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SHURTLEFF, MILLER F.: Papers, 1938-94

Accession 99-1
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The papers of Miller F. Shurtleff were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library by his daughter Mrs. Janice Blackhurst in January 1998.

Linear feet: -1
Approximate number of pages: 800
Approximate number of items: 500

Mrs. Alice Shurtleff, widow of Miller F. Shurtleff, signed an instrument of gift for the papers on February 26, 2001. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Miller F. Shurtleff in this collection and in all other collections of papers received by the National Archives have been donated to the public. Under terms of the instrument of gift, the following classes of items are withheld from research use:

1. Papers which constitute an invasion of personal privacy or a libel of a living person.
2. Papers which are required to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and are properly classified.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Miller F. Shurtleff (1913-1994) was born and raised near Salt Lake City, Utah. In 1938 he joined the Department of Agriculture, in which he held a variety of clerical and administrative positions. In 1954 he transferred to the immediate office of the Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, where he served as an administrative assistant. In 1957 he became Benson's Executive Assistant. In this position he managed the staff of Benson's office and served as liaison with the cabinet secretariat at the White House. He also helped manage Benson's correspondence, speaking engagements and foreign trips.

In 1961, at the end of the Eisenhower administration, Shurtleff transferred to the National Science Foundation (NSF). From 1962 to 1967 he served as executive assistant to the Director of the Mohole Project, a geological research project to drill a hole through the crust of the earth into the mantle. Congress cancelled the project in 1967 and Shurtleff joined the NSF liaison staff in the U.S. Embassy in India, where he spent two years (1967-1969) helping channel U.S. aid to various Indian educational and scientific programs.

Shurtleff retired from government service in 1970 but spent the next several years as a private contractor developing various personnel training programs for government agencies. These included a study of printing and reproduction services in the Treasury Department in 1971 and a study of management training in the Economic Research Service during 1976-1978.

The papers of Miller Shurtleff date primarily from 1960 to 1978. The most significant material pertains to his work for Ezra Taft Benson in the Agriculture Department and to his work in India for the NSF. The collection also contains biographical and administrative material on his government service and his work as a contractor. The material is arranged alphabetically by subject.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

- 1 Agriculture Department [organization of department; procedures for handling secretary's public speeches and Congressional testimony; major agricultural accomplishments of DDE administration; transition to new secretary Orville Freeman; list of Ezra Taft Benson's personal files]
- Agriculture Department – Caribbean Trip 1955 [comments on State and FOA officials; conditions in Cuba, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Mexico]
- Agriculture Department – Latin American Trip 1960 (1)(2) [Brazil, Chile, Uruguay]
- Biography & Photo (1)(2)
- Clippings
- Correspondence 1954-94 (1)(2) [Ezra Taft Benson]
- Economic Research Service 1976-78 (1)-(4)
- Government Employment 1938-70
- NSF – India Liaison (1)(2) [educational programs in India; administrative problems]
- NSF – Project Mohole 1967
- Treasury Department 1971 [fund for printing and reproduction services]

END OF CONTAINER LIST