

# Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

**Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff**



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

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# Collection Summary

Title: Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg Papers

Span Dates: 1942-1954

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1948-1953)

ID No.: MSS43935

Creator: Vandenberg, Hoyt Sanford, 1899-1954

Extent: 34,000 items ; 97 containers plus 4 classified ; 40.5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Summary: Air Force officer. Correspondence, diaries, reports, memoranda, drafts and galley proofs of speeches and articles, appointment books, mail logs, personal files, accounts, and printed matter chiefly documenting Vandenberg's service as chief of staff of the air force.

## 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

Beckworth, Lindley--Correspondence.  
Bradley, Omar Nelson, 1893-1981--Correspondence.  
Brooks, Overton, 1897-1961--Correspondence.  
Collins, J. Lawton (Joseph Lawton)--Correspondence.  
Hoey, Clyde Roark, 1877-1954--Correspondence.  
Johnston, Olin D. (Olin Dewitt), 1896-1965--Correspondence.  
Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963--Correspondence.  
Lucas, Scott Wike, 1892-1968--Correspondence.  
Stratemeyer, George E., 1890-1970--Correspondence.  
Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972--Correspondence.  
Vandenberg, Hoyt Sanford, 1899-1954.  
Vinson, Carl, 1883-1981--Correspondence.

### Organizations

United States. Air Force. Office of the Chief of Staff.

### Subjects

Aeronautics, Military.  
Korean War, 1950-1953--Aerial operations.  
Korean War, 1950-1953.

### Occupations

Air Force officers.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers of Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg, air force officer, were given to the Library of Congress by his wife, Gladys Rose Vandenberg, in 1955. Additional material was transferred from the U.S. Air Force Office of the Chief of Staff, 1960, and the Library of Congress Science and Technology Division, 1961.

## Processing History

The Vandenberg Papers were arranged and described in 1968 and 1979. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

## Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg 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 Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg 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 items in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified material.

## Preferred Citation

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

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1899, Jan. 24	Born, Milwaukee, Wisc.
1923	Graduated, United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y. Married Gladys Rose (died 1978)
1923-1947	Commissioned second lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corp; promoted through grades to general
1927	Instructor, Air Corps Primary Flying School, Maxwell, Calif.
1929	Joined and assumed command of 6th Pursuit Squadron
1931	Instructor in flying, Randolph Field, Tex.
1933	Flight commander, Randolph Field, Tex.
1934-1935	Student, Air Corps Tactical School
1936-1938	Instructor, Air Corps Tactical School
1940-1941	Assistant chief of staff, Army Air Forces
1942	Chief of staff, Northwest African Strategic Air Force
1943	Deputy chief of staff

1944	Commander, 9th Air Force in France
1946	Assistant chief of staff, G-2 Appointed director of central intelligence
1947	Chief of air staff, Army Air Forces Vice chief of staff, United States Air Force
1948-1953	Chief of staff, United States Air Force
1953	Retired from service
1954, Apr. 2	Died, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Hoyt S. Vandenberg (1899-1954) span the years 1942-1954 with the bulk of the material falling between the years 1948 and 1953, the period when Vandenberg was chief of staff of the air force. The papers consist of correspondence, reports, and memoranda, supplemented by speeches and articles, diaries, and appointment books, mail logs, personnel files, accounts, and printed matter. The collection is organized into ten series: [Diaries and Appointments](#), [General Correspondence](#), [Subject File](#), [Security File](#), [Speeches and Articles](#), [Miscellany](#), [Classified](#), [Top Secret](#), [Restricted Data: Secret](#), and [North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret](#).

During Vandenberg's first few years as chief of staff, the air force underwent rapid growth and development. Various commands were established, and the air force was statutorily expanded to seventy groups during this period. Vandenberg's role in this development is well documented throughout the collection, particularly in the [Subject File](#) on topics dealing with the budget, congressional hearings, commands, secretary of the air force, and correspondence with Carl Vinson.

In 1951, the air force first entered combat as an autonomous branch of the armed forces. The difficulties it encountered in the Korean War, political as well as military, are documented in the [Security File](#). One of the most pressing problems was conducting a war under an economy-oriented administration. This difficulty is documented in subject files relating to the budget and congressional hearings as well as on the security file.

Correspondents in addition to Vinson include Lindley Beckworth, Omar Nelson Bradley, Overton Brooks, J. Lawton Collins, Clyde Roark Hoey, Olin D. Johnston, John F. Kennedy, Scott Wike Lucas, George E. Stratemeyer, and Harry S. Truman.

## Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged in ten series:

- [Diaries and Appointments, 1944-1953](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1945-1954](#)
- [Subject File, 1942-1954](#)
- [Security File, 1950-1953](#)
- [Speeches and Articles, 1945-1953](#)
- [Miscellany, 1943-1953](#)
- [Classified, 1948-1953](#)

- Top Secret, 1948-1953
- Restricted Data: Secret, 1951-1953
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret, 1951-1953

## Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-6	<u>Diaries and Appointments, 1944-1953</u> Diaries, appointment books, and calendars. Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 7-33	<u>General Correspondence, 1945-1954</u> Letters sent and received. Correspondence for each year from 1948 to 1953 is preceded by a mail log for that year. Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically therein. The last two containers contain miscellaneous indexed correspondence.
BOX 34-82	<u>Subject File, 1942-1954</u> Correspondence, memoranda and reports, press releases, and notes relating to the Offices of the Chief of Staff and Air Force activities. Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 83-88	<u>Security File, 1950-1953</u> Memoranda, reports, and some correspondence relating principally to the Korean War. Original arrangement retained.
BOX 89-91	<u>Speeches and Articles, 1945-1953</u> Typescript and reading copies of speeches and articles. Six notebooks, one for each year, contain typescript copies of speeches and an index. . Arranged into unbound and notebook files
BOX 92-97	<u>Miscellany, 1943-1953</u> Printed matter and miscellaneous papers. Arranged by type of material. Arranged into unbound and notebook files
BOX CL 1	<u>Classified, 1948-1953</u> Correspondence, memoranda, and reports. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX TS 1	<u>Top Secret, 1948-1953</u> Correspondence, memoranda, and reports. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX RD 1	<u>Restricted Data: Secret, 1951-1953</u> Memorandum and a report. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX NATO 1	<u>North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret, 1951-1953</u> Memorandum.

Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder  
from which the item was removed.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-6	Diaries and Appointments, 1944-1953 Diaries, appointment books, and calendars. Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 1	Diaries 1944-1945 1947-1948 1948, Jan.-1949, June (2 folders)
BOX 2	1949, July-1951 (2 folders) 1953, Jan.-June
BOX 3	Appointment books 1947-1953
BOX 4	1949-1951
BOX 5	1952-1953
BOX 6	1953 Calendar sheets, 1946-1947, 1953
BOX 7-33	General Correspondence, 1945-1954 Letters sent and received. Correspondence for each year from 1948 to 1953 is preceded by a mail log for that year. Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically therein. The last two containers contain miscellaneous indexed correspondence.
BOX 7	1947-1949 Mail lists and logs (10 folders) Formerly classified
BOX 8	1945-1947, correspondence (2 folders) 1948, correspondence A-H (8 folders)
BOX 9	I-U (12 folders)
BOX 10	V-Z (5 folders) 1949 Mail list and logs General (5 folders)
BOX 11	(7 folders)

## General Correspondence, 1945-1954

### *Container*

### *Contents*

---

	Symington, Stuart, mail list
BOX 12	Correspondence A-E <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (5 folders)
BOX 13	F-M (8 folders)
BOX 14	N-Y (11 folders)
BOX 15	1950 Mail list and logs (6 folders)
BOX 16	(5 folders) Formerly classified
BOX 17	Correspondence A-L (12 folders)
BOX 18	M-Z (12 folders)
BOX 19	1951 Mail list and logs General (7 folders)
BOX 20	Formerly classified, 1951-1953 MacArthur, Douglas, hearings testimony
BOX 21	Correspondence A-H <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (8 folders)
BOX 22	I-S <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (10 folders) Formerly classified, 1951-1953
BOX 23	T-Z (7 folders)
BOX 24	1952 Mail list and logs (6 folders)
BOX 25	(6 folders)
BOX 26	Correspondence A-J <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (10 folders)
BOX 27	L-R <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (8 folders)
BOX 28	S-Z <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (8 folders)
BOX 29	1953 Mail list and logs General (6 folders) Received after retirement, 1953-1954

## General Correspondence, 1945-1954

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 30	Correspondence A-M <i>See also Classified</i> (13 folders)
BOX 31	N-Z (12 folders)
BOX 32	1947-1949 (5 folders)
BOX 33	1950-1951 (4 folders) Formerly classified
BOX 34-82	Subject File, 1942-1954 Correspondence, memoranda and reports, press releases, and notes relating to the Offices of the Chief of Staff and Air Force activities. Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 34	Ac/As 1-5, 1947 (5 folders) Accident, 1949-1953 (5 folders) Adjutant, general, 1947-1948 Air adjutant, general, 1947-1948 Air Board, undated Air comptroller, 1947-1948 Air Corp., 1945 Aircraft, 1948-1953 (6 folders) Air defense, 1947 Air Force, 1946
BOX 35	Air Force Aid Society, 1947-1953 (6 folders) Air Force Association, 1948-1953 (6 folders) Air Force Council, 1953 Air Force Day, 1948 Air Force requirements, 1952 <i>See also Classified</i>
BOX 36	Air inspector, 1947-1948 Air reserve and national guard, 1948-1953 (6 folders) Air staff meeting minutes, 1947 Air University, 1947 Alaska, 1948-1952 American Legion, 1949-1951 (3 folders) Appraisal of air force by W. Barton Leach, 1949-1950 Armed Forces Day, 1950-1953 (3 folders)

Subject File, 1942-1954

*Container*

*Contents*

---

	Army, 1953
	Army-Navy Country Club, 1949-1950
BOX 37	Arnold Air Society, 1950-1951
	Arnold, Henry Harley, funeral, 1950
	Assistant and under secretaries of the air force, 1948-1949 <i>See also Classified</i> (3 folders)
	Assistant secretary of the air force 1950 (1 folder)
BOX 38	1948-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (3 folders)
	Atomic bombs and tests, 1948
	Berlin, Germany, airlift, 1948
	"Blitz Book," 1948
BOX 39	Boards
	Aeronautical Board, 1945-1948 (3 folders)
	Air Board, 1945-1947
	Army-Navy Munitions Board, 1946-1947
	Flying Pay Board, 1947
	General, 1952
	Miscellaneous boards, 1946-1949
	Simpson Board, 1946
	United States Aircraft and Weapons Board, 1948
	Book of facts folder 1947-1949
	Box score, undated
	Briefing for Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson, 1942
BOX 40	Britain, 1943-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)
	Budget
	1947-1950 (5 folders)
BOX 41	1949-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 42	B-36
	Investigation, 1949-1950 (2 folders)
	Procurement, 1948-1950
	Program report, 1950
	Canada, 1948-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)
	Caribbean, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 43	Chief of staff, a force, 1947-1948
	Chief of staff, army, 1947-1952 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)

Subject File, 1942-1954

*Container*

*Contents*

---

	Children's letters, 1952-1953
	China, 1948
	Civil Air Patrol, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
	Formerly classified documents receipts, 1947-1949
	Commands
	Air Research 1952-1953 <u>See also Classified</u> (2 folders)
	Continental, 1949-1953 (5 folders)
BOX 44	Defense, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Europe, 1948-1953 (2 folders)
	Far East Air Force, 1952-1953
	Headquarters, 1950-1952 (3 folders)
	Letters, 1950-1953 (2 folders)
	Materiel, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
BOX 45	Military Air Transport Services, 1948-1954 (5 folders)
	Northeast Air, 1951-1953 (3 folders)
	Proving Ground, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Strategic, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Tactical, 1947-1953 (5 folders)
BOX 46	Training, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Transport, 1945-1948 (2 folders)
	University, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
	Command welfare programs, 1951
	Commendations
	1944-1945 (1 folder)
BOX 47	1952-1953 (2 folders)
	Condolences, 1950-1953 (5 folders)
	Congressional hearings
	1947-1953 <u>See also Classified</u> (3 folders)

Subject File, 1942-1954

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 48	1947-1953 (2 folders) Senate Armed Forces Subcommittee notebook, 1953
BOX 49	Crank letters, 1949-1952 Cunningham, Thomas, 1950 Daily activity reports, 1947-1950 (4 folders) Decorations and awards, 1952 Director chief of staff General, 1947 Material, 1947-1948 Operations, 1947-1948 Personnel and administration, 1947-1948 Director of public relations, 1947-1948 Eberstadt, Ferdinand, 1948-1949 Eisenhower, Dwight D., 1945-1950
BOX 50	Entertainment, official, 1946-1953 (6 folders) Europe, 1948-1952 (5 folders) Fairchild, Muir S., funeral, 1950 Ford report on morale, 1951 <i>See also Classified</i> General officers, 1945-1948 Goering, Hermann, 1945 Goodwin, Verne I. 1952 Ground accident digest, 1953 Headquarters commandant, 1947 Historical foundation, 1953 Histories of operations analysis section, 1943-1946 Inauguration (1953), 1952-1953 Invitations, 1952-1953 (2 folders)
BOX 51	Japanese air force, 1945 Joint Chiefs of Staff General, 1949-1947 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders) Unification, 1945-1950 (3 folders) Joint orientation conference, 1949-1953 (3 folders) Kenney, George C., retirement ceremony, 1951 Kepner, William E., lecture, "Strategic Importance of the Arctic," 1952 Klein, Julius, 1951 Kooken (L.P.) Co., 1953 Manpower requirements, 1952 Mutual Defense Assistance Program, 1953

Subject File, 1942-1954

*Container*

*Contents*

---

	Mexico, 1950-1953 (2 folders)
	Motion pictures, General, 1946-1953 Movie log and list, 1952-1953
BOX 52	National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
	National Security Resources Board, 1947-1951 (5 folders)
	Navy, 1948-1953 <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (6 folders)
	Navy verses air force, 1948-1949
BOX 53	Newport agreements, 1948-1949
	Ninth Air Force, 1942-1947 (2 folders)
	Norstad, Laurence, 1950
	National Security Council-68 program, 1950
	Office procedures, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 54	Operation Longhorn, 1952 <u><i>See Classified</i></u>
	Operation "Q," 1944-1945 Map and overlays, 1944 Report, 1945
	Orders, 1947-1948
	Organization 1948-1950 (2 folders)
BOX 55	1949-1953 (6 folders)
	Outline, 1951
BOX 56	Pacific, 1948-1952 <u><i>See also Classified</i></u> (5 folders)
	Parris, George F., 1953
	Penetration of Office of Strategic Services in Europe, 1948 <u><i>See also Classified</i></u>
	Personnel, 1947-1952 General, 1947 Program, 1949
	Air ground operations letter, 1950
	Photographs and autographs 1948
BOX 57	1949-1950
	Ploesti air raid, 1942-1944
	Policy letters, 1949
	Publications, 1953
	Public works program, 1952-1953
	Reassignments, 1953

Subject File, 1942-1954

*Container*

*Contents*

---

BOX 58	Receipts, 1948-1953 (6 folders) Receipts, Rand Corp., 1952-1953 (2 folders) Formerly classified receipts, 1952-1953 Retirement letters, 1950-1953 (3 folders) Scientific Advisory Board, 1953 <i>See also Classified</i> Secretary of the air force 1947-1948
BOX 59	1948-1950 (5 folders)
BOX 60	1949-1950 <i>See also Classified</i> (4 folders)
BOX 61	1949-1951 <i>See also Classified</i> (4 folders)
BOX 62	1952-1953 (4 folders) Air staff, Boatner, Bryant L., 1947 Secretary of the army, 1947-1953 (5 folders) Secretary of defense 1947-1952 <i>See also Classified</i> (5 folders)
BOX 63	1951-1953 (2 folders) Secretary of war, 1947 Security, 1953 Selective Service Act, 1950 Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, command post exercise two, 1953 <i>See also Classified</i> South America, 1946-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders) Soviet Union, 1949 <i>See also Classified</i> Special secret activities, 1945 Staff digest, 1950 Staff meeting, 1947-1948
BOX 64	Telephone calls 1948-1950
BOX 65	1950-1953
BOX 66	Congressional notebook, 1950-1953 Third Air Division notebook, 1947-1949
BOX 67	Thomas, Grayce, 1949-1950 Formerly top secret memoranda, 1950 Trips, vouchers, 1945-1948 Trips

Subject File, 1942-1954

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
	1946-1947 (14 folders)
	1948 (9 folders)
BOX 68	(12 folders)
	1949 (8 folders)
BOX 69	(6 folders)
	1950 (3 folders)
	1951 (8 folders)
BOX 70	1952-1953 <u>See also Classified</u> (8 folders)
BOX 71	Uniform, 1949-1953 (7 folders) Board report, 1949 General, 1949-1950 (5 folders)
BOX 72	Vandenberg, Hoyt Sanford General, 1949-1953 (8 folders) Auto, 1950-1951 (2 folders) Bank statements, 1950-1951 (2 folders) Biography, 1947
BOX 73	Birthdays, 1950-1953 (4 folders) Christmas, 1948-1952 (15 folders)
BOX 74	Congratulations, 1945-1948 (5 folders)
BOX 75	Family, 1946-1953 (8 folders) Funeral, 1954 (5 folders)
BOX 76	Get well, 1952 (4 folders) Itineraries, 1953 Memberships, 1945-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 77	Personal letters, 1944-1953 (8 folders)
BOX 78	Receipts, 1946-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 79	Retirement, 1953 Ceremony

Subject File, 1942-1954

Container

Contents

---

	General
	Letters
	Data
	Military
	Retirement miscellany
	Storage household effects and retirement
	Stock records, 1947
	Thank-you, letters, 1950-1953
	(3 folders)
	Photographs, 1946-1947
	Allotments and pay, etc. 1942-1945
BOX 80	201 file
	1942-1952
	(9 folders)
BOX 81	1947-1953
	(3 folders)
BOX 82	Vinson, Carl, correspondence, 1951
	War Council, 1948
	War Department general staff, 1947
	War organization of Japan, 1946
	West Point, United States Military Academy, N.Y., 1948-1953
	(5 folders)
	White House, 1948-1953 <i>See also Classified</i>
	(6 folders)
BOX 83-88	Security File, 1950-1953
	Memoranda, reports, and some correspondence relating principally to the Korean War.
	Original arrangement retained.
BOX 83	Miscellany, 1950-1953 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Memorandum on strategic requirements, 1951
	Memorandum on 138 combat wing, 1951
	Manpower and personnel pool estimate, 1951-1952
	Size and makeup of air force, 1952-1953
	Policy on aces and combat sorties, undated
	Vandenberg memorandum on Korean inspection, 1951
	Far East field information, 1951
	Air operations in Korea (U.S., MIG-15), 1951
	Chief's press conference after Korea, 1951
	Leach, W. Barton, memoranda, 1951-1952 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Memoranda from Ethelred L. Sykes, 1951
	Memoranda from Charles J. V. Murphy, 1952
	Chief of Staff with Frank Pace, Jr., and J. Lawton Collins on Tactical Air Command, 1951
	Army requirements, air support, etc, 1950-1952
	Memoranda of understanding, secretary of the air force and secretary of the army, 1952

Security File, 1950-1953

*Container*

*Contents*

---

- BOX 84                    Carrier papers, 1952-1953  
Selected memoranda, secretary of air force to chief of staff air force,  
1950-1952  
Field trips, 1951-1953  
Cables and memoranda on European bases, 1951 *See also Classified*  
Turkey, 1952  
Aircraft of the U.S. and the USSR, 1952  
Proposed statement , Joseph C. Mahoney Committee, 1952  
Fear of flying  
    General, 1952  
    Staff study by Office of the Surgeon General, 1952  
    (2 folders)  
    Summary of cases, 1952  
World trip  
    General, 1952  
    Memoranda of problems encountered, 1952  
Grussendorf, Richard A., copy of trip book and special notes, 1952 *See*  
*also Classified*  
Press releases, European trip, 1952
- BOX 85                    Memoranda for the record, 1952  
Photograph and Reconnaissance files, 1951-1953 *See also Classified*  
Air corps versus. China mainland, 1951  
Letters on aircraft production, 1952  
Flying pay, 1952  
FY-53 presentation, 1953  
French-Md-452 summary *See Classified*  
Current "Hold Here" for Vandenberg, 1953 *See also Classified*  
Papers used before Armed Services Committee, 1951-1953 *See also*  
*Classified*  
Arnold engineering development, 1953  
Department of Defense program legislation, 1953  
Impact of reduced budget, 1953  
Engineering status of fighter airplanes, 1953  
Vandenberg's views on organization of Department of Defense-Joint Chiefs  
of Staff, 1953
- BOX 86                    Redlines  
    1950-1951  
    (13 folders)
- BOX 87                    1952-1953  
    (3 folders)  
    Impact on the Korean War memorandum, 1952  
    F-51 warnings, 1950
- BOX 88                    Allocation of United States Military Academy graduates, 1952  
Comparative strength, general officers, 1952  
Air defense data, present and programmed, 1951  
Memoranda on military outlook in Korea and Matthew Ridgway policy  
statements on Korea, 1952

	<p>Withdrawal of occupation troops from Korea, 1951          NAM IL (military operation), 1951          Forces committed to combat, 1951          Budget growth, 1951 <i>See also Classified</i>          Fiscal year 1953              Budget              Mutual Defense Assistance Program          Strategic Air Command airmen's dormitories, 1952          Briefs from Laurence S. Kuter, 1952          Buster data, 1951          Message to Dwight D. Eisenhower, draft, undated          Formerly declassified, 1952</p>
BOX 89-91	<p>Speeches and Articles, 1945-1953          Typescript and reading copies of speeches and articles. Six notebooks, one for each year, contain typescript copies of speeches and an index. .          Arranged into unbound and notebook files</p>
BOX 89	<p>Unbound          1945-1951          (2 folders)</p>
BOX 90	<p>1947-1948          (2 folders)          Notebooks          1948-1950          (2 vols.)</p>
BOX 91	<p>1951-1953          (3 vols.)</p>
BOX 92-97	<p>Miscellany, 1943-1953          Printed matter and miscellaneous papers. Arranged by type of material.          Arranged into unbound and notebook files</p>
BOX 92-93	<p>Printed matter          1943-1952</p>
BOX 94	<p>1945-1953 <i>See also Classified</i>          Photographs of aircraft used by CCS, 1953</p>
BOX 95	<p>Tactical air command operations          1944-1945          (2 vols.)</p>
BOX 96	<p>1944-1945          (2 vols.)</p>
BOX 97	<p>Miscellaneous          1945-1953 <i>See also Classified</i>          (7 folders)</p>

Notebook, 1945-1947

BOX CL 1

**Classified, 1948-1953**

Correspondence, memoranda, and reports.

Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

BOX CL 1

General Correspondence

1949

Correspondence

C (Container 12)

1951

Correspondence

C (Container 21)

S (Container 22)

1952

Correspondence

C-F (Container 26)

P-R (Container 27)

V (Container 28)

1953

Correspondence

F (Container 30)

Subject File

Air Force requirements, 1952 (Container 35) *See Top Secret*

Assistant and under secretaries of the air force, 1949 (Container 37)

Assistant secretary of the air force, 1951 (Container 38)

Britain, 1952 (Container 40)

Canada, 1949-1951 (Container 42)

Chief of Staff, army, 1951 (Container 43)

Commands

Air Research, 1952 (Container 43)

Congressional hearings, undated (Container 47) *See Top Secret*

Ford report on morale, 1951 (Container 50)

Joint Chiefs of Staff

General, 1949-1947 (Container 51)

Navy, 1951 (Container 52)

Operation Longhorn, 1952 (Container 54)

Pacific, 1950-1951 (Container 56)

Penetration of Office of Strategic Services in Europe, 1948 (Container 56) *See Top Secret*

Scientific Advisory Board, 1953 (Container 58) *See Restricted Data-Secret*

Secretary of the air force

1949 (Container 60)

1951 (Container 61)

Secretary of defense, 1951 (Container 62)

## Classified, 1948-1953

### Container

### Contents

---

Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, command post exercise two, 1953 (Container 63) *See North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret*

South America, 1948-1951 (Container 63)

Soviet Union, 1951 (Container 63)

Trips, 1952 (Container 70)

White House, 1951 (Container 82)

#### Security File

Miscellany, 1952 (Container 83) *See Top Secret*

Barton Leach memoranda, 1951-1952 (Container 83) *See Top Secret*

Cables and memoranda on European bases, 1951 (Container 84)

General Richard A. Grussendorf's copy of trip book and special notes, 1951-1952 (Container 84) *See Top Secret*

Photograph and reconnaissance files, 1952-1953 (Container 85)

French-Md-452 summary, 1952 (Container 85)

Current "Hold Here" for Vandenberg, 1953 (Container 85) *See North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret*

Papers used before Armed Services Committee, 1953 (Container 85)

Budget growth, 1951 (Container 88) *See North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret*

#### Miscellany

Printed matter, 1951 (Container 94) *See Restricted Data: Secret*

Miscellaneous, 1952 (Container 97)

BOX TS 1

Top Secret, 1948-1953

Correspondence, memoranda, and reports.

Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

BOX TS 1

Subject File

Air Force requirements, 1952

Congressional hearings, undated

Penetration of Office of Strategic Services in Europe, 1948

Security File

Miscellany, 1952

Leach, W. Barton, memoranda, 1951-1952

Grussendorf, Richard A., copy of trip book and special notes, 1951-1952

BOX RD 1

Restricted Data: Secret, 1951-1953

Memorandum and a report.

Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

BOX RD 1

Subject File

Scientific Advisory Board, 1953

Miscellany

*Container*

*Contents*

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Printed matter, 1951

BOX NATO 1 North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret, 1951-1953  
Memorandum.  
Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder  
from which the item was removed.

BOX NATO 1 Subject File  
Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, command post exercise  
two, 1953  
Security File  
Current "Hold Here" for Vandenberg, 1953  
Budget growth, 1951