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DRAPER, WILLIAM G.: Papers, 1942-1963

Accession: A72-29
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The papers of William G. Draper, Air Force Aide and personal pilot to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, were deposited in the Eisenhower Library in 1972 by his widow, Mrs. Ruth Draper.

Linear feet shelf space occupied:	7.5
Approximate number of pages:	13,100
Approximate number of items:	4,000

In February 1976 Mrs. Draper executed an instrument of gift for these papers. Literary property rights in all of William Draper's writings in these papers and in other collections of papers in any U.S. government agency are retained by Mrs. Draper. Following her death the literary property rights in these writings will pass to the United States of America.

By agreement with the donor the following classes of documents will be withheld from research use:

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

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

- June 28, 1920 Born, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- 1931 Family moved to Silver Springs, Maryland
- 1930s Took flying lessons at Greenbelt and College Park Airports in Maryland while still in high school
- 1939 Graduated from Central High School, Washington, DC
- 1940 Soloed at College Park and obtained CAA private and commercial licenses
- 1941 Received his instructor's rating at Wilmington, Delaware airport
- 1939-1941 Attended University of Maryland
- December 1941 Joined Pan American Airways as a pilot and was assigned to Miami, Florida where he became an instrument instructor
- November 1942 Joined the U.S. Army and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, USAF and assigned to Air Transport Command ferrying B-17 bombers to England and North Africa
- 1943-1946 Pilot with AAF Transport Group, "Fireball Line," which flew supplies for the China-Burma-India Theater from Miami to Assam, India
- 1946-1950 Pilot and Chief Pilot, Special Air Mission (SAM) Squadron, National Airport, Washington, DC
- Dec. 1950-1952 Personal pilot for General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, Europe
- August 1952- Commanding Officer, 7167th Special Air Mission Squadron, Wiesbaden, January 1953 Germany
- 1953-1961 Personal pilot and Air Force Aide to President Dwight D. Eisenhower (promoted to Colonel during this period)
- 1961-1963 Deputy Commander, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska and Regional Administrative Officer, Boise, Idaho
- October 1963 Retired from Air Force after suffering a heart attack
- November 26, 1964 Died at his home in Camp Springs, Maryland

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

Box Nos. Series

1-4 I. 201 FILE AND RELATED MILITARY DOCUMENTS, 1942-1963

This series documents William Draper's military career from 1942 to 1963. It includes orders, promotions, clearance forms, correspondence, flight check proficiency reports, medical exams, officer effectiveness reports, flight logs, travel vouchers, training records, crew lists, and itineraries. The 201 File is in chronological order at the beginning of the series, and the remaining folders are in alphabetical order.

4-16 II. ALPHABETICAL SUBJECT FILE, 1951-1963

Col. Draper's role as presidential pilot is documented in this series as well as his personal interests. Correspondence, orders, memoranda, invitations, trip files, technical information, maps, charts, articles, clippings, reports, and training records make up some of the key documentation in this series.

16-17 III. PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND CLIPPINGS, 1952-1962

This small series includes magazine articles, newspaper clippings, booklets, and pamphlets relating to aircraft, air travel, President Eisenhower, and Col. Draper's career as a pilot. It is arranged in alphabetical order.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Papers of Col. William G. Draper document his career as a military pilot and Air Force officer from 1942 to 1963 and as the personal pilot to Dwight D. Eisenhower from 1950 to 1961. Although the bulk of this collection relates to Draper's service as presidential pilot and Air Force Aide from 1953 to 1961, there are also files regarding his military service and training both before and after this period. Correspondence, orders, reports, training and flight records, trip files, invitations, technical materials, articles, clippings, booklets, and pamphlets are all found in this collection.

The first series focuses on Draper's 201 File and related records covering his career from 1942 to 1963. These files document his training, promotions, and assignments during and after World War II. Flight check proficiency reports, flight records, training records, orders, tests, and travel vouchers trace Draper's development from a 2nd Lieutenant to a Colonel and from a wartime transport pilot to a presidential pilot. Annual effectiveness reports signed by President Eisenhower are located in these files as well as Draper's flight records, which provide information on trips Eisenhower made as head of NATO and as President.

The second series is a subject file in alphabetical order. Invitations, personal correspondence, technical information, and trip files are the largest categories in this series. The files include materials relating to the aircraft used to transport the President, such as the Columbine III, the Boeing 707 or VC-137, and the Aero Commanders. Draper's Papers contain some unique items, including records of the White House Bowling League, ditching instructions for the Columbine III, Draper's description of air turbulence during a presidential flight to Augusta, orders for souvenir match books for the Columbine III, and Draper's account of Eisenhower taking the controls of the Aero Commander on a flight to Gettysburg.

The files contain more standard documentation relating to Draper's role as Air Force Aide to the President, including training records, crew member personnel records, information on the different aircraft used to transport the President, and materials relating to various presidential trips. One significant development that is covered is the introduction of jet aircraft, namely the Boeing 707 (VC-137), for presidential travel.

The third small series is a collection of magazine articles, newspaper clippings, booklets, and pamphlets dating from 1952 to 1962. They are arranged in alphabetical order by title. Included are materials on Col. Draper, the Columbine III, Dwight Eisenhower, the Boeing 707, the Columbine flight to transport Hungarian refugees to the U.S., and miscellaneous other subjects.

The Draper Papers will be a useful resource for researchers studying President Eisenhower's various trips, presidential travel in general, presidential aircraft, and the training and experience of presidential pilots and air crews. There is some documentation on Draper's World War II experiences as a pilot, his role as a deputy commander of an air base in Alaska in the early 1960's, technical materials relating to various aircraft, and the use of the call sign "Air Force One."

One page of security classified material has been withdrawn from this collection. Fourteen pages have been closed under the donor's deed of gift, and twenty-eight pages have had portions closed due to agency restrictions. Seventy-eight photographs have been transferred to the audiovisual collection, and eight items have been transferred to the museum.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

SERIES I. 201 FILE AND RELATED MILITARY DOCUMENTS, 1942-1963

- 1 201 File, Draper, William G., 1942-1946 (1)-(3) [information for newly appointed officers in U.S. Army; Draper appointed a 2nd Lieutenant in 4th Ferrying Group, Ferrying Division, Air Transport Command; rated a 4-engine pilot by June 1943; 71st Ferrying Squadron, 20th Ferrying Group; promotion to 1st Lt.; equipment issued to Draper; promotion to Captain]
- 201 File, Draper, William G., 1946-1952 (1)-(3) [1103rd AAF Base Unit, ATC; 503rd AAF Base Unit; 1100th AAF Base Unit; 900th Air Base Squadron, Military Air Transport Service; 1254th Air Transport Squadron, MATS; chief pilot of squadron; promotion to Major; assigned to duty at SHAPE, Headquarters Command; 7167 Special Air Mission Squadron, Wiesbaden; Dec. 1952 return to 1254th Air Transport Group, Washington National Airport; operations check list for newly assigned pilots]
- 201 File, Draper, William G., 1951-1960 (1)-(3) [Air Force Aide to the President and personal pilot; promotion to Lt. Col. and Col.]
- 201 File, Draper, William G., 1961-1963 (1)(2) [assigned to 5040th Air Base Wing, Alaskan Air Command, Elmendorf AF Base]
- Personal File-Col. William G. Draper, 1953-1958 (1)(2) [blanket travel orders; letter re Air Policemen; special correspondence; personnel action memos]
- 2 Flight Check Proficiency Reports and Medical Exams for Flying, 1943-1963 (1)-(3) [flight checks on C-47, C-54E, and C-121 aircraft; USAF Interceptor Weapons School]
- Flight Qualifications-Draper, 1961
- Flight Records, 1942-1944 [records of flying time in A-28, AT-9, BT-13, B-25c; B-17e, P-38, C-60, B-26, B-24, P-51, C-87, P-40, C-54, and UC-78]
- Flight Records, 1945-1963 (1)-(4) [records cover presidential travel as well as NATO trips, 1951-52]
- Medical Records, 1954
- Military Dependents-Draper, 1952
- Miscellaneous Personal File, 1962-1963 [health and life insurance]

Officer Effectiveness Reports, Orders, etc., 1953-1960 (1)-(3) [file includes annual letters from the President evaluating Draper's performance; 1951 passport]

Per Diem Allowance Record, 1956

Personal Flight File, 1943 (1)(2) [71st Ferrying Squadron]

3 Personnel, 1963

Pilot Training Records, 1942-1963 [1959 flight logs and transition training records for Boeing 707 or VC 137A; notes on air refueling, hydraulics, aircraft performance, ditching, controls, and emergency procedures]

Special Orders and Graded Tests, 1946-1952 (1)-(3) [proficiency flight check for C-121; check reports on C-54]

Telephone Receipts, 1962-1963

Temporary Duty Travel Orders, 1953-1959 (1)-(4)

Travel Vouchers, 1953-1958 (1)-(5) [vouchers, crew lists, and itineraries for trips]

Travel Vouchers and TDY Authorizations, 1958-1962 (1) [vouchers, crew lists, and itineraries for trips; travel expenses]

4 Travel Vouchers and TDY Authorizations, 1958-1962 (2)(3) [vouchers, crew lists, and itineraries for trips; travel expenses]

SERIES II. ALPHABETICAL SUBJECT FILE, 1951-1963

Addresses (1)-(3)

Administrative Matters, 1953-1963

Alaska Airport Directory, 1-1-60

Alaska-Elmendorf AFB, Misc. Materials, 1961-1963 (1)-(3) [list of air base squadrons in Alaska and their commanders; shelter drill speech; memo on base operations]

Alaskan Command, Headquarters Staff Directory, 1960

Appointment Book, 1960 [this is not a consistent record of Draper's activities; he lists some trips and crew briefings; no entries after Sept. 8]

Appointment Calendar, Jan. 1960-Jan. 1961 [appointments and trips]

- 5 Biographical Information, 1953-1959
- Bowling-White House League, 1953-1954 [team schedule; league officials and team captains; team standings and lists of players with average scores]
- Car File, 1957-1960 (1)-(3) [magazine of classic car club]
- Ceremonies, Receptions, Wreath-Layings, 1953-1960 [program for Veterans Day ceremony; wreath laying ceremony at Tomb of Unknown Soldier; procedure for receptions]
- Christmas Cards Received, 1957-1960 (1)-(10)
- Christmas List, 1953-1954
- Clippings and Articles re Columbine and Col. Draper, 1953-1958 [book burners; TWA magazine]
- 6 Correspondence, Orders, Memos re End of Administration, 1960-1961 [future job preferences for presidential flight crew; Draper assigned to 5070th Air Defense Wing, Alaskan Air Command; Major General Benjamin D. Foulois; Lt. Col. J. B. Swindal to be JFK's pilot; Legion of Merit award]
- Crew Member Training Records, 1953-1960 (1)-(4) [flight proficiency reports for Draper; flight examiner's reports; training records for C-121, KC-135, and L-26, Aero Commander; C-121E radio questions; tests and questionnaires]
- Diagrammatic Views of Columbine III [diagram of interior of VC-121E, dimensions and requirements; ditching instructions]
- Diary, April 13, 1953 [air turbulence on flight to Augusta; golf at Augusta; Eisenhower is ill, return to Washington to make speech and throw out first ball of season]
- Expenditures, 1953-1960 (1)-(4) [White House Mess statements]
- Invitations, 1953 (1)-(4)
- Invitations, 1954 (1)
- 7 Invitations, 1954 (2)-(5)
- Invitations, 1955 (1)-(4) [attends Top Secret A.F. briefings; golf tournament-White House News Photographers Asso.]

Invitations, 1956 (1)-(3) [invitation to use White House pool; golf tournament; funeral notice, Admiral Ernest King; Eisenhower-Nixon Club; election night headquarters]

Invitations, 1957 (1)-(4) [farewell party for Capt. Beach]

8 Invitations, 1958 (1)-(4)

Invitations, 1959 (1)-(5) [Presidential Prayer Breakfast; funeral services for John Foster Dulles; launching of N. S. Savannah]

Invitations, 1960-1961 (1)-(3)

Letters of Commendation/Thanks, 1953-1961 [communications equipment on presidential aircraft; HQ USAF point of contact with White House-Col. Peter O. Markham]

Look Magazine Article, August 1957, Congratulations [article re DDE taking over controls of Aero Commander while in flight from Washington to Gettysburg, August 1957—a presidential first]

Maps, Miscellaneous, 1954-1955, 1960 [street map of Denver; aeronautical charts for Ohio, St. Louis, Chicago areas; Arapaho National Forest map; map of greater Orlando area]

9 Miscellaneous Memorabilia, 1953-1961 (1)-(3) [WW II military script; map of Gettysburg battlefield; MATS sticker; emergency instructions for a VC-137 aircraft on cards; envelopes for first nonstop coast-to-coast air mail; DOD pamphlet on service in Iceland, Greenland, and arctic areas; Air Force pamphlet on shipping personal property; article on Alaska; seating diagram for flight in presidential helicopter; briefs on several Russian cities]

Officers Wives Club—1254 A.T.G., Newsletters, 1959-1960

Passports, 1955, 1959 [1959 passport is a “Diplomatic passport”; vaccination/immunization certificates]

Personal Business (1)-(4) [trip expense log for auto trip from Montana to Alaska]

Personal Business-Investment Matters [investment club by-laws; stock digests]

Personal Business-Stock Market Pamphlets

Personal Correspondence, 1953 (1)-(3) [congratulations on appointment to Eisenhower’s Air Force aide; evaluations of AF personnel; flying a Piper Cub J-3 in 1940; correspondence recommending MATS crew members to SHAPE for overseas duty]

- 10 Personal Correspondence, 1953 (4) [golf; Bermuda visit]
- Personal Correspondence, 1954 (1)-(4) [list of DOD military aides; “Inside the White House” article; development of Beltsville airport; correspondence with Leonard Finder re White House and Columbine match books; death of General Vandenberg; White House Mess; navigation device on Columbine; comments on problems with flying a super-Constellation; christening of Columbine III]
- Personal Correspondence, 1955 (1)-(5) [development of tubeless tires; government identification cards; surplus aircraft]
- Personal Correspondence, 1956 (1)-(4) [Draper comments on first airplane flight at age 7; Henry Ford II re national highway program; uses of the Columbine; President Eisenhower’s Friends of Italy Club of Rome; Youth for Eisenhower party; flight in a Boeing 707; Abbott Washburn; Hungarian refugees; Draper as a student pilot]
- 11 Personal Correspondence, 1957 (1)-(7) [promotion; 1925 Nash; helicopter pilots; match books; meeting with Eagle Scouts; appearance on “To Tell the Truth” TV show; Draper criticizes draft of article about flying the President; Look article]
- Personal Correspondence, 1958 (1)-(4) [safety of presidential missions; White House emergency instruction card; presidential nominations to the service academies; Draper attends jet school, Feb.-Mar.; White House Social Aides; crash of a Constellation (formerly AF 48-616); Clifford Roberts; first flight from Cuba to Key West, Florida; brief article by Nazarene pastor re meeting Draper and viewing the Columbine III; Hudson-Champlain Celebration Commission; Lockheed F-104; Bill Robinson]
- Personal Correspondence, 1959 (1)(2) [Lockheed JetStar; Wm. Allen-Boeing]
- 12 Personal Correspondence, 1959 (3)(4) [Rolex watch; memo re gifts received by staff members on trip]
- Personal Correspondence, 1960 (1)-(4) [clipping re Col. Draper; VC-137; National War College; match books; President’s flying time in VC-137 and Columbine from March 7, 1959 to March 7, 1960; President told lady that he would arrange for her to play golf at Augusta; award to Marine Helicopter Squadron One; flight preparation; list of people receiving trip medals; correspondence re antique autos; information on how to become an officer in the Air Force; future duty preferences of members of the Columbine crew; ad for 1907 Walter automobile]
- Personal Correspondence, 1961 [Col. Barney Oldfield; farewells]
- Personal Correspondence, 1962 [correspondence re moving a family to Alaska; comments on life in Alaska; Robert C. Mikesh-article on presidential aircraft]

Personal Correspondence, 1963

Personnel Assigned to Air Force Aide to the President (1)-(4) [evaluations and effectiveness reports on various personnel; Major Donald Billings; Sgt. John Higgins; Sgt. John R. McLane; Major Vincent Puglisi; Major Leland G. Strauch; Major William W. Thomas; Col. Walter R. Tkach]

Personnel Problems, 5040th Air Base Wing, 1962 [grievance hearing]

Photographs

Requests for Photographs, Autographs, and Mementos, 1953-1960 (1)(2)

13 Requests for Photographs, Autographs, and Mementos, 1953-1960 (3)

“Susie E”—Use by Military Aides, 1960 [request forms; menu selections; descriptive booklet]

Technical Information—Bergstrom AFB Operations Plan Gladhand, Feb. 10, 1959 (1)(2) [plans for reception, billeting, and departure of President and party on Feb. 18-19, 1959 (President was en route to Mexico); quarters assignments; floor chart for quarters of President and staff members; map of base]

Technical Information—C-123 Loadmasters Check List, Oct. 12, 1962

Technical Information—DC-6 Air Conditioning System Operation for Flight Crews, Air Conditioning, 1951 [Douglas Aircraft Co. publication]

Technical Information—Flight Control System, SP-30 [Sperry Gyroscope Co.]

Technical Information—Flight Manual, L-20 Airplane, Aug. 1, 1961 (Changed) (1)(2) [utility airplane made by de Havilland of Canada]

Technical Information—K-135 Training School (1)-(3) [handouts, questionnaires, and study guides; pneumatic systems; fuel capacity; hydraulic systems; transmitters; boom operations; take-off data; flight plans; training schedule; class notes]

Technical Information—L-20 Standardization/Evaluation Manual, Nov. 1, 1961

Technical Information—“Maintenance Manual-Model J57-P-43W and F-43W Aircraft Engines,” May 1957 (Revised) (1)(2)

14 Technical Information—“Maintenance Manual-Model J57-P-43W and F-43W Aircraft Engines, “ May 1957 (Revised) (3)(4)

Technical Information—"Photo Progress Report, VC-121E Executive Personnel Transport," April 1, 1954 [illustrates production steps for Columbine III]

Technical Information—"Safety of Flight Supplement-Flight Handbook," KC-135A Aircraft, Dec. 9, 1957 (1)-(3) [mission planning checklist; notes; basic handbook re procedures, operations, and equipment; performance data; takeoff planning; climbing; range; air refueling; descent; landing; mission problems]

Technical Information—USAF Interceptor Weapons School-Senior Officer Orientation Course, 1961 [course program; lecture outlines]

Trip File—London, July 4, 1951 [program for service commemorating 28,000 Americans who died in WW II defending England; Eisenhower participated]

Trip File—Seattle, Aug. 4, 1953 [photos and clippings re visit by President Eisenhower to the Boeing Airplane Co.; B-52 viewed]

Trip File—Bermuda Talks, 1957 [large format menu for Mid Ocean Club]

Trip File—Inspection of St. Lawrence Power & Seaway Projects, July 11, 1958 (1)(2) [construction progress reports; pamphlets; facts sheets; maps; photos; Eisenhower inspects power projects]

15 Trip File—Mexico, Feb. 1959 [notes re preparations for trip; passenger lists; trip schedule; room assignments; flight itinerary; seating diagrams]

Trip File—United Kingdom, Aug. 27-Sept. 2, 1959 (1)-(3) [information on Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip, Balmoral Castle, Ellesborough Church, No. 10 Downing Street, St. Paul's, Harold Macmillan; press coverage of Eisenhower visit; maps and diagrams; itinerary; R.A.F.]

Trip File—11-Nation Goodwill Trip, December 1959 (1)(2) [briefing materials on trip for passengers on President's aircraft; itinerary; detailed schedules for each stop on trip; booklet on visit to Pakistan]

Trip File—Operation Monsoon, December 1959 (1)(2) [crew list; itinerary; messages (some references to AF 1); flight itinerary; memo re weather, clothing, and baggage handling for passengers on President's flight; survey flight; map and charts]

Trip File—Uruguay (Advance Trip), January 1960 [suggested program for President's visit; schedule for advance party; auto and hotel assignments]

Trip File—South America, 1960 (1)(2) [Good Will trip; "Air Force One-Jet" and "Air Force One-Columbine"-passenger lists; schedule]

Trip File—Korea, April 17-18, 1960 [visit by Thomas E. Stephens and James Hagerty to Korea; list of members of advance party; itinerary; auto and helicopter assignments; troop review]

Trip File—Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, 1960 [itinerary; mission of Alaskan Command; history]

Trip File—Schedule for the President's Far East Trip, 1960

- 16 Trip File—Philippines, June 1960 [program for state visit by Eisenhower to Philippines; booklet]

Trip File—Far East Trip, June 1960 [memo on weather and clothing; itinerary; passenger lists]

Trip File—U.S. Naval Base, Newport, R.I., July-Aug. 1960 [booklet-log of the visit]

White House Central Files, Gift Index Cards

SERIES III. PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND CLIPPINGS, 1952-1962

“ADF Radio Compass Stations” (Booklet) [1952 edition]

“Air Force Guide for Retirement” [Air Force Pamphlet, AFP 34-4-3, Oct. 20, 1959]

Army-Navy-Air Force Journal; Army-Navy-Air Force Register, Miscellaneous Copies, 1958

China Post, June 18, 1960

Clippings-“Around the Clock with Eisenhower” by Robert Lewis Taylor, Colliers, March 5, 1954

Clippings-Emergency Landing in Georgia, February 1959

Clippings-Newspaper Story by Robert Greene about “Columbine” Security, 1957

Clippings-Washington Evening Star, Queen Elizabeth, Oct. 17, 1957

Honolulu Advertiser, June 22, 1960 [Eisenhower visits Hawaii during Far East tour]

Jet Scope, January 27 & March 24, 1961 [Draper took course at Interceptor Weapons School, Tyndall AFB, Florida]

London Sunday Express, Dec. 22, 1957 [“I Fly the President,” by Col. Wm. G. Draper, ref. to radio call sign, “AF1”. aircraft security and operation]

Miscellaneous Air Force Pamphlets, 1960-1961 [USAF Worldwide Information Conference; Air Force Reading Guide, AFP 34-11-1]

Miscellaneous Clippings

Miscellaneous Want Ads and Stock Exchange Reports-Clippings, 1962

New York Times, Dec. 26, 1956-“Safe Haven” Operation [editorial and photo re Columbine flight to bring Hungarian refugees to the U.S.]

New York Times, Dec. 14, 1957 [Pres. Eisenhower flies to Paris for NATO meeting]

Operation “Safe Haven,” Press Release (Hungarian Refugees), Dec. 1956

“Panorama of Flight-Aviation History in Paintings,” by Charles H. Hubbell, c 1953

17 “The Black Hole in the Cockpit,” by R. P. Snodgrass, May 1960 [discussion of gap between visual flight control and instrument flight control]

“The Boeing 707 Series—Airport and Terminal Operations” [1956 pamphlet by Boeing Co.]

“The Military Jet Transport,” Booklet [1956 booklet on Boeing 707]

The Wall Street Journal, January 16 & 17, 1961 [economic trends; 1962 budget]

The Washington Daily News, August 13, 1958 [Mideast Economic Peace Plan; DDE visits U.N. General Assembly]

“The White House News Photographer,” Miscellaneous Copies

Valley Bomber, Jan. 31, 1958- KC-135 Transition Course [Draper, Higgins, and Puglisi of the Columbine crew take course at Castle AFB, Merced, California]

Washington Evening Star, January 19, 1961 [preparations for Kennedy inauguration and transition]

Washington Star Pictorial Magazine, Dec. 13, 1953, “50 Years of Powered Flight”

“Your Body in Flight,” Department of Air Force Booklet, 1960

END OF CONTAINER LIST