

**Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2013**

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Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2013  
Revised 2024 August

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg Papers

**Inclusive Dates:** 1942-1954

**Bulk Dates:** 1948-1953

**ID No.:** MSS43935

**Creator:** Vandenberg, Hoyt Sanford, 1899-1954

**Extent:** 34,000 items

**Extent:** 97 containers plus 4 classified and 1 oversize

**Extent:** 40.5 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78043935>

**Summary:** Air Force officer. Correspondence, diaries, reports, memoranda, drafts and galley proofs of speeches and articles, appointment books, mail logs, personal files, accounts, photographs, and printed matter chiefly documenting Vandenberg's service as chief of staff of the United States Air Force.

## 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

Beckworth, Lindley--Correspondence.

Bradley, Omar Nelson, 1893-1981--Correspondence.

Brooks, Overton, 1897-1961--Correspondence.

Collins, J. Lawton (Joseph Lawton)--Correspondence.

Hoey, Clyde Roark, 1877-1954--Correspondence.

Johnston, Olin D. (Olin Dewitt), 1896-1965--Correspondence.

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

Lucas, Scott Wike, 1892-1968--Correspondence.

Stratemeyer, George E., 1890-1970--Correspondence.

Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972--Correspondence.

Vandenberg, Hoyt Sanford, 1899-1954.

Vinson, Carl, 1883-1981--Correspondence.

### Organizations

United States. Air Force. Office of the Chief of Staff.

### Subjects

Aeronautics, Military.

Korean War, 1950-1953--Aerial operations.

Korean War, 1950-1953.

### Occupations

Air Force officers.

## Acquisition Information

The papers of Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg were given to the Library of Congress by his wife, Gladys Rose Vandenberg, in 1955. Additional material was transferred from the United States Air Force Office of the Chief of Staff in 1960 and the Library of Congress Science and Technology Division in 1961.

## Processing History

The papers of Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg were arranged and described in 1968 and 1979 by Manuscript Division staff. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

## Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg 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 Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

## National Security Classified Information

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

## Preferred Citation

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

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1899, Jan. 24	Born, Milwaukee, Wisc.
1923	Graduated, United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y. Married Gladys Rose (died 1978)
1923-1947	Commissioned second lieutenant, United States Army Air Corps; promoted through grades to general
1927	Instructor, Air Corps Primary Flying School, Maxwell, Calif.
1929	Joined and assumed command of 6th Pursuit Squadron
1931	Instructor in flying, Randolph Field, Tex.
1933	Flight commander, Randolph Field, Tex.
1934-1935	Student, Air Corps Tactical School
1936-1938	Instructor, Air Corps Tactical School
1940-1941	Assistant chief of staff, Army Air Forces
1942	Chief of staff, Northwest African Strategic Air Force
1943	Deputy chief of staff, Northwest African Strategic Air Force
1944	Commander, 9th Air Force in France
1946	Assistant chief of staff, G-2 Appointed director of central intelligence
1947	Chief of air staff, Army Air Forces Vice chief of staff, United States Air Force
1948-1953	Chief of staff, United States Air Force

1953 Retired from service  
1954, Apr. 2 Died, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Hoyt S. Vandenberg (1899-1954) span the years 1942-1954, with the bulk of the material falling between the years 1948 and 1953, the period when Vandenberg was chief of staff of the United States Air Force. The papers consist of correspondence, reports, and memoranda, supplemented by speeches and articles, diaries, and appointment books, mail logs, personnel files, accounts, and printed matter. The collection is organized into ten series: [Diaries and Appointments](#), [General Correspondence](#), [Subject File](#), [Security File](#), [Speeches and Articles](#), [Miscellany](#), [Classified](#), [Top Secret](#), [Restricted Data: Secret](#), and [North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret](#).

During Vandenberg's first few years as chief of staff, the air force underwent rapid growth and development. Various commands were established, and the air force was statutorily expanded to seventy groups during this period. Vandenberg's role in this development is well documented throughout the collection, particularly in the [Subject File](#) on topics dealing with the budget, congressional hearings, commands, secretary of the air force, and correspondence with Carl Vinson.

In 1951, the air force first entered combat as an autonomous branch of the armed forces. The difficulties it encountered in the Korean War, political as well as military, are documented in the [Security File](#). One of the most pressing problems was conducting a war under an economy-oriented administration. This difficulty is documented in subject files relating to the budget and congressional hearings as well as on the security file.

Correspondents in addition to Vinson include Lindley Beckworth, Omar Nelson Bradley, Overton Brooks, J. Lawton Collins, Clyde Roark Hoey, Olin D. Johnston, John F. Kennedy, Scott Wike Lucas, George E. Stratemeyer, and Harry S. Truman.

## Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged in ten series:

- [Diaries and Appointments, 1944-1953](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1945-1954](#)
- [Subject File, 1942-1954](#)
- [Security File, 1950-1953](#)
- [Speeches and Articles, 1945-1953](#)
- [Miscellany, 1943-1953](#)
- [Classified, 1948-1953](#)
- [Top Secret, 1948-1953](#)
- [Restricted Data: Secret, 1951-1953](#)
- [North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret, 1951-1953](#)

## Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-6	<p><b><u>Diaries and Appointments, 1944-1953</u></b> Diaries, appointment books, and calendars. Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 7-33	<p><b><u>General Correspondence, 1945-1954</u></b> Letters sent and received. Correspondence for each year from 1948 to 1953 is preceded by a mail log for that year. Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically therein. The last two containers contain miscellaneous indexed correspondence.</p>
BOX 34-82	<p><b><u>Subject File, 1942-1954</u></b> Correspondence, memoranda and reports, press releases, and notes relating to the Office of the Chief of Staff and Air Force activities. Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 83-88	<p><b><u>Security File, 1950-1953</u></b> Memoranda, reports, and some correspondence relating principally to the Korean War. Original arrangement retained.</p>
BOX 89-91	<p><b><u>Speeches and Articles, 1945-1953</u></b> Typescript and reading copies of speeches and articles. Six notebooks, one for each year, contain typescript copies of speeches and an index. Arranged into unbound and notebook files</p>
BOX 92-97, OV 1	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1943-1953</u></b> Printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous papers. Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX CL 1	<p><b><u>Classified, 1948-1953</u></b> Correspondence, memoranda, and reports. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.</p>
BOX TS 1	<p><b><u>Top Secret, 1948-1953</u></b> Correspondence, memoranda, and reports. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.</p>
BOX RD 1	<p><b><u>Restricted Data: Secret, 1951-1953</u></b> Memorandum and a report. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.</p>
BOX NATO 1	<p><b><u>North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret, 1951-1953</u></b> Memorandum. Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder from which the item was removed.</p>

# Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>BOX 1-6</b>	<b>Diaries and Appointments, 1944-1953</b> Diaries, appointment books, and calendars. Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein.
<b>BOX 1</b>	Diaries 1944-1945 1947-1948 1948, Jan.-1949, June (2 folders)
<b>BOX 2</b>	1949, July-1951 (2 folders) 1953, Jan.-June
<b>BOX 3</b>	Appointment books 1947-1953
<b>BOX 4</b>	1949-1951
<b>BOX 5</b>	1952-1953
<b>BOX 6</b>	1953 Calendar sheets, 1946-1947, 1953
<b>BOX 7-33</b>	<b>General Correspondence, 1945-1954</b> Letters sent and received. Correspondence for each year from 1948 to 1953 is preceded by a mail log for that year. Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically therein. The last two containers contain miscellaneous indexed correspondence.
<b>BOX 7</b>	1947-1949 Mail lists and logs (10 folders) Formerly classified
<b>BOX 8</b>	1945-1947, correspondence (2 folders) 1948, correspondence A-H (8 folders)
<b>BOX 9</b>	I-U (12 folders)
<b>BOX 10</b>	V-Z (5 folders) 1949 Mail list and logs General (5 folders)
<b>BOX 11</b>	(7 folders)

## General Correspondence, 1945-1954

Container	Contents
	Symington, Stuart, mail list
BOX 12	Correspondence A-E <i>See also Classified</i> (5 folders)
BOX 13	F-M (8 folders)
BOX 14	N-Y (11 folders)
BOX 15	1950 Mail list and logs (6 folders)
BOX 16	(5 folders) Formerly classified
BOX 17	Correspondence A-L (12 folders)
BOX 18	M-Z (12 folders)
BOX 19	1951 Mail list and logs General (7 folders)
BOX 20	Formerly classified, 1951-1953 MacArthur, Douglas, hearings testimony
BOX 21	Correspondence A-H <i>See also Classified</i> (8 folders)
BOX 22	I-S <i>See also Classified</i> (10 folders) Formerly classified, 1951-1953
BOX 23	T-Z (7 folders)
BOX 24	1952 Mail list and logs (6 folders)
BOX 25	(6 folders)
BOX 26	Correspondence A-J <i>See also Classified</i> (10 folders)
BOX 27	L-R <i>See also Classified</i> (8 folders)
BOX 28	S-Z <i>See also Classified</i> (8 folders)
BOX 29	1953 Mail list and logs General (6 folders) Received after retirement, 1953-1954

## General Correspondence, 1945-1954

Container	Contents
BOX 30	Correspondence A-M <i>See also Classified</i> (13 folders)
BOX 31	N-Z (12 folders)
BOX 32	1947-1949 (5 folders)
BOX 33	1950-1951 (4 folders) Formerly classified
BOX 34-82	<b>Subject File, 1942-1954</b> Correspondence, memoranda and reports, press releases, and notes relating to the Office of the Chief of Staff and Air Force activities. Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 34	Ac/As 1-5, 1947 (5 folders) Accident, 1949-1953 (5 folders) Adjutant, general, 1947-1948 Air adjutant, general, 1947-1948 Air Board, undated Air comptroller, 1947-1948 Air Corp., 1945 Aircraft, 1948-1953 (6 folders) Air defense, 1947 Air Force, 1946
BOX 35	Air Force Aid Society, 1947-1953 (6 folders) Air Force Association, 1948-1953 (6 folders) Air Force Council, 1953 Air Force Day, 1948 Air Force requirements, 1952 <i>See also Classified</i>
BOX 36	Air inspector, 1947-1948 Air reserve and national guard, 1948-1953 (6 folders) Air staff meeting minutes, 1947 Air University, 1947 Alaska, 1948-1952 American Legion, 1949-1951 (3 folders) Appraisal of air force by W. Barton Leach, 1949-1950 Armed Forces Day, 1950-1953 (3 folders) Army, 1953



## Subject File, 1942-1954

Container	Contents
BOX 37	Army-Navy Country Club, 1949-1950 Arnold Air Society, 1950-1951 Arnold, Henry Harley, funeral, 1950 Assistant and under secretaries of the air force, 1948-1949 <i>See also Classified</i> (3 folders) Assistant secretary of the air force 1950 (1 folder)
BOX 38	1948-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (3 folders) Atomic bombs and tests, 1948 Berlin, Germany, airlift, 1948 "Blitz Book," 1948
BOX 39	Boards Aeronautical Board, 1945-1948 (3 folders) Air Board, 1945-1947 Army-Navy Munitions Board, 1946-1947 Flying Pay Board, 1947 General, 1952 Miscellaneous boards, 1946-1949 Simpson Board, 1946 United States Aircraft and Weapons Board, 1948 Book of facts folder, 1947-1949 Box score, undated Briefing for Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson, 1942
BOX 40	Britain, 1943-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders) Budget 1947-1950 (5 folders)
BOX 41	1949-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 42	B-36 Investigation, 1949-1950 (2 folders) Procurement, 1948-1950 Program report, 1950 Canada, 1948-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders) Caribbean, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 43	Chief of staff, air force, 1947-1948 Chief of staff, army, 1947-1952 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders) Children's letters, 1952-1953 China, 1948

## Subject File, 1942-1954

### Container

### Contents

---

	Civil Air Patrol, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
	Formerly classified documents receipts, 1947-1949
	Commands
	Air Research, 1952-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (2 folders)
	Continental, 1949-1953 (5 folders)
BOX 44	Defense, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Europe, 1948-1953 (2 folders)
	Far East Air Force, 1952-1953
	Headquarters, 1950-1952 (3 folders)
	Letters, 1950-1953 (2 folders)
	Materiel, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
BOX 45	Military Air Transport Services, 1948-1954 (5 folders)
	Northeast Air, 1951-1953 (3 folders)
	Proving Ground, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Strategic, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Tactical, 1947-1953 (5 folders)
BOX 46	Training, 1947-1953 (7 folders)
	Transport, 1945-1948 (2 folders)
	University, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
	Command welfare programs, 1951
	Commendations
	1944-1945 (1 folder)
BOX 47	1952-1953 (2 folders)
	Condolences, 1950-1953 (5 folders)
	Congressional hearings
	1947-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (3 folders)
BOX 48	1947-1953 (2 folders)

## Subject File, 1942-1954

### Container

### Contents

---

	Senate Armed Forces Subcommittee notebook, 1953
BOX 49	Crank letters, 1949-1952 Cunningham, Thomas, 1950 Daily activity reports, 1947-1950 (4 folders) Decorations and awards, 1952 Director chief of staff General, 1947 Material, 1947-1948 Operations, 1947-1948 Personnel and administration, 1947-1948 Director of public relations, 1947-1948 Eberstadt, Ferdinand, 1948-1949 Eisenhower, Dwight D., 1945-1950
BOX 50	Entertainment, official, 1946-1953 (6 folders) Europe, 1948-1952 (5 folders) Fairchild, Muir S., funeral, 1950 Ford report on morale, 1951 <i>See also Classified</i> General officers, 1945-1948 Goering, Hermann, 1945 Goodwin, Verne I., 1952 Ground accident digest, 1953 Headquarters commandant, 1947 Historical foundation, 1953 Histories of operations analysis section, 1943-1946 Inauguration (1953), 1952-1953 Invitations, 1952-1953 (2 folders)
BOX 51	Japanese air force, 1945 Joint Chiefs of Staff General, 1949-1947 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders) Unification, 1945-1950 (3 folders) Joint orientation conference, 1949-1953 (3 folders) Kenney, George C., retirement ceremony, 1951 Kepner, William E., lecture, "Strategic Importance of the Arctic," 1952 Klein, Julius, 1951 Kookon (L.P.) Co., 1953 Manpower requirements, 1952 Mutual Defense Assistance Program, 1953 Mexico, 1950-1953 (2 folders) Motion pictures

## Subject File, 1942-1954

Container	Contents
	General, 1946-1953
	Movie log and list, 1952-1953
BOX 52	National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
	National Security Resources Board, 1947-1951 (5 folders)
	Navy, 1948-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)
	Navy verses air force, 1948-1949
BOX 53	Newport agreements, 1948-1949
	Ninth Air Force, 1942-1947 (2 folders)
	Norstad, Laurence, 1950
	National Security Council-68 program, 1950
	Office procedures, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 54	Operation Longhorn, 1952 <i>See Classified</i>
	Operation "Q," 1944-1945
	Map and overlays, 1944
	Report, 1945
	Orders, 1947-1948
	Organization 1948-1950 (2 folders)
BOX 55	1949-1953 (6 folders)
	Outline, 1951
BOX 56	Pacific, 1948-1952 <i>See also Classified</i> (5 folders)
	Parris, George F., 1953
	Penetration of Office of Strategic Services in Europe, 1948 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Personnel, 1947-1952
	General, 1947
	Program, 1949
	Air ground operations letter, 1950
	Photographs and autographs 1948
BOX 57	1949-1950
	Ploesti air raid, 1942-1944
	Policy letters, 1949
	Publications, 1953
	Public works program, 1952-1953
	Reassignments, 1953
BOX 58	Receipts, 1948-1953 (6 folders)
	Receipts, Rand Corp., 1952-1953 (2 folders)

## Subject File, 1942-1954

### Container

### Contents

---

	Formerly classified receipts, 1952-1953
	Retirement letters, 1950-1953 (3 folders)
	Scientific Advisory Board, 1953 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Secretary of the air force
	1947-1948
BOX 59	1948-1950 (5 folders)
BOX 60	1949-1950 <i>See also Classified</i> (4 folders)
BOX 61	1949-1951 <i>See also Classified</i> (4 folders)
BOX 62	1952-1953 (4 folders)
	Air staff, Boatner, Bryant L., 1947
	Secretary of the army, 1947-1953 (5 folders)
	Secretary of defense
	1947-1952 <i>See also Classified</i> (5 folders)
BOX 63	1951-1953 (2 folders)
	Secretary of war, 1947
	Security, 1953
	Selective Service Act, 1950
	Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, command post exercise two, 1953 <i>See also Classified</i>
	South America, 1946-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)
	Soviet Union, 1949 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Special secret activities, 1945
	Staff digest, 1950
	Staff meeting, 1947-1948
BOX 64	Telephone calls 1948-1950
BOX 65	1950-1953
BOX 66	Congressional notebook, 1950-1953
	Third Air Division notebook, 1947-1949
BOX 67	Thomas, Grayce, 1949-1950
	Formerly top secret memoranda, 1950
	Trips, vouchers, 1945-1948
	Trips
	1946-1947 (14 folders)
	1948 (9 folders)
BOX 68	(12 folders)

## Subject File, 1942-1954

Container	Contents
	1949 (8 folders)
BOX 69	(6 folders)
	1950 (3 folders)
	1951 (8 folders)
BOX 70	1952-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (8 folders)
BOX 71	Uniform, 1949-1953 (7 folders) Board report, 1949 General, 1949-1950 (5 folders)
BOX 72	Vandenberg, Hoyt Sanford General, 1949-1953 (8 folders) Auto, 1950-1951 (2 folders) Bank statements, 1950-1951 (2 folders) Biography, 1947
BOX 73	Birthdays, 1950-1953 (4 folders) Christmas, 1948-1952 (15 folders)
BOX 74	Congratulations, 1945-1948 (5 folders)
BOX 75	Family, 1946-1953 (8 folders) Funeral, 1954 (5 folders)
BOX 76	Get well, 1952 (4 folders) Itineraries, 1953 Memberships, 1945-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 77	Personal letters, 1944-1953 (8 folders)
BOX 78	Receipts, 1946-1953 (6 folders)
BOX 79	Retirement, 1953 Ceremony General Letters Data Military Retirement miscellany

## Subject File, 1942-1954

### Container

### Contents

---

	Storage household effects and retirement
	Stock records, 1947
	Thank-you, letters, 1950-1953 (3 folders)
	Photographs, 1946-1947
	Allotments and pay, etc., 1942-1945
BOX 80	201 file 1942-1952 (9 folders)
BOX 81	1947-1953 (3 folders)
BOX 82	Vinson, Carl, correspondence, 1951 War Council, 1948 War Department general staff, 1947 War organization of Japan, 1946 West Point, United States Military Academy, N.Y., 1948-1953 (5 folders) White House, 1948-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)
BOX 83-88	<b>Security File, 1950-1953</b> Memoranda, reports, and some correspondence relating principally to the Korean War. Original arrangement retained.
BOX 83	Miscellany, 1950-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> Memorandum on strategic requirements, 1951 Memorandum on 138 combat wing, 1951 Manpower and personnel pool estimate, 1951-1952 Size and makeup of air force, 1952-1953 Policy on aces and combat sorties, undated Vandenberg memorandum on Korean inspection, 1951 Far East field information, 1951 Air operations in Korea (U.S., MIG-15), 1951 Chief's press conference after Korea, 1951 Leach, W. Barton, memoranda, 1951-1952 <i>See also Classified</i> Memoranda from Ethelred L. Sykes, 1951 Memoranda from Charles J. V. Murphy, 1952 Chief of Staff with Frank Pace, Jr., and J. Lawton Collins on Tactical Air Command, 1951 Army requirements, air support, etc., 1950-1952 Memoranda of understanding, secretary of the air force and secretary of the army, 1952
BOX 84	Carrier papers, 1952-1953 Selected memoranda, secretary of air force to chief of staff air force, 1950-1952 Field trips, 1951-1953 Cables and memoranda on European bases, 1951 <i>See also Classified</i> Turkey, 1952 Aircraft of the U.S. and the USSR, 1952 Proposed statement , Joseph C. Mahoney Committee, 1952

## Security File, 1950-1953

### Container

### Contents

---

	Fear of flying
	General, 1952
	Staff study by Office of the Surgeon General, 1952 (2 folders)
	Summary of cases, 1952
	World trip
	General, 1952
	Memoranda of problems encountered, 1952
	Grussendorf, Richard A., copy of trip book and special notes, 1952 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Press releases, European trip, 1952
<b>BOX 85</b>	Memoranda for the record, 1952
	Photograph and Reconnaissance files, 1951-1953 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Air corps versus. China mainland, 1951
	Letters on aircraft production, 1952
	Flying pay, 1952
	FY-53 presentation, 1953
	French-Md-452 summary <i>See Classified</i>
	Current "Hold Here" for Vandenberg, 1953 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Papers used before Armed Services Committee, 1951-1953 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Arnold engineering development, 1953
	Department of Defense program legislation, 1953
	Impact of reduced budget, 1953
	Engineering status of fighter airplanes, 1953
	Vandenberg's views on organization of Department of Defense-Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1953
<b>BOX 86</b>	Redlines
	1950-1951 (13 folders)
<b>BOX 87</b>	1952-1953 (3 folders)
	Impact on the Korean War memorandum, 1952
	F-51 warnings, 1950
<b>BOX 88</b>	Allocation of United States Military Academy graduates, 1952
	Comparative strength, general officers, 1952
	Air defense data, present and programmed, 1951
	Memoranda on military outlook in Korea and Matthew Ridgway policy statements on Korea, 1952
	Withdrawal of occupation troops from Korea, 1951
	NAM IL (military operation), 1951
	Forces committed to combat, 1951
	Budget growth, 1951 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Fiscal year 1953
	Budget
	Mutual Defense Assistance Program
	Strategic Air Command airmen's dormitories, 1952
	Briefs from Laurence S. Kuter, 1952
	Buster data, 1951
	Message to Dwight D. Eisenhower, draft, undated



## Security File, 1950-1953

Container	Contents
	Formerly declassified, 1952
BOX 89-91	<b>Speeches and Articles, 1945-1953</b> Typescript and reading copies of speeches and articles. Six notebooks, one for each year, contain typescript copies of speeches and an index. Arranged into unbound and notebook files
BOX 89	Unbound 1945-1951 (2 folders)
BOX 90	1947-1948 (2 folders) Notebooks 1948-1950 (2 vols.)
BOX 91	1951-1953 (3 vols.)
BOX 92-97, OV 1	<b>Miscellany, 1943-1953</b> Printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous papers. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 92-93	Printed matter General, 1943-1952
BOX 94	General, 1945-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> Photographs of aircraft used by CCS, 1953
BOX 95	Tactical air command operations 1944-1945 (2 vols.)
BOX 96	1944-1945 (2 vols.)
BOX 97	Miscellaneous 1945-1953 <i>See also Classified</i> (7 folders) Notebook, 1945-1947
BOX OV 1	Photographs of Vandenberg, undated
BOX CL 1	<b>Classified, 1948-1953</b> Correspondence, memoranda, and reports. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX CL 1	General Correspondence 1949 Correspondence C (Container 12) 1951 Correspondence

- C (Container 21)
- S (Container 22)
- 1952
  - Correspondence
    - C-F (Container 26)
    - P-R (Container 27)
    - V (Container 28)
- 1953
  - Correspondence
    - F (Container 30)
- Subject File
  - Air Force requirements, 1952 (Container 35) *See Top Secret*
  - Assistant and under secretaries of the air force, 1949 (Container 37)
  - Assistant secretary of the air force, 1951 (Container 38)
  - Britain, 1952 (Container 40)
  - Canada, 1949-1951 (Container 42)
  - Chief of Staff, army, 1951 (Container 43)
  - Commands
    - Air Research, 1952 (Container 43)
  - Congressional hearings, undated (Container 47) *See Top Secret*
  - Ford report on morale, 1951 (Container 50)
  - Joint Chiefs of Staff
    - General, 1949-1947 (Container 51)
  - Navy, 1951 (Container 52)
  - Operation Longhorn, 1952 (Container 54)
  - Pacific, 1950-1951 (Container 56)
  - Penetration of Office of Strategic Services in Europe, 1948 (Container 56) *See Top Secret*
  - Scientific Advisory Board, 1953 (Container 58) *See Restricted Data-Secret*
  - Secretary of the air force
    - 1949 (Container 60)
    - 1951 (Container 61)
  - Secretary of defense, 1951 (Container 62)
  - Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, command post exercise two, 1953 (Container 63) *See North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret*
  - South America, 1948-1951 (Container 63)
  - Soviet Union, 1951 (Container 63)
  - Trips, 1952 (Container 70)
  - White House, 1951 (Container 82)
- Security File
  - Miscellany, 1952 (Container 83) *See Top Secret*
  - Barton Leach memoranda, 1951-1952 (Container 83) *See Top Secret*
  - Cables and memoranda on European bases, 1951 (Container 84)
  - General Richard A. Grussendorf's copy of trip book and special notes, 1951-1952 (Container 84) *See Top Secret*
  - Photograph and reconnaissance files, 1952-1953 (Container 85)
  - French-Md-452 summary, 1952 (Container 85)

**Classified, 1948-1953**

**Container**

**Contents**

---

Current "Hold Here" for Vandenberg, 1953 (Container 85) *See North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret*  
Papers used before Armed Services Committee, 1953 (Container 85)  
Budget growth, 1951 (Container 88) *See North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret*  
Miscellany  
Printed matter, 1951 (Container 94) *See Restricted Data: Secret*  
Miscellaneous, 1952 (Container 97)

**BOX TS 1**

**Top Secret, 1948-1953**

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

**BOX TS 1**

Subject File  
Air Force requirements, 1952  
Congressional hearings, undated  
Penetration of Office of Strategic Services in Europe, 1948  
Security File  
Miscellany, 1952  
Leach, W. Barton, memoranda, 1951-1952  
Grussendorf, Richard A., copy of trip book and special notes, 1951-1952

**BOX RD 1**

**Restricted Data: Secret, 1951-1953**

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

**BOX RD 1**

Subject File  
Scientific Advisory Board, 1953  
Miscellany  
Printed matter, 1951

**BOX NATO 1**

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Top Secret, 1951-1953**

Memorandum.  
Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder from which the item was removed.

**BOX NATO 1**

Subject File  
Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, command post exercise two, 1953  
Security File  
Current "Hold Here" for Vandenberg, 1953  
Budget growth, 1951