

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY
ABILENE, KANSAS

BUTCHER, HARRY C.:
Papers, 1910-1959

Accessions 70-6, 72-34 & 73-45
Processed by: BSR, JLH and TB
Date Completed: May 2001

The personal papers of Harry Cecil Butcher were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library by Mr. Butcher in July 1969. Accretions were received from Mr. Butcher and from Virgil Pinkley in 1971.

Linear feet:	6.4
Approximate number of pages:	12,800
Approximate number of items:	4500

Harry C. Butcher signed an instrument of gift for his papers on July 31, 1969. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Harry C. Butcher were retained by Mr. Butcher until his death. Upon his death on April 20, 1985, the literary rights passed to his wife Mary Margaret (Mollie) Butcher. Upon her death on February 15, 1994, the literary rights passed to the public. Under terms of the instrument of gift the following classes of documents will be withheld from research use:

1. Papers relating to family and personal affairs of Harry C. Butcher and to private business affairs of other individuals.
2. Papers relating to investigations of individuals or to appointments and personnel matters.
3. Papers containing statements made by or to Harry C. Butcher in confidence unless in the judgment of the Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library the reason for the confidentiality no longer exists.
4. All other papers which contain information or statements that might be used to injure, harass, or damage any living person.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The personal papers of Harry C. Butcher span the years from 1910 to 1959, but the bulk and most significant parts cover the period from 1942 to 1946, while he was Naval Aide to Dwight D. Eisenhower and the publication of his book My Three Years with Eisenhower.

The collection was arranged in five series: Correspondence; Miscellaneous Memorabilia; Diary; My Three Years with Eisenhower; and material received from Virgil Pinkley

The Correspondence Series is arranged by month and covers the period from June 1942 to December 1945. It consists of correspondence, memoranda, messages, narratives, orders, reports, lists, speeches, press releases, news clippings, and other materials. Subject matter includes General Eisenhower; Butcher's diary and published book My Three Years with Eisenhower; American soldiers in England; the American war effort; the North African, Mediterranean and European Theaters of Operation in World War II; naval uniforms; General Eisenhower's dogs; Mamie Eisenhower; poker; the Quebec conference; the 1944 election; Franklin D. Roosevelt's death; the Truman presidency; the Patton affair; British-American relations; Negro soldiers, censorship and press relations; the Red Cross; the German surrender; Columbia Broadcasting System during and after the war; and other matters.

Major correspondents include his first wife, Ruth, and his daughter Beverly; Stephen Early, Omar N. Bradley, Victor Emanuel, Milton S. Eisenhower, Cordell Hull, Harry L. Hopkins, Virgil Pinkley (U.P.'s General European Manager), Paul Porter (Democratic National Committeeman), Walter Bedell Smith, George Allen (Vice President, Home Insurance Company and Secretary of Democratic National Committee), J.D. "Jerry" Brandon, Mark Wayne Clark, and others. Approximately one-fourth of this series is made up of correspondence to and from Dwight D. Eisenhower which Butcher answered or prepared for Eisenhower's signature.

The second series, Miscellaneous Memoranda, includes lists of photographs, books, museum items turned over to the audiovisual, book and museum collections and other miscellaneous materials.

The third series, Diary, is made up of enlargement prints and typed copies of the pages of the original diary. This includes portions of Butcher's diary dealing with the Paris-P.R.D. period which is not covered in the original diary filed in Eisenhower's pre-presidential papers. A partial name index to the diary and a few inserts, suggestions and memos on the diary are also included.

The fourth series, My Three Years with Eisenhower, is made up of correspondence dealing with the publication, the serialization which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, and reviews of his book. Also included are manuscripts of several drafts of the book. The War Department (original typed copy), Pentagon (1st carbon) and Miss Simpson (2nd carbon) drafts pre-date the Simon and Schuster (in original typed copy form), 1st carbon "B" and 2nd carbon "C" drafts.

The fifth series, the Virgil Pinkley accretion, consists of correspondence and other material from the first four series which Butcher had loaned to Virgil Pinkley, a California journalist who was researching Dwight D. Eisenhower's career. After using the material in his research, Pinkley forwarded the files to the Eisenhower Library so they could be included with Butcher's papers. The collection had already been processed so the material received from Pinkley was added to the end of the collection as a separate series rather than being integrated into the main files.

The Pinkley material consists mostly of correspondence, memorabilia and information on Butcher's diary. The correspondence covers the period from May to November 1945. The letters are primarily between Butcher and General Eisenhower, and concern Butcher's book, different positions for which Eisenhower was being considered, activities of close military associates and friends, and Butcher's dog. The diary information includes abstracts from the diary, focusing primarily on the North African campaign during November and December 1942, and some handwritten notes and outlines by Butcher for use in his book. The memorabilia includes copies of reports, speeches, news clippings and other printed items.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1901 Nov. 1 Born in Springville, Iowa
- 1924 June 8 Married Ruth Barton, one daughter Beverly (divorced 1946)
- 1929-1932 Opened the Washington, DC, office of CBS and was it's director
- 1932-1934 Manager of Radio Station WJSV (later WTOP) in Washington, DC
- 1934-1942 Vice President in charge of WJSV in Washington, DC
- 1939 Sept. 16 Commissioned a Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Naval Reserve
- 1942-1945 Naval aide to General Dwight D. Eisenhower
- 1943 May 1 Advanced to Commander U.S.N.R.
- 1944 Nov. Advanced to temporary rank of Captain, U.S.N.R.
- 1946 Published My Three Years with Eisenhower
- 1946-1970s Owned a radio station in Santa Barbara, California; president of Cable TV of Santa Barbara; served as a radio and television consultant
- 1985 April 20 Died in Santa Barbara, California

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Box Nos. Series

1-5 Correspondence File. 1942-45. 4½ boxes.

Correspondence, memoranda, messages, narratives, orders, reports, lists, printed items, speeches, press releases, news clippings, and other materials arranged chronologically by month and year.

5 Miscellaneous Memorabilia. 1910-52. ½ box.

Lists of items turned over to audiovisual, book and museum collections, and other miscellaneous materials filed alphabetically by folder title.

6 Diary. 1942-45. 1 box.

Typed copies, enlargement prints and other materials dealing with the original diary, filed alphabetically by folder title.

7-15 My Three Years with Eisenhower. 9 boxes.

Correspondence, drafts of manuscripts, book reviews, and other materials dealing with the publication of Harry C. Butcher's book. Correspondence and book reviews are filed ahead of the several manuscripts.

16 Virgil Pinkley Material. 1 box.

Correspondence, memorabilia, and diary materials received from Virgil Pinkley which had originally been part of the first four series.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

1 CORRESPONDENCE FILE

Introductory Letters, 1942 [mostly from Paul Porter and Victor Emanuel to friends in England]

June 1942

July 1942

August 1942

September 1942

October 1942

November 1942

December 1942

2 Undated 1943

January 1943

February 1943

March 1943

April 1943

May 1943

June 1943

July 1943

August 1943

September 1943

October 1943

November 1943

December 1943

Album of Christmas Letters, 1943 [collected by his wife and former secretary Gladys Hall; includes letter from Lyle Wilson re DDE interest in Republican nomination]

3 January 1944

February 1944

March 1944

April 1944

May 1944

June 1944

July 1944

August 1944

September 1944

October 1944

November 1944

December 1944

4 Undated, 1945

January 1945

February 1945

March 1945

April 1945

May 1945

- June 1945
July 1945
5 August 1945
September 1945
October 1945
November 1945
December 1945

MISCELLANEOUS MEMORABILIA

Book Collection

“Cherbourg” 1944

German Calendar, 1940

Manuscript, “Notes Sur L’Espagne depuis La chute de La Monarchie Jusqua Nos jours”

Museum Items

Orient Report by Thor Smith, 1947

Photographs

Paul Porter Memoir [A72-34; memoir by Paul Porter of tour with DDE of Camp Lucky Strike for repatriated American POWs in France, May 1945]

Report Card; News clippings, 1910-51

Time February 27, 1950

Time November 3, 1952

Time November 10, 1952

- 6 DIARY

“Dictation Recopied” October 14, 1942; August 21, 1944-July 12, 1945 (incomplete)
(1)-(3) [includes material from PRD period not in the Butcher diary in the
Eisenhower pre-presidential papers]

Enlargement Prints From (1) (2)

Inserts, Suggestions, Memos re

Partial Name Index to the Original Diary

“To be put in all copies except original and Goodman’s” [revisions of a few pages of
the diary]

7 MY THREE YEARS WITH EISENHOWER

Fan Mail Answered, 1946 [includes letter from Terry Allen]

George Bye, Correspondence with Agent, 1945

Correspondence re Serialization by Saturday Evening Post

Correspondence with War Dept.

Book Reviews, 1946

Drafts, Introductions; Chapter I-III

Drafts, Table of Contents; “Operation Gratitude” ; “Operation Doorstop”

Inserts

8 Miss Simpson, III [draft], pps. 1-677 (1)-(4)

Miss Simpson, III, pps. 678-1250 (1)-(4)

9 Pentagon Draft, July 8, 1942-November 7, 1942 (1) (2)

Pentagon Draft, Nov. 8, 1942-Aug. 18, 1943 (1)-(3)

Pentagon Draft, Feb. 26, 1945-July 12, 1945 [draft for Aug 1943-Feb 1945 is
missing]

- 10 War Dept. Draft pages 1-337 (1)-(3)
War Dept. Draft pages 338-647 (1) (2)
War Dept. Draft pages 648-1000 (1) (2)
- 11 War Dept. Draft pages 1001-1355 (1)-(3)
War Dept. Draft pages 1356-1718 (1)-(3)
War Dept. Draft pages 1719-2139 (1)
- 12 War Dept. Draft pages 1719-2139 (2) (3)
- 13 Manuscript Sent to Simon and Schuster (1)-(7)
- 14 First Carbon "B" pages 1-401 (1) (2)
First Carbon "B" pages 402-803
First Carbon "B" pages 804-1194 (1) (2)
First Carbon "B" pages 1195-1564
- 15 Second Carbon "C" pages 1-743 (1)-(3)
Second Carbon "C" pages 744-1564 (1)-(3)
- 16 VIRGIL PINKLEY MATERIAL [A73-45]
Correspondence May 1945
Correspondence June 1945 [remarks by Gen. Ed. C. Betts, Theater Judge Advocate,
re OSS war crimes motion picture]
Correspondence July 1945
Correspondence August 1945

Correspondence September 1945 [congressional investigation of Pearl Harbor; Edward R. Murrow suggestion that DDE head UN Security Council; Everett Cook story re his trip to Berlin for signing of surrender terms; Mrs. Ogden Reid; Elmer Davis]

Correspondence October 1945

Correspondence November 1945 [DDE's appointment as Chief of Staff; DDE's testimony on draft; DDE's possible appointment as head of UN Security Council]

Diary: Enlargement Prints from

Diary Entries and Messages, 1942-45

Butcher's Notes for His Diary and Book

Undated Notes and Memoranda

July 1943 Document Referring to the Russian Army and Important Dates in the Month for Allies

Reception in Paris for General Eisenhower, 14 June 1945

Press Release re DDE's Address at Joint Session of Congress, June 18, 1945

Items Concerning Operations of DDE Which Could Be Used for Speeches [POWs and War Crimes]

General Marshall's Report The Winning of the War in Europe and the Pacific

Memorabilia, Poems, News Stories and Misc. Clippings

Clippings re his book My Three Years with Eisenhower

Photographs Turned over to the Audiovisual Collection

END OF CONTAINER LIST