

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY
ABILENE, KANSAS

BARBARA EISENHOWER: Papers, 1892-1976

Accessions 89-12, 93-9
Processed by: TB
Date Completed: August 1995

The papers of Barbara Eisenhower were deposited in the Eisenhower Library by Mrs. Eisenhower in 1988 and 1990.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied:	5
Approximate number of pages:	5600
Approximate number of items:	1000

Instruments of gift for these papers were signed by Mrs. Eisenhower in November 1988 and June 1992. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Mrs. Eisenhower in the material donated in 1988 have been retained by Mrs. Eisenhower until her death, after which such rights pass to the public. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Mrs. Eisenhower in the material donated in 1990 in this collection and in all other collections of papers received by the United States have been donated to the public. Under terms of the instruments of gift the following classes of documents 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.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Box No. Series

1-4 I. Family Letters Series. 1892-1959. 3 3/4 boxes.

Letters written by Mamie Eisenhower to her parents describing her home life. Included with the letters are enclosures provided by Mamie, most of which are letters she received from other persons and forwarded to her parents. At the start of the series is a folder of early Doud family papers, most of which are letters received by Mamie and her parents during her childhood.

4 II. Barbara Eisenhower Correspondence Series. 1958-76. 1/4 box.

Cards and social correspondence written by Mamie Eisenhower to John and Barbara Eisenhower.

5-7 III. Events Series. 1951-72. 3 boxes.

Correspondence, newspapers, tourist literature and printed material collected by Barbara Eisenhower. Most of the material pertains to the 1968 presidential campaign, the 1969 inauguration of Richard Nixon, and trips abroad which Barbara took with her husband.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Barbara Jean Thompson Eisenhower Foltz, daughter-in-law of President and Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower, was born June 15, 1926, in Fort Knox, Kentucky, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Percy W. Thompson. Her father was a career army officer who moved from one assignment to another, taking his family with him. While in Vienna, Austria, where her father was on occupation duty after World War II, Barbara met John S. D. Eisenhower, son of Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower. They were married on June 10, 1947. John Eisenhower was also an army officer. After his marriage, he was stationed at various posts in the U.S. and the Far East. During Dwight D. Eisenhower's second term as president, John was assigned to the White House staff where he spent two years working under Andrew Goodpaster in the Staff Secretary's office. John and Barbara accompanied the President on some of his foreign trips during this period.

After the end of the Eisenhower administration, John and Barbara moved to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania to assist Dwight D. Eisenhower during his retirement. John resigned from the army in 1963 to become a writer. In 1968, John and Barbara's son David married Julie Nixon, daughter of Richard Nixon. The Eisenhowers campaigned actively for Nixon during the 1968 presidential campaign. After Nixon became president in 1969, John was appointed to various posts in the new administration. He served as ambassador to Belgium from 1969 to 1971 and represented the U.S. at the inauguration of Chiang Kai-shek as president of China in May 1972. Barbara accompanied him on many of his foreign trips.

The Eisenhowers were divorced in 1986 and Barbara was remarried in 1988 to Edwin J. Foltz.

This collection consists primarily of material Barbara collected during her marriage. It is divided into three series. The first series contains Doud family papers which Barbara received from her mother-in-law Mamie Doud Eisenhower. Mamie was the daughter of John and Elivera Doud of Denver, Colorado. For much of her married life she wrote frequent letters to her parents describing her social life. The Douds saved many of these letters and Mamie got them back after they died. The letters cover the period from 1920 to 1959. However, not all of this period is equally well documented. There are few letters from the earliest and latest years. Most of the letters date from 1928-1943 and 1948-1952.

In her letters, Mamie concentrated primarily on her domestic life. She went into great detail on the parties she attended, the visitors she entertained, the clothes she bought, and the problems she was having with her servants. The letters contain very few references to Dwight D. Eisenhower's military career. Mamie also sent her parents letters she had received from other persons which she thought they would enjoy reading. Most of these enclosures are letters from John Eisenhower which he wrote to his mother while he was at school. However, one letter is from Dwight's mother Ida Eisenhower, describing John's visit to Abilene in 1935. This is one of the few examples of Ida's handwriting known to exist. A few of the letters are from Mamie's sister Mrs. Mabel ("Mike") Gill.

This series also contains a few early family letters which Mamie and her parents received from

friends and relatives during Mamie's childhood.

The second series contains a small quantity of cards and social letters which Barbara received from Mamie Eisenhower. This material is very fragmentary and it is believed more material of this nature is still held by the family.

The third series contains memorabilia collected by Barbara on various occasions during her married life. Much of the material relates to her trip to Taipei, Taiwan, when John Eisenhower represented the U.S. at the inauguration of Chiang Kai-shek for his fifth term as president of China in May 1972. This includes briefing papers prepared by the Department of State on U.S. relations with China, and biographical material on high-ranking Chinese leaders. The series also contains material on political events during the 1968 campaign and the 1969 inauguration.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

- 1 Series I: Family Letters (A93-9)
- Early Family Letters 1892-1907 [Doud family]
- Family Letters 1920 [Camp Meade, MD; Ikky's birthday party]
- Family Letters 1922 [Camp Gaillard, Canal Zone; Mamie's return to Panama after JSDE's birth]
- Family Letters 1928 [Paris, France]
- Family Letters 1929 (1) (2) [Paris, France; trips to Belgium and World War I battlefields; DDE's stomach problems; trip to Italy; voyage back to US]
- Family Letters 1930 [Washington, DC]
- Family Letters 1931 (1) (2) [Washington, DC]
- Family Letters 1932 (1)-(4) [Washington, DC; Gee Gerow to Philippines and Shanghai; Bonus March]
- Family Letters 1933 (1)-(3) [Washington, DC; Harry Woodring's wedding]
- 2 Family Letters 1934 [Washington, DC]
- Family Letters 1935 (1) (2) [Washington, DC; death of Katie Gerow; Ida Eisenhower re JSDE's visit to Abilene; Mamie's social life in Washington after DDE goes to Philippines]
- Family Letters 1936 [DDE's health in Philippines; Mamie's departure for the Philippines]
- Family Letters 1937 (1) (2) [Philippines; MacArthur's marriage; reception for President Quezon; earthquake; typhoon]
- Family Letters 1938 (1)-(3) [Philippines; DDE's health; death of James Ord; birth of Arthur MacArthur; plans for summer leave in US; cruise back to Philippines in October]
- Family Letters 1939 (1)-(4) [Philippines; DDE's trip to mountains with JSDE;

- planning for move to Ft. Lewis; visit of Richard Gill; departure from Philippines]
- 3 Family Letters 1940 (1)-(5) [San Francisco; Ft. Lewis, Washington; JSDE at prep school in Washington, DC; Edgar Eisenhower's wedding]
- Family Letters 1941 (1)-(3) [Ft. Lewis, Washington; DDE's promotion; John Boettiger; move to Ft. Sam Houston, Texas; JSDE at West Point; planning for move to Washington, DC]
- Family Letters 1942 (1)-(3) [move to Washington, DC; Florence Ladd re Fort Richardson, Alaska; visit to West Point; deaths of David J. and Roy Eisenhower; DDE's promotion to major general; DDE in England]
- Family Letters 1943 (1) (2) [Washington, DC; Mamie's social life while DDE away; her trip to San Antonio; apartment at Wardman Park hotel]
- 4 Family Letters 1943 (3) (4) [Washington, DC; JSDE's visits; Mamie's trip to West Point; announcement of DDE's appointment to SHAEF; harassment by press]
- Family Letters 1944 [Mamie's trip to San Antonio; Washington, DC]
- Family Letters 1945 [Washington, DC]
- Family Letters 1948 [Columbia University]
- Family Letters 1949 [Columbia University]
- Family Letters 1951 (1) (2) [Elivera Doud's visit to New York; cruise to Europe; SHAPE]
- Family Letters 1952 [SHAPE; funeral of George VI]
- Family Letters 1959
- Family Letters Undated
- Series II: Barbara Eisenhower Correspondence (A93-9)
- Letters and Cards from Mimi 1958-76 (1) (2)
- 5 Series III: Events File (A89-12)

- 1959 Trip to Europe, Pakistan, India
- 1968 Campaign
- 1969 Inauguration - Invitations (1)-(3)
- 1969 Inauguration - Memorabilia
- 1969 Inauguration - Programs (1) (2)
- May 1972 Trip to Taipei (1) (2) [US-China relations; members of Chinese government]
- 6 May 1972 Trip to Taipei - Memorabilia (1)-(5)
- May 1972 Trip to Taipei - Programs
- May 1972 Trip to Taipei - Speeches
- Miscellaneous Events
- Miscellaneous Memorabilia
- 7 Newspapers 1963 [New York City papers re Kennedy assassination; Gettysburg Times re 100th anniversary of Battle of Gettysburg] (suit box)

END OF CONTAINER LIST