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WHITE HOUSE OFFICE, EXECUTIVE BRANCH LIAISON OFFICE: Records, 1953-58

Pre-Accession Processed by: DJH Date completed: October 4, 1971

The records of the U.S. White House Liaison Office were deposited in the Eisenhower Library prior to 1964.

Linear Feet: 6

Approximate Number of Pages: 12,800 Approximate Number of Items: 750

Literary rights in these records are reserved to the people of the United States. By the term of the letter of Dwight D. Eisenhower to Franklin Floete, April 13, 1960, the following classes of documents shall be withheld from research use:

- 1. Papers relating to private business affairs of individuals and to family and personal affairs.
- 2. Papers relating to investigations of individuals or to appointments and personnel matters.
- 3. Papers containing statements made by or to the donor in confidence unless in the judgment of the Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library the reason for the confidentiality no longer exists.
- 4. All other papers which contain information or statements that might be used to injure, harass, or damage any living person.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Records of the White House Executive Branch Liaison Office span the period form January, 1953 to December 1958. About 60% of this collection consists of nine copies of a study entitled "Legislative Outlook on Key Issues in the 84th Congress;" nine copies of a study entitled "Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts;" analyses of House and Senate roll calls in the 83rd and 84th Congresses and indexes of party cohesiveness. These studies were compiled and distributed by the White House Executive Branch Liaison Office. The "Legislative Outlook on Key Issues in the 84th Congress" was intended to indicate the probable sentiment of Congress on certain key issues on which the respective political parties held strong positions such as flexible farm price supports; the trade agreements program; the Bricker Amendment, and labor problems. The compilations of economic data provided statistics on population, primary occupations, and chief products in selected Congressional districts, while the analyses of Congressional roll calls were intended to reveal the senators and representatives of each party who most consistently voted for and against Administration backed measures.

Roughly 30% of the collection consists of Fact Papers, which were printed papers of varying lengths containing information on selected topics. Their purpose was to provide facts on: achievements and goals of the Administration; and on issues on which the Administration's point of view was misunderstood. These papers included addresses, statements and quotes by President Eisenhower on numerous topics; John Foster Dulles on foreign policy: Charles Wilson and other Department of Defense and military personnel on defense; Herbert Brownell on civil rights; and similar types of statements from other cabinet and sub-cabinet members.

One container consists of a Speakers' Coordination File which pertains mainly to scheduling and obtaining speakers during political campaigns.

There is some correspondence regarding the 1954 and 1958 Congressional Campaigns, including letters to Republican governors, reports to the Republican National Committee, and itineraries for President Eisenhower's campaign trips in October, 1958. Important correspondents include: Mead Alcorn, William G. Draper, James Hagerty, Robert Montgomery, Howard Pyle, Robert Humphries, Lyn Kennedy Stern, and Wayne Warrington.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH LIAISON OFFICE

The Liaison Office was formed in the summer of 1953 in order to keep members of the Eisenhower Administration and the public informed about current policies, accomplishments, and goals of the President and his administration. Apparently Walter Williams, Undersecretary of Commerce, January, 1953-November, 1958, and Stanley M. Rumbough, Jr., Special Assistant to the Secretary of Commerce, were responsible for setting up this Liaison Office. The Office acted as a liaison between the White House, cabinet departments, and individual agencies; as a liaison between the White House and the Republican National Committee; and as a speakers' coordination center which established a system for using speakers' bureaus throughout the Executive Branch.

To perform its liaison functions, the Office prepared and distributed "Fact Papers" to the Administration's spokesmen. These Fact Papers were printed information sheets which provided facts on Administration Achievements and goals, and served to clarify issues on which the Administration's point of view was misunderstood. These papers were distributed to Eisenhower departmental and agency appointees; the Republican National Committee; and to Republican Congressional Committees. Topics for the Fact Papers were suggested by attack points of the opposition and by achievements of the Administration. Their length depended on the complexity of the topic and, therefore, varied. But the aim was to limit them to a single page. Mr. Charles Masterson, Special Assistant in the White House, 1953-56, was in charge of writing the Fact Papers.

The Speakers' Coordination File, set up by the Liaison Office, was the "Who's Who" and when of government officials who served as Administration spokesmen in getting information to the public. Each spokesman was listed separately by department along with his standing speaking engagements. The Liaison Office attempted to inform organizations of the availability of various administration officials for speaking engagements and assisted organizations in finding substitute speakers. The Office established personal contacts in the various departments and agencies through which it kept in touch with Administration spokesmen. While the Liaison Office was not attempting to run a Speaker's Bureau, it had created, in the person of its contacts, small speakers' bureaus throughout the government. These proved especially useful during political campaigns in providing speakers for various occasions and organizations. The Speakers' Coordination File was the responsibility of Mrs. Lyn Kennedy (Stern), Special Assistant, Executive Branch Liaison Office, 1953-56.

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

Box Nos. Series

- 1-6 Fact Papers and Campaign Material, 1953-58. 6 containers. The material on DDE's 1958 campaign trips is arranged alphabetically by city name while the Fact Papers are arranged chronologically and numerically. The Fact Papers are printed information sheets which contain statements and information about Administration achievements and goals. About 4/5 of one container consists of itineraries, dinner and trip lists, and memoranda concerning DDE's campaign trips in October, 1958.
- Speakers' Coordination File, 1953-56. One container. Contains correspondence, memoranda, and speech requests concerning the scheduling and obtaining of speakers to campaign for the Administration. This file was supervised mainly by Mrs. Lyn Kennedy Stern.
- 8-16 Studies and Analyses, 1953-56. 9 containers. Contains nine copies of a study entitled: "Legislative Outlook on Key Issues in the 84th Congress;" nine copies of a study, "Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts;" and analyses of House and Senate Roll Calls in the 83rd and 84th Congresses. These studies and analyses were compiled and distributed by the U. S. White House Executive Branch Liaison Office.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

1 Fact Papers and Campaign Material

(Pre-Accession)

Abilene, Kansas 1958 Campaign

Baltimore, Maryland

Cedar Rapids, Iowa (President's Trip)

Charleston, West Virginia (President's Trip-October 1958)

Chicago, Illinois (President's Trip, October 1958)

Denver, Colorado (President's Trip-October 1958)

Los Angeles, California (President's Trip, October 1958)

New York City, New York (President's Trip, October 1958)

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania [empty]

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (President's Trip October 1958)

San Francisco, California (President's Trip October 1958)

Presidential Participation (re October, 1958 trip)

Senatorial Calls [Apparently re October, 1958 trip]

Alternative Draft (1 tele. Memo)

Fact Papers 201-212

Fact Papers 213-221

2 Fact Papers 222-231

Fact Papers 232-239

Fact Papers 240-248

Fact Papers 249-261

Fact Papers 262-271

Fact Papers 272-274

3 Fact Papers 275-280

Fact Papers 281-285

Materials and expenses re Fact Papers

Possible Fact Papers

Index of Fact Papers

4 Executive Branch Liaison Office Achievements and Quotes (1)-(3)

Executive Branch Liaison Office Achievements and Quotes, Nos. 1-69, Dec. 2, 1953-July 23, 1954 [Fact Papers]

Executive Branch Liaison Office Achievements and Quotes, Nos. 70-136, July 28, 1954-March 23, 1955 [Fact Papers]

Executive Branch Liaison Office Achievements and Quotes, Nos. 137-200, March 30, 1955-January 26, 1956 [Fact Papers]

Fact Papers No. 201-246, February 8, 1956-August 10, 1956

Fact Papers No. 247-283, August 20, 1956-October 23, 1957, [Index to Fact Papers, a Progress Report]

Executive Branch Liaison Office: Quotes, 1953-56

Executive Branch Liaison Office: Fact Papers 1-86

Fact Papers 87-180

Fact Papers 181-235

Fact Papers 237-273

6 Executive Branch Liaison Office: Fact Papers and Quotes 1-86

Executive Branch Liaison Office: Fact Papers and Quotes 88-147

Executive Branch Liaison Office: Fact Papers and Quotes 148-200

Executive Branch Liaison Office: Fact Papers and Quotes 201-251

Executive Branch Liaison Office: Fact Papers and Quotes 252-286

Speakers' Coordination File

7 1954 Campaign Records

(Pre-Accession)

Letters written for R. N. C. [Republican National Committee]

Speeches: Reactions

Speeches: Governors' Letters

Speeches: Reports to RNC on Important requests

Speakers and Requests for Speakers

Memoranda: 1. TV Programs 2. Radio Programs 3. TV-Radio Plan at HEW 4. Covering Memo

Memoranda: Key Seats in Senate-Key Cities in Marginal Districts-Election 1956

Memoranda: Instructions on Speech Request Sheet

Memoranda: May 4 and May 7: Letters to Sub-Cabinet re briefings in departments

Memoranda: May 10, 1954-Covering new forms

Establishment of Speakers Coordination-L. Kennedy, 1953

Correspondence: Lyn Kennedy, 1953

Correspondence: Lyn Kennedy, 1954

Correspondence: Lyn Kennedy, 1955

Correspondence: Lyn Kennedy, 1956

8 Studies and Analyses

Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress, March 1955(1)

Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress, March 1955 (2)

9 Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress, March 1955 (3)

Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress, March 1955 (4)

Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress, March 1955 (5)

Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress, March 1955 (6)

Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress, March 1955 (7)

Legislative Outlook on Key Issues, 84th Congress (Pencil notation on 1st page indicated "Stricker-superseded by material dated March 1955") (1) (2)

Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts - Arizona 1st - Maryland 7th

Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts, 1954 Senate Seats, 1956 Senate Seats Alabama to Idaho

Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts, 1954 Senate Seats, 1956 Senate Seats Illinois to Maryland

Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts, 1954 and 1956 Senate Seats Massachusetts - New Hampshire

Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts, 1954 and 1956 Senate Seats New Jersey - Oregon

Pertinent Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts, 1954 and 1956 Senate Seats Pennsylvania - Wyoming

15 Economic Data on Marginal Congressional Districts (untitled)

Probable Vote on Amendments to S 3183 [Administration's Farm Program]

Congressional Ranking - Eighty-third Congress

Analysis of Probable Votes on HR 5550 in the House

Analysis of All House Roll Calls 83rd and 84th Congresses (1)-(3)

Analysis of all Senate Roll Calls, 83rd and 84th Congresses

Study of Possible Votes on S 1048 - Federal Aid Highway Bill - 84th Congress - First Session (1)-(5)

Probable Congressional vote on Trade Agreement Program

Analysis of Congressional vote on Bricker Amendment

Analysis of 1952 Congressional Election in various Congressional districts

Index of Party cohesiveness, 83rd and 84th Congress- Senate

Index of Party cohesiveness, 83rd and 84th Congress - House

END OF CONTAINER LIST