

CLEMENCY AND PRESIDENTIAL PARDONS

EISENHOWER, DWIGHT D.: Papers as President (Ann Whitman File)

Administration Series:

Box 8, Brownell, Herbert. Contains correspondence exchanged between Eisenhower and Brownell re idea passed on to Eisenhower re possibility of pardoning citizens associated with organizations now considered subversive or who expressed pro Soviet sentiments prior to Berlin Airlift in 1948.

DDE Diary Series:

Box 49, Staff Notes April 1960. Memo of conversation between Eisenhower and Herbert Feis (prominent diplomatic historian) re Allied strategy in Europe during WWII. Eisenhower commented on execution of German General Alfred Jodl as being a mistake.

EISENHOWER, DWIGHT D.: Papers, Post-Presidential

Secretary's File Series:

Box 18, SN. Letter from Eisenhower to Mr. Marlis Steinert, 2/25/1966, re Nazi war criminals, and Eisenhower letter to Govt. re arrest of Gen. Alfred Jodl.

EISENHOWER, DWIGHT D.: Records as President (White House Central Files)

Confidential File:

Box 100, War Criminals. Consists mainly of memoranda regarding reducing sentences of Japanese soldiers convicted of war crimes against American personnel during WWII. Typically consists of memos giving names of defendants, descriptions of the cases and circumstances and places for President to initial approval. He initialed most, if not all of these but little or nothing of a deliberative nature here.

Official File:

Boxes 346-354, OF 101-R Pardons. Typically consists of letters from the Attorney General transmitting requests for pardons. Some White House correspondence on individual cases which reflects Presidential decisions. Lists of individuals receiving presidential clemency or pardon. Little to reflect Eisenhower's thinking.

Boxes 83-85, OF 3-M Courts Martial. Includes lists of prisoners whose sentences involved action by Eisenhower as either Theater commander in WWII or as Army Chief of Staff. Memoranda re delegation of Authority to Service Chiefs to authorize further clemency in sentences commuted by the President. Memoranda re Uniform Code of Military Justice. Correspondence and documentation re such cases as Issac Hurt, Dennis & Burns and other cases. Some Eisenhower commuted death sentences; in others he let death sentence stand.

Materials re the Rosenberg Case: Perhaps the most famous case of Eisenhower denying clemency during his Presidency. Eisenhower describes his decision-making process in this case in his memoirs, White House Years: Mandate for Change, pp. 223-225. Here he cites letters which can be located in our holdings.

Materials re the Eddie Slovik Case: Execution of U.S. soldier for desertion during WWII. We have materials on this in various places. In his post-presidential papers, Eisenhower commented on the case in letters written in March 1963 and December 1966 so we have his retrospective perspective on this case.