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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

January 19, 1907  Born, Marbury, Charles County, South Carolina

1928    Bachelor of Science, Georgetown University

1930    Doctor of Medicine, Georgetown University Medical School

June 3, 1935  Married Frances E. Wannamaker

1934-58  Medical Corps, U.S. Army

1947-49  Chief of Cardiology, Brooke General Hospital, San Antonio, Texas

1950-58  Chief, Cardiovascular and Renal Division, Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D.C.

1952-58  Chief Military Cardiology Consultant to President Dwight D. Eisenhower

1956-58  Chief, Department of Medicine, Walter Reed

1958-62  Director of Medical Education, Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C.

1962-67  Chairman, Department of Medicine, Washington Medical Center

1967-68  Coordinator, Metropolitan Washington Regional Medical Program, for District of Columbia Medical Society

1968-69  Chief Civilian Consultant in Cardiology to former President Dwight D. Eisenhower

1969-74  Cardiology consultant in private practice and Senior consultant, Medical Division, Department of State

1974    Semi-retirement

1980-86  Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of South Carolina School of Medicine

[For additional biographical information, see the curriculum vitae in Mattingly’s biographical folder, Box 4.]
Dr. Thomas Mattingly has provided in this history a detailed account of Dwight D. Eisenhower’s health, including all medical disorders and their treatment. Mattingly relied, in preparing this account, primarily upon the papers of Eisenhower’s personal physician, Dr. Howard McC. Snyder, and Eisenhower’s medical records held by the Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Army. The history is made up of narrative sections combined with appendices which consist of copies of Eisenhower’s clinical and laboratory records. These records include reports of physical examinations, consultation reports, doctor’s progress notes, charts, EEG recordings, x-ray films and photographs. In addition to such other sources as correspondence and newspaper clippings, the history also contains chronologies, lists, reference notes, and bibliographical information.

Researchers should note that the first folder in Box 1 contains lists that serve as tables of content for the history. Also, the second folder in Box 1 consists of Mattingly’s account of how and why he prepared the history. This introductory material also explains how Mattingly’s study drew upon a history begun in the 1960’s by Dr. Snyder but left unfinished because of Snyder’s deteriorating health and subsequent death.

Mattingly divided his study into separate analytical accounts of the history of each of Eisenhower’s body systems. As one might expect, the cardiovascular system received the greatest attention, followed by the gastrointestinal system. In preparing this study, Mattingly brought into his discussion of each system the historical and personal events surrounding each illness. In doing so, he gave particular attention to emotional and personality factors that may have contributed to Eisenhower’s illness.

In conducting research on his subject, Mattingly came to several conclusions about Eisenhower’s health and its professional care. Perhaps his most significant conclusion is that autopsy findings supported his tentative diagnosis, made shortly after the 1955 heart attack, that the infarction had left a sizeable aneurysm on the wall of the heart and, consequently, had put the President at greater risk than either Snyder or Paul Dudley White acknowledged. Furthermore, Mattingly asserted that the aneurysm required consistent administration of anticoagulants in order to prevent “showers” of emboli that might have posed risks to the President’s life, and that neither Snyder nor Dr. Leonard Heaton managed Eisenhower’s anticoagulant therapy as carefully as the situation required.

Following the narrative history and appendices, which end in Box 3, is a small series of medical records on Mamie Eisenhower, her mother and father, and the President’s oldest brother, Arthur Eisenhower. Unlike Dwight D. Eisenhower’s history, these files contain no narrative interpretations by Mattingly. The third series is comprised of biographical files on the physicians who administered to Eisenhower’s medical needs during the last two decades of his life. The fourth and final segment of the history is composed of x-ray films and photographs taken of Eisenhower from 1946 through his death in March 1969.
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SERIES II: MEDICAL HISTORIES OF OTHERS

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John S. Doud
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SERIES III: BIOGRAPHIES OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

Colonel James M. Fairchild [DDE’s dentist, 1953-61]
Colonel Robert J. Hall
Lt. Gen. Leonard D. Heaton
Maj. Gen. Carl W. Hughes
Colonel Doss O. Lynn

Lt. Col. Olive F. G. Marsh [administrative assistant to Dr. Howard M. Snyder, 1954-61; research and editorial assistant to Snyder, then Mattingly, in preparing the history of Eisenhower’s health]

Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Mattingly

Colonel Loren F. Parmley

Maj. Gen. George M. Powell

Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder
Dr. Paul Dudley White - Activities as Consultant, Sept. 25 - Nov. 11, 1955

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Dr. Paul Dudley White - Biographical Material

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Dr. Paul Dudley White - Research on, by Dr. Oglesby Paul

SERIES IV: X-RAY FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS [transferred to audiovisual section]

5 Lists of X-Ray Films

Postmortem X-Ray Films - Heart and Aorta, March 1969

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