

Wallace Rankin Deuel Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2012

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81075905>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms011205>

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Revised by Melinda K. Friend

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Collection Summary

Title: Wallace Rankin Deuel Papers

Span Dates: 1905-1971

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1939-1954)

ID No.: MSS75905

Creator: Deuel, Wallace Rankin, 1905-1974

Extent: 6,500 items

Extent: 62 containers plus 1 classified and 1 vault container

Extent: 20.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81075905>

Summary: Intelligence officer and journalist. Correspondence, journals, writings, lectures, transcripts of radio broadcasts, scrapbooks, and other papers relating to Deuel's career as an intelligence officer during World War II with the Office of Strategic Services, as a journalist with the *Chicago Daily News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and as a foreign intelligence analyst with the Central Intelligence Agency.

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

Acheson, Dean, 1893-1971--Correspondence.

Acheson, Dean, 1893-1971.

Deuel, Mary Virginia, 1905-1971.

Deuel, Michael McPherson, 1937-1965.

Deuel, Peter MacArthur, 1935-2005.

Deuel, Wallace Rankin, 1905-1974.

Deuel, Wallace Rankin, 1905-1974. People under Hitler. 1942.

Donovan, William J. (William Joseph), 1883-1959--Correspondence.

Duell family.

Dulles, Allen, 1893-1969--Correspondence.

Kennan, George, 1845-1924--Correspondence.

Knox, Frank, 1874-1944--Correspondence.

Pulitzer, Joseph, 1913-1993--Correspondence.

Stevenson, Adlai E. (Adlai Ewing), 1900-1965--Correspondence.

Organizations

Allied Forces. Supreme Headquarters.

United States. Central Intelligence Agency.

United States. Office of Strategic Services.

Subjects

American newspapers--Illinois--Chicago.

American newspapers--Missouri--Saint Louis.

Foreign correspondents--Germany--Berlin.

Intelligence service--United States.

World War, 1939-1945--Europe.

World War, 1939-1945--Secret service--United States.

Places

Germany--History--1933-1945.

Titles

Chicago daily news.
St. Louis post-dispatch.

Occupations

Intelligence officers.
Journalists.

Provenance

The papers of Wallace Rankin Deuel, intelligence officer and journalist, were given to the Library of Congress by his son, Peter MacArthur Deuel, in 1977.

Processing History

The papers of Wallace Rankin Deuel were arranged and described in 1979. The collection was expanded in 1985. The finding aid was revised and the collection partially reorganized in 2012.

Additional Guides

The Wallace Rankin Deuel Papers are described in *The Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress* 35, no. 4 (Oct. 1978): 252-54.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Wallace Rankin Deuel 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 Wallace Rankin Deuel 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.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

| Date | Event |
|---------------|--|
| 1905, June 14 | Born, Chicago, Ill. |
| 1926 | A.B. University of Illinois, Chicago, Ill. |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 1926-1929 | Instructor in political science and international law, American University, Beirut, Syria (now Lebanon) |
| 1929 | Married Mary Virginia Smock (died 1971) |
| 1929-1941 | Editorial writer and assistant to foreign editor, <i>Chicago Daily News</i> ; in charge of New York cable office, 1930-1931; correspondent, Washington, D.C., 1931-1932; correspondent, Rome, Italy, 1932-1934; and correspondent, Berlin, Germany, 1934-1941 |
| 1941-1945 | Special assistant to director, Office of Strategic Services (later Central Intelligence Agency) |
| 1942 | Published <i>People under Hitler</i> . New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company |
| 1944-1945 | Special assistant to Robert Daniel Murphy, political advisor on Germany, Allied Forces Supreme Headquarters |
| 1945-1949 | Diplomatic correspondent, <i>Chicago Daily News</i> , Washington, D.C. |
| 1949-1954 | Diplomatic correspondent, <i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i> , Washington, D.C. |
| 1954-1968 | Foreign intelligence analyst, Central Intelligence Agency |
| 1974, May 10 | Died aboard airplane enroute from Washington, D.C., to Chicago, Ill. |

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Wallace Rankin Deuel (1905-1974) span the years 1905-1971, with the bulk of the material dating from 1939 to 1954. The collection is strongest for Deuel's career in journalism. The papers are organized into the following series: [Correspondence](#), [Writings File](#), [Scrapbooks](#), [Miscellany](#), [Addition](#), and [Classified](#).

The [Correspondence](#) pertains to Deuel's personal and professional life. The general correspondence is largely comprised of personal letters with friends and family, with a few letters related to Deuel's work for the Office of Strategic Services during World War II. The correspondence for the *Chicago Daily News* and *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, mostly with editors and colleagues, reflects Deuel's work as a diplomatic correspondent including his tenure in Berlin, Germany, in the years leading up to World War II. Related correspondence is located in the [Addition](#). Correspondents include Dean Acheson, William J. Donovan, Allen Dulles, George Kennan, Frank Knox, Joseph Pulitzer (1913-1993), and Adlai E. Stevenson (1900-1965).

The [Writings File](#) includes detailed journals and newspaper stories written by Deuel during his last ten years as a journalist and a typescript of his book *People under Hitler*. In addition to performing his duties at the *Chicago Daily News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, Deuel was a regular contributor to *Newsweek*, appeared frequently as a panelist on radio and television programs, and had a weekly radio news program of his own. Transcripts of his radio broadcasts and lectures appear in this series and are also located in the [Addition](#) along with clippings from "The Periscope" section of *Newsweek*.

The [Scrapbooks](#) contain clippings of Deuel's articles written for the *Chicago Daily News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, magazine articles, and reviews of *People Under Hitler*. Of interest are the three volumes of reader correspondence written to Deuel in response to the publication of his series of articles on Germany and the Nazis after his return from Berlin in 1941.

[Miscellany](#) contains biographical sketches of contemporaries, a file on Dean Acheson, and financial records. Included also are memorabilia, photographs, and clippings relating to Deuel's son, Michael McPherson Deuel, who was killed in an airplane crash over Laos in 1965 while ostensibly working for the United States Agency for International Development, but serving as a covert operative for the Central Intelligence Agency.

The [Addition](#) contains family papers, writings, and a subject file. The family papers relate to Deuel's wife, Mary Virginia Deuel, and his two sons, Michael McPherson Deuel and Peter MacArthur Deuel, and contain correspondence, clippings, and memorabilia. A collection of material apparently gathered for the writing of a history of the Office of Strategic Services includes correspondence and notes from Deuel's service for that office. The subject file contains material from Deuel's service at the Department of State and the Allied Forces Supreme Headquarters during World War II, and later at the Central Intelligence Agency.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in six series:

- Correspondence, 1933-1969
- Writings File, 1934-1968
- Scrapbooks, 1930-1954
- Miscellany, 1937-1970
- Addition, 1905-1971
- Classified, 1944-1968

Description of Series

| Container | Series |
|--------------|---|
| BOX 1-7 | <p><u>Correspondence, 1933-1969</u></p> <p>Personal and professional correspondence. Arranged by type of correspondence and therein chronologically.</p> |
| BOX 8-28 | <p><u>Writings File, 1934-1968</u></p> <p>Typescripts of journals, a book, newspaper stories, lectures, magazine articles, and radio broadcasts. Arranged by type of writing and therein chronologically.</p> |
| BOX 29-54 | <p><u>Scrapbooks, 1930-1954</u></p> <p>Clippings of articles written by Deuel, reader correspondence, and reviews of his book, <i>People under Hitler</i>. Arranged by topic.</p> |
| BOX 55-VA 59 | <p><u>Miscellany, 1937-1970</u></p> <p>Biographical sketches of contemporaries, financial and tax records, family papers concerning Michael McPherson Deuel, card files, a collection of foreign coins, and other material. Arranged by type of material or topic.</p> |
| BOX 60-63 | <p><u>Addition, 1905-1971</u></p> <p>Correspondence, family papers, genealogy, writings, subject files, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.</p> |
| BOX CL 1 | <p><u>Classified, 1944-1968</u></p> <p>Government security documents. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.</p> |

Container List

| Container | Contents |
|-----------|---|
| BOX 1-7 | Correspondence, 1933-1969 Personal and professional correspondence. Arranged by type of correspondence and therein chronologically. |
| BOX 1 | General |
| BOX 1 | 1934-1953 (13 folders) |
| BOX 2 | 1954-1960 (7 folders) |
| BOX 3 | 1961-1965 (5 folders) |
| BOX 4 | 1965-1967 (7 folders) |
| BOX 5 | 1967-1969 (6 folders) |
| BOX 6 | <i>Chicago Daily News</i> , 1933-1949 (11 folders) |
| BOX 7 | <i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i> , 1950-1954 (6 folders) |
| BOX 7 | Job search, 1953-1954 (3 folders) |
| BOX 8-28 | Writings File, 1934-1968 Typescripts of journals, a book, newspaper stories, lectures, magazine articles, and radio broadcasts. Arranged by type of writing and therein chronologically. |
| BOX 8 | Journals |
| BOX 8 | 1945-1946 (17 folders) |
| BOX 9 | 1947-1948 (19 folders) |
| BOX 10 | 1948-1949 (17 folders) |
| BOX 11 | 1950 (12 folders) |
| BOX 12 | 1951-1952 (20 folders) |
| BOX 13 | 1952-1954 (17 folders) |
| BOX 14 | Book, <i>People under Hitler</i> , circa 1942 (7 folders) |
| BOX 15 | (5 folders) |

Writings File, 1934-1968

| Container | Contents |
|-----------|--|
| BOX 16 | Newspaper stories |
| BOX 16 | 1945-1946 (10 folders) |
| BOX 17 | 1946-1947 (13 folders) |
| BOX 18 | 1947-1948 (10 folders) |
| BOX 19 | 1948-1949 (12 folders) |
| BOX 20 | 1949 (7 folders) |
| BOX 21 | 1950 (11 folders) |
| BOX 22 | 1951 (11 folders) |
| BOX 23 | 1952 (9 folders) |
| BOX 24 | 1953 (8 folders) |
| BOX 25 | 1953-1954 (5 folders) |
| BOX 26 | Lectures, magazine articles, and file on prose |
| BOX 26 | Lectures, 1941-1953 (7 folders) |
| BOX 26 | Magazine articles, 1934-1948 |
| BOX 26 | File on style, clarity, and intelligibility of prose, 1946-1968 <i>See also Classified</i> |
| BOX 27 | Radio broadcasts <i>See also Containers 61-62, same heading</i> |
| BOX 27 | 1950-1952 (18 folders) |
| BOX 28 | 1953-1961 (12 folders) |
| BOX 29-54 | Scrapbooks, 1930-1954 Clippings of articles written by Deuel, reader correspondence, and reviews of his book, <i>People under Hitler</i> . Arranged by topic. |
| BOX 29 | <i>Chicago Daily News</i> |
| BOX 29 | Clippings of articles |
| BOX 29 | 1930-1937 (4 folders) |
| BOX 30 | 1937-1939 (4 folders) |
| BOX 31 | Correspondence from readers, 1941 (1 vol.) |
| BOX 32 | (1 vol.) |
| BOX 33 | (1 vol.) |
| BOX 34 | Clippings of articles |

Scrapbooks, 1930-1954

| Container | Contents |
|--------------|---|
| BOX 34 | 1945 |
| BOX 35-36 | 1946 (2 vols.) |
| BOX 37-38 | 1947 (2 vols.) |
| BOX 39-41 | 1948 (3 vols.) |
| BOX 42-43 | 1949 (2 vols.) |
| BOX 44 | <i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i> |
| BOX 44 | 1949-1950 |
| BOX 45 | 1950 |
| BOX 46-47 | 1951 (2 vols.) |
| BOX 48-49 | 1952 (2 vols.) |
| BOX 50-51 | 1953 (2 vols.) |
| BOX 52 | 1954 |
| BOX 53 | Magazine articles, 1940-1943 |
| BOX 54 | Reviews of <i>People under Hitler</i> , 1942 |
| BOX 55-VA 59 | Miscellany, 1937-1970 Biographical sketches of contemporaries, financial and tax records, family papers concerning Michael McPherson Deuel, card files, a collection of foreign coins, and other material. Arranged by type of material or topic. |
| BOX 55 | Acheson, Dean, 1943-1953 |
| BOX 55 | Biographical sketches and notes, A-Z, 1946-1953 (8 folders) |
| BOX 55 | Financial records |
| BOX 55 | Receipts, 1961-1970 |
| BOX 55 | Income tax records and receipts |
| BOX 55 | 1937-1944 (5 folders) |
| BOX 56 | 1945-1955 (10 folders) |
| BOX 57 | 1956-1968 (12 folders) |
| BOX 58 | Card files, circa 1945-circa 1954 |
| BOX 58 | Family papers, Michael McPherson Deuel, 1944-1970 |
| BOX 58 | Certificates and diplomas |
| BOX 58 | Clippings (2 folders) |
| BOX 58 | Death certificate |
| BOX 58 | Photographs |
| BOX 58 | Printed matter (2 folders) |

Miscellany, 1937-1970

| Container | Contents |
|-----------|---|
| BOX 58 | Report cards |
| BOX 58 | Miscellany (2 folders) |
| BOX VA 59 | Distinguished intelligence medal |
| BOX VA 59 | Coinage, foreign, circa 1945-circa 1952 |
| BOX 60-63 | Addition, 1905-1971 Correspondence, family papers, genealogy, writings, subject files, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material. |
| BOX 60 | Correspondence |
| BOX 60 | Personal, 1945-1958 |
| BOX 60 | Professional, 1946-1953 |
| BOX 60 | Family papers |
| BOX 60 | Deuel, Mary Virginia, 1929-1967 |
| BOX 60 | Deuel, Michael McPherson, 1937-1965 |
| BOX 60 | Deuel, Peter MacArthur, 1944-1968 |
| BOX 60 | Genealogy, 1905, 1929, 1939, 1946-1948, 1957-1961, 1969-1970, undated |
| BOX 61 | Writings file |
| BOX 61 | Articles |
| BOX 61 | "History of the O.S.S." <i>See also Container 62, Central Intelligence Agency</i> |
| BOX 61 | Clippings, 1940-1967 |
| BOX 61 | Correspondence, 1941-1945, 1958-1962, 1968 <i>See also Classified</i> (2 folders) |
| BOX 61 | Research notes and other materials, 1941-1962 (2 folders) |
| BOX 61 | Series on William J. Donovan, 1945 |
| BOX 61 | "Potsdam Conference," outline, 1952 |
| BOX 61 | "Teheran Conference," outline, 1952 |
| BOX 61 | "Yalta Conference," outline, 1952 |
| BOX 61 | Radio broadcasts <i>See also Containers 27-28, same heading</i> |
| BOX 61 | 1950 (5 folders) |
| BOX 62 | 1951 (2 folders) |
| BOX 62 | Lecture, "The Secret War," outline, undated |
| BOX 62 | Subject file |
| BOX 62 | Central Intelligence Agency <i>See also Container 61, "History of the O.S.S."</i> |
| BOX 62 | Clippings, 1959-1971 |
| BOX 62 | Personal file, 1941-1968, undated <i>See also Classified</i> (4 folders) |
| BOX 62 | Connally, Tom, circa 1944-circa 1949 |
| BOX 63 | Contracts for speaking engagements, 1941-1943 |
| BOX 63 | Malaxa, Nicolae, 1952 |
| BOX 63 | State Department, 1946 |
| BOX 63 | Supreme Headquarters Allied Forces, 1944-1945 <i>See also Classified</i> |
| BOX 63 | Printed matter |

Addition, 1905-1971

| Container | Contents |
|------------------|--|
| BOX 63 | General, circa 1944-circa 1968 |
| BOX 63 | "The Periscope" section, <i>Newsweek</i> , 1946-1953 (4 folders) |
| BOX CL 1 | Classified, 1944-1968 Government security documents. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed. |
| BOX CL 1 | Writings File |
| BOX CL 1 | Lectures, magazines, and file on prose |
| BOX CL 1 | File on style, clarity, and the intelligence of prose, 1958-1968 (Container 26) |
| BOX CL 1 | Addition |
| BOX CL 1 | Writings file |
| BOX CL 1 | "History of the O.S.S." |
| BOX CL 1 | Correspondence, 1945, 1961-1962 (Container 61) |
| BOX CL 1 | Subject file |
| BOX CL 1 | Central Intelligence Agency |
| BOX CL 1 | Personal file, 1944-1945, 1957-1961, 1967 (Container 62) |
| BOX CL 1 | Supreme Headquarters Allied Forces, 1944 (Container 63) |