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JOHNSON, FRAN SMITH: Papers, 1945-46

Accession: A08-16
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The papers of Fran Smith Johnson were deposited in the Eisenhower Library by Frances Smith Johnson, in September 1946.

Linear feet: -1
Approximate number of pages: 125

Frances Smith Johnson signed an instrument of gift for the papers in September 1946. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Fran Smith Johnson in this collection and in all other collections of papers received by the United States government have been donated to the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

The Fran Smith Johnson collection consists of one box of documents and photos written and collected by Johnson during 1945-46. A majority of the documents are letters from Johnson to her family during her time as a WAC in Europe, working on General Eisenhower's personal staff. The collection also contains 25 original photos as well as several scrapbook pages. Other items of interest include copies of the Japanese Instrument of Surrender and the 1945 Guildhall address, and an embossed napkin ring used on "Hitler's Train" which Eisenhower traveled on after the war. Folder names were devised by staff.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

December 23, 1923 Born in Bayside, Manhattan, NY

Attended the Washington School for Secretaries in New York City and, later, the University of Maryland, College Park.

1943-44 Secretary and editorial assistant, McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., NY

1944-46 Women's Army Corps (highest rank: sergeant)

September 1, 1944 Entered the WACs

Sept. 1944-May 1945 Chief Clerk, Provost Marshall's Office, Charleston Port of Embarkation

June 1, 1945 Arrival at Eisenhower's Headquarters

Nov.-December 1945 Closes out the headquarters along with another WAC

April 24, 1946 Married Burr Johnson

May 11, 1946 Discharged from WAC

1971-73 Asst. to Director of Development, Landon School, Bethesda, MD

1973-86 Exec. Secretary to the Headmaster, St. Albans School for Boys, Washington National Cathedral

1988-98 Director of Development, Gulf Stream School, Gulf Stream, FL

CONTAINER LIST

Box Nos. Series

1 Correspondence (General)

Letters to Family (1) [transfer to Eisenhower HQ, post-war France, reports to Eisenhower's office, office staff, social life in ETO, Hitler's Train, Battledress uniforms (Eisenhower Jacket), USFET, Potsdam, V-J Day, post-war London, Sunflower C-47]

Letters to Family (2) [Sunflower II plane, Copenhagen]

Essay, "Aw... Your Sister Wears Combat Boots" [WAC uniform description, barracks life, basic training]

Eisenhower's Guildhall Address 1945 [London]

Eisenhower SHAEF Order of the Day [May 1945]

Japan-Instrument of Surrender

Newspaper Clippings

Wedding Scrapbook

Photos Transferred to AV

Items Transferred to Museum

END OF CONTAINER LIST