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PALEY, WILLIAM S.: Papers, 1944, 1969

Accession: 99-6 Processed by: TB Date Completed: February 2001

The papers of William S. Paley were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library by the William S. Paley Foundation in February 1998.

Linear feet: -1
Approximate number of pages: 65
Approximate number of items: 30

Philip Raspe, assistant treasurer of the William S. Paley Foundation, signed an instrument of gift for the papers on January 20, 1999. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of William S. Paley in this collection and in all other collections of papers received by the National Archives have been donated to the public. Under terms of the instrument of gift, the following classes of items are withheld from research use:

- 1. Papers which constitute an invasion of personal privacy or a libel of a living person.
- 2. Papers which are required to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and are properly classified.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

William S. Paley (1901-1990) was an officer of the Columbia Broadcasting System for many years. From 1928 to 1946 he was president of CBS. From 1946 to his retirement in 1983 he was chairman of the board. During World War II Paley took a leave of absence from CBS to work for U.S. forces in Europe. He was assigned to the Psychological Warfare Division of SHAEF, Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters in England, where he specialized in radio broadcasting. At the time of the Normandy Invasion in June 1944 Paley arranged for a special radio broadcast by Allied leaders to the peoples of occupied Europe.

This collection consists of material Paley collected pertaining to the special D-Day broadcast. It includes his handwritten notes concerning the arrangements for the broadcast, congratulatory letters, telegrams reporting foreign reaction to the broadcast, and transcripts of the messages included in the broadcast. Most of the transcripts are in the original language with an English translation. The collection also contains an eulogy Paley delivered at Columbia University in 1969 following the death of Dwight D. Eisenhower. A set of phonograph records containing a recording of the actual broadcast was received at the Eisenhower Library along with the manuscript material. These records have been transferred to the audiovisual collection.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

D-Day Broadcast Documents (1) [notebook with Paley's notes re broadcast; congratulatory letters; copies of telegrams re foreign reaction to broadcast; draft of introduction to broadcast]

D-Day Broadcast Documents (2) [messages to peoples of the Netherlands, Poland, Luxemburg, Belgium and Norway; copy of speech by DDE to people of France]

Eulogy 1969 [Paley speech at Columbia University after DDE's death]

END OF CONTAINER LIST