

EISENHOWER, DWIGHT D.:

POST-PRESIDENTIAL PAPERS, 1961-69

1966 SIGNATURE FILE

Series Description

The Signature File contains materials similar to those found in the 1966 Principal File. It consists of files which the Gettysburg office staff no longer needed for future reference. These files were shipped to the Eisenhower Library and organized following the same arrangement pattern as the Principal File. Since the files contain carbon copies of many letters signed by Dwight D. Eisenhower, the series was referred to as the "Signature File."

The series is divided into two subseries. The first is a subject, or topical, subseries. It contains such categories as gifts, invitations, medals and awards, memberships, messages, politics, publications, public relations, speeches, and statements. Gifts received and invitations declined are the two largest categories. Within each subject or category the correspondence is organized in alphabetical order.

Eisenhower's staff wrote hundreds of letters acknowledging gifts of books, photographs, golf tees, tie tacs, periodicals, paintings or sketches, handkerchiefs, articles, and clippings. Some interesting historic items in this series include the original diary of a World War I soldier, several World War II newspaper issues, maps drawn by a German officer concerning the invasion of Poland, and a collection of political cartoons from foreign newspapers.

This series documents the large numbers of invitations to various events and meetings which Eisenhower received. Most of these were politely declined.

Another item found in this subseries is the transcript of an interview of Dwight Eisenhower by Alistair Cooke for the television production, "Eisenhower on the Military Churchill." It contains comments on military strategy as well as anecdotes regarding Churchill.

The second subseries is a seven-box alphabetical file. It is organized alphabetically by the names of individuals and organizations who were writing to Eisenhower. The subseries has a few comments by Eisenhower on substantive issues. In a five-page letter to Milton Eisenhower he comments on his view of the Russians during World War II and political considerations which affected military decisions and strategy. He comments on the qualities a President should have in other correspondence. However, most of the correspondence deals with routine matters which were handled by his office staff. Get-well wishes, birthday greetings, and golden wedding anniversary correspondence are all filed in this series.

There are also a number of interesting historic items which individuals sent to Eisenhower. A 1941 issue of the Fort Lewis Sentinel, an 1863 issue of Harper's Weekly, a June 6, 1944 newspaper, a 1941 War Department order sending Colonel Eisenhower to San Antonio, Texas, a

booklet advertising an Abilene carriage works, and an 1864 issue of Godey's Lady's Book are some of the unique items found in this subseries. The galley proofs for a book by Stephen Ambrose, a paper on medical services during the Normandy invasion, and an unpublished novel are also located in this subseries.

The 1966 Signature File has some scattered correspondence with notable figures, such as Leonard Hall, Louis Marx, L. B. Maytag, E. Frederic Morrow, Nguyen-van-Thieu, and General Westmoreland. However, most of the correspondence relates to gifts, invitations, birthdays, the fiftieth wedding anniversary, and other routine matters.

The series documents the type and volume of routine correspondence handled by Eisenhower's small office staff. Although there are references to a few substantive issues, the great bulk of the series deals with run-of-the-mill administrative subjects. There are a few interesting historic items which were sent to Eisenhower. The large volume of letters, the home-made greeting cards from school children, and numerous small gifts from the public reveal the level of interest and affection many Americans continued to have for the ex-President.

There are no classified documents in this series. Nine pages have been closed due to agency restrictions. Forty-six items, or groups of items, were transferred to the Museum, and fifty-seven books, newspapers, and periodicals were transferred to the Book Collection. Thirty-one photographs, one color transparency, eighteen slides, one slide negative, and two 45 rpm records were sent to the Audiovisual Collection.

CONTAINER LIST

| <u>Box No.</u> | <u>Contents</u> |
|----------------|---|
| | Subject Subseries |
| 1 | Education (ED) Eisenhower College, Seneca Falls, New York (Contributions for) Gifts Received (GI-1) A (1)(2) [books; science fair project re flying saucers; American League ballpark pass and schedule; audio tapes] Gifts Received (GI-1) B [Lena Benson; books; pen and ink sketch of Winston Churchill] Gifts Received (GI-1) Bundy, McGeorge (1)-(7) [three volumes of comments by the Ford Foundation to the FCC on the matter of establishment of domestic communications satellite facilities by non-governmental entities] Gifts Received (GI-1) C (1)(2) [books; Heart golf cap; card game re presidential role; booklet on putting] |
| 2 | Gifts Received (GI-1) D (1)(2) [books; post cards; research paper] Gifts Received (GI-1) E [books] Gifts Received (GI-1) F [books; clippings; wooden nickels] Gifts Received (GI-1) G [books] Gifts Received (GI-1) H (1)(2) [books; pamphlets and book criticizing Allied actions during WW II and in post-war Europe; Bob Hope] Gifts Received (GI-1) I-J [books; Bobby Jones] Gifts Received (GI-1) K (1)(2) [rug portrait by Armenian, Harry A. S. Kisishian; World War I diary of John Klover, Co. K, 353 rd Infantry Regiment; books; New Testament] Gifts Received (GI-1) L [books; painting of a floral arrangement; pencil sketch of DDE; Henry Luce] Gifts Received (GI-1) M (1)(2) [article on Culzean Castle; books] Gifts Received (GI-1) Mc (1)(2) [books; issues of <u>Lake Havasu Herald</u> ; Abilene High School yearbooks] |

Gifts Received (GI-1) N [books; photos; western magazines; flowers]

Gifts Received (GI-1) O [books]

3 Gifts Received (GI-1) P [books; sheet music; Lelia Picking, interview transcript; sampler; photos]

Gifts Received (GI-1) Paine, Bayard (1)-(4) [clipping on 50th anniversary; Congressional Record for Jan. 20, 1953, inauguration; Time magazine "Pony Edition" for Jan. 1, 1945 (Eisenhower is Man of the Year) and May 28, 1945; SHAEF Headquarters paper in German, April 30, 1945; British leaflet welcoming American troops to England; 2 issues of a Nazi newspaper, August 19/20, 1944 and January 5, 1945, article re Eisenhower; two newspapers in German by 12th Army Group, Nov. 27 and Dec. 11, 1944; three newspapers in German by U.S. Army, April 16, 21 and May 5, 1945; Stars and Stripes issues, Dec. 28, 1943, Eisenhower named Supreme Allied Commander, Jan. 18, 1944, Gen. Bradley to lead American ground forces in Europe, Nov. 9, 1944, FDR re-elected, Dec. 16, 17, and 23, 1944, Battle of Bulge, Feb. 25, 1945, April 16 and 17, 1945, May 2, 1945, Hitler Dead, May 3, 1945, Germans surrender in Italy, May 8, 1945, Victory, Nazis Quit; Yank magazine, April 22, 1945, death of FDR]

Gifts Received (GI-1) Q [photos; book]

Gifts Received (GI-1) Ra (1)-(3) [scrapbook; books; booklet re liberation of Sainte-Mere-Eglise; Ray Bliss, flowers; anniversary congratulations from RNC; Clifford Roberts]

Gifts Received (GI-1) Robinson (1)(2) [books; World War II-binder of 23 hand drawn maps by a German officer illustrating the German invasion of Poland, found in ruins of Mannheim, Germany; jewelry]

Gifts Received (GI-1) S [handkerchief from India; books; flowers; photos; note cards; Gov. Scranton]

Gifts Received (GI-1) Schneider, J. M., Zurich, Switzerland (Foreign Language Political Cartoons) (1)(2) [75 political cartoons re Eisenhower from foreign newspapers, 1954-1965, most appear to be in the German language]

4 Gifts Received (GI-1) Schneider, J. M., Zurich, Switzerland (Foreign Language Political Cartoons) (3)-(6) [political cartoons re Eisenhower from foreign newspapers, 1954-1960]
Gifts Received (GI-1) T [certificate for trees planted in Israel in honor of 50th anniversary; books; photos]

Gifts Received (GI-1) U-V [books]

Gifts Received (GI-1) W (1)-(3) [books; tie clasp; periodicals; photos; map; Kenneth Wells, Freedoms Foundation; scrapbooks]

Gifts Received (GI-1) X-Y-Z [golf tees; handkerchief; books]

Gifts Given by DDE and MDE (GI-2) [painting; golf balls; golf clubs; Rev. MacAskill; perfume; radio]

Invitations Accepted (IN-1) [graduation of David Eisenhower, Philips Exeter Academy, 6-12-66]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) A [American University]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) B [Boy Scouts; British Ambassador]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) C [Paul G. Hoffman tribute dinner; Columbia University]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) D

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Invitations Declined (IN-2) E

Invitations Declined (IN-2) F [French Ambassador; Freedom House]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) G to H

Invitations Declined (IN-2) I to L [President Johnson]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) M-N [Project Hope]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) O to S [Mrs. Merriweather Post; General Council, Presbyterian Church; Adlai Stevenson Exhibit]

Invitations Declined (IN-2) T to Z

Invitations Declined by Card or Telegram (1)-(4) [American Assembly; English Speaking Union; PGA; Columbia Associates; Metropolitan Opera in Lincoln Center; American Legion; Knights of Malta; Princeton University; Smithsonian Institution; Army War College; Army Chief of Staff]

Medals and Awards (MA) [DDE receives the Charles Evans Hughes Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Nov. 13, 1966, text of acceptance remarks and presentation speech by Lewis Strauss, program; James Madison Award, Seventh-Day Adventists]

Memberships (MB) (1)-(3) [sponsors for American Cancer Society benefit; Boy Scouts, Order of the Arrow; Fair Campaign Practices Committee; Golf Society of Great Britain; La Quinta Country Club; National Football Foundation; Seniors Golf Assoc.; Fifty Million Fund; Sky Club; Sons of Texas; World War Tank Corps Association]

Messages (ME) [message for Boy Scout banquet; City of Hope dinner honoring Barry Leithead]

Politics (PL)

Publications (PU)-White House Years [correspondence with Doubleday re possible television series]

Public Relations-1 (PR-1) Name, Use of [school; charity sponsor; auditorium]

Public Relations-3 (Interviews, Appointments) Eisenhower on the Military Churchill, Aug. 17, 1966 [complete transcript of filmed interviews by Alistair Cooke; military strategy in WW II; DDE's objective was destroy enemy forces not Berlin; DDE's meetings with Churchill; various anecdotes re Churchill]

Public Relations-3 (PR-3) Interview, San Diego Rotary Club (Tape), Dr. H. D. Peabody [correspondence only]

Speech (SP) re Project HOPE (Honoring Barry Leithead) (Taped) [transcript]

6 Speech (SP) Sylvanus Thayer Speech, 5/15/66, New York University (Hall of Fame) [reading copy]

Speeches (SP)

Statements (by General Eisenhower) [press release re DDE's trip from Gettysburg to California, Jan. 1966]

Statement by DDE (re Law and Order) [Senate Republican Memo includes quote by DDE]

Alphabetical Subseries

A (1)-(4) [letters from first grade students; program for Sylvanus Thayer ceremonies and speech; booklet re visit by USS Hornet to Sydney, Australia]

Ambrose, Stephen E. Galley Proof of Manuscript, "Duty, Honor, Country: A History of West Point" (1)-(5) [Foreword by DDE; DDE comments on book]

BA

BE [letters from school children]

7 BO [letters from fourth grade students; card from and letter to Pres. Bourguiba of Tunisia]

BR [sheet music for 9 songs by John P. Branecky; Christmas greeting poster from kindergarten class]

C (1)-(10) [letters from first and third grade classes; speech by Gen. Bruce Clarke to Lions Convention, comments on war in Vietnam; cards from a kindergarten class; booklet by Robert Cutler re 1916 commencement program; poem by Cutler]

D (1)(2) [letters from fourth grade students; DDE signed De Molay resolution supporting American troops in Vietnam; letters from a sixth grade class]

8 D (3)(4) [paper by Rear Admiral George Dowling on medical services in the Normandy Invasion; company publication with article on war work of the Bemis Bag Co.]

Doubleday and Company, Inc. [ads for Waging Peace]

E (1)-(3) [homemade greeting cards; John Eisenhower; lists of student signatures from Eisenhower Elementary School, Tulsa, Oklahoma; booklet on Kiwi International]

Eisenhower, Milton (Dr.)-DDE Comments on View of Russians (WW II), Military vs. Political Decisions, War Effort [five-page letter to Milton; book by Ambrose; DDE's and Churchill's views of Russians during the war; political considerations; foreword for book, Duty, Honor, Country]

F (1)-(3) [March 1941 issue of Fort Lewis Sentinel, shows troops training in 1940-41, DDE is pictured as chief of staff of IX Army Corps; letters from 8th grade students]

G (1)-(3) [Gallup Poll re should Supreme Court judges retire at age 72; August 22, 1863 issue of Harper's Weekly; June 6, 1944 newspaper with D-Day headlines; musical number, "Mr. President is Coming to Town"]

Ha (1)-(3) [Leonard Hall; Christmas letters from fourth and fifth graders]

Hance, Jesse (1)-(3) [copy of novel, "When Hitler Lived in the United States"]

9 Har [handmade valentine cards]

He

Hi [poster on Declaration of Independence; letters from fifth graders]

Ho [War Dept. Special Orders No. 146, June 24, 1941, Col. Eisenhower relieved of duty at Ft. Lewis, Washington, and assigned to headquarters, Third Army, San Antonio, Texas]

Hu [report on Colonial Williamsburg]

I

J [handwritten letter from Mrs. Elivera M. Doud to Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Jacobs, April 1952; report of the Dormitory Authority of New York; Monmouth Park Jockey Club]

K (1)(2) [letters and get well/Christmas card from students; article on Robert E. Lee; Julius Klein; Bob Knepp thanks DDE for golf clubs]

L (1)(2) [Sigurd Larmon; qualities a President needs to have; booklets re invasion of England by William, Duke of Normandy, in 1066; John E. Long attended Lincoln School and Sunday School with DDE]

M (1)-(3) [R. A. MacAskill; Louis Marx; report on letters sent out by Fort Gordon in connection with visit by DDE in Nov. 1965; L. B. Maytag, program for shooting dog championship]

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M (4) [E. Frederic Morrow; booklet re war in Vietnam]

N [Nguyen-van-Thieu, Vietnam; Aksel Nielsen, stockholders report for Susquehanna Corp.; Richard Nixon letter to Raymond Pitcairn]

News Clippings [DDE leaves hospital; Johnson economic policy]

O (1)-(5) [homemade Christmas cards]

Pa (1)(2) [letters from high school students]

Pe [booklet re John Birch Society and Christians]

Ph [Raymond Pitcairn, memorial service]

Pl [copy of booklet re L. B. John's Carriage Works, Abilene, Ks.; property deeds, 1796 and 1811]

PU

Q

- 11 R (1)(2) [biography of Isaac H. Rohrer, Lancaster, Pa.; Jim Rowley; letter from Milton's daughter, Ruth]
- Republican National Committee (Resolution of Appreciation for Eisenhower's Interest in Party) [adopted 6-29-65]
- S (1)-(8) [letters from fourth grade students; postcard with painting of DDE as a small child; desk used by DDE during the war to be shipped to National Railroad Museum; Clarence Schoo; Republican Heritage Calendar; 1940 program for opening of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and McChord Field; Amos and Andy photos, 1930s; principles and platform of the Republican Party of Louisiana; June 1864 issue of Godey's Lady's Book; four issues of the Studebaker Family National Association newsletter; booklet on bridge]
- T (1)-(4) [letters from second grade students; letters from a sixth grade class; July 4, 1863 newspaper pages]

12 U

- V (1)(2) [map of West-Southwest U.S. with roads, trails, forts, towns, and rails after 1800; absentee voters manual]
- W (1)-(7) [Children's Crusade for Peace; Chief Walter West re DDE painting of the "Red Barn;" program for 25th Bing Crosby Golf Tournament; Gen. Westmoreland; letters and handmade Christmas cards from second grade class; cards from first graders; People-to-People classroom exchange program]
- Wedding Anniversary (Golden), July 1, 1966 (1)(2) [statistics on cards received and acknowledgements sent; samples of acknowledgement cards; categories of cards and procedures for handling them; Christmas card list]
- Wells, Kenneth
- White House Luncheon (Guest List)-MDE, 5-19-66 [menu; gate card; place card]

Y

Z [MDE-treatments for hair depletion]

13 Receipts for Certified Mail, 1966 (1)-(5)