The papers of Edward K. Moss, Director of Public Information for the National Production Authority and the Defense Production Administration, were deposited in the Eisenhower Library in January 1991 by Mr. Moss.

- Linear feet shelf space occupied: 5.2
- Approximate number of pages: 9,700
- Approximate number of items: 1,500

In March 1990 Mr. Moss executed an instrument of gift for these papers. Copyright in the unpublished writings of Edward Moss in these papers and in other collections of papers in any U.S. Government agency are given and assigned to the United States of America.

By agreement with the donor the following classes of documents will be withheld from research use:

1. Papers and other historical materials the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or a libel of a living person.

2. Papers and other historical materials that are specifically authorized under criteria established by statute or executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy, and are in fact properly classified pursuant to such statute or executive order.
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of Edward K. Moss’ Papers covers his activities from 1938 to 1953. These materials have been divided chronologically into three series. From 1939 to 1942 Moss worked for the Office of Government Reports. This was followed with a stint in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He served with the Third Fleet as the Officer in Charge of the Combat Information Central School in New Caledonia and later as the Air Defense and Combat Information Center Officer for the fleet. His papers do not document his immediate post-war position as director of public relations for the American Management Association from 1946 to 1950. Over half of this collection relates to his position from 1950 to 1953 as Public Information Officer for the National Production Authority and the Defense Production Administration. Except for his participation in two commissions in 1955 and 1956 and a White House Task Group in 1970, we have no information on his career after he left the NPA/DPA position.

The first series documents his service with the Office of Government Reports, 1939-1942. It includes two folders of memoranda dealing with such varied subjects as freedom of speech and press, propaganda, public opinion and war, and war information officers. Summaries of published articles and a listing of articles and statements on topics relating to the Government in 1940 are also part of this series. Included are a number of reports published by the Office of Government Reports on such topics as the operations of the OGR, activities of various federal agencies, and the economic situation in Tennessee.

With the entry of the U.S. in World War II in December 1941 the Office of Government Reports began publishing a daily and weekly summary of war news, economic information, and government agency activity. Samples of these newsletters are in the files for December 1941 to February 1942.

Another part of the first series is an unpublished manuscript for a book which consisted of public statements by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on the subject of U.S. foreign policy and U.S. involvement in the war. Correspondence with potential publishers and background materials for the book round out the rest of the series.

The second series contains one box of material relating to Moss’ World War II service in the U.S. Navy. There are several folders of training course materials for Fighter Direction Officers with information on radio procedures, principles of interception, radar control, air warning, and communication and air operations. Additional documentation in this series includes correspondence, messages, operating instructions, memoranda, organizational charts and diagrams, an air defense operation plan, and code word lists.

Series three begins with a single box of varied materials relating to the Defense Production Administration and the National Production Authority. Memoranda, orders, charts, agency policies, scrapbook of newspaper clippings, ads, and posters, personnel information, and speeches make up this material. The remaining 6 boxes of this series consist of published bulletins and reports. There are two large bound volumes of DPA bulletins for 1951 and 1952. The pages in these volumes are extremely brittle and fragile and must be handled very carefully.
There should be no copying from these volumes. The remainder of the series includes about sixty reports on defense production by the NPA in 1953. The reports are on such topics as production and distribution controls, labor, conservation, mobilization, the civilian economy, construction, aluminum, copper, iron and steel, chemicals, agricultural machinery, mining machinery, railroad equipment, aircraft, and water resources. This series reflects the domestic buildup and economic changes and controls made necessary by U.S. involvement in the Korean War.

The fourth and final series contains a variety of publications and reports which Moss had acquired. Combat Information Center Magazines were published by the Chief of Naval Operations in 1945 and 1946, and they have articles on the air war with Japan, carrier air operations, and the atomic bomb tests at Bikini. There are reports by a White House Conference on “rights” in 1966, a Joint Committee on Defense Production in 1967, hearings on Mexican-American Affairs in 1967, and a Policy Development Information Project in 1970.

The Edward Moss Papers provide additional materials on government agency activity during the Depression, the Home Front, domestic buildup prior to and at the beginning of World War II and during the Korean War, as well as some unique documentation on Fighter Direction in the Pacific Theater. The entire collection is open and available to researchers with the exception of seven pages of personnel forms, which are closed under the donor’s deed of gift.
June 23, 1916   Born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania

1930-1934   Attended Culver Military Academy, Culver, Indiana

1934-1935   Attended Yale University

Oct. 1935-Feb. 1936   Publicity writer for theater with Theron Bamberger, New York, NY

Feb. 1936-Feb. 1938   Reporter, editor, and staff writer for Press Union Publishing Company, publisher of Atlantic City Press and the Atlantic City Evening Union papers. He also served as a correspondent for Associated Press during this period


Oct. 1938-Feb. 1939   Publicity writer for Carl Byoir and Associate, New York

1939   Assistant Chief, Analysis and Reports Division, National Emergency Council

1939-1942   Research Assistant, Information Specialist, and eventually Chief of Information Section, Office of Government Reports (OGR)

May 1942-Feb. 1946   Served in U.S. Navy on carriers in the Pacific Theater and on the staff of Admiral Halsey, commander of 3rd Fleet. He was the Officer in Charge of the Combat Information Central School in New Caledonia, 1943-1944, and he was the Air Defense and Combat Information Center Officer for 3rd Fleet, 1944-1945. He achieved the rank of Lt. Commander

Feb. 1946-Oct. 1950   Public Relations Director, American Management Assoc., New York, NY

1950-1953   Director of Public Information for the National Production Authority and Information Officer of the Defense Production Administration

1955   Served on the John Marshall Bicentennial Commission

1956   Served on the Woodrow Wilson Centennial Celebration Commission

1970   Coordinator of the White House Policy Development Information Project Task Group on Hunger and Poverty
CONTAINER LIST

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<td>National Emergency Council, Economic Conditions of the South, 1938 [report to the President; press comments]</td>
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<td>Office of Gov’t. Reports, Memoranda, 1939-1942 (1)(2) [freedom of speech and press; bill re foreign propaganda; summaries of court cases; list of information offices of U.S. Govt.; federal periodicals; state report of federal expenditures; printing by executive agencies; information bulletins; publications of the OGR; public opinion and war; report on effects of war on citizens by states; material for weekly press; war information officers meeting re peace offensive, paper shortage, and the Negro press]</td>
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<td>Office of Gov’t. Reports, Sample Writings/Reports of Operations, 1939-1941 (1)-(3) [activities of States Reports Section; U.S. Govt. Manual Sales Promotion; reports of operations for Office of Gov’t. Reports for 1939 and 1940; description of publications Moss has written or edited; report on economic conditions in Tennessee, 1939; report on activities of selected federal agencies, 1933-39]</td>
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<td>Office of Gov’t. Reports, Background Materials, 1940-1941 [article on federal publicity; concentration of economic power; speech re accomplishments of FDR Adm., 1933-41; booklet on Georgetown taverns]</td>
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<td>Office of Gov’t. Reports, “Information Handbook,” 1940 [information, esp. statistics, re to national economy, incl. interest rates, federal debt, national income, numbers of radios and cars, cost of living index, imports and exports, etc. 2 copies]</td>
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<td>Office of Gov’t. Reports, Magazine Abstracts, 1940 [summaries of articles from 16 magazines regarding governmental, economic, and related matters; topics in alpha order from “Agriculture” to “World Trade.”]</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Office of Gov’t. Reports, Press Intelligence Bulletin, 1940 (1)(2) [listing of articles, editorials, speeches, and statements on topics relating to Gov’t., including agriculture, defense, labor, housing, civil liberties, electric power, public works, and trade, with notes and summaries]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Office of Gov’t. Reports, Report of Operations, 1940 [report on activities of Office of Gov’t. Reports for 1939; summary of operations for July 1, 1939 to May 1, 1940]

Office of Gov’t. Reports, Tennessee Reports, 1940 [Tennessee relief problems; Tennessee economic information]

Office of Gov’t. Reports, Defense Employment, 1941 [booklet on defense employment and training for employment, 2 copies]

Office of Gov’t. Reports, National Defense Publications, 1941 [lists of bulletins and articles by Federal agencies engaged in national defense program, prepared by USIS]

Office of Gov’t. Reports, “Information Digest” and “A Week of the War,” Dec. 1941-Feb. 1942 (1)(2) (“Information Digest” is a daily summary of war news and economic information and Gov’t. agency activity; “This Week in Defense” and “A Week of the War” give weekly summaries of military activities of the Army and Navy and on the Home Front]

Unpublished Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...” (1)-(4) [book draft by Moss who compiled and edited public statements by the President which outlined and explained U.S. foreign policy, the background for U.S. involvement in the war, and the reasons our Gov’t. took the action it did; includes speeches, statements, messages, and letters from 1936 to 1941; book is divided into “Past,” “Present,” and “Future” parts]

Correspondence re Manuscript, “The Way is Plain...” [correspondence with book agent and publishers, 1941-42, 1946]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Democracy [statements by FDR on this topic, 1933, 1938-41]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Domestic Policy [FDR’s statements on domestic policy, 1933, 1939-41]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Economic Policy [statements by FDR on economic policy, 1936-41]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Foreign Policy [statements by FDR on foreign policy, 1936-41]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--General Statements [statements by FDR on a variety of topics, including war, democracy, and national unity, 1933-41]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Isolation [statements
Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Messages to Hitler and Mussolini [two letters or messages to Mussolini, one to Hitler, 1939]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Neutrality [FDR statements re to neutrality, 1936]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Pan American Relations [FDR’s statements re Pan American Relations, incl. security, Good Neighbor Policy, Pan American Union, peace, defense, renunciation of war, and non-intervention, 1936-41]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Peace Definitions and Aims [FDR’s statements re peace definitions, incl. comments on interference in other countries, attacks on civilians, ship sinkings, penetration, propaganda, international lawlessness, human rights and freedoms, self-restraint, negotiations, and reign of law, 1936-41]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Speeches [speeches by FDR, re attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 8, 1941, speech from White House, Dec. 9, 1941, address of July 4, 1941, message to Congress, June 20, 1941, address of May 27, 1941, two messages to Mussolini and Hitler, 1939]


Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Misc. Statements, 1936 [peace, neutrality, American foreign policy]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Misc. Statements, 1937 [trade, war, national and international morality, sanctity of treaties, Poland, world civilization]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Misc. Statements, 1938 [peace, defense, democracy, U.S. foreign policy, international law and order, Good Neighbor Policy , two World’s Fairs in 1939, U.S.-Canada relations, armaments]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Misc. Statements, 1939 [need for defense, rights and freedoms, dictatorships vs. democracies, foreign policy, neutrality and peace, American interest, new order]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Misc. Statements, 1940 (1)-(3) [world civilization, national unity, Good Neighbor Policy, seeking
peace, unlawful aggression, cooperative peace in Western Hemisphere, “I am a pacifist,” truth, flying times from various locations to the U.S., need for military equipment, “I hate war”]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Misc. Statements, 1941 (1)-(7) [democracy, “new order,” defense program, threat of invasion, “ slackers,” freedoms, human rights, inter-American solidarity, farm programs, sacrifice, taxes, dictators, propaganda, spiritual values or force, foreign trade, production, labor, merchant ships, aid to Britain, Russia, and China, Nazis vs. religion, Hitler, Japanese attack on Hawaii, war, strategy of Germany and Japan, shortages, “gangsters,” “bandits,” “criminal attacks”]

Background Materials for Manuscript, “The Way is Plain,...”--Misc. Statements, No Date [spiritual values, slavery vs. freedom, defense, “world war”]

SERIES II. FIGHTER DIRECTION CENTER, 1942-1944

4 Fighter Direction Officer, Training Course Materials, 1942-1944 (1)-(2) [course schedule; qualifications of fighter director; notes for test; instruction outline; fighter direction for pilots; radar; tactics; reading list; principles of interception; radio terms and phrases; fighter direction notes for pilots; curriculum; fighter direction for destroyers and cruisers; diagram for radar channels]

Fighter Direction Officer, Training Course Materials, 1942-1944 (3)-(6) [types of attack; principles of interception; fighter direction notes for pilots; orbits and vectors; radio procedure and phraseology; radarmen; reading list; org. of fleet training; radar operators handbook; earth curvature chart; fighter direction calls and frequencies; fighter direction and radar control doctrine, Solomon Island area; fighter direction and air warning in joint operations; U.S. Fleet, Fighter Direction Doctrine; communications and air operations in a carrier task force; support aircraft in amphibious operations]

Fighter Direction Center, South Pacific, Corres., Messages, Operating Instructions, and Memoranda, 1943-1944 (1)(2) [correspondence re various ships and their fighter director officers and fighter and radar control doctrine; advanced base combined communication units; Argus Units; inspection report on fighter direction facilities in South Pacific area; proposal for ship-borne fighter direction instruction units; SC-2 radar; equipment and gear for Argus unit; ships and personnel; problems and differences with various ships and commanders; dusk patrols; underutilized radar units; revised operating instructions for Task Force 38 re strikes, patrols, defense, sweeps, and pickets]

Fighter Direction Center, South Pacific, Roster and Organization, 1944 (1)(2) [org. chart; functions of Center; diagram of Center facilities; Combat Information Center; communication diagrams; chart of C.I.C. equipment and personnel; fighter direction
and air warning--areas of responsibility; chart-air-ground radio channels]

Fighter Direction Center, Air Defense OPPLAN, 1944 (1)(2) [call names for various bases, air defense centers, stations, and radar sets; air plan for Commander Western Pacific Task Forces, OP-Plan 14-44; schedule of operations for fast carriers, Task Force 38; maps and charts relating to OP-Plan 14-44; air sea rescue and lifeguard services; map of Palau Islands fortifications; communication plan; countermeasures for enemy radar; fighter direction; radar communications]

Fighter Direction Center, Code Word Lists, c1944 [call names for bases, air defense centers, GCI stations, and radar sets; “R” code system for messages re radar; code words for Fighter Command No.1 Code; Fighter Director vocabulary; fighter sectors codes; radio telephone codes]

SERIES III. DEFENSE PRODUCTION ADMINISTRATION/NATIONAL PRODUCTION AUTHORITY, 1950-1953

5  DPA/NPA, Office of Public Information, Org. And Functions, 1951-1952
[administrative order establishes Office of Public Info. in NPA, Dept. of Commerce; NPA org. chart; clearance and issuance of orders and regulations; operations review; chart of DPA/NPA responsibilities; budget requests]

DPA/NPA, Office of Public Information, Policy and Programs, 1950-1952
[guidelines for press releases, press conferences, and press interviews; NPA relations with Congress; need for policy on public information; inquiries from the press; coordination of speaking engagements; clearance of informational and promotional material; studying the mobilization program through cross-section surveys; resources expansion program; public relations program; cooperation with various non-governmental organizations; scrap recovery program; clearance of speeches; industrial mobilization information program]

DPA/NPA, Office of Public Information-Scrapbook, 1950-1952 (1)-(3) [samples of newspaper publicity; defense production record; scrap recovery; trade association publicity re scrap drive, incl. ads and posters; examples of business and trade papers publicity; Chambers of Commerce participation; sample ads, posters, fliers, stickers, and booklets; scrap sleuths; examples of DPA-NPA production, including posters, newsletters, brochures, reports, photos, speeches, and plans; scrap drive promotions]

DPA/NPA, Personnel, 1950-1953 (1)(2) [biographical information on Moss; emergency relocation plan; draft of order establishing Office of Public Information; duties of Director of Public Information; personnel forms]

DPA/NPA, List of Speeches, 1950-1952 [chronological list gives date, name of speaker, location, and describes the occasion]
DPA/NPA, Speeches, 1951 (1)-(3) [mobilization program; Defense Production Act; building construction limitations; government’s conservation program; Controlled Materials Plan; planning production for defense; Office of Civilian Requirements; impact of Defense Program on communities; industrial alcohol; Korean War--impact on economy; controls on construction materials; leather trade; metals; paper and metal for graphic arts; scrap collection; government contracts; chemicals and defense]

DPA/NPA, Speeches, 1952 (1)(2) [Defense Production Program; mobilization plan; speech by Charles E. Wilson, Director of Defense Mobilization; mineral production; international materials policy; chemicals; NPA regulations and broadcast industry; production controls; mineral imports]

DPA/NPA, Speeches, 1952 (3)(4) [construction controls; industrial dispersion policy; controlled materials; security controls; materials availability for parts distributors; steel; defense production controls; strategic and critical metals and minerals]

DPA Bulletin, “Defense Production Record,” Vol. I, 1951 [issues from May 3 to Dec. 27, 1951; a weekly bulletin with information on the Defense production program; Note: pages are brittle and fragile and should be handled with great care. Do not copy from this volume.]

DPA Bulletin, “Defense Production Record,” Vols. II and III, 1952 [weekly issues from Jan. 3, 1952 to Jan. 1, 1953; Note: pages are brittle and fragile and should be handled with care. Do not copy from this volume.]


NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (6) [Report No. 15, “Programming for Defense Production”]


NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (8)(9) [Report No. 19, “Consultation with Industry;” history of Industry Advisory Committee of NPA]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (10) [Report No. 20, “Small Business in Defense Production”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (11)(12) [Report No. 21, “Maintaining the Civilian Economy for Defense”]


NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (15)(16) [Report No. 23, “Facilities and Construction;” history of Facilities and Construction Bureau of NPA; loans; industrial expansion; construction controls; building materials]


NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (18) [Report No. 26, “Aluminum and Magnesium”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (19) [Report No. 27, “Copper”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (20)-(22) [Report No. 28, “Iron and Steel”]


NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (25) [Report No. 33, “Chemicals”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (26)-(28) [Report No. 34, “Containers and Packaging”]
NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (29)-(31) [Report No. 35, “Lumber and Wood Products”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (32) [Report No. 36, “Printing and Publishing”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (33) [Report No. 37, “Pulp, Paper and Paperboard”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (34) [Report No. 38, “Rubber”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (35) [Report No. 39, “Industrial and Agricultural Equipment Bureau Operations”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (36) [Report No. 40, “Agricultural Machinery and Implements”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (37) [Report No. 41, “Construction Machinery”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (38) [Report No. 42, “Electrical Equipment”]


NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (41) [Report No. 47, “Mining Machinery;” Report No. 48, “Motor Vehicles,” includes list of automobile manufacturers and percentage of industry attributed to each]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (42) [Report No. 49, “Railroad Equipment”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (43) [Report No. 50, “Textile, Leather and Specialty Equipment Bureau Operations”]


NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (45) [Report No. 53, “Consumer Durable Goods”]
NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (46) [Report No. 54, “Electronics”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (47)(48) [Report No. 55, “Leather and Leather Products”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (49) [Report No. 56, “Motion Picture and Photographic Products”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (50) [Report No. 57, “Ordnance and Shipbuilding”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (51) [Report No. 58, “Scientific and Technical Equipment”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (52) [Report No. 59, “Service Equipment”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (53) [Report No. 60, “Textiles”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (54) [Report No. 61, “Water Resources”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (55)-(57) [Report No. 62, “Policy and Program Coordination”]

NPA, Reports on Defense Production, 1953 (58)(59) [Report No. 63, “Field Service Activities”]

SERIES IV. MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS, 1945-1970

Combat Information Center Magazines, 1945-1946 (1)-(4) [articles re tactical use and operation of electronic and associated equipment; published by the Chief of Naval Operations; Japan’s early warning and fighter control; Okinawa; night carriers; intercept techniques; grids; Japanese aircraft performance; carrier air operations; fleet tactical test; Japanese and German radar; atomic bomb tests at Bikini; intercept radio messages; fighter direction]

Naval Aviation News, 1950 [published by Chief of Naval Operations; Air Force fighters]

ODM, Report on Jeweled Watch Industry, 1954 [trends in production; mobilization and military requirements]

Inaugural Program, Jan. 20, 1961

White House Conference, “To Fulfill These Rights,” June 1966 (1)(2) [report and recommendations to the Conf.; economic security and welfare; education; housing; administration of justice]


Hearings on Mexican American Affairs, 1967 (1)-(3) [list of invitees; Spanish-surnamed American college graduates; War on Poverty; testimony at hearings]


Policy Development Information Project, Videotape Report, “Hunger and Poverty,” 1970 (3)-(5) [televised town meeting]

Books Transferred to Book Collection

END OF CONTAINER LIST