

Rowland Evans Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2016

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2005085253>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010163>

Prepared by Michael McElderry
Revised and Expanded by Michael Folkerts

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2010
Revised 2016 September

Collection Summary

Title: Rowland Evans Papers

Span Dates: 1924-2001

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1940-2001)

ID No.: MSS85253

Creator: Evans, Rowland, 1921-2001

Extent: 20,300 items and 34 microfiche

Extent: 58 containers plus 3 oversize, 1 classified and 1 microfiche container

Extent: 23.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2005085253>

Summary: Journalist and author. Correspondence, notebooks, interviews, drafts, transcripts, articles and other writings, research and reference material, subject files, printed matter, and miscellaneous items relating to Evans's career as a journalist and political commentator.

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

Carter, Jimmy, 1924-

Evans, Rowland, 1921-2001.

Evans, Rowland, 1921-2001. Inside report.

Evans, Rowland, 1921-2001. Lyndon B. Johnson: the exercise of power; a political biography. 1966.

Evans, Rowland, 1921-2001. Nixon in the White House: the frustration of power. 1971.

Evans, Rowland, 1921-2001. Reagan revolution. 1981.

Johnson, Lyndon B. (Lyndon Baines), 1908-1973.

Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963.

Nixon, Richard M. (Richard Milhous), 1913-1994.

Novak, Robert D.

Novak, Robert D. Inside report.

Novak, Robert D., Lyndon B. Johnson: the exercise of power; a political biography. 1966.

Novak, Robert D., Nixon in the White House: the frustration of power. 1971.

Novak, Robert D., Reagan revolution. 1981.

Reagan, Ronald.

Organizations

Cable News Network.

Liberty (Ship)

Subjects

Cold War.

Israel-Arab War, 1967.

Journalism--United States.

Journalists--United States.

Journalists--Washington (D.C.)

Politicians--United States.

Politicians--Washington (D.C.)

Vietnam War, 1961-1975.

Places

Israel--Foreign relations--United States.

Middle East--Foreign relations--United States.
Southeast Asia--Foreign relations--United States.
Soviet Union--Foreign relations--United States.
United States--Foreign relations--Israel.
United States--Foreign relations--Middle East.
United States--Foreign relations--Southeast Asia.
United States--Foreign relations--Soviet Union.
United States--Foreign relations--Vietnam.
United States--Officials and employees.
United States--Politics and government--20th century.
Vietnam--Foreign relations--United States.
Washington (D.C.)--History.

Titles

New York herald tribune.
Reader's digest.

Occupations

Authors.
Journalists.

Provenance

The papers of Rowland Evans, journalist and author, were given to the Library of Congress in 2005, 2012, and 2013 by his wife, Katherine Evans.

Processing History

The papers of Rowland Evans were arranged and described in 2007. Additional material received between 2012 and 2013 was processed and the description revised and expanded in 2016.

Transfers

A videotape has been transferred to the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where it is identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Rowland Evans in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for further information.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Rowland Evans 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.

Security Classified Documents

Government regulations control the use of security classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified materials.

Microfiche

The Middle East File of the Rowland Evans Papers includes thirty-four microfiche received with the collection.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1921, Apr. 28	Born, Whitemarsh, Pa.
1940-1941	Attended Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
1945-1955	Reporter, Associated Press, Washington Bureau
1949	Married Katherine Winton
1950	A.A., George Washington University, Washington D.C.
1955-1963	Reporter, <i>New York Herald Tribune</i>
1963-1993	Published with Robert D. Novak the syndicated newspaper column Inside Report
1966	Published with Robert D. Novak <i>Lyndon B. Johnson: The Exercise of Power</i> . New York: New American Library
1971	Published with Robert D. Novak <i>Nixon in the White House: The Frustration of Power</i> . New York: Random House
1981	Published with Robert D. Novak <i>The Reagan Revolution</i> . New York: Dutton
1981-1999	Contributing editor with Robert D. Novak, <i>Reader's Digest</i>
1982-2001	Political commentator and cohost of "Evans and Novak," Cable News Network television
2001, Mar. 23	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Rowland Evans (1921-2001) span the years 1924-2001, with the bulk of the material dating from 1940 to 2001. The collection contains correspondence, reporter's notebooks, drafts, research and reference material, and other publishing material relating to Evans's career as a journalist and author. Best known for his longtime partnership with Robert D. Novak, Evans joined with the former congressional correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal* in 1963 to write Inside Report, a nationally syndicated political column that from 1966 was published by the *Chicago Sun Times*. In addition to their newspaper column, Evans and Novak also hosted their own program of political commentary on Cable News Network and were frequent guests on other radio and television programs as well. The papers include drafts and copies of articles, transcripts and typescript notes of interviews, and television transcripts reflecting the mixed media outlets within which the journalists operated and the access to sources which made it possible. The collection is organized in the following series: [Part I: Notebooks](#), [Part I: Journalism File](#), [Part I: Book File](#), [Part I: Middle East File](#), [Part I: Classified](#), [Part II: Journalism File](#), [Part II: Notebooks](#), [Part II: Personal File](#), and [Part II: Oversize](#).

The [Part I: Notebooks](#) and [Part II: Notebooks](#) contain the primary sources of Evans's journalism, and he kept them continuously throughout his career. They include handwritten notes of conversations and personal interviews with a variety of public figures and administration officials and record Evans's impressions of events that he either participated in or witnessed. Most of the notebooks are dated on the front cover and include short references to their contents.

The [Part I: Journalism File](#) includes correspondence, drafts, photocopies of articles, research material, and transcripts relating to Evans and Novak's print journalism and television commentary, in particular their work as contributing editors for *Part I: Reader's Digest*. Although Evans and Novak shared reportorial duties, Evans specialized in reporting on American foreign policy issues and national security affairs, and the articles submitted to *Part I: Reader's Digest* reflect

this division of interest. The series also includes photocopies of articles the team wrote for Inside Report, the widely syndicated newspaper column that first brought them to prominence, and contract documentation with various syndicators regarding the column's publication. The guest lists for Inside Report's twenty-fifth anniversary includes the names of notable politicians, journalists, and other public figures who represented a cross section of established Washington society within which the two reporters circulated.

The [Part I: Journalism File](#) includes transcripts from telecasts of "Evans-Novak Report," a Metromedia-WTTG television program that includes interviews with many prominent political and international personalities, and a small file of material celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of their political discussion program, "Evans and Novak," on CNN television. The series also contains correspondence, memoranda, legal briefs and records, and printed matter regarding the libel case against Evans and Novak brought by Bertell Ollman, who claimed to have been denied the chairmanship of the Department of Politics and Government at the University of Maryland at College Park as a result of their column alleging his intentions to promote Marxism in the classroom.

In addition to his published newspaper columns and television programs, Evans also co-authored several books of contemporary presidential analysis with Novak. The [Part I: Book File](#) contains correspondence, drafts, notes, and research material relating to the research and writing of *Lyndon B. Johnson: The Exercise of Power*, *Nixon in the White House: The Frustration of Power*, and *The Reagan Revolution*. The series also includes research for a proposed, but unpublished, book on Jimmy Carter's presidency. Material of interest includes transcripts and handwritten and typescript notes of personal interviews conducted by Evans and Novak with a variety of administration officials that serve as source material for the study of late twentieth-century American politics as viewed through the office of the United States presidency. In addition to their access to inside sources, Evans and Novak also used official public documents and other printed matter for sources of information, as the research material collected by them in the series demonstrates.

The [Part I: Middle East File](#) was gathered and maintained by Evans as a reference and research file on Middle East and Israeli geopolitical issues and contains correspondence, memoranda, notes, statements and testimony, and printed matter. Reflective of the passions stirred by the many newspaper columns written by Evans and Novak on Middle East affairs are letters from the public, both pro and con, sent to the columnists in response to their articles. Among the topics represented in the series are extensive files surrounding the controversy over the Israeli air and sea attack in 1967 on the American intelligence ship *Liberty* during the Arab-Israeli Six-Day War and the subsequent diplomatic and press reactions to Israel's official claim of mistaken identity. The Liberty files contain correspondence, reports, printed matter, and other items relating to the attack and its aftermath, including background material on the book *Assault on the Liberty* by James M. Ennes, a junior officer onboard the ship during the attack and a leading critic of the United States government's official diplomatic response. The files include letters from survivors providing eyewitness accounts of the assault and in support of a full congressional investigation into the incident.

The [Part II: Journalism File](#) contains correspondence, drafts of writings, newspaper clippings, research material, and travel files from Evans's time as a journalist with the *New York Herald Tribune* and as a columnist with Robert Novak. As an expert in American foreign policy, Evans traveled overseas frequently, visiting Vietnam and other Southeast Asian countries during the Vietnam War, the Soviet Union during the Cold War, and the Middle East. His travel files include itineraries, interviews, notes, and correspondence. Also included in this series are files relating to professional coverage and interactions with President John F. Kennedy, including notes, interviews, and speeches collected from Kennedy's 1960 presidential campaign. Other material in this series includes newspaper clippings of Evans's *New York Herald Tribune* column, drafts of articles, and research conducted by Evans on various topics.

The [Part II: Personal File](#) contains primarily correspondence collected by Evans. These include personal letters from family, friends, and notable political figures, as well as various letters of praise and criticism of Evans's reporting. Most notable of the political figures is John F. Kennedy and his family, whom Evans befriended while reporting on the Senate and later the 1960 presidential election. Included in Evans's files are letters and personal notes from John F. and Robert F. Kennedy, including a note from John on the eve of his election stating "I must say if I lose I will have no feeling that I could have done more." Other items include details of a dinner party hosted with John F. Kennedy soon after his inauguration, and thank-you letters from the Kennedy family following John and Robert's assassination. Other material in [Part II: Personal File](#) includes drafts of Evans's memoir and travel files from speaking engagements.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in nine series:

- Part I: Notebooks, 1960-1995
- Part I: Journalism File, 1961-2001
- Part I: Book File, 1952-1981
- Part I: Middle East File, 1946-2000
- Part I: Classified, 1981-1982
- Part II: Journalism File, 1947-2000
- Part II: Notebooks, 1955-1993
- Part II: Personal File, 1924-2000
- Part II: Oversize, 1967-1973

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX I:1-8	<p><u>Part I: Notebooks, 1960-1995</u></p> <p>Reporter's notebooks containing handwritten notes recorded by Evans of various interviews and events.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically</p>
BOX I:8-17	<p><u>Part I: Journalism File, 1961-2001</u></p> <p>Correspondence, drafts, notes, transcripts, legal records, research material, photocopies, printed matter, and miscellaneous items relating to articles and other political commentary by Evans and Robert D. Novak.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by subject.</p>
BOX I:17-24	<p><u>Part I: Book File, 1952-1981</u></p> <p>Correspondence, drafts, interviews, notes, transcripts, outlines, proofs, research material, printed matter, and miscellaneous items concerning the research and writing of books by Evans and Robert D. Novak.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by title of book.</p>
BOX I:24-28	<p><u>Part I: Middle East File, 1946-2000</u></p> <p>Correspondence, memoranda, telegrams, notes, reports, statements and testimony, press releases, photocopies, printed matter, and miscellaneous items maintained by Evans as a reference and research file on the Middle East and Israel.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by subject.</p> <p>Includes one container of microfiche. Shelf number 23,004</p>
BOX I:CL 1	<p><u>Part I: Classified, 1981-1982</u></p> <p>Research and policy papers.</p> <p>Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.</p>
BOX II:1-16	<p><u>Part II: Journalism File, 1947-2000</u></p> <p>Correspondence, drafts, notes, research material, photocopies, travel documents, and miscellaneous items relating to articles and other political commentary by Evans as a journalist with the <i>New York Herald Tribune</i> and in cooperation with Robert D. Novak.</p> <p>Organized in an articles file, subject file, and travel file. The articles and subject file are arranged alphabetically by title, topic, or type of material. The travel file is arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX II:16-22	<p><u>Part II: Notebooks, 1955-1993</u></p> <p>Reporter's notebooks containing handwritten notes of various interviews and events.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX II:22-30	<p><u>Part II: Personal File, 1924-2000</u></p> <p>Correspondence, drafts, speeches, memoranda, and miscellaneous family and personal documents.</p> <p>Arranged by type of material.</p>

BOX II:OV 1-3

Part II: Oversize, 1967-1973

Cards from Evans's Rolodex and marked maps from his foreign assignments.

Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX I:1-8	Part I: Notebooks, 1960-1995 Reporter's notebooks containing handwritten notes recorded by Evans of various interviews and events. Arranged chronologically
BOX I:1	1960-1966, Feb. (5 folders)
BOX I:2	1966, Mar.-1968, Aug. (5 folders)
BOX I:3	1968, Sept.-1972, July (5 folders)
BOX I:4	1972, Sept.-1978 (5 folders)
BOX I:5	1978-1984, June (6 folders)
BOX I:6	1984, Aug.-1989 (6 folders)
BOX I:7	1990-1995 (4 folders) Undated (1 folder)
BOX I:8	Undated (4 folders)
BOX I:8-17	Part I: Journalism File, 1961-2001 Correspondence, drafts, notes, transcripts, legal records, research material, photocopies, printed matter, and miscellaneous items relating to articles and other political commentary by Evans and Robert D. Novak. Arranged alphabetically by subject.
BOX I:8	Articles and other writings Drafts, 1962-1963, undated (2 folders)
BOX I:9	Newspaper clippings, 1961 Proof, undated Correspondence, 1997, undated "Evans and Novak," CNN television, fifteenth anniversary, 1997 "Evans-Novak Report," Metromedia-WTTG television, transcripts, 1969 (4 folders) Inside Report Photocopies Articles written after retirement, 1993-2000

Part I: Journalism File, 1961-2001

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BOX I:10	Israel and the Middle East, 1967-1993 (6 folders) Russia, 1989-1993
BOX I:11	Syndication contracts, 1985-1989, undated Twenty-fifth anniversary, 1988 Ollman v. Evans and Novak Correspondence, 1978-1987, undated Legal briefs and records, 1979-1984, undated (2 folders) Printed matter, 1972, 1978-1987, undated <i>Reader's Digest</i> 1981, Dec., "Pakistan: Nation on a Tightrope," 1980-1981, undated 1982 Jan., "America and Israel: A Troubled Partnership" Correspondence, 1981-1982, undated
BOX I:12	Drafts and notes, 1981-1982, undated General, 1981 June, "What's Happened to U.S. Foreign Policy?" 1981-1982, undated 1983 Nov., Hafez Assad, proposed article, 1970-1983, undated Dec. "George Shultz: Diplomacy's Quiet Man," 1983, undated 1985 Feb., "Israel's Hour of Danger" Correspondence, 1983-1984 Drafts and notes, 1984, undated General, 1981-1984, undated
BOX I:13	June, "He Makes America Strong" Correspondence, undated Drafts and notes, 1985, undated General, 1972, 1980-1985, undated 1986, Nov., "Congress Is Crippling the CIA" Correspondence, 1985-1986, undated Drafts, 1986, undated General, 1984-1986, undated 1987 June, "Soviet Reform: Can Gorbachev Bring It Off?" Correspondence, 1987, undated Drafts and notes, 1987, undated
BOX I:14	General, 1985-1987, undated Dec., "High Stakes in the Persian Gulf," 1980-1987, undated 1989, "Which Way Germany?" 1988-1989, undated 1990, Aug., "Freedom's Flight in the Baltics" Correspondence, 1990, undated Drafts and notes, 1990, undated General, 1988-1990, undated 1991, "The Quiet, Big Clout of Dick Cheney"

Part I: Journalism File, 1961-2001

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BOX I:15	Correspondence, 1991, undated Drafts and notes, undated General, 1975-1991, undated 1993, Jan., "A Healer in the Holy Land" Correspondence, 1992 Drafts, 1992, undated General, 1975, 1988-1992, undated 1994, Aug., "The Oslo Channel" Correspondence, 1994, undated Drafts and notes, 1994, undated General, 1993-1994, undated
BOX I:16	1995, Apr., "Clinton's Yo-Yo Diplomacy," 1994-1995, undated 1996, Jan., "If War Should Come" Correspondence, 1995 Drafts and notes, 1995, undated General, 1993-1995, undated 1997, Sept., "A Woman Who Stands for Freedom" Correspondence, 1997 Drafts and notes, 1997, undated General, 1991-1997, undated
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BOX I:17-24	Part I: Book File, 1952-1981 Correspondence, drafts, interviews, notes, transcripts, outlines, proofs, research material, printed matter, and miscellaneous items concerning the research and writing of books by Evans and Robert D. Novak. Arranged alphabetically by title of book.
BOX I:17	Carter, Jimmy, proposed book Interviews Transcripts, 1977, undated
BOX I:18	Typescript notes, 1979, undated Miscellany, 1978 Outline, 1980 <i>Lyndon B. Johnson: The Exercise of Power</i> Corrections, undated Draft, undated Chapters 1-18 (5 folders)
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Part I: Book File, 1952-1981

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	Vice president
	Kennedy, John F., administration, 1961-1965, undated
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	Advance payment, 1981
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Part I: Book File, 1952-1981

Container	Contents
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BOX I:24-28	Part I: Middle East File, 1946-2000 Correspondence, memoranda, telegrams, notes, reports, statements and testimony, press releases, photocopies, printed matter, and miscellaneous items maintained by Evans as a reference and research file on the Middle East and Israel. Arranged alphabetically by subject. Includes one container of microfiche. Shelf number 23,004
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Part I: Middle East File, 1946-2000

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	Trip, 1981, undated
	U.S.-Israel relations
	Financial aid, 1980-1983, 1991, undated (2 folders)
	Political conflict, 1976-1982, undated
	Vanunu, Mordechai, 1986
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	Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
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BOX II:1-16	Part II: Journalism File, 1947-2000
	Correspondence, drafts, notes, research material, photocopies, travel documents, and miscellaneous items relating to articles and other political commentary by Evans as a journalist with the <i>New York Herald Tribune</i> and in cooperation with Robert D. Novak.
	Organized in an articles file, subject file, and travel file. The articles and subject file are arranged alphabetically by title, topic, or type of material. The travel file is arranged chronologically.
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	<i>The Conversion of Robert S. Kerr</i> , 1962
	<i>Decline and Fall of Congress</i> , 1959-1962
	<i>A New Tool for Politics</i> , 1961-1962
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Part II: Journalism File, 1947-2000

Container

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	Hart, Gary, presidential campaign, 1984
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	Press, 1957-1996
	Publications and news agencies
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	<i>Harper's Magazine</i> , 1961-1966
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Part II: Journalism File, 1947-2000

Container

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	Media bias and coverage, 1981-1988
	National Endowment of the Arts, 1989-1980 (2 folders)
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	Soviet Union/Russia, 1989-1993
	Vietnam prisoners of war, 1993
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	1964, Great Britain
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	1968, Middle East (2 folders)
	1970, Middle East and Soviet Union
	1971, Europe and Middle East (2 folders)
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	1972, Poland and Soviet Union, (2 folders)
	1973, Soviet Union and Middle East <i>See also Oversize</i> (3 folders)
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	1975, Middle East (3 folders)
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	1977, Middle East and Europe (1 folder)
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Part II: Journalism File, 1947-2000

Container	Contents
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BOX II:19	1976-1977
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	1986-1991 (4 folders)
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	Undated (4 folders)
BOX II:21	Undated (6 folders)
BOX II:22	Undated (2 folders)
BOX II:22-30	Part II: Personal File, 1924-2000 Correspondence, drafts, speeches, memoranda, and miscellaneous family and personal documents. Arranged by type of material.
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	Alsop, Joseph, 1958-1988
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	"A" miscellaneous, 1960-1993
	Brzezinski, Zbigniew, 1978-1991
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Part II: Personal File, 1924-2000

Container

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	"D-E" miscellaneous, 1971-1991
	Fay, Paul B., 1963-1998
BOX II:23	Fletcher, James, 1969-1987
	"F-G" miscellaneous, 1961-2000
	Humphrey, Hubert, 1959-1976
	"H" miscellaneous, 1950-1988
	Johnson, Lyndon B. and Lady Bird, 1955-1973
	"J-L" miscellaneous, 1962-1998
	"M-O" miscellaneous, 1962-1992
	Poor Family, 1977-2000
	"P-R" miscellaneous, 1965-1997
	Scherer family, 1946-1973
BOX II:24	Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr., 1964-1997
	(2 folders)
	"S" miscellaneous, 1966-1991
	Toland family, 1965-2000
	"T-V" miscellaneous, 1971-2000
	"W-Y" miscellaneous, 1963-1992
	Chronological
	1955-1964
	(3 folders)
BOX II:25	1965-1973
	(9 folders)
BOX II:26	1974-1982
	(9 folders)
BOX II:27	1983-1996
	(9 folders)
	Undated
	Family papers
	Downs, Phebe McKean, 1961-circa 1981
	Evans, Elizabeth Wharton, 1965-1993
	Evans, Rowland, Sr., 1950-1975
BOX II:28	Genealogy research, 1924-circa 1994
	(2 folders)
	Miscellaneous relatives, 1937-1997
	Nephews and nieces, 1964-2000
	Siblings, 1960-2000
	Winton, David, 1952-1968
	Kennedy family
	Correspondence, 1960-1999
	Kennedy, John F.
	Death of, 1963-1965
	Dinner party, 1961
	Miscellany, 1955-1964
	Kennedy, Robert F.
	Miscellany, 1961-1969

Part II: Personal File, 1924-2000

Container	Contents
BOX II:29	Oral history interview, 1970-1978 (2 folders) Memoir, 1997 (4 folders) Miscellany, 1940, 1961, undated Rolodex, undated <i>See Oversize</i> Royalty statements, 1965-1966 Speeches and travel 1966
BOX II:30	1969-1977 (7 folders) 1980-1985, 2000
BOX II:OV 1-3	Part II: Oversize, 1967-1973 Cards from Evans's Rolodex and marked maps from his foreign assignments. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX II:OV 1	Part II: Journalism File Travel file Southeast Asia and Middle East, 1967 (Container II: 9-10) Soviet Union and Middle East, 1973 (Container II: 11)
BOX II:OV 2-3	Part II: Personal File Rolodex, undated (Container II: 29)