

Wallace Rankin Deuel Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Collection Summary

Title: Wallace Rankin Deuel Papers

Span Dates: 1905-1971

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1939-1954)

ID No.: MSS75905

Creator: Deuel, Wallace Rankin, 1905-1974

Extent: 6,500 items ; 62 containers plus 1 classified and 1 vault container ; 20.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Intelligence officer and journalist. Correspondence, journals, writings, lectures, transcripts of radio broadcasts, scrapbooks, and other papers relating to Deuel's career as an intelligence officer during World War II with the Office of Strategic Services, as a journalist with the *Chicago Daily News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and as a foreign intelligence analyst with the Central Intelligence Agency.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Acheson, Dean, 1893-1971--Correspondence.

Acheson, Dean, 1893-1971.

Deuel, Mary Virginia, 1905-1971.

Deuel, Michael McPherson, 1937-1965.

Deuel, Peter MacArthur, 1935-2005.

Deuel, Wallace Rankin, 1905-1974.

Deuel, Wallace Rankin, 1905-1974. People under Hitler. 1942.

Donovan, William J. (William Joseph), 1883-1959--Correspondence.

Duell family.

Dulles, Allen, 1893-1969--Correspondence.

Kennan, George, 1845-1924--Correspondence.

Knox, Frank, 1874-1944--Correspondence.

Pulitzer, Joseph, 1913-1993--Correspondence.

Stevenson, Adlai E. (Adlai Ewing), 1900-1965--Correspondence.

Organizations

Allied Forces. Supreme Headquarters.

United States. Central Intelligence Agency.

United States. Office of Strategic Services.

Subjects

American newspapers--Illinois--Chicago.

American newspapers--Missouri--St. Louis.

Foreign correspondents--Germany--Berlin.

Intelligence service--United States.

World War, 1939-1945--Europe.

World War, 1939-1945--Secret service--United States.

Places

Germany--History--1933-1945.

Titles

Chicago daily news.

St. Louis post-dispatch.

Occupations

Intelligence officers.
Journalists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Wallace Rankin Deuel, intelligence officer and journalist, were given to the Library of Congress by his son, Peter MacArthur Deuel, in 1977.

Processing History

The papers of Wallace Rankin Deuel were arranged and described in 1979. The collection was expanded in 1985. The finding aid was revised and the collection partially reorganized in 2012.

Additional Guides

The Wallace Rankin Deuel Papers are described in *The Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress* 35, no. 4 (Oct. 1978): 252-54.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Wallace Rankin Deuel in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Wallace Rankin Deuel are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Security Classified Documents

Government regulations control the use of security classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified materials.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Wallace Rankin Deuel Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1905, June 14	Born, Chicago, Ill.
1926	A.B. University of Illinois, Chicago, Ill.
1926-1929	Instructor in political science and international law, American University, Beirut, Syria (now Lebanon)
1929	Married Mary Virginia Smock (died 1971)
1929-1941	Editorial writer and assistant to foreign editor, <i>Chicago Daily News</i> ; in charge of New York cable office, 1930-1931; correspondent, Washington, D.C., 1931-1932; correspondent, Rome, Italy, 1932-1934; and correspondent, Berlin, Germany, 1934-1941

1941-1945	Special assistant to director, Office of Strategic Services (later Central Intelligence Agency)
1942	Published <i>People under Hitler</i> . New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company
1944-1945	Special assistant to Robert Daniel Murphy, political advisor on Germany, Allied Forces Supreme Headquarters
1945-1949	Diplomatic correspondent, <i>Chicago Daily News</i> , Washington, D.C.
1949-1954	Diplomatic correspondent, <i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i> , Washington, D.C.
1954-1968	Foreign intelligence analyst, Central Intelligence Agency
1974, May 10	Died aboard airplane enroute from Washington, D.C., to Chicago, Ill.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Wallace Rankin Deuel (1905-1974) span the years 1905-1971, with the bulk of the material dating from 1939 to 1954. The collection is strongest for Deuel's career in journalism. The papers are organized into the following series: [Correspondence](#), [Writings File](#), [Scrapbooks](#), [Miscellany](#), [Addition](#), and [Classified](#).

The [Correspondence](#) pertains to Deuel's personal and professional life. The general correspondence is largely comprised of personal letters with friends and family, with a few letters related to Deuel's work for the Office of Strategic Services during World War II. The correspondence for the *Chicago Daily News* and *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, mostly with editors and colleagues, reflects Deuel's work as a diplomatic correspondent including his tenure in Berlin, Germany, in the years leading up to World War II. Related correspondence is located in the [Addition](#). Correspondents include Dean Acheson, William J. Donovan, Allen Dulles, George Kennan, Frank Knox, Joseph Pulitzer (1913-1993), and Adlai E. Stevenson (1900-1965).

The [Writings File](#) includes detailed journals and newspaper stories written by Deuel during his last ten years as a journalist and a typescript of his book *People under Hitler*. In addition to performing his duties at the *Chicago Daily News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, Deuel was a regular contributor to *Newsweek*, appeared frequently as a panelist on radio and television programs, and had a weekly radio news program of his own. Transcripts of his radio broadcasts and lectures appear in this series and are also located in the [Addition](#) along with clippings from "The Periscope" section of *Newsweek*.

The [Scrapbooks](#) contain clippings of Deuel's articles written for the *Chicago Daily News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, magazine articles, and reviews of *People Under Hitler*. Of interest are the three volumes of reader correspondence written to Deuel in response to the publication of his series of articles on Germany and the Nazis after his return from Berlin in 1941.

[Miscellany](#) contains biographical sketches of contemporaries, a file on Dean Acheson, and financial records. Included also are memorabilia, photographs, and clippings relating to Deuel's son, Michael McPherson Deuel, who was killed in an airplane crash over Laos in 1965 while ostensibly working for the United States Agency for International Development, but serving as a covert operative for the Central Intelligence Agency.

The [Addition](#) contains family papers, writings, and a subject file. The family papers relate to Deuel's wife, Mary Virginia Deuel, and his two sons, Michael McPherson Deuel and Peter MacArthur Deuel, and contain correspondence, clippings, and memorabilia. A collection of material apparently gathered for the writing of a history of the Office of Strategic Services includes correspondence and notes from Deuel's service for that office. The subject file contains material from Deuel's service at the Department of State and the Allied Forces Supreme Headquarters during World War II, and later at the Central Intelligence Agency.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in six series:

- Correspondence, 1933-1969
- Writings File, 1934-1968
- Scrapbooks, 1930-1954
- Miscellany, 1937-1970
- Addition, 1905-1971
- Classified, 1944-1968

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-7	<u>Correspondence, 1933-1969</u> Personal and professional correspondence. Arranged by type of correspondence and therein chronologically.
BOX 8-28	<u>Writings File, 1934-1968</u> Typescripts of journals, a book, newspaper stories, lectures, magazine articles, and radio broadcasts. Arranged by type of writing and therein chronologically.
BOX 29-54	<u>Scrapbooks, 1930-1954</u> Clippings of articles written by Deuel, reader correspondence, and reviews of his book, <i>People under Hitler</i> . Arranged by topic.
BOX 55-VA 59	<u>Miscellany, 1937-1970</u> Biographical sketches of contemporaries, financial and tax records, family papers concerning Michael McPherson Deuel, card files, a collection of foreign coins, and other material. Arranged by type of material or topic.
BOX 60-63	<u>Addition, 1905-1971</u> Correspondence, family papers, genealogy, writings, subject files, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.
BOX CL 1	<u>Classified, 1944-1968</u> Government security documents. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-7	Correspondence, 1933-1969 Personal and professional correspondence. Arranged by type of correspondence and therein chronologically.
BOX 1	General
BOX 1	1934-1953 (13 folders)
BOX 2	1954-1960 (7 folders)
BOX 3	1961-1965 (5 folders)
BOX 4	1965-1967 (7 folders)
BOX 5	1967-1969 (6 folders)
BOX 6	<i>Chicago Daily News</i> , 1933-1949 (11 folders)
BOX 7	<i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i> , 1950-1954 (6 folders)
BOX 7	Job search, 1953-1954 (3 folders)
BOX 8-28	Writings File, 1934-1968 Typescripts of journals, a book, newspaper stories, lectures, magazine articles, and radio broadcasts. Arranged by type of writing and therein chronologically.
BOX 8	Journals
BOX 8	1945-1946 (17 folders)
BOX 9	1947-1948 (19 folders)
BOX 10	1948-1949 (17 folders)
BOX 11	1950 (12 folders)
BOX 12	1951-1952 (20 folders)
BOX 13	1952-1954 (17 folders)
BOX 14	Book, <i>People under Hitler</i> , circa 1942 (7 folders)
BOX 15	(5 folders)

Writings File, 1934-1968

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 16	Newspaper stories
BOX 16	1945-1946 (10 folders)
BOX 17	1946-1947 (13 folders)
BOX 18	1947-1948 (10 folders)
BOX 19	1948-1949 (12 folders)
BOX 20	1949 (7 folders)
BOX 21	1950 (11 folders)
BOX 22	1951 (11 folders)
BOX 23	1952 (9 folders)
BOX 24	1953 (8 folders)
BOX 25	1953-1954 (5 folders)
BOX 26	Lectures, magazine articles, and file on prose
BOX 26	Lectures, 1941-1953 (7 folders)
BOX 26	Magazine articles, 1934-1948
BOX 26	File on style, clarity, and intelligibility of prose, 1946-1968 <i>See also Classified</i>
BOX 27	Radio broadcasts <i>See also Containers 61-62, same heading</i>
BOX 27	1950-1952 (18 folders)
BOX 28	1953-1961 (12 folders)
BOX 29-54	Scrapbooks, 1930-1954 Clippings of articles written by Deuel, reader correspondence, and reviews of his book, <i>People under Hitler</i> . Arranged by topic.
BOX 29	<i>Chicago Daily News</i>
BOX 29	Clippings of articles
BOX 29	1930-1937 (4 folders)
BOX 30	1937-1939 (4 folders)
BOX 31	Correspondence from readers, 1941 (1 vol.)
BOX 32	(1 vol.)
BOX 33	(1 vol.)
BOX 34	Clippings of articles

Scrapbooks, 1930-1954

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 34	1945
BOX 35-36	1946 (2 vols.)
BOX 37-38	1947 (2 vols.)
BOX 39-41	1948 (3 vols.)
BOX 42-43	1949 (2 vols.)
BOX 44	<i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i>
BOX 44	1949-1950
BOX 45	1950
BOX 46-47	1951 (2 vols.)
BOX 48-49	1952 (2 vols.)
BOX 50-51	1953 (2 vols.)
BOX 52	1954
BOX 53	Magazine articles, 1940-1943
BOX 54	Reviews of <i>People under Hitler</i> , 1942
BOX 55-VA 59	Miscellany, 1937-1970 Biographical sketches of contemporaries, financial and tax records, family papers concerning Michael McPherson Deuel, card files, a collection of foreign coins, and other material. Arranged by type of material or topic.
BOX 55	Acheson, Dean, 1943-1953
BOX 55	Biographical sketches and notes, A-Z, 1946-1953 (8 folders)
BOX 55	Financial records
BOX 55	Receipts, 1961-1970
BOX 55	Income tax records and receipts
BOX 55	1937-1944 (5 folders)
BOX 56	1945-1955 (10 folders)
BOX 57	1956-1968 (12 folders)
BOX 58	Card files, circa 1945-circa 1954
BOX 58	Family papers, Michael McPherson Deuel, 1944-1970
BOX 58	Certificates and diplomas
BOX 58	Clippings (2 folders)
BOX 58	Death certificate
BOX 58	Photographs
BOX 58	Printed matter (2 folders)

Miscellany, 1937-1970

Container

Contents

BOX 58	Report cards
BOX 58	Miscellany (2 folders)
BOX VA 59	Distinguished intelligence medal
BOX VA 59	Coinage, foreign, circa 1945-circa 1952
BOX 60-63	Addition, 1905-1971 Correspondence, family papers, genealogy, writings, subject files, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 60	Correspondence
BOX 60	Personal, 1945-1958
BOX 60	Professional, 1946-1953
BOX 60	Family papers
BOX 60	Deuel, Mary Virginia, 1929-1967
BOX 60	Deuel, Michael McPherson, 1937-1965
BOX 60	Deuel, Peter MacArthur, 1944-1968
BOX 60	Genealogy, 1905, 1929, 1939, 1946-1948, 1957-1961, 1969-1970, undated
BOX 61	Writings file
BOX 61	Articles
BOX 61	"History of the O.S.S." <i>See also Container 62, Central Intelligence Agency</i>
BOX 61	Clippings, 1940-1967
BOX 61	Correspondence, 1941-1945, 1958-1962, 1968 <i>See also Classified</i> (2 folders)
BOX 61	Research notes and other materials, 1941-1962 (2 folders)
BOX 61	Series on William J. Donovan, 1945
BOX 61	"Potsdam Conference," outline, 1952
BOX 61	"Teheran Conference," outline, 1952
BOX 61	"Yalta Conference," outline, 1952
BOX 61	Radio broadcasts <i>See also Containers 27-28, same heading</i>
BOX 61	1950 (5 folders)
BOX 62	1951 (2 folders)
BOX 62	Lecture, "The Secret War," outline, undated
BOX 62	Subject file
BOX 62	Central Intelligence Agency <i>See also Container 61, "History of the O.S.S."</i>
BOX 62	Clippings, 1959-1971
BOX 62	Personal file, 1941-1968, undated <i>See also Classified</i> (4 folders)
BOX 62	Connally, Tom, circa 1944-circa 1949
BOX 63	Contracts for speaking engagements, 1941-1943
BOX 63	Malaxa, Nicolae, 1952
BOX 63	State Department, 1946
BOX 63	Supreme Headquarters Allied Forces, 1944-1945 <i>See also Classified</i>
BOX 63	Printed matter

Addition, 1905-1971

Container

Contents

BOX 63	General, circa 1944-circa 1968
BOX 63	"The Periscope" section, <i>Newsweek</i> , 1946-1953 (4 folders)
BOX CL 1	Classified, 1944-1968 Government security documents. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX CL 1	Writings File
BOX CL 1	Lectures, magazines, and file on prose
BOX CL 1	File on style, clarity, and the intelligence of prose, 1958-1968 (Container 26)
BOX CL 1	Addition
BOX CL 1	Writings file
BOX CL 1	"History of the O.S.S."
BOX CL 1	Correspondence, 1945, 1961-1962 (Container 61)
BOX CL 1	Subject file
BOX CL 1	Central Intelligence Agency
BOX CL 1	Personal file, 1944-1945, 1957-1961, 1967 (Container 62)
BOX CL 1	Supreme Headquarters Allied Forces, 1944 (Container 63)