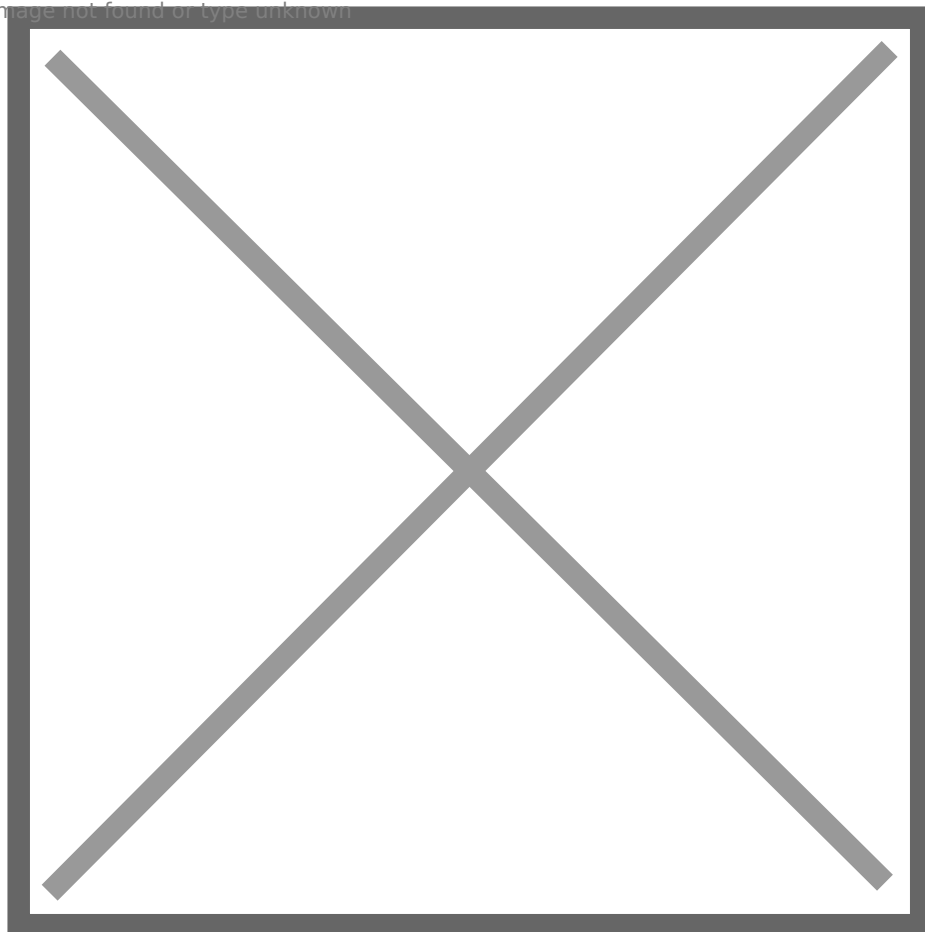


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## **Norman Ross Files, 1974-1975**

### **Collection Type**

White House Office Files

### **Extent**

5.8 linear feet (ca. 11,600 pages)

### **Record Type**

Textual

### **Access**

Open. Some items are temporarily restricted under terms of the donor's deed of gift, a copy of which is available on request, or under National Archives and Records Administration general restrictions (36 CFR 1256).

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## **Processed by**

William McNitt, May 1982

## **Biography**

### **Norman Everett Ross, Jr.**

1941 - Born in Richmond, Virginia

1963 - B.S. in microbiology from Virginia State College

1965 - M.S. in microbiology from Virginia State College

1963-71 - Served in U.S. Army as an immunologist

1971-73 - Budget Examiner, Natural Resources Program Division, Environmental Branch, Office of Management and Budget

1973 - Office of the Secretary, Department of Agriculture. On detail to the White House in the office of the Counsellor for Natural Resources (Earl Butz). He was later detailed to the Domestic Council.

1974-75 - Assistant Director for Natural Resources of the Domestic Council

1975 - Assistant to the chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Ross collection covers the period August 1974 to June 1975 and details his work on environmental matters, agriculture, Indian affairs, and territorial matters. Frequently, earlier materials from the Nixon administration appear in the files. Although Ross divided his files among several successors when he left the Domestic Council, his collection now includes most of this material. After his successors finished using his files, they usually retired the materials virtually intact to the White House Central Files.

Ross joined the Domestic Council staff in January 1974, after serving for several months on detail to the Council. He was one of two assistants to Richard Fairbanks and Michael Raoul-Duval, who successively headed the natural resources policy area.

Like most of the Domestic Council staff, Ross was responsible for policy formulation; the preparation and review of such documents as decision memoranda, briefing papers, legislative proposals, fact sheets, and responses to correspondence; soliciting comments and recommendations from White House staff and agency officials; and maintaining ongoing contact with federal agencies and Congress on behalf of the President.

Within the natural resources policy area, Ross specialized on issues relating to agriculture, the environment, Indian affairs and territorial affairs. He worked closely with officials from such agencies as the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Water Resources Council, and the Council on Environmental Quality.

During the eleven months that Norman Ross served on the Ford Domestic Council, he appears to have been most active on issues related to the environment and to

Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories. His environmental files contain material on such subjects as air pollution, water quality, the National Ocean Policy Study, and the construction of the Cross Florida Barge Canal. The files contain little on automobile emission standards and strip mining, which Glenn Schleede, also assistant director for natural resources, usually handled. A few items relate to the work of Douglas Costle, whom Ross began training in May 1975 to assume responsibility for environmental matters. However, Costle left the Domestic Council after only a few weeks.

Several folders on environmental issues contain material from 1973. While most of the 1973 material consists of press releases, material from as early as January 1974 appears in the files. One Ross file relates entirely to proposed input on natural resources issues for President Nixon's 1974 State of the Union Address and a follow-up environmental and natural resources message.

The most significant Ross file on Interior Department matters relates to the status of Puerto Rico, especially the work of the Ad hoc Advisory Committee on Puerto Rico. Ross served as the President's representative on this body from April 1974 to June 1975. His files include correspondence, memoranda, drafts of the Compact of Permanent Union, testimony and newspaper clippings concerning both administrative matters relating to the operation of the Committee and the policy proposals it developed.

Ross was apparently not as active on agricultural issues. The Ford administration offered few agricultural initiatives, so much of his material concerns complaints about the general state of American agriculture or the problems involved with raising a specific crop or producing livestock.

### **Related Materials** (May 1982)

Materials related to the Ross files can be found in the Domestic Council staff files of his successors - Paul Leach (agriculture); Tod Hullin and George Humphreys (environment); James Falk, Sam Halper and Dean Overman (Puerto Rico and the territories); and Arthur Quern, Spencer Johnson and Sarah Massengale (food stamps). Material on Indian affairs appears in the Domestic Council files of Janet Brown and the White House staff files of Theodore Marrs, Bobbie Kilberg and Bradley Patterson. Ross' files of Q and A briefing sheets, 1974-75, can be found in White House Central Files OA 3264.

**Last Modified Date**

2025-12-15

**Agriculture Subject File, 1974-75.**

(Boxes 1-3, 1.0 linear feet)

Memoranda to and from the White House staff, Domestic Council staff, the President and officials of the departments and agencies; correspondence between Ross and individual citizens or organizations; briefing papers; notes on meetings; press releases; publications. Among the topics are the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act of 1974, milk prices, the Russian grain deal, and a timber policy study.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

**Box 1 - Agriculture Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Canning Lid Shortage
OPEN	Child Nutrition
OPEN	Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act of 1974 (1)- (2)
OPEN	Cotton
OPEN	Dairy Farming
OPEN	Department of Agriculture (1)-(6)

**Box 2 - Agriculture Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Department of Agriculture - Key Activities FY 1975
OPEN	Department of Agriculture - Presidential and Departmental Accomplishments
OPEN	Department of Agriculture - Presidential Objectives
OPEN	Energy
OPEN	Fertilizers
OPEN	Food
OPEN	Food and Agriculture Conference on Inflation
OPEN	Grain

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Grain - Russian Grain Deal
OPEN	House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains
OPEN	Kansas Livestock Association
OPEN	Livestock (1)-(2)
OPEN	Livestock Conference 10/30/1974
OPEN	Milk Prices (1)-(2)
OPEN	National Forum on Growth Policy

**Box 3 - Agriculture Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Pesticide Control
OPEN	Presidential Meetings
OPEN	Sheep
OPEN	Soil and Water Conservation
OPEN	Sugar
OPEN	Timber Policy Study (1)-(2)
OPEN	Water - Waste Treatment (1)-(2)

**Department of the Interior and Environmental Agencies Subject File, 1973-75.**

(Boxes 3-7, 1.8 linear feet)

Memoranda to and from the White House staff, Domestic Council staff, the President and officials of the departments and agencies; correspondence between Ross and individual citizens or organizations; question and answer briefing sheets; press releases; and publications. Besides environmental issues, this file concerns the relationship between the United States and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and between the United States and its territories. Among the topics are the Cross Florida Barge Canal, the status of Puerto Rico, mineral resources, the National Ocean Policy Study, and the drafting of an environmental and natural resources message for President Nixon.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

**Box 3 (Continued) - Department of the Interior and Environmental Agencies Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System
OPEN	Auto Emissions
OPEN	Cache River Basin
OPEN	Chlorine Shortage
OPEN	Corps of Engineers

**Box 4 - Department of the Interior and Environmental Agencies Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Council on Environmental Quality
OPEN	Cross Florida Canal
OPEN	Cross Florida Canal - Environmental, Social, and Economic Impact Report
OPEN	Cross Florida Canal - Evaluation of Transportation Economics
OPEN	Cross Florida Canal - Status Report April 1975
OPEN	Cross Florida Canal - Water Resources Development
OPEN	Deep Ocean Mineral Initiatives
OPEN	Department of the Interior (1)-(3)
OPEN	Department of the Interior - Natural Resource and Recreation Economic Conference, Dallas, Texas, September 15-16, 1974
OPEN	Department of the Interior - Presidential Events
OPEN	Department of the Interior - Presidential Objectives
OPEN	Environmental Policy Study

**Box 5 - Department of the Interior and Environmental Agencies Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Environmental Protection Agency
OPEN	Environmental Protection Agency - Noise
OPEN	Environmental Protection Agency - Pesticides
OPEN	Environmental Protection Agency - Presidential Events

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Executive Seminar on Environmental Quality and Natural Resources
OPEN	Great Lakes Task Force
OPEN	Guam (1)-(2)
OPEN	Interagency Task Force on Inadvertent Modification of the Stratosphere (IMOS)
OPEN	Koniag Region, Alaska
OPEN	Migrant Farmworkers
OPEN	Minerals (1)-(2)

**Box 6 - Department of the Interior and Environmental Agencies Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	National Commission on Water Quality
OPEN	National Science Foundation (1)-(2)
OPEN	National Ocean Policy Study (1)-(4)
OPEN	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (1)-(2)
OPEN	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Puget Sound
OPEN	Natural Resources - Domestic Council
OPEN	Nonreturnable Beverage Containers
OPEN	Puerto Rico (1)-(3)

**Box 7 - Department of the Interior and Environmental Agencies Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Puerto Rico (4)
OPEN	Puerto Rico - Ad Hoc Advisory Committee (1)-(4)
OPEN	Quarantines - Pet Industry
OPEN	Safe Drinking Water Act
OPEN	Seaward Advancement Conference
OPEN	Shrimp
OPEN	Society of Exploration Geophysicists

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	State of the Union, 1974 (1)-(2)
OPEN	Trust Territories
OPEN	Waste - Ocean Dumping
OPEN	Water Resources
OPEN	Water Resources Council

**Indian Affairs Subject File, 1972-75.**

(Boxes 8-11, 1.6 linear feet)

Memoranda to and from the White House staff, Domestic Council staff, the President, and officials of the departments and agencies; correspondence from individual citizens and organizations; press releases; legislation; legal briefs; and publications. This series mainly concerns economic enterprises owned by Indian tribes, protests staged by groups of Indians, and proposed legislation to assist Indians. Topics include the Bureau of Indian Affairs; a protest at Eagle Bay, New York; a court decision on salmon fishing rights of Indians in Washington state; the Kootenai nation; and expansion of a ski resort operated by the Mescalero Apaches.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

**Box 8 - Indian Affairs Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Aamodt Indians
OPEN	Advisory Committee on Indian Trust Responsibilities
OPEN	Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
OPEN	Alaskan Indians
OPEN	Alaskan Indians - Claims
OPEN	Alaskan Indians - Cook Inlet Region's Typical Villages and Typical Withdrawals
OPEN	American Indian Activities
OPEN	American Indian Defense, Inc.
OPEN	American Indian Development Association
OPEN	American Indian Movement
OPEN	American Indian Policy Review Commission

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	American Indian Press Association
OPEN	Americans for Indian Opportunity
OPEN	Bay Mills Indian Community
OPEN	Bicentennial
OPEN	Black Hills Indians
OPEN	Bureau of Indian Affairs (1)-(2)
OPEN	Bureau of Indian Affairs - The American Indians: Answers to 101 Questions
OPEN	Canadian Policy
OPEN	Civil Rights and Indians
OPEN	Coalition of Eastern Native Americans, Inc.
OPEN	Cultural Coordinators Project
OPEN	Eagle Bay, New York (1)

**Box 9 - Indian Affairs Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Eagle Bay, New York (2)
OPEN	Economic Development Administration
OPEN	Education - General
OPEN	Education - Post Secondary
OPEN	Education - S 1017
OPEN	Fishing Rights - Boldt Decision and Pacific Salmon Fishing (1)-(2)
OPEN	Foundation for Airborne Relief
OPEN	General (1)-(2)
OPEN	Havasupai
OPEN	Horton Agency
OPEN	Indian Claims Commission
OPEN	Interagency Task Force on Indian Affairs
OPEN	Johnson - O'Malley Program and Regulations
OPEN / DIGITIZED	<a href="#"><u>Kootenai Nation (1)</u></a>
OPEN / DIGITIZED	<a href="#"><u>Kootenai Nation (2)</u></a>

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Land
OPEN	Law Enforcement Problems

**Box 10 - Indian Affairs Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Legislation (1)-(2)
OPEN	Mescalero Apaches
OPEN	Mescalero Apaches - Sierra Blanca Ski Resort (1)-(2)
OPEN	Mohawk Nation
OPEN	National Congress of American Indians
OPEN	National Council on Indian Opportunity
OPEN	National Indian Activities Association
OPEN	Native American Rights Fund
OPEN	Navajo and Hopi Tribes (1)-(2)
OPEN	Office of Economic Opportunity (1)

**Box 11 - Indian Affairs Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Office of Economic Opportunity (2)
OPEN	Office of Native American Programs
OPEN	Presidential Meeting with Indian Leaders
OPEN	Quinalt Tribe
OPEN	Revenue Sharing
OPEN	Ruiz vs. Morton
OPEN	Salmon Fishing
OPEN	Sioux Nation of Indians (1)-(2)
OPEN	Social Services
OPEN	South Dakota
OPEN	The Native Americans: At What Level Sovereignty?
OPEN	Urban Indians
OPEN	United Southeastern Tribes

**General Subject File, 1974-75.**

(Box 12, 0.4 linear feet)

Memoranda to and from other members of the Domestic Council staff, correspondence with individuals and organizations, press releases, a mail log, and publications. This series is basically administrative in nature and concerns such topics as the organization of the Domestic Council, invitations received by Ross, and the handling of mail he received.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

### **Box 12 - General Subject File**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Domestic Council Issues (1)-(2)
OPEN	Invitations - Ross
OPEN	Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee
OPEN	Federal Travel Regulations
OPEN	Financial Aid
OPEN	Legislative Affairs
OPEN	Mail Log (1)-(3)
OPEN	Papers Relating to the President's Departmental Reorganization Program
OPEN	Presidential Meetings
OPEN	Press Releases, (1)-(4)
OPEN	White House Staff Memoranda

### **Referrals, 1974-75.**

(Box 13, 0.2 linear feet)

Referral sheets and some correspondence. This series concerns mail from the public which Ross referred to departments and agencies to draft a response or respond directly. Only a few of the referral sheets have either the incoming letter or a copy of the response attached.

Arranged alphabetically by agency name and thereunder chronologically.

### **Box 13 - Referrals**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
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OPEN	Agriculture Department (1)-(5)
OPEN	Commerce Department
OPEN	Council on Environmental Quality
OPEN	Environmental Protection Agency
OPEN	Federal Energy Administration
OPEN	Interior Department
OPEN	Miscellaneous Agencies
OPEN	Office of Management and Budget

**Chronological File, 1974-75.**

(Boxes 13-15, 0.8 linear feet)

Copies of outgoing memoranda and correspondence and occasional briefing papers or question and answer briefing sheets. Included are copies of the responses to many of the letters from the public which Ross referred to the departments and agencies for a draft response. Topics include predator control, dairy prices, beef imports, agricultural commodities, food stamps, the sugar tariff, public works projects, Indian affairs, forestry, and fisheries.

Arranged chronologically.

**Box 13 (Continued) - Chronological File**

Status	Title
OPEN	7/74-10/74

**Box 14 - Chronological File**

Status	Title
OPEN	11/74-2/75

**Box 15 - Chronological File**

Status	Title
OPEN	3/75-6/75