

Saul Pett Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2008

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm97084094>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008059>

Prepared by Bradley E. Gernand

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2008

Collection Summary

Title: Saul Pett Papers

Span Dates: 1940-1993

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1960-1984)

ID No.: MSS84094

Creator: Pett, Saul, 1918-1993

Extent: 3,850 items

Extent: 11 containers plus 1 oversize

Extent: 4.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm97084094>

Summary: Journalist. Correspondence, notebooks, articles, legal documents, photographs, and other related material documenting Pett's career with the Associated Press.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Abourezk, James G., 1931-

Carter, Jimmy, 1924-

Coleman, William T. (William Thaddeus), 1920-2017.

Ford, Gerald R., 1913-2006.

Gallagher, Wes, 1911- --Correspondence.

Humphrey, Hubert H. (Hubert Horatio), 1911-1978.

Pett, Saul, 1918-1993.

Richardson, Elliot L., 1920-1999.

Organizations

Associated Press.

Subjects

Journalism--United States.

Pulitzer Prizes.

Occupations

Journalists.

Provenance

The papers of Saul Pett, journalist, were given to the Library of Congress by his daughters, Amy Pett, Sukey Pett, and Kathy Pett Ryman via Marie S. W. Ridder in 1997.

Processing History

The papers of Saul Pett were arranged and described in 1998. The register was revised in 2008.

Transfers

Audiovisual and sound recordings have been transferred to the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of the Saul Pett Papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Saul Pett in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Saul Pett are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Saul Pett Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1918, Mar. 18	Born, Passaic, N.J.
1940	B.J., University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. Copyboy, <i>New York Daily News</i> , New York, N.Y.
circa 1940	Married Leanore Green (died 1978)
1940-1946	Reported for International News Service in Detroit, Mich., New York, N.Y., and Chicago, Ill.
1946	Joined Associated Press, New York, N.Y.
1955	Accompanied Richard Evelyn Byrd on International Geophysical Year expedition to Antarctica
1959	Reported on Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev's tour of the United States
1960	Reported from Belgian Congo during struggle for independence Awarded Sigma Delta Chi award for general reporting
1962	Awarded Distinguished Service in Journalism medal, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.
1964	Named Associated Press special correspondent
1972	Accompanied President Richard M. Nixon to Moscow, USSR, for signing of first nuclear arms limitation treaty
1982	Awarded Pulitzer Prize for feature writing
1989	Moved to Washington, D.C.
1991	Retired from Associated Press
1993, June 13	Died, McLean, Va.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Saul Pett (1918-1993) span the years 1940-1993, with the bulk of the material dating from 1960 to 1984 . Pett, a feature writer for Associated Press during much of his career, was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for journalism in 1982. As a feature writer, Pett covered personalities and the human interest side of events rather than hard news stories. Pett's papers are organized into four series: [Notebooks](#) , [Stories File](#) , [Miscellany](#) , and [Oversize](#) .

The [Notebooks](#) series is comprised of small, spiral-bound, pocket-sized notebooks in which Pett recorded story notes. Several bear subject annotation, but the majority do not, and some include unrelated subjects.

Draft and published copies of Pett's features make up the [Stories File](#), and, while not inclusive, they cover all of his career. Stories concern international travels and interviews with notable leaders and citizens. Political leaders regarding whom there are both published stories and interview notes or transcripts include James Abourezk, Jimmy Carter, William T. Coleman, Gerald R. Ford, Hubert H. Humphrey, and Elliot L. Richardson.

The [Miscellany](#) contains various subject files and material, including correspondence with well-wishers concerning Pett's Pulitzer Prize, legal documents, and photographs. Correspondence with Wes Gallagher, general manager of Associated Press, sheds light on the internal workings of the organization. [Oversize](#) includes a diploma and retirement scrapbook.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [Notebooks, undated](#)
- [Stories File, 1942-1991](#)
- [Miscellany, 1940-1993](#)
- [Oversize, 1940-1991](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-6	<p><u>Notebooks, undated</u></p> <p>Small, spiral-bound notebooks. Unarranged.</p>
BOX 6-9	<p><u>Stories File, 1942-1991</u></p> <p>Draft and published copies of hard news and feature articles by Pett. Arranged into general topics and therein chronologically, or by personalities, places and events and therein alphabetically.</p>
BOX 10-11	<p><u>Miscellany, 1940-1993</u></p> <p>Correspondence, legal records, photographs, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by subject and thereunder chronologically.</p>
BOX OV 1	<p><u>Oversize, 1940-1991</u></p> <p>Diploma and scrapbook. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-6	Notebooks, undated Small, spiral-bound notebooks. Unarranged.
BOX 1-6	Undated (17 folders)
BOX 6-9	Stories File, 1942-1991 Draft and published copies of hard news and feature articles by Pett. Arranged into general topics and therein chronologically, or by personalities, places and events and therein alphabetically.
BOX 6	General topics
BOX 6	1942-1967 (2 folders)
BOX 7	1968-1991, undated (5 folders)
BOX 8	Personalities
BOX 8	Abourezk, James, interview, circa 1977
BOX 8	Aptheker, Herbert, undated
BOX 8	Borlaug, Norman, undated
BOX 8	Boyle, Harold V. ("Hal"), 1974, undated
BOX 8	Carter, Jimmy
BOX 8	Interviews, 1977
BOX 8	Stories, circa 1976-circa 1978
BOX 8	Clifford, Clark M., 1968
BOX 8	Coleman, William T., interview, undated
BOX 8	Connelly, John, 1975
BOX 8	Considine, Bob, 1976-1977
BOX 8	Eames, Charles, undated
BOX 8	Eisenhower, Dwight D., 1961
BOX 8	Ford, Gerald R.
BOX 8	Interviews, 1974-1977
BOX 8	Photographs, circa 1974
BOX 8	Stories, 1974-1976
BOX 8	Glenn, John, 1962-1964
BOX 8	Hall, Gus, 1987
BOX 8	Harriman, W. Averell, 1975
BOX 8	Hoover, Herbert C., 1961, undated
BOX 8	Humphrey, Hubert H.
BOX 8	Interviews, 1969-1976, undated
BOX 8	Stories, 1966-1969, 1976-1978

Stories File, 1942-1991

Container

Contents

BOX 8	Johnson, Lyndon B., circa 1963-1974
BOX 8	Kennedy, John F., 1968, undated
BOX 8	Kennedy, Joseph P. (1888-1969), undated
BOX 8	Kennedy, Robert F., 1968, undated
BOX 8	Kerr, Robert S., 1962
BOX 8	Kissinger, Henry, undated
BOX 8	Khrushchev, Nikita S., visit to United States, 1959
BOX 8	Koch, Edward I., undated
BOX 8	Lindsay, John V., 1965
BOX 8	MacArthur, Douglas, 1960
BOX 9	Mansfield, Mike, undated
BOX 9	McCarthy, Eugene, 1968-1971
BOX 9	McGovern, George S., 1971-1972
BOX 9	McNamara, Robert S., 1968
BOX 9	Mondale, Walter, 1974
BOX 9	Moynihan, Daniel P., undated
BOX 9	Muskie, Edwin P., undated
BOX 9	Nixon, Richard M., 1960-1976, undated (3 folders)
BOX 9	O'Neill, Thomas P. ("Tip"), 1977
BOX 9	Phillips, David Atlee, 1975
BOX 9	Photographs
BOX 9	General, circa 1955-circa 1989
BOX 9	Pett, Saul, circa 1946-circa 1989 <i>See also Container OV 1, Retirement scrapbook</i>
BOX 9	Reagan, Ronald W., circa 1988
BOX 9	Richardson, Elliot L.
BOX 9	Interviews, undated
BOX 9	Stories, 1973
BOX 9	Ripley, Sidney Dillon (1913-), undated
BOX 9	Rodino, Peter W., 1974
BOX 9	Rogers, William P., 1970
BOX 9	Schlesinger, Arthur M., 1978
BOX 9	Scranton, William W., 1966
BOX 9	Shor, Bernard ("Toots"), undated
BOX 9	Stassen, Harold E., undated
BOX 9	Stevenson, Adlai E. (1930-), undated
BOX 9	Truman, Harry S., 1961
BOX 9	Warren, Earl, 1963, 1971
BOX 9	Zimmerman, Warren, . n.d
BOX 9	Places and events
BOX 9	Alaska, visit to, 1959
BOX 9	Antarctica, trip to (1955), 1955-1957
BOX 9	Mexico, trip to, 1959
BOX 9	People's Republic of China, visit to, 1976

Stories File, 1942-1991

Container	Contents
BOX 9	Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, signing of, Moscow, USSR, 1972
BOX 10-11	Miscellany, 1940-1993 Correspondence, legal records, photographs, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by subject and thereunder chronologically.
BOX 10	Automobile accident, 1983-1986
BOX 10	Awards and certificates
BOX 10	Diploma, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., 1940 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 10	Honor Award for Distinguished Service in Journalism, 1962
BOX 10	Pulitzer Prize for Journalism, 1982
BOX 10	Top Performance Award, 1981
BOX 10	Family correspondence, . circa 1940, 1947-1951, 1961-1964, n.d
BOX 10	Family photographs, circa 1950s-1970s
BOX 10	Film scripts, undated
BOX 10	Gallagher, James Wesley ("Wes"), 1974, undated (2 folders)
BOX 10	Genealogy, undated
BOX 10	General correspondence
BOX 10	1950-1971 (2 folders)
BOX 11	1972-1991, undated
BOX 11	Kennedy, Ethel, undated
BOX 11	Last Will and Testament, 1979
BOX 11	Performance evaluation, 1986
BOX 11	Personal finances, 1979-1991 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Personalities profiled by Pett, 1985
BOX 11	Pett, Amy, 1982-1983
BOX 11	Pett, Leanore G., circa 1940, 1986, undated
BOX 11	Photographs
BOX 11	General, circa 1955-circa 1989
BOX 11	Pett, Saul, circa 1946-circa 1989
BOX 11	Retirement scrapbook, 1991 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 11	Ridder, Marie S. W., 1978, undated
BOX 11	Speeches, 1963-1984, undated
BOX 11	Stories about Pett, 1953-1993
BOX 11	White House, invitations to, 1965, 1974
BOX 11	<i>Why Not</i> (sloop), 1979
BOX OV 1	Oversize, 1940-1991 Diploma and scrapbook. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX OV 1	Awards and certificates
BOX OV 1	Diploma, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., 1940 (Container 10)
BOX OV 1	Retirement scrapbook, 1991 (Container 11)