

RICHARD M. BISSELL JR. PAPERS  
HISTORIC PAPERS, OVERSIZE OBJECTS AND CLIPPINGS SERIES  
1931 – 1995; Boxes 1 – 3

SERIES DESCRIPTION

This series contains materials gathered by Frances Pudlo, Richard Bissell's secretary from 1974 through 1994. Throughout Bissell's lifetime and shortly following his death, Pudlo removed certain documents and items in the overall collection from their original file locations and co-located them in this series. Document formats in this series include newspaper clippings, correspondence, periodicals, invitations, memoranda, pamphlets and a historical map. The series is arranged primarily by format (clippings, correspondence, publications and oversized publications). Thereunder clippings and correspondence are arranged in reverse chronological order and publications are arranged alphabetically.

Pudlo's methodology for document selection was based on perceived historical importance (based on the names of correspondents, topics contained within documents, and other criteria), potential preservation concerns, and document size. In nearly every case Pudlo created electrostatic facsimiles of the documents that were removed from their original locations within the collection. She then left the facsimiles in place of the original documents. The facsimiles are usually appended with a mark indicating that they were "filed for safekeeping" when the original papers were removed to what is now this series. In doing so, Pudlo maintained the overall collection's original order as she understood it. However, it is not clear if everything removed for safekeeping was eventually filed in what is now this series. It appears that the most of the items in this series were removed from the Subject Series and the Reading Files and Personal Chrono files in the Correspondence Series of this collection. Researchers should note that Pudlo continued adding to the clippings contained in this series following Bissell's death; multiple obituaries written for Bissell and dating from 1994 to 1995 appear in this series.

The correspondence appearing in this series spans the bulk of Bissell's professional career. Topics include the Bay of Pigs invasion, Bissell's former colleagues, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Bissell's participation in oral history projects, and the European Recovery Plan (ERP or the "Marshall Plan"). Notable correspondents include (but are not limited to) Allen Dulles, Averell Harriman, Robert F. Kennedy, John A. McCone and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

Newspaper and periodical clippings within the series address a number of topics of apparent interest to Bissell. Most of the clippings document Bissell's public career. Clippings referencing Bissell's early years assisting with the European Recovery Plan (ERP) and his time with the Ford Foundation are included in this series. Bissell's later career with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is also documented, as are the activities of the agency after his departure. Most clippings relating to the CIA

document the Bay of Pigs invasion, the “Church Committee” (United States Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities), aerial reconnaissance, and the resignation of certain CIA officials.

Other topics are included with the clippings as well. The folders contain articles concerning Bissell’s remembrances of his childhood in Hartford, Connecticut’s Samuel Clemens house, the settling of Howard Hughes’ estate, the death of William H. Truesdale, and the retirement of General of the Army George C. Marshall.

Bissell’s mother maintained some of the clippings that now appear in this series. She collected a survey of articles concerning Bissell’s time with the Economic Cooperation Administration. They are filed in the folder entitled “ECA – Newspaper Clippings Saved by Mother” in Box 1.

Multiple publications from different eras of Bissell’s career appear within this series. They address subjects with which he was directly involved (he authored articles appearing within the publications) or subjects in which he had a professional or personal interest.

## CONTAINER LIST

### Box No.   Contents

1

#### [Clippings]

[Clipped Newspaper Articles; 1935 - 1993] (1) – (3)

[Clipped Periodical Articles; 1951 – 1987]

ECA – Newspaper Clippings Saved by Mother [Economic Cooperation Administration; draft paper on the European Clearing Union included with clippings]

[Richard M. Bissell Clipped Obituaries and Memorials, 1994-1995] [*Groton School Quarterly; Time Magazine; Farmington News; The Hartford Courant; The Washington Post; The New York Times; New Britain Herald*]

#### [Correspondence]

[Richard M. Bissell Correspondence, 1935 – 1987] (1) [March 18, 1986, letter from John A. McCone to Bissell concerning Allen Dulles, President John F. Kennedy and the Bay of Pigs invasion; August 19, 1985, letter from John A. McCone to Bissell concerning the Bay of Pigs invasion; invitation from the Lockheed-California Company to Bissell for the dedication of the Kelly Johnson Research and Development Center; November 20, 1978, letter from

Richard Helms to Bissell enclosing a news clipping about the conviction of former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) officer William P. Kampiles; “A Salute to Kelly Johnson” (1978); January 5, 1977, letter from Ted Thomas to Bissell enclosing an article entitled “The Rise and Fall of Richard Helms: Survival and Sudden Death in the CIA” by Thomas Powers in the December 16, 1976, edition of *Rolling Stone*; November 13, 1975, letter from John Bross to Bissell concerning intelligence; September 1975 edition of the *Washington Report*; May 5, 1975, letter from Evert Clark of *Newsweek* to Bissell concerning a clarification on a story about the Bay of Pigs; December 13, 1971, letter from Peter S.H. Moore to Bissell enclosing an 1855 map of the United States; August 5, 1971, letter from Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis thanking Bissell for his participation in an oral history project at the John F. Kennedy Library; January 7, 1971, letter from John A. McCone to Bissell concerning an Educational Aid Fund for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA); October 24, 1967, first day issue of the George C. Marshall postage stamp, forwarded by Dr. Pogue; July 24, 1967, letter from John A. Bross to Bissell concerning the death of Desmond Fitzgerald; July 1, 1966, letter from C. Tracy Barnes to Bissell concerning an article in the *Wall Street Journal* entitled “Overseas Street Journal”; April 25, 1966, letter from C. Tracy Barnes to Bissell concerning Gene Kiefer and Ben Sturges; October 16, 1965, letter from Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. to Bissell concerning the publication of Schlesinger’s book; July 21, 1965, letter from Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. to Bissell concerning his book on the Bay of Pigs invasion]

[Richard M. Bissell Correspondence, 1935 – 1987] (2) [December 16, 1964, letter from Robert F. Kennedy to Bissell expressing gratitude for his participation in an oral history project at the John F. Kennedy Library; April 22, 1964, letter from Robert F. Kennedy to Bissell requesting his participation in an oral history project at the John F. Kennedy Library; February 19, 1964, letter from Frank G. Wisner to Bissell concerning Wisner’s book review of Allen Dulles’ *The Craft of Intelligence* (including a partial copy of the book review entitled “On The Craft of Intelligence”); advance proof of an article by Allen Dulles entitled “The Craft of Intelligence” and sent by him to Bissell along with a notation on the cover; March 9, 1948, Department of Commerce press release noting the release of the report of the special Industry-Government Scrap Iron and Steel Mission to Germany; December 29, 1947, letter from Granville Conway to Bissell concerning an analysis of the Marshall Plan (European Recovery Plan); November 28, 1947, letter from John D. Wilson of McGraw-Hill Publishing Company to Bissell enclosing an article entitled “The Marshall Program”; November 24, 1947, letter from Emerson P. Schmidt of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to Bissell with congratulations and note of an enclosure; November 18, 1947, letter from Charles W. Hendel of Yale University to Bissell noting the enclosure of two installments of his serial article “Analysis of the Marshall Plan” in the *Yale Daily News*]

[Richard M. Bissell Correspondence, 1935 – 1987] (3) [November 11, 1947, letter from Charles W. Hendel of Yale University to Bissell noting the enclosure of three installments of his serial article “Analysis of the Marshall Plan” in the *Yale Daily News*; July 23, 1945, Memorandum of Instructions issued to Bissell by E.S. Land, Vice Admiral, U.S.N., War Shipping Administration concerning Bissell’s trip to London, including travel orders to France and Germany, a Berlin travel book, and a booklet entitled *Information Bulletin – Tripartite Conference, Babelsburg, Germany, 15 July 1945*; April 29, 1941, letter from Robert D. Lusk to Bissell concerning a newspaper editorial in the *Evening Huronite* regarding Charles Lindbergh; January 17, 1938, letter from Dean Acheson to Bissell concerning Bob Jackson; 1935 prospectus, handbill and invitation for the Yale Political Union]

- 2 RMB Scrapbook (Newspaper Clippings, Etc.) [1939 – 1963] [November 1963 issue of *Looking Ahead*; multiple news clippings concerning Bissell’s career; news clipping concerning the resignation of General George C. Marshall; October 11, 1950 letter from Mrs. Richard M. Bissell to Eleanor Williams concerning Bissell’s appointment to the Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA) as deputy director; Economic Cooperation Administration press release announcing Bissell’s appointment to the Economic Cooperation Administration; June 21, 1949, Yale University commencement book recording Bissell’s honorary degree; Economic Cooperation Administration; April 21, 1948, edition of *The Marshall Plan Letter* describing Bissell’s background and capabilities; February 20, 1948, letter from John L. Collyer to Bissell thanking him for the work he did as executive secretary of the President’s Committee on Foreign Aid (PCFA) and alerting him to the gift of a watch in the shape of a B.F. Goodrich tire; January 17, 1948, Western Union telegram from Averell Harriman to Bissell concerning testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee; November 11, 1947, Western Union telegram from Paul G. Hoffman to Bissell concerning a draft report by the President’s Committee on Foreign Aid (PCFA); 1945 letter to Marie Truesdale Bissell concerning Bissell’s appointment as chief economic consultant to John W. Snyder; June 21, 1939, Yale University commencement book documenting Bissell’s Ph.D. in economics]

#### [Publications]

[*The Atlantic* – January 1982]

[*Cuba: Thoughts Prompted by the Crisis* – By Charles Burton Marshall, Research Associate, Washington Center of Foreign Policy Research]  
[Conglomeration of articles originally published in *The New Republic* here bound in a single pamphlet]

[“Decision for Disaster: At Last – The Truth About the Bay of Pigs” by

Mario Lazo. *Reader's Digest* Special Feature, September 1964] [Reprinted from the September 1964 Issue of the *Reader's Digest*]

[*The Economist*: Supplement to the Issue of June 10, 1933. World Economic Conference: The Issues Before the Nations]

[*Fontenet Review, Footloose in France: An Orientation Booklet* – Headquarters Fontenet Ordnance Depot, 7850<sup>th</sup> Army Unit, APO 259, US Army, 9 December 1955 - 21 September 1956]

[*Groton School Quarterly* – Winter 1951] [Highlighted entry regarding Bissell on page 24]

[*Harkness Hoot*] [1931 – 1932] [Advertising and subscription materials]

[*Historical Sketch of Farmington* by Richard M. Bissell Jr.] [Undated]

[*Jane's Defense Weekly* - Vol. 20, No. 6, 7 August, 1983]

[*Lockheed Horizons* – Winter 1981/82]

[*Skeptic: The Forum for Contemporary History* - Issue No. 7, May/June 1975]

[*War on Hunger: A Report from the Agency for International Development, Volume VII, No. 4, April 1973*] [“The Marshall Plan: ‘Lifeline to Sinking Men’”]

[*Yale Alumni Magazine* - Vol. XII, No. 10, July 1949] [Votes Bissell won for the position of “Alumni Fellow”]

#### [Publications - Oversized]

3 [ *Fortune*, Vol. XXV, Number 6, June 1942] [“The Anatomy of Public Spending: Part II” by Richard M. Bissell Jr.]

[ *Fortune*, Vol. XXV, Number 5, May 1942] [“The Anatomy of Public Spending” by Richard M. Bissell Jr.]

[*PIC*, August 1948] [“European Recovery Expediter” by Ed Cunningham]

[*Yale Daily News*, Vol. LXIII, No. 141, April 10, 1940 & Vol. LXIII, No. 182, May 28, 1940] [“Bissell Terms Blitzkrieg in Norway ‘A Distinct Coup’ for Nazi Forces” & “Faculty Group Calls Intervention Futile, Unnecessary, Impractical”]

END OF CONTAINER LIST