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GEORGE DENISON PAPERS, 1976-77

Collection Type

Personal Papers

Extent

1.0 linear feet (ca. 2,000 pages)

Record Type

Textual

Access

Open.

Copyright

Mr. Denison donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain.

Processed by

Kristin Roberts, August 1992

Biography

George H. Denison

December 18, 1934 - Born in Detroit, Michigan

1957 - B.A. in Political Science, University of Michigan

1957-61 - M.A. in Political Science, University of Michigan

1961 - LL.B., Detroit College of Law

1960-61 - Assistant credit manager, Detroit Mortgage and Realty Co., Michigan

1961-62 - Legal assistant to National Labor Relations Board member Philip Ray Rodgers

1962-65 - Associate minority counsel, U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare

1965 - Attorney in private practice and free lance author

1966-68 - Contributing writer, Reader's Digest Washington Editorial Office

1968-1976 - Associate editor, Reader's Digest Washington Editorial Office

1976-1977 - Speechwriter for President Gerald R. Ford

Scope and Content Note

The George Denison Papers consist of case files on his speechwriting activities in the White House Office of Editorial Staff between May 1976 and January 1977. During this period Denison shared the speechwriting duties with several other individuals. They were all supervised by Robert Orben, Special Assistant to the President and director of the Editorial Staff.

Many of the speeches produced by Denison dealt with the goals and achievements of the Ford administration during the previous two and a half years. They also focused on the 1976 campaign issues, such as unemployment and national defense. In addition, Denison composed many speeches that were used at award and ceremonial events.

The case file for an individual speech often includes several drafts which were circulated to his superiors, researchers, and appropriate White House and departmental aides for clearance. Also included are personal notes he used to assist in composing speeches and a few large print reading copies of speeches on which the President made his own additions and deletions.

Related Materials (August 1992)

The most important related collection is the Paul Theis and Robert Orben Files (41 feet) which include materials on the organization and operation of the Office of Editorial Staff as well as drafts of many Presidential addresses. Speechwriting materials from early in the administration appear in the White House Central Files

Category SP (speeches). Another related collection is the Reading Copies of Presidential Speeches.

Last Modified Date

2025-03-06

Speech File, 1976-77.

(Boxes 1-3, 1.0 linear feet)

Case files containing speeches, speech drafts, notes and memoranda. The materials concern a wide variety of speeches, ranging from President Ford's Republican Convention acceptance speech and the Bicentennial speeches to routine addresses at holiday festivities and award ceremonies.

Chronologically arranged case files.

Box 1 - Speech File

Status	Title
OPEN	5/6/76 - Michigan Association of Broadcasters
OPEN	5/12/76 - Michigan - Economic Club of Detroit
OPEN	5/12/76 - Michigan - Shain Park - Birmingham
OPEN	5/14/76 - Tennessee - Memphis Mid - America Mall
OPEN	5/24/76 - California Peace Officers Convention
OPEN	5/31/76 - Memorial Day - Arlington National Cemetery
OPEN	6/6/76 - Golden Age Dinner Drop - By - Cleveland, OH
OPEN	6/17/76 - Statement on Social Security
OPEN	6/22/76 - Jaycees Convention (1) - (2)
OPEN	6/29/76 - Swearing - in of C. Austin Montgomery - Administrator of National Credit Union Administration
OPEN	6/30/76 - Reception for Republican Leaders
OPEN	7/3/76 - Honor America Performance
OPEN	7/4/76 - Bicentennial Speeches
OPEN	7/13/76 - American Field Service - Exchange Students
OPEN	7/14/76 - Briefing to Presidential Spokespersons

Status	Title
OPEN	7/14/76 - Convention of the National Federation of Business Women's Clubs
OPEN	7/20/76 - Young American Medal Winners Award Ceremony
OPEN	7/27/76 - Public Relations World Congress
OPEN	7/31/76 - Yale Law School Group
OPEN	8/15/76 - Convention of the National Medical Association
OPEN	8/19/76 - Republican Convention Acceptance Speech (1) - (2)

Box 2 - Speech File

Status	Title
OPEN	8/24/76 - Vail Meetings on Campaign
OPEN	9/1/76 - National Guard Association
OPEN	9/5/76 - Labor Day Message
OPEN	9/10/76 - National Hispanic Heritage Week - Proclamation Signing
OPEN	9/13/76 - Signing of S.5 - The Government in the Sunshine Act
OPEN	9/14/76 - American Business Volunteers
OPEN	9/15/76 - University of Michigan (1) - (2)
OPEN	9/16/76 - Hispanic Heritage Week: Reception - Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
OPEN	9/27/76 - Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police - Miami, Florida (1) - (3)
OPEN	9/28/76 - Veterans Administration Christmas Show for Hospitalized Veterans
OPEN	10/8/76 - Lawton, Oklahoma
OPEN	10/8/76 - Glendale, California (Includes Stump Speech)
OPEN	10/13/76 - General Revenue Sharing Bill Signing, Yonkers, New York
OPEN	10/15/76 - Farm Speech, Ames, Iowa (1) - (4)

Box 3 - Speech File

Status	Title
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OPEN 10/21/76 - Swearing - in Ceremony - Federal Council on the Aging

OPEN 10/29/76 - Wisconsin Education Association - Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1) - (2)

OPEN 10/29/76 - Luther Ely Smith Park - St. Louis, Missouri

OPEN 10/31/76 - Nassau Coliseum, Long Island

OPEN 11/2/76 - Dedication of Gerald R. Ford Mural - Kent County Airport - Grand Rapids, Michigan

OPEN 12/8/76 - Congressional Silver Medal Award to Brigadier General Charles E. Yeager

OPEN 1/77 - President's Farewell Speech

OPEN 1/5/77 - Cabinet Farewell Dinner Party

OPEN 1/10/77 - Medal of Freedom Presentation - White House