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ROBERT GOLDWIN FILES, 1974-76

Collection Type

White House Office Files

Extent

2 linear feet (ca. 4,000 pages)

Record Type

Textual

Access

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Processed by

Barbara J. White, August 1984

Biography

Robert Allen Goldwin

April 16, 1922 - Born in New York City

1942-1946 - Enlisted man and officer, US Cavalry

1950 - B.A., St. John's College, Annapolis, MD

1951-1960 - Director of Research, American Foundation for Political Education, Chicago, IL

1954 - M.A. The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

1960-1966 - Lecturer in Political Science and Director, Public Affairs Conference, The University of Chicago

1963 - Ph.D., Political Science, The University of Chicago

1966 - Fellow, The Guggenheim Foundation

1966-1969 - Associate Professor Political Science and Director, Public Affairs Conference Center, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH

1969-1973 - Dean and Charles Hammond Elliot Tutor, St. John's College, Annapolis MD

1973-1974 - Special Advisor to the Ambassador of the United States Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Donald Rumsfeld

September 1974 - Detailed to the White House Editorial Staff from the Department of State

Dec. 1974-Oct. 1976 - Special Consultant to the President

1976 - Special Assistant to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld

1977 -- Director of Seminar Programs, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research

Scope and Content Note

Long-time confidant of Donald Rumsfeld, Robert Goldwin served in the White House as Special Consultant to the President. Congressmen Rumsfeld and Gerald Ford attended conferences run by Goldwin when he was director of the Public Affairs Conference Center. In 1973 he went to Brussels to aid Rumsfeld, then Ambassador to NATO. When Rumsfeld took over from Alexander Haig as Ford's chief of staff, Goldwin accompanied him and worked under him until November 1975, when

Rumsfeld became Secretary of Defense. He then worked under Richard Cheney, Rumsfeld's former deputy and successor.

Goldwin was responsible for insuring the flow of information and ideas on long-range problems to the President from people outside the government. He arranged a series of six small seminars between the President, government officials, and academic experts, which covered crime, welfare, higher education, the Bicentennial, the world food problems, ethnicity and unemployment. The seminars were held as informal conversations over luncheon or dinner rather than as meetings. He also traveled frequently to university campuses for academic seminars and relayed ideas and suggestions to the Domestic Council, appropriate government agencies, or occasionally, to the President. In addition, Goldwin was responsible for White House liaison with interest groups in higher education, the arts, the humanities, and with Jewish affairs. He actively sought highly qualified academic personnel for presidential appointments. Occasionally, he helped with presidential speech writing and participated in small groups working on special projects.

The Goldwin files reflect his academic seminars and his liaison with higher education organizations. Unfortunately, no material remains reflecting the contents of six seminars. The most substantive material on education issues concerns affirmative action, federal regulations, and financial support. There is a small amount of material on the Bicentennial and the Arab boycott of firms dealing with Israel, from his participation in special project groups; and on crime, from his help in presidential speechwriting. The majority of this collection is routine, consisting of general correspondence, some with well-known academic and government figures. There is very little material for 1976; beginning that spring, he received an additional appointment to aid Rumsfeld, now Secretary of Defense.

Related Materials (August 1984)

Related materials include the Domestic Council staff files of David H. Lissy on education and Jewish affairs and of Sarah C. Massengale on cultural affairs, and the White House Central Files category ED - Education.

Last Modified Date

2025-03-06

Subject File, 1974-76.

(Boxes 1-3, 1 linear foot)

Correspondence, memoranda, reports, briefing papers, speeches, and printed material relating to the academic seminars, to problems in higher education, and to Jewish affairs. Other topics include the Bicentennial and crime.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically thereunder.

Box 1 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Academy for Contemporary Problems
OPEN	Activity Report
OPEN	American Association of University Professors
OPEN	American Council on Education
OPEN	American Enterprise Institute
OPEN	American Political Science Association
OPEN	Arab Boycott (1)-(3)
OPEN	Asia Foundation
OPEN	Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies
OPEN	Association for American Colleges
OPEN	Bicentennial (1)-(2)
OPEN	Bicentennial Speeches
OPEN	Brookings Institution
OPEN	Busing
OPEN	Committee on Academic Non-discrimination and Integrity (1)-(4)

Box 2 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges
OPEN	Council on Social Advisors
OPEN	Crime (1)-(2)
OPEN	Detente
OPEN	Domestic Council

Status	Title
OPEN	Drugs
OPEN	Education
OPEN	Education and Work
OPEN	Federal Design Improvement Program
OPEN	Internal Revenue Service
OPEN	Jewish Organizations (1)-(2)
OPEN	National Endowment for the Humanities
OPEN	Presidential Memoranda
OPEN	Seminar, 12/9/74
OPEN	Seminar, 1/11/75
OPEN	Seminar, 2/22/75
OPEN	Seminar, 4/12/75
OPEN	Seminar, 9/27/75
OPEN	Seminar, 11/22/75
OPEN	Speech Requests
OPEN	South Africa

Box 3 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Trend Report (1)-(3)
OPEN	Uranium Enrichment Message

Name File, 1974-76.

(Box 3, 0.2 linear feet)

Correspondence and memoranda, with occasional agendas and reports, between Goldwin and his colleagues in academia and government. The majority covers the seminars, Goldwin's travel and lectures, and the ideas and suggestions on domestic issues relayed by him. Also included are suggestions for presidential personnel appointments.

Arranged alphabetically.

Box 3 (Continued) - Name File

Status	Title
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OPEN	Jack Anderson
OPEN	Edward Banfield
OPEN	David L. Bazelon
OPEN	Bell, Terrell H.
OPEN	Billington, James H.
OPEN	Boorstin, Daniel J.
OPEN	Brandow, George E.
OPEN	Brann, Eva T.H.
OPEN	Burns, Arthur F.
OPEN	Cheney, Richard B. (1)-(2)
OPEN	Cochrane, Willard
OPEN	Connor, James E.
OPEN	Cropsey, Joseph
OPEN	Diamond, Martin
OPEN	Duval, Michael
OPEN	Hartmann, Robert T.
OPEN	Horwitz, Robert H.
OPEN	Kristol, Irving
OPEN	Levi, Edward H.
OPEN	Nelson, Charles A.
OPEN	Nessen, Ronald
OPEN	Theis, Paul
OPEN	Wilson, James Q.
OPEN	Zarb, Frank

Correspondence File, 1974-76.

(Boxes 4-5, 0.8 linear feet)

Correspondence and memoranda to and from White House staff, federal agencies and councils, academic colleagues, the public, and groups with whom Goldwin acted as liaison; and reports, agendas and newspaper clippings. Covers issues similar to the above series.

Arranged alphabetically.

Box 4 - Correspondence File

Status	Title
OPEN	A-F

Box 5 - Correspondence File

Status	Title
OPEN	G-Z