

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY
ABILENE, KANSAS

SNYDER, MURRAY:
Papers, 1934-1969

Accession: A99-08
Processed by: CJA
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The papers of Murray Snyder were deposited in the Eisenhower Library in 1994 by his wife Mrs. Bette Snyder. In February of 2010, Mrs. Snyder executed an instrument of gift for these papers.

Linear feet: 2
Approximate number of pages: 3200

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers of Murray Snyder (1911-1969) span the years 1934 to 1969 and primarily contain materials documenting Snyder's professional activities as a newspaper reporter, his activities as White House Assistant Press Secretary, and his activities as Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs in the Department of Defense.

Murray Snyder was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 20. Following his graduation from college in San Antonio, Texas, he became a sports reporter for the *San Antonio Light*, a reporter for the *Brooklyn Eagle* (while simultaneously serving as Press Aide to the Borough President for two years) and a reporter for the *New York Post*. Following his service in World War II (progressing from a private to a captain after 27 months spent in Italy and Africa), Snyder served as chief political writer for the *New York Herald Tribune*. From January 20, 1953 until March 21, 1957, Snyder served as White House Assistant Press Secretary. Earlier that same month, Snyder received Congressional approval to begin his new role as Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs in the Department of Defense. In 1969, Snyder was appointed an assistant administrator for the Federal Aviation Administration.

The largest portion of the collection is made up of clippings and ephemera concerning Snyder's personal and professional lives. Some of these materials were arranged into scrapbooks while others appear to have simply been collected and saved. It is fair to characterize the clippings as a

collection of instances where Snyder's name was mentioned in print regardless of the level of connection he had to the accompanying stories. Accordingly, some clippings are wholly related to and specifically concern Snyder while others simply mention him in passing. Topics included among the clippings are Department of Defense matters, the President's 1955 heart attack, and other White House activities. Additionally, articles authored by Snyder while he served as a reporter for various newspapers appear among the other clippings.

Two particularly important portions of the ephemera included in the collection are documents edited by President Eisenhower and other documents that Snyder felt warranted historical preservation. Snyder apparently preserved several of the items he authored and that the President edited. Most of these documents are in the folder entitled "[Drafts of President Eisenhower's Letters and Statements for Editing, 1953-56]." The documents in that folder relate to a wide variety of topics with the edits themselves being their only commonality. However, edited statements concerning the case of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are located in the folder entitled "Rosenberg Case [1953]." Additional documents edited by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles are included in the folder entitled "[Statements and Exchanges by President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, 1954-56]."

Other ephemera included with the clippings includes photographs of Snyder at government events (including the burial of two unknown airmen at Arlington National Cemetery), press releases, statements, Snyder's self-authored humorous songs and poetry concerning government personalities and events, and letters he received upon his departure from government.

The diaries in the collection date from 1954 to 1955 and include documentation concerning Snyder's activities in the White House during those years. In addition to Snyder's personal observations made on the documented days, they also contain related materials such as notes and personal correspondence. Additionally, Snyder's view of what took place during certain cabinet and legislative leaders meetings also appears in the diaries. The handwritten notes he took during these meetings appear elsewhere in the collection.

The cabinet and legislative meeting notes were handwritten by Snyder and document the topics discussed in each meeting. Researchers are advised to examine both the diaries (described above) and the notes in this collection as well as the collections listed below for additional information and further detail regarding cabinet and legislative meetings:

- Eisenhower, Dwight D.: Papers as President (Ann Whitman File)
 - Cabinet Series
 - Legislative Meetings Series

- White House Office, Office of the Staff Secretary: Records of Paul T. Carroll, Andrew J. Goodpaster, L. Arthur Minnich and Christopher H. Russell, 1952-1961

- Cabinet Minutes Series
- Legislative Meetings Series

Many of the folders in this collection contain document reproductions. The Snyder family made the original documents temporarily available to the library in some instances, and then the library created reproductions on archival preservation paper. In other instances the Snyder family provided the library with document reproductions on its own. The folders containing these reproductions have the word “Reproductions” included as part of the folder title. Photocopied reproductions in other folders were created as part of the preservation process, primarily to address deteriorating documents such as newspaper clippings.

Folder titles appearing in brackets indicate that the materials within arrived either in untitled folders or entirely loose. In such cases the processing archivist created a folder title.

The folders in this collection are arranged by format (clippings and ephemera; diaries; meeting notes) and thereunder in reverse chronological order. The individual folders are arranged either chronologically, reverse chronologically or alphabetically depending on Snyder’s filing process.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	<i>Clippings and Ephemera</i>
1	<p>Murray Snyder – May 6, 1969 – Sworn in as Assistant Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration for Public Affairs, Died November 2, 1969 [Reproductions]</p> <p>Miscellaneous FAA Appointment, May 6, 1969 [Reproductions]</p> <p>Copies of Letters from DDE and Other Prominent Persons [1948-69] [Reproductions] [Sherman Adams; Arleigh Burke; Dwight D. Eisenhower; Mamie Eisenhower; Alfred Gruenther; Richard Nixon; Nelson Rockefeller; Robert Schulz; Nathan Farragut Twining; Earl Warren]</p> <p>M. Snyder – <u>Personal Background</u> Young Reporter, <i>Brooklyn Eagle</i>, <i>New York Post</i> and <i>New York Herald Tribune</i>, Professional Organizations [1939-68]</p> <p>Special Clippings – Murray’s Announcement of Appointment, Story About Ike’s White House, James C. Hagerty, Heart Attack & Crisis [1953-64]</p> <p>More Clippings from Early Years, Return From Overseas Duty, Washington, Etc. [1938-64] [Reproductions]</p>

Hon. Murray Snyder, Asst. Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) [1955-61]
[Reproductions] [Bound collection of letters primarily documenting Snyder's
departure from government]

Salt Lake – August, 1960 [Clippings]

1958-60 Clippings – M. Snyder [Scrapbook] (1)-(4)

- 2 Murray's Photos – Pentagon, San Antonio Swearing In, In Uniform at the
Pentagon, Late 1950s [Reproductions]

Pentagon Appointment [1957-60] [Reproductions] (1)-(2) [Fact Sheet:
Department of Defense, November 14, 1960; speeches; press releases;
photographs]

Assistant Secretary of Defense Clippings, Statements, Etc. [1957-60]

[Exchanges between President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert
Brownell, 1954-1956] [Reproductions] [draft statement regarding applications of
Hungarian refugees and Austria to emigrate to the United States; General Collins'
mission to South Vietnam; Cardinal Mindszenty]

Miscellaneous Articles, Speeches, Assignments, Etc. [1953-60]

[Drafts of President Eisenhower's Letters and Statements for Editing, 1953-56]
[Reproductions] [Edited by President Eisenhower, topics include: 1956 post-
election statement; remarks on death of Carl Hinshaw; statement on Big Four
Meeting in Geneva; statement on Safe Driving Day and traffic safety; statement
on American Association of Railroads' agreement to reduce rates for hay
shipments into drought areas; comment on the death of William Hutcheson;
comments on remarks of Charles Wilson about the unemployed; letter to Ancher
Nelson concerning the Administration's position on the Rural Electrification
Administration; comments on the death of Hugh Butler; comments on the
nomination of William Tompkins as Assistant Attorney General heading the
Division of Internal Security; letter to George Craig, Governor of Indiana,
concerning universal military training; letter to Robert Taft concerning Taft's
health]

Clippings for Mr. Snyder (Clips for Filing if Not Repetitious) [1952-58] (1)-(2)

1957 News Clippings [Reproductions]

Clippings – DDE Years [1952-56] [Reproductions]

[President's Heart Attack] Gettysburg Clippings re: end of Eisenhower's
Recuperation [1955]

President's Heart Attack [1955] (1) [Clippings]

3 President's Heart Attack [1955] (2) [Clippings]

[Statements and Exchanges by President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John
Foster Dulles, 1954-56] [Reproductions]

[Presidential Luncheon and Stag Weekend Participant Lists, 1954-55]
[Reproductions]

[Bela Kornitzer, 1953 -1954] [Copy of Kornitzer's *American Fathers and Sons*,
1952, inscribed "To Murray Snyder with kind regards, Bela Kornitzer V.3.1954";
"Interview with the President, December 1, 1953" in which the President
discusses his father (David Eisenhower), brothers Edgar Eisenhower and Earl
Eisenhower, "blood poisoning" leg injury incident in youth, his instinct or
prescience in choosing associates and subordinates, Winston Churchill, reading
habits and related unwillingness to repudiate unfounded stories, and Kornitzer's
interviews with Eisenhower brothers]

[1953-54 Clippings – M. Snyder Scrapbook] (1)-(2)

Rosenberg Case [1953] [Reproductions] [Newspaper clippings; draft statements;
press releases]

[Tornado Outbreak in Massachusetts and Michigan, June, 1953 – Presidential
Letters] [Reproductions] [Handwritten drafts of letters from President Eisenhower
to Christian Herter, Governor of Massachusetts and Donald W. Riegle, Sr., Mayor
of Flint, Michigan]

Eisenhower Appointments – Clippings [1952]

[Photographs and Supporting Documentation – Eisenhower Administration]
[Reproductions]

Old Clippings – Albany Politics, *Brooklyn Eagle*, Many from 1951-52
[Reproductions]

Clippings – Political Notes Column and Other *Herald Tribune* Stories [c. 1945-
52]

Clippings [1937-51] [Reproductions]

Clippings – Several Years [Prior to & Including] – 1949 [Reproductions]

Testimonial Dinner for Murray Snyder – Feb. 27, 1934 [Reproductions]

Diaries

1955 Diary [Reproductions] [February 2, 1955 – President’s remarks made before a press conference concerning differences between MacArthur’s public thoughts on the abolition of war and what remarks were made privately]

[1954-1955 Typewritten Diary Selections] [Reproductions] [**June 25, 1954** visit of Winston Churchill including Churchill’s and Eisenhower’s remarks on the growth of government over time. Eisenhower’s affection for Churchill also discussed; **June 27, 1954** visit of Winston Churchill and Anthony Eden to the White House theater to view film about the Queen’s trip around the world. Joke by the President concerning elephant statues in Colombo, Ceylon and how “there must be a lot of Republicans there”, discussion of difficulties leading government; **January 7, 1955** Bricker Amendment; **January 21, 1955** oil imports, coal and energy policy; **February 16, 1955** Legislative Leaders Meeting discussion of Quemoy, Formosa and Matsu, farewell luncheon for Tom Stephens; **February 18, 1955** cabinet meeting; **March 22, 1955** Legislative Leaders Meeting; **March 24, 1955** cabinet meeting; telephone monitoring]

- 4 1954 Diary [Reproductions] [October 1953 included - “Tom Stephens Week – 1953” humorous proclamation; January – December 1954 daily diary with interspersed personal and professional notes; humorous poetry referencing Robert Cutler and Ann Whitman; song written on departure of C.D. Jackson; poem written about Gabriel Hauge; song about the White House]

Meeting Notes

[Cabinet and Legislative Meetings Handwritten Notes, 1957] [Reproductions]

[Cabinet and Legislative Meetings Handwritten Notes in Notebook, March-July, 1956] [Reproductions]

[Cabinet and Legislative Meetings Handwritten Notes in Notebook, December 1955 - March 1956] [Reproductions]

[Cabinet Meetings Handwritten Notes, March 11, 1955 and November, 1955 “After President’s Heart Attack”] [Reproductions]

[Cabinet and Legislative Meetings Handwritten Notes in Notebook, March-May, 1955] [Reproductions]

[Cabinet Meetings Handwritten Notes, August 18, 1954] [Reproductions]

[Undated Handwritten Notes] [Reproductions]

END OF CONTAINER LIST