JOHN FOSTER DULLES PAPERS SPECIAL ASSISTANTS CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES

The Special Assistants' Chronological Series contains approximately 13,500 pages of correspondence, memoranda, and memoranda of conversations spanning the period from December 30, 1952 to June 19, 1959. This series consists largely of copies of outgoing correspondence and memoranda prepared by Secretary Dulles' special assistants, Phyllis Bernau, D.E. Boster, Richard Drain, Joseph Greene, John W. Hanes Jr., William Macomber, Roderic O'Connor, and David W. Peacock. Much of this material is comprised of routine acknowledgements of the receipt of letters, books and other materials mailed to Secretary Dulles, denials of requests for appointments or other services, and correspondence pertaining to a variety of miscellaneous non-official matters. Sprinkled throughout this series, however, are memoranda and letters reflecting Secretary Dulles' views on official policy issues, memoranda of conversations with officials including occasional foreign officials, and correspondence and memoranda on personnel, political and patronage matters. This correspondence often includes form letters sent by Secretary Dulles' special assistants to members of the public on foreign relations or State Department actions or personnel of a controversial or public interest nature, such as, for example, the Bricker Amendment, arms control, the nomination of Charles Bohlen as U.S. Ambassador to the USSR, and loyalty-security issues. Copies of some of these "flimsies" may be found elsewhere in the Dulles Papers. Little incoming correspondence can be found in this series.

As of May 2001 54 documents totalling 64 pages in this series remained security-classified following a staff systematic declassification review of all series within the Dulles Papers. A small quantity of material remains closed for reasons of personal privacy in accordance with Secretary Dulles' letter of gift.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Content

1 Chronological O'Connor & Hanes January 1953 - December 1952 (1)-(6) [appointment matters; routine correspondence]

Chronological – O'Connor & Hanes February 1953 (Through Feb. 5th) (1)-(5) [Republican National Committee and ambassadorial appointments; Marshal Tito]

Chronological – O'Connor & Hanes February 6-19, 1953 (1)-(5) [arms for Egypt; Senator Taft re Ryukyus]

Chronological O'Connor & Hanes February 20-27, 1953 (1)-(4) [ambassador to Dominican Republic; Arthur Burns as an Economist; Charles Bohlen as Ambassador to Russia; General Bradley's speech on Korea]

2 Chronological O'Connor & Hanes March 2-18, 1953 (1)-(7) [Belgian loan; Security clearances for appointive positions; Egypt; Anglo-American Caribbean Commission; Korea and Japan; economic adviser to Syngman Rhee; Charles Kersten and asylum for communist diplomatic personnel; ambassadors to Haiti and Liberia; industrial diamonds; foreign service officers and Hatch Act]

Chronological O'Connor & Hanes March 19-31, 1953 (1)-(5) [Korea; American Legion and U.S. psychological warfare program; statement re role of American Negro in international relations; UNESCO; appointments to UN and other international conferences]

Chronological – O'Connor & Hanes April 1-31, 1953 (1)-(8) [Korean prisoners of war; leaks of information; Edward Bermingham and Mexico; Charles Bohlen; Pakistan; Bricker Amendment; Bernard Baruch re Saar; Senator Joseph McCarthy; Greek shipping; Hungarian assets; anti-communist motion pictures and radio programs; Radio Free Europe; Chief Joseph Dam]

Chronological – O'Connor and Hanes May 1-31, 1953 (1)-(5) [Bolivian tin; Egypt; Mildred Horton case; McCarran Act; New York Republican dinner]

Chronological – O'Connor & Hanes June 1 - [30] 1953 (1)-(5) [Mutual Security Agency; International Information Agency; overseas libraries; Korea; transmission of State Department policy to new agencies; UNICEF; Danish claims; Rosenberg case; European Coal and Steel Community; Bermuda Conference; Taft-Hartley Act; Chief Joseph Dam; Mildred McAfee Horton; Red China and UN]

Chronological – O'Connor & Hanes July - 1953 (1)-(4) [Henry Luce article on State

Department; appointment of James Byrnes to U.S. delegation to UN; article on Iran; Yugoslavia; Winston Churchill and four power meeting; recess appointments; Buy American Act; Israeli loan; Egypt and Suez base; bookburning; U.S. communist and Berlin]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological August 1953 (1)-(5) [Europe and Middle East gas pipe; rumors of taping of senatorial calls; National Committee For a Free Europe, Inc. and forced labor in USSR; Japan and China; diplomatic appointments for Latin America]

4 O'Connor - Hanes Chronological September 1953 (1)-(4) [Hatch Act; government reduction in forces; USSR and oceanography exploration; UN; NATO Status of Forces treaty; Iranian oil cartel; Trygve Lie]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological October 1953 (1)-(4) [agreements with countries re Negro personnel; Norman Thomas and Scott McLeod; visa eligibility of delegates to World Council Assembly; speech clearance procedures; Korea and repatriation of prisoners; Senator Owen Brewster and International Joint Commission; Haitian President Magloire; Daniel Mayer; selection of foreign service personnel; Zionists; Walter Reuther and German socialists; Dulles talk before Randall Commission on Foreign Economic Policy; personnel changes in Department of state; prisoners of war; Thomas Dewey's trip to Central America]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological November 1953 (1)-(5) [Senator Jenner and communism; Yugoslavia and Trieste; USSR and International Labor Organization; James Byrnes and Alger Hiss; protocol and luncheons; St. Lawrence Seaway]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological December 1953 (1)-(4) [Dulles and Alger Hiss; administrative tribunal of UN; foreign trade; US-USSR contracts; State Department congressional liaison; trade with USSR; costs of foreign visits to US]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological January 1954 (1)-(5) [Indochina; Schedule C positions; Arthur Dean; Polish consulate in Detroit; Soviet gold shipments; John Paton Davies; international exchanges; Caracas Conference; trade with Communist China; India; Scott McLeod and USIA displays]

O'Connor - Hanes Chron - February 1954 (1)-(3) [Communist China; EDC; Milton Eisenhower and Caracas Conference; atomic testing]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological March 1954 (1)-(5) [Bricker Amendment;

Puerto Rican nationalists and security for Secretary Dulles; loyalty-security matters; passport appeal; EDC; German property in US; refugee program; Brazil; American observers in Kashmir; visas for communist personnel; Harold Stassen and East-West trade; foreign service; US information and propaganda programs]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological April 1954 (1)-(5) [China; Mrs. Heffelfinger and UN association; personnel security case; USSR and atomic energy; Dien Bien Phu; Iraq arms sale; Coal and Steel Community; Pakistan; Panamanian annuity; Israel-Arab relations]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological May 1954 (1)-(4) [US-Iceland defense agreement; Rio Treaty; Pescadore Islands; five power military staff talks; Czechoslovakia and International Monetary Fund; Panama Canal Zone and aliens; Wriston Report; Indochina; Winston Churchill; Guatemala]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological June 1954 (1)-(5) [Justice Douglas trip to Iran; Israel-Jordon border fighting; Argentina and Guatemala; Congress and Guatemala; publication of World War II documents; refugee relief in U.K.; Middle East; Philippines; Geneva Conference; Khokhlov Soviet defector case; Five Power military talks; trade relations with Latin America; Clare Boothe Luce and Italy; Polish soldiers and Refugee Relief Act; Korea]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological July 1954 (1)-(5) [Indochina White Paper; French President Coty's visit to US; Chinese airplane incident; Adenauer; President of Ninth General Assembly; Nicaragua and Costa Rica; Syngman Rhee and President Truman; personnel security; Middle East; Congressman Alvin Bentley and Iron Curtain delegates to World Council of Churches conference; Mary Lord and UN delegation; Clare Boothe Luce and Italy; Winston Churchill and Red China; USSR; Geneva; Soviet Escapees; Korea; Foreign Service Academy; Burma and Communist China; Walter Judd and China; refugee relief program]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological August 1954 (1)-(5) [Ambassador William Donovan and SEATO; Ambassador Jesse Locker and President Tubman; Herbert Hoover Jr.; Churchill re Mendes-France and EDC; Azores; Pete Carroll re C.D. Jackson's economic plan; Lyndon Johnson and Wright Morrow; Japanese trade negotiations; appointment of socialist to policy position within State Department; Israel; France; Southeast Asia; Free Europe Committee; World Council of Churches]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological September 1954 (1)-(4) [France; ambassador

possibilities for India; Manila Conference]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological October 1954 (1)-(4) [visits by heads of state; Senate and China; Bernie Katzen re Israel and domestic politics; Jacob Javits and Jewish organizations]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological November 1954 (1)-(5) [U.S. prisoners in China; publication of historical documentation; John Paton Davies case; State of Union message and foreign policy; Julius Holmes; peaceful use of atomic energy resolution; visit of Shah of Iran; Jacob Javits and Israel; Liberia; foreign dignitaries visits with President; Japan; economic aid for France; Kermit Roosevelt and arms for Egypt]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological December 1954 (1)-(5) [Wolf Ladejinsky case; visit by Liberian President Tubman; Swiss watches; Danish ship; commercial attaches to US overseas posts; Krishna Menon re Communist China and Prisoners of war]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological January 1955 (1)-(4) [Atlantic Union resolution; Americans imprisoned in Red China; Winston Churchill re

France, USSR, EDC, and Four Power Conference; sub-Cabinet group; Malta-Yalta papers]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological February 1955 (1)-(3) [Malta-Yalta Papers; Harry Cain and internal security; Tanganyika; International Recreation Congress; AEC and nuclear fallout]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological March 1955 (1)-(3) [Senator George and trade agreements; Western European Union; Labor advisors to FOA; China; Edward Corsi and refugee relief program; replacement of General O'Daniel in Saigon; Nasser and Afro-Asian conference]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological April 1955 (1)-(3) [Edward Corsi and Refugee Relief Act; civil defense; George Marshall Research Foundation; Formosa and Offshore Islands; Yalta-Malta papers; Chinese communists; surplus government real property; foreign trade; Thailand; visits by chiefs of state]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological May 1955 (1)-(3) [Geneva Conference; refugee relief program; Rabbi Silver; Dr. Frederick Nolde and moral principles in international affairs; Germany; travel in USSR; Charles Malik and Chou En-lai; Dulles' "Alpha" project re Middle East; Phi Delta Phi and racial exclusion; Indonesia]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological June 1955 (1)-(4) [Operation Alert; Chinese students; Krishna Menon; Harold Stassen and disarmament; East-West trade]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological July 1955 (1)-(4) [visit to US by Irish president; Geneva Conference; Israel; Bricker Amendment; Soviet East European satellites]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological August 1955 (1)-(4) [Philippines; American Legion re Status of Forces Agreement and re UNESCO; Korea; Bernard Katzen re Dulles speech on Middle East; Buy American Act; Vice President Nixon, Lyndon Johnson and Middle East; Hoover Commission report on intelligence; Yugoslavia; Volunteer Freedom Corps]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological September 1955 (1)-(4) [Closure of consulate at Hanoi; anti-Greek riots in Turkey; Harold Macmillan; Korea; US-UK trade relations; Thomas Dewey; Vice President's Near Eastern trip; Defense budget cuts; Liberian inaugural; World Federation Trade Unions and communism; Lewis Douglas re Prime Ministers Nehru and Mike Pearson]

O'Connor - Hanes Chronological October 1955 (1)-(4) [Garst Corn Company and USSR; Princeton Dulles Papers Project; Karl Harr and Institute on Political Warfare; Japan; textile manufacturers; Crusade For Freedom and US policy re USSR]

Hanes - Macomber Chronological November 1955 (1)-(4) [parole of German General Sepp Dietrich; budgetary matters; Pierre Mendes-France and Wiseman Institute of Jerusalem; Brazilian inauguration; East-West contacts; UN and ILO conventions; Cambodian coronation]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological December 1955 (1)-(3) [ambassadorial matters; State of Union message; Cambodian coronation; Advisory Committee for Foreign Service Institute; colonialism; Harold Stassen message]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological January 1956 (1)-(4) [mutual security; Poland; Italy]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological February 1956 (1)-(4) [George Meany, AF of L and Italian labor; Radio Free Europe; Princeton and Dulles Papers; China; UK and Defense matters]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological March 1956 (1)-(4) [travel by Soviet nationals in US; Byelorussia; personnel security; Operation Alert]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological April 1956 (1)-(4) [COCOM and CHINCOM trade controls; committee on mutual security; John McCloy and Chase Bank lending to communist bank; gift for Franco; Bricker Amendment; appointments and personnel matters]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological May 1956 (1)-(4) [Senator George and mutual security; Soviet paper TASS and Secretary Dulles' press conference; visit by Nehru; speech in Iowa; Mrs. Oswald Lord Re Ceylon and re India]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological June 1956 (1)-(4) [Vatican chapel; Peopleto-People program; Israel; personnel matters; Roswell Garst re trade with Soviet Bloc; Marshal Zhukov; Historical Division of Department of State; Eisenhower-Eden correspondence; Vice President's trip to Manila; Nehru; Mrs. Archibald Roosevelt re Yemen; Congressman Rooney re meeting on Israel]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological July 1956 (1)-(4) [Senator Bush re Middle East; Max Rabb and trip to Israel; John Foster Dulles' comments on campaign paper re foreign policy--Suez, Guatemala, SEATO, and Formosa; Titoism and national communism; recognition of employees; mutual security; State Department officials testimony before Congress; Japanese imports; Clare Boothe Luce and Rome]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological August 1956 (1)-(4) [Yugoslav aid; Chairman for citizens' committee to study mutual security program; Robert Anderson's trip to Saudi Arabia; Japanese textile imports; Nicaraguan canal; Senator Bush and foreign policy plank]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological September 1956 (1)-(4) [Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship; Nelson Rockefeller; Cong. Javits and Exim-Bank loan for Israel; personnel and appointments; Edward Birmingham and Pemex; Clare Boothe Luce's resignation; Panama Canal]

Hanes - Macomber Chronological October 1956 (1)-(4) [Hungary; 1956 Campaign; Middle East; passports for travel to Communist China; Ukrainian-American group; kidnapping of native born child by USSR]

Hanes - Macomber Chronological November 1956

Hanes - Macomber Chronological December 1956 (1)(2) [diplomatic post for Douglas McKay; appointments; Middle East; Lord Astor re NATO; Baghdad Pact]

Macomber - Hanes Jr., Chronological January 1957 (1)-(3) [immigration and refugee legislation; Germany]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological February 1957 (1)(2) [appointments; Senator Javits re Maxwell Gluck; John Sherman Cooper; Krishna Menon re Kashmir and re Middle East; Howard Cullman and Brussels Fair; Arthur Dean re Israel; Charles Percy; ICA and SEATO]

Macomber - Hanes Chronological March 1957 (1)-(3) [budget; Ambassador Willauer; US, Canada & UK; protocol and state visits; Korea; appointments; Buy American Act]

Macomber - Drain Chronological April 1957 (1)-(3) [Jordan; news reporters travel to Communist China; National Symphony Orchestra and sponsored international tours; Sen. Dirksen and Vatican's emissary to Israel; International Labor Organization and forced labor]

Macomber - Drain Chronological May 1957 (1)-(3) [Maxwell Gluck; Girard Case; intelligence matters; Tito; lead and zinc tariffs; International University of Social Studies ("Pro Deo") in Rome; mutual security; Stinnes corporation; alleged intelligence failure; Yugoslavia; TEDUL & DULTE communications; Henry Luce; Trotsky case; Vice President and possible invitation to Russia]

Macomber - Drain Chronological June 1957 (1)(2) [balloon testing; Korea; miscellaneous]

Macomber - Drain Chronological July 1957 (1)(2) [Secretary Weeks' trip to Europe; possible article for LIFE; Hamilton Fish Armstrong and Secretary's remarks at Quantico; communications between President and British Prime Minister]

Macomber - Peacock Chronological August 1957 (1)(2) [orientation of new personnel; VFW speaking invitation]

Macomber - Peacock Chronological September 1957 (1)(2) [USSR and nuclear testing; Girard case]

Macomber - Peacock Chronological October 1957 (1)-(4) [Sudan; exchange of nuclear information with British; Philip Crowe and press criticism of Dulles; Middle East; Lyndon Johnson re exchanges of information with UK and re East-West exchanges; Tito and Germany; Syria; Council on Foreign Relations; emergency planning; Eleanor Roosevelt's conversation with Khrushchev; Federation of Americans of German Descent]

Greene - Peacock Chronological November 1957 (1)-(3) [budget and national security matters; Cyprus and NATO; Secretary Benson and agricultural trade development; loan to Israel; arms for Tunisia; disarmament; George Meany and invitation to state dinner; employment of forced labor]

Greene - Peacock Chronological December 1957 (1)(2) [Dag Hammarskjold and Middle East; disarmament]

Greene - Peacock Chronological January 1958 (1)-(3) [official visits; Communist China and American prisoners; Ireland; Exim-Bank loan to Israel; Norway and USSR; Denmark]

Greene - Peacock Chronological February 1958 (1)-(4) [James Wadsworth and disarmament; UK and defense matters; official visits; Law of Sea Conference; radio and TV exchanges with USSR; disarmament; Vice

President re Soviet economic warfare and re foreign aid; France and Tunisia; Vice President's trips abroad; Deputy Prime Minister of Burma; loan to Israel]

Greene - Boster Chronological March 1958 (1)-(4) [statements to Soviets; US forces in Iceland; USSR & nuclear testing; arms sales to Cuba; Germany and economic matters; mutual security; disarmament; summit; US overseas image; SEATO and Indonesia; Soviet leaders' visit to US; Brussels Fair; Vice President's trip to Europe]

Greene - Boster Chronological April 1958 (1)-(4) [Mexico; UN and international inspection of Arctic; Antarctica; Polish leaders' visit to US; Okinawa; Soviet economic warfare; mutual security; French and Africa; General Van Fleet as possible ambassador to Iran; troop levels negotiations with USSR; JCS planning and nuclear matters; lead and zinc]

Greene - Boster Chronological May 1958 (1)-(4) [Dulles possible trip to Brazil; intelligence; France; Okinawa; Indonesia; UN and Lebanon; International Labor Organization; study group on nuclear testing; General Marshall's trip to Bogota in 1948; Lewis Strauss' service in government; nuclear testing; Vice President's safety; Lebanon; President's visit to Canada; communications between Acting Secretary and Vice President]

Greene - Boster Chronological June 1958 (1)-(4) [nuclear matters; president's visit to Canada; Europe and disarmament; visit by Shah of Iran; Panamanian treaty legislation; Mexico and tariff matter; Okinawa; East Germany and American

Helicopter crew; Latin America; US investment in Canada; Nagy case; Soviet economic offensive; summit; DeGaulle and France; Lebanon; correspondence with Khrushchev; indictment against oil companies]

Greene - Boster Chronological July 1958 (1)-(4) [Khrushchev and Middle East; French and summit; Soviet armed forces in various countries; Harold Macmillan re summit; Israel; Iraq; Baghdad Pact; Lebanon; basic national security policy; Shah of Iran; UN matters; Tito and Lebanon; Nkrumah's visit; Mexico; Canada]

Greene - Boster Chronological August 1958 (1)(2) [Adlai Stevenson and nuclear testing; summit conference; international cooperation in health; radio and Middle East; Nuclear test suspension; Iran; USSR and aircraft incident; Soviet threats; Japan; Bulgaria; Ethiopia; saline water conversion; Germany and Middle East; Venezuela; British and Middle East]

Greene - Boster Chronological September 1958 (1)-(3) [USSR and nuclear testing; Cyprus; China; lead and zinc; Far East Asia American Council; US-USSR and outer space; US and allies; talks with Chinese communists;

Formosa Straits; Iceland]

Greene - Boster Chronological October 1958 (1)-(3) [Formosa Straits; Mexican inauguration; Secretary Dulles' backgrounders; Free World Spiritual values and Communist World; Nationalist China; P.L. 480; visas for Algerian nationalists; American Council on NATO; Indonesia; talks with Chinese communists]

Greene - Boster Chronological November 1958 (1)-(3) [defense budget; Hungarian UN credentials; nuclear test negotiations; NATO anniversary; talks with Chinese; Berlin; Mexican delegation; Lyndon Johnson and outer space; arms to Indonesia; disarmament]

Greene - Boster Chronological December 1958 (1)(2) [passports to Communist China; Dulles' health; Cyprus; Senator Hubert Humphrey's talk with Khrushchev; Afghanistan; Quemoy; Hungarian UN delegation; Bulgaria; Soviet charges re Berlin]

Greene - Boster Chronological January 1959 (1)-(3) [DeGaulle and French fleet; Berlin; appropriations for World Bank and International Monetary Fund; Canada-US Interparliamentary group; Cuba; Iceland; visit with Lopez Mateos; communist economic offensive and Asia; foreign gifts; Iran; French denial of American missionaries' clearances; State of Union message]

Greene - Boster Chronological February 1959 (1)-(4) [Germany; Berlin; Dulles' health; Cyprus; UK & USSR; nuclear test negotiations; Clare Boothe Luce as ambassador to Brazil; Western Europe and Berlin; Sherman Adams' memoirs; Herter as successor to Dulles; Pedro Estrada and Venezuela; C-130 case; Iran]

Greene - Boster Chronological March 1959 (1)-(3) [USSR and summit; Walter Robertson's resignation; Four Powers and Germany; evolution of Soviet system; possible Khrushchev visit to US; Harold Macmillan; US position re summit; Dulles Princeton Project; DeGaulle and French fleet; Berlin]

Greene - Boster Chronological April 1959 (1)(2) [Berlin; US-UK relations; Dulles as Special Consultant to President; Dulles' health; Julius Holmes as ambassador to Egypt; John Foster Dulles' communications with Allen Dulles; Vice President's visit to Moscow; Tibet; Khrushchev re Dulles]

Greene - Boster-Bernau Chronological May 1959 (1)(2) [Dulles' funeral; establishment of John Foster Dulles Library of Diplomatic History; Khrushchev's views of Dulles and Eisenhower; Vice President]

Greene - Bernau - Chronological June 1959

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