of the Atomic Energy Commission from 1961 to 1971. The books, each of which focuses on a presidential administration, explore Seaborg's efforts to promote arms control and peaceful uses of nuclear power. The collection consists of research files containing excerpts from Seaborg's journal, correspondence, memoranda, cables, reports, minutes, interview transcripts, writings, speeches, newspaper clippings, and printed matter. The files are arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material.

A large portion of Loeb's research files consists of material culled from the Seaborg Papers located in this division. Loeb relied heavily on Seaborg's journal which contains diary-like entries supplemented by copies of correspondence, memoranda, reports, minutes, and printed matter. Loeb's files provide topical access to the chronologically-arranged journal on issues such as arms control and test ban treaties, the environment, fast breeder reactors, multilateral force, peaceful nuclear explosions, plowshare programs, and uranium enrichment. Many of the photocopied documents contain Loeb's annotations.

Loeb augmented his use of Seaborg's papers with research at the John F. Kennedy Library in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin, Texas, and the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. Files relating to the Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963 include copies of State Department cables secured by Loeb through Freedom of Information Act requests. Also included in the collection are Loeb's correspondence and interviews with prominent former government officials including McGeorge Bundy, W. Averell Harriman, and Theodore C. Sorensen.

Featured in the collection is Loeb's investigation into allegations that Zalman Shapiro, president of the Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corporation of Pennsylvania, provided Israeli associates with nuclear secrets and enriched uranium in the 1960s. Included are copies of Federal Bureau of Investigation memoranda and reports attained by Loeb through the Freedom of Information Act.

Related Material

The Loeb Papers complement the Glenn Theodore Seaborg Papers also located in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. The General Correspondence and Writings series in the Seaborg Papers contain large quantities of correspondence between Seaborg and Loeb concerning their collaborative efforts.

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