

Russell E. Train Papers

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Prepared by Joseph K. Brooks with the assistance of Nicholas Newlin and Maria R. Farmer

Collection Summary

Title: Russell E. Train Papers

Span Dates: 1898-2005

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1957-2005)

ID No.: MSS85254

Creator: Train, Russell E., 1920-2012

Extent: 35,000 items ; 115 containers plus 2 classified and 1 oversize ; 42 linear feet ; 44 digital files (91.9MB)

Language: Collection material in English, with Russian

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

Summary: Conservationist, jurist, and administrator. Diaries, correspondence, speeches and writings, governmental and organizational records, topical files, photographs, and miscellaneous papers relating to Train's work in public and private sectors on national and international environmental issues and policy.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Bradley, Tom, 1917-1998--Correspondence.
Bush, George, 1924- --Correspondence.
Butz, Earl L. (Earl Lauer), 1909-2008--Correspondence.
Ehrlichman, John--Correspondence.
Ford, Gerald R., 1913-2006.
Gibbons, Boyd--Correspondence.
Godfrey, Arthur, 1903-1983--Correspondence.
Harriman, W. Averell (William Averell), 1891-1986--Correspondence.
Holton, A. Linwood (Abner Linwood), 1923- --Correspondence.
Izraël', IŮ. A. (IŮrii Antonievich)
Johnson, Lady Bird, 1912-2007--Correspondence.
Kissinger, Henry, 1923- --Correspondence.
Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus), 1902-1974--Correspondence.
Lugar, Richard--Correspondence.
McNamara, Robert S., 1916-2009--Correspondence.
Moynihan, Daniel P. (Daniel Patrick), 1927-2003--Correspondence.
Nixon, Richard M. (Richard Milhous), 1913-1994.
Osborn, Fairfield, 1887-1969.
Reilly, William K. (William Kane), 1940- --Correspondence.
Richardson, Elliot L., 1920-1999--Correspondence.
Ripley, Sidney Dillon, 1913-2001--Correspondence.
Rockefeller, Laurance Spelman--Correspondence.
Rogers, William P. (William Pierce), 1913-2001--Correspondence.
Ruckelshaus, William Doyle, 1932- --Correspondence.
Rumsfeld, Donald, 1932- --Correspondence.
Stans, Maurice H., 1908-1998--Correspondence.
Temple, Shirley, 1928-2014--Correspondence.
Train, Russell E., 1920-2012.
Trudeau, Pierre Elliott--Correspondence.
Walker, Peter, 1932-2010--Correspondence.
Wallace, George C. (George Corley), 1919-1998--Correspondence.
Ward, Barbara, 1914-1981--Correspondence.
Weinberger, Caspar W.--Correspondence.

Organizations

African Wildlife Foundation.
African Wildlife Leadership Foundation.
Conservation Foundation.
Council on Environmental Quality (U.S.)
Joint US-USSR Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection.
North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society.
United States. Department of the Interior.
United States. Environmental Protection Agency.
World Wildlife Fund (U.S.)

Subjects

Conservation of natural resources.
Environmental policy--Canada.
Environmental policy--China.
Environmental policy--Germany.
Environmental policy--Great Lakes Region (North America)
Environmental policy--Soviet Union.
Environmental policy--Spain.
Environmental policy--United States.
Environmental policy.
Nature conservation.
Safaris.
Water quality.
Wildlife conservation--Africa.
Wildlife conservation.

Titles

Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1972.

Occupations

Administrators.
Conservationists.
Jurists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Russell E. Train, conservationist, jurist, and government official, were given to the Library of Congress by Train in 2005.

Transfers

Two videotapes, a DVD, and an audiocassette have been transferred to the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of the Russell E. Train Papers.

Related Material

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the papers of Charles Jackson Train and of Charles Russell Train, Russell E. Train's father and grandfather, which form part of the Library's Naval Historical Foundation Collection, and the papers of Fairfield Osborne.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Russell E. Train is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Russell E. Train 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.

Digital Format

Digital files were received as part of the papers of Russell E. Train. Reference copies were created from the original digital media. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for more information.

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 items.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or digital ID number, Russell E. Train Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1920, June 4	Born, Jamestown, R.I.
1941	B.A., Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.
1941-1946	World War II service, army field artillery
1948	LL.B, Columbia University Law School, New York, N.Y.
1948-1953	Counsel, Congressional Joint Committee on Revenue and Taxation, Washington, D.C.
1953-1955	Clerk and minority advisor, House Committee on Ways and Means
1954	Married Aileen Bowdoin
1956-1957	Head, Legal Advisory Staff, Treasury Department
1957-1965	Judge, Tax Court of the United States
1961-1965	Founded and served as president of the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation
1965-1969	President, Conservation Foundation
1969-1970	Under secretary, Department of the Interior
1970-1973	Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality
1970-1979	Representative to North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society
1973-1977	Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency

1978-1994	President and chairman of the board, World Wildlife Fund (US)
1994-	Chairman emeritus, World Wildlife Fund (US)
2012, Sept. 17	Died, Bozman, Md.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Russell Errol Train (1920-2012) span the years 1898-2005, with the bulk of the collection concentrated between 1957 and 2005. The papers include diaries, correspondence, judicial opinions, governmental and organizational records, speeches and writings files, biographical material, news clippings, photographs, and topical files. The collection is organized in ten series: [Diaries, Field Notes, and Appointment Books](#); [General Correspondence](#); [Government File](#); [Organizations](#); [Speeches, Statements and Writings File](#); [Miscellany](#); [Classified](#); [North Atlantic Treaty Organization Classified](#); [Oversize](#); and [Digital File](#).

Train's early career in tax policy and law culminated in his service as a judge on the Tax Court of the United States from 1957 to 1965. His judicial opinions comprise a grouping in the [Government File](#) series. However, most of the papers focus on his second career as an environmentalist.

The first glimmerings of Train's environmental career are documented in the [Diaries, Field Notes, and Appointment Books](#) series. He became interested in wildlife conservation while on safari in Kenya during 1956. This safari and others he took over the years, as well as other private and official travel, are documented in the chronological file of the series, as are daily journals Train kept between 1969 and 1983. Also in the series are field notes Train kept on other trips from which he derived diary entries and reports, particularly for the World Wildlife Fund (US) that Train served successively as president and chairman during 1978-1994.

The [General Correspondence](#) series reflects Train's activities as a government official, an officer of several public interest organizations, and as a private citizen communicating with family, colleagues, governors, cabinet members, White House officials, foreign environmental leaders, heads of state, academics, and others. Correspondents include Tom Bradley (1917-1998), George Bush (1924-), Earl L. Butz, John Ehrlichman, Boyd Gibbons, Arthur Godfrey, W. Averell Harriman, Linwood Holton, Lady Bird Johnson, Henry Kissinger, Charles A. Lindbergh, Richard Lugar, Robert S. McNamara, Daniel P. Moynihan, Sidney Dillon Ripley, Laurance Spelman Rockefeller, William K. Reilly, Elliot L. Richardson, William P. Rogers, William Doyle Ruckelshaus, Donald Rumsfeld, Maurice H. Stans, Shirley Temple, Pierre Elliot Trudeau, Peter Edward Walker, George C. Wallace, Barbara Ward (1914-1981), and Caspar W. Weinberger.

Train's service as undersecretary of the Department of the Interior, chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, chairman of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society, and administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency during the Richard M. Nixon and Gerald R. Ford administrations is documented in the [Government File](#). There are extensive chronological files with memoranda and correspondence arranged in reverse chronological order covering Train's daily activities in the Department of the Interior, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the NATO Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society files.

Train was the first chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality where he defined its roles of coordinating national environmental policy and negotiating with foreign governments on environmental matters. There is material in the Council of Environmental Quality file on Train's diplomacy with Canada leading to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1972 and with Spain, China, and Germany. However, most of the material related to foreign affairs in this file focuses on the Soviet Union and the establishment by treaty of the Joint US-USSR Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection. Train's Soviet counterpart was academician Yuri A. Izrael', and Train's negotiations with Izrael' and other Soviet scientists and officials is documented in the file relating to United States-Soviet Union environmental treaties and agreements.

Moved by the fragility of the African ecosystem he observed while on safari, Train founded the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, later the African Wildlife Foundation, in 1959. He expanded his interest in environmental issues beyond wildlife conservation, becoming president of the Conservation Foundation in 1965. One of Train's mentors in this process was Fairfield Osborn, longtime president of the New York Zoological Society and a pioneering environmentalist

whose papers are also in the Library of Congress. Files on the African Wildlife Foundation and the Conservation Foundation, including correspondence with Osborn and other environmental and public interest organizations, comprise the Organization series. The preponderance of the series relates to the World Wildlife Fund (US), which Train served as president and chairman of the board after his government career.

The [Speeches, Statements, and Writings File](#) covers most of Train's public career as a conservationist and environmentalist from 1965 to his emeritus years after his retirement from the active chairmanship of the World Wildlife Fund (US). Most of his oral presentations, including statements and congressional testimony as a government official or public interest organization leader, are in the [Speeches, Statements, and Writings File](#) rather than the [Government File](#) or [Organizations](#) series. Included is contextual and background material and some correspondence. Similar material is in the trips and events file of the [Miscellany](#) series. The [Digital File](#) is comprised of diaries and a scrapbook.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in nine series:

- [Diaries, Field Notes, and Appointment Books, 1950-2003](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1930-2005](#)
- [Government File, 1955-2004](#)
- [Organizations, 1959-2005](#)
- [Speeches, Statements, and Writings File, 1898-2005](#)
- [Miscellany, 1919-2005](#)
- [Classified, 1968-1976](#)
- [North Atlantic Treaty Organization Classified, 1973](#)
- [Oversize, 1956-circa 2004](#)
- [Digital File, 1950-2001](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-8	<u>Diaries, Field Notes, and Appointment Books, 1950-2003</u> Diaries, notebooks, and pocket calendars with attached material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material or file and therein chronologically.
BOX 8-9	<u>General Correspondence, 1930-2005</u> Correspondence with friends, family, and colleagues, and including attached material. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 9-52	<u>Government File, 1955-2004</u> Files relating to Train's service with the Department of the Interior, the Council of Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, and as a judge on the Tax Court of the United States. Arranged alphabetically by cabinet post or agency and thereunder by type of material or topic.
BOX 53-64	<u>Organizations, 1959-2005</u> Files relating to Train's service and association with the World Wildlife Fund (US) and other private sector organizations focused on conservation, the environment, and other public interests. Arranged alphabetically by name of organization.
BOX 64-99	<u>Speeches, Statements, and Writings File, 1898-2005</u> Articles, drafts of books and related material, and speeches, statements, and testimony with background material. Arranged in article, book, and speeches files and thereunder chronologically.
BOX 99-115	<u>Miscellany, 1919-2005</u> Awards and honors, biographical material, news clippings, photographs, topical files, and miscellaneous material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material or by topic.
BOX CL 1	<u>Classified, 1968-1976</u> Documents containing national security information removed from the collection. Arranged and described according to the series and folders from which they were removed.
BOX NATO 1	<u>North Atlantic Treaty Organization Classified, 1973</u> Documents containing national security information removed from the collection. Arranged and described according to the series and folders from
BOX OV 1	<u>Oversize, 1956-circa 2004</u> Photographs, a poster, and a drawing. Arranged and described according to the series, containers and folders from which the items were removed.
DF	<u>Digital File, 1950-2001</u> Files of Train's activities and a scrapbook. The diaries are Microsoft Word and the scrapbook Adobe Acrobat files. The series is comprised of forty-four files and 91.9 MB of data.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-8	Diaries, Field Notes, and Appointment Books, 1950-2003 Diaries, notebooks, and pocket calendars with attached material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material or file and therein chronologically.
BOX 1	Diaries <i>See also Digital File, same heading</i> 1950-1970 (9 folders)
BOX 2	1975-1976 (5 folders)
BOX 3	1977 1978 (3 folders)
BOX 4	(1 folder) 1979-1980 (5 folders)
BOX 5	1981-1982 (4 folders)
BOX 6	1983-2001 (4 folders)
BOX 7	Field notebooks, 1956-1959, 1986-2000 Pocket calendars 1977-1998 (2 folders)
BOX 8	1999-2003
BOX 8-9	General Correspondence, 1930-2005 Correspondence with friends, family, and colleagues, and including attached material. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 8	1930-1977 (7 folders)
BOX 9	1978-2005 (5 folders)
BOX 9-52	Government File, 1955-2004 Files relating to Train's service with the Department of the Interior, the Council of Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, and as a judge on the Tax Court of the United States. Arranged alphabetically by cabinet post or agency and thereunder by type of material or topic.
BOX 9	Council on Environmental Quality Annual reports 1st annual report, 1970 (2 folders)

Government File, 1955-2004

Container

Contents

	2nd annual report, 1971
BOX 10	3rd annual report, 1972 (2 folders)
	4th annual report, 1973
	Correspondence, 1971-1973
BOX 11	Cabinet Committee on the Environment, 1970
	Canada
	General, 1970-1975 <i>See also Classified</i> (2 folders)
	Great Lakes agreement signing, photographs 1972
	China, 1971-1973 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Chronological file
	1970 (5 folders)
BOX 12	June-Dec. (7 folders)
BOX 13	1971
	Jan.-June <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)
BOX 14	July-Dec. (7 folders)
	Conferences
	Airlie House, Airlie, Va., 1970
BOX 15	Council on Environmental Quality
	Conferences
	Miscellaneous, 1970-1973
	United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, Sweden <i>See also</i> <i>Container 114, Conference on Human Environment</i>
	Briefing book, 1972
	General, 1971-1972 <i>See also Classified</i> (5 folders)
	Photographs and ephemera, 1972
BOX 16	Congressional committees, 1971, 1977
	Cross-Florida Barge Canal, 1970-1973
	Germany, 1974-1976
	Law firms engaged in environmental litigation, charitable status, 1970
	Lead additives in gasoline, 1970 (2 folders)
	Memoranda
	Accomplishments, 1972
	Environmental Protection Agency, 1971
	For the files
	Indexed, 1969-1977 <i>See also Classified</i> (3 folders)
BOX 17	"Meeting with President Nixon," 1973
	"Meeting with Soviet President Podgorny, 1976"
	White House

Government File, 1955-2004

Container

Contents

	1970, Jan.-1972, June <i>See also Classified</i> (6 folders)
BOX 18	1972, July-1973, July <i>See also Classified</i> National Environmental Policy Institute, 1970-1973 (3 folders) Nomination, confirmation, and appointment Congratulatory letters, 1970 A-P (3 folders)
BOX 19	R-Z (2 folders) General, 1970 Photographs, 1970 (2 folders) Press file, 1970-1973 Ocean dumping Briefing book, 1972 Chronological file 1970 (2 folders)
BOX 20	1971-1972 <i>See also Classified</i> (4 folders) Personnel Black, Shirley Temple, 1971-1973 Possible council members, 1970-1972 (3 folders) Temple, Shirley <i>See same container, Black, Shirley Temple</i> Photographs 1970, Jan.-1972, Aug.
BOX 21	1972, Sept.-1974, Oct. Post chairmanship <i>Corporate Use of Information Regarding Natural Resources and Environmental Quality</i> , report by Train, 1984 General, 1970, 1977-1995 (3 folders) Gibbons, Boyd, <i>CEQ Revisited</i> , 1982 Global 2000 Study, 1977-1981 Interview with Train, 1996
BOX 22	<i>President's 1971 Environmental Program</i> , 1971 <i>President's 1972 Environmental Program</i> , 1972 Press and media file General, 1970-1972 Headquarters building, 722 Jackson Place N.W., Washington, D.C., 1970 <i>Speaking Freely</i> , television program, interview, 1970 Public opinion polls, 1971-1972 Resignation, 1972 Schorr, Daniel, 1972-1973

	Spain
	General, 1972-1973 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Photographs, 1972
BOX 23	State of the Union speech, 1971-1973
	(3 folders)
	Tocks Island Dam controversy, 1971-1973
	(4 folders)
	United States-Soviet Union, environmental treaties and agreements
	Briefing book, 1972
	(3 folders)
BOX 24	Chronological file
	1970, May-1973, Feb. <i>See also Classified</i>
	(8 folders)
BOX 25	1973, Mar.-1974, June
	(8 folders)
BOX 26	1974, July-1989, Apr. <i>See also Classified</i>
	Lake Baikal
	Atlas, 1969
	Photographs, 1970
	Maps, 1970-1974
	Meetings
	Interagency meeting, 1971 <i>See also Classified</i>
	US-USSR Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection
	1st meeting
	Briefing book, 1972
	General, 1971-1972
	2nd meeting
	Briefing book, 1973
	General, 1973
	Photographs, 1973
	3rd meeting, 1974
	4th meeting
	General, 1975
	Photographs, 1975
	5th meeting
	Briefing book, 1976
	General, 1976
	Soviet publications, 1973-1975
	Subcommittee on Domestic and International Scientific Planning and Analysis, House
	Committee on Science and Technology, 1975-1976
	Symposia, 1974-1975
	(2 folders)
	Trip to Soviet Union, 1972-1973
BOX 28	Viet Nam, 1973 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Defense Secretary's Commission on Base Realignment and Closure
	Correspondence, 1988-1991
	(2 folders)

Government File, 1955-2004

Container

Contents

	Forms and directives, 1987-1988
	General, 1988-1989
	National Environmental Policy Act, 1988
	Press file, 1988-1989
	(3 folders)
	Read-ahead book, 1988
	Reports
	1988
	Aug.
BOX 29	Dec.
	1991
	Staff research file, 1988
	B-H
	(6 folders)
BOX 30	I
	(2 folders)
	Department of the Interior
	Chronological file
	1969
	(5 folders)
BOX 31	Aug.-Dec. <i>See also Classified</i>
	(5 folders)
	Hickel, Walter J., 1968-1969
	(5 folders)
BOX 32	Newspaper clippings, 1968-1972
	(2 folders)
	Nomination, confirmation, and appointment
	Correspondence
	Conflict of interest issue, 1968-1969 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Congratulatory letters, 1969
	A-Q
	(5 folders)
BOX 33	R-W
	(2 folders)
	General, 1968-1969
	Photographs
	General, 1969-1974 <i>See also Oversize</i>
	(3 folders)
	Reed Wilderness Seashore Sanctuary, Jupiter Island, Fla., dedication, photographs, 1970
	Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, 1968-1969
	(2 folders)
	Year-end cabinet briefing of the president, 1969
	Department of the Treasury
	General, 1956-1957
	Photograph, circa 1956 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 34	Environmental Protection Agency
	Administrators

	Alm, Alvin L., 2000
	Browner, Carole, 1993-1996
	Burford, Anne M.
	Article by Train, 1982
	General, 1981-1983
	(2 folders)
	Interviews, 1992-2003
	Regional administrators
	Meetings and receptions, 1974-1976
	National accomplishments report, 1976
	Reilly, William K., 1988-2003
	(2 folders)
BOX 35	Whitman, Christie Todd, 2000-2001
	Albert, Roy E., "Rationale for the Assessment of Carcinogenic Risks in the Environmental Protection Agency," 1976
	Andrew Breidenbach Environmental Research Center, Cincinnati, Ohio
	Awards ceremony, 1975
	Budget
	Conference on inflation, 1973-1974
	General, 1973-1978
	(2 folders)
	Chlordane and Hetachlor, pesticides
	General, 1969, 1974-1975
	News clippings, 1975
BOX 36	<i>Concorde</i> , supersonic transport (SST) aircraft, 1972-1976
	<i>Congressional Record</i> , 1973-1977
	Congressional Research Service, 1975
	Correspondence
	General, 1974-1977
	"Nasty" letters, 1973-1976
	Domestic Council, study on United States environmental policy, 1975
	Energy policy
	Automobile emissions
	<i>Air Quality and Automobile Emission Control</i> , prepared for the Senate Committee on Public Works, 1973
BOX 37	"Cabinet Briefing on the Auto Decision," memorandum, 1975
	General, 1973-1976
	General, 1973-1974
	"Public Attitudes Toward Environmental Tradeoffs," 1975
	<i>EPA Journal</i> , 1975-1976
	Fifth anniversary of founding, 1975
	Fluorocarbons, 1977
	Fromme, Lynette Alice ("Squeaky"), 1976
	International Conference on Marine Pollution, London, England, 1973
	(2 folders)
BOX 38	(1 folder)
	Iran, 1975-1976

	Japan, 1975-1977
	Legislation
	Clean Air Act, 1970-1981
	(2 folders)
	General, 1970, 1976
	Water bills and laws, 1970-1977
	Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactor Task Force, 1975-1977
	(2 folders)
BOX 39	Marco Island, Fla., 1969-1976
	Meetings, conferences, and official entertaining
	Cabinet meetings, 1969-1975
	Carl Gustav XIV, King of Sweden, 1976
	Foreign Service officers, 1974
	Hartkopf, Guenter, 1976
	Izraël', Yuri, 1973
	Lopez-Rodo, Laureano, 1973
	Miscellaneous, 1974-1975
	Reception at Train home, photographs, circa 1974-circa 1976
	White House Conferences on Domestic and Economic Affairs
	1975
	Aug. 19, Peoria, Ill.
	(2 folders)
	Aug. 25, Milwaukee, Wis.
	Sept. 5, Seattle, Wash.
BOX 40	Sept. 12, St. Louis, Mo.
	Oct. 1, Omaha, Nebr.
	Oct. 7, Knoxville, Tenn.
	White House Fellows, 1975-1976
	Nomination and confirmation
	Blind trust, 1973-1975
	Congratulatory letters, 1973
	(3 folders)
	General, 1973
	Photographs, 1973
BOX 41	Senate Committee on Government Operations, interview with Train, 1976
	"Our Only World" exhibit in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., 1974
	Photographs
	General, 1973-1976
	(4 folders)
	Resignation album, 1973-1977
	(2 folders)
	Poland, 1974
	Post-term, 1985-1994, 2003-2004
	Press and media file, 1974-1976
BOX 42	Printed matter
	<i>EPA Journal</i> , 1975-1976

	General, 1974-1975
	Refuse Act permit program, 1971
	Testimony before congressional committees, list, 1976
	Year-end reports, 1974-1975
	North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society
	Chronological file
	1956 Dec., 1969, Nov.-1971, Dec. <i>See also Classified</i>
	(6 folders)
BOX 43	1972, Jan.-1976, Oct. <i>See also Classified</i>
	(9 folders)
BOX 44	1977, Jan.-1984. 1999, Apr.
	(2 folders)
	Correspondence
	General, 1970-1976 <i>See also Classified</i>
	(2 folders)
	Experimental road-safe vehicles, 1971-1974 <i>See also Classified</i>
	(2 folders)
	International Cities Institute, 1971-1972 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Medical delivery systems, 1971-1973 <i>See also Classified</i>
	Meetings
	Conference on Low Pollution Power Systems Development, Eindhoven, Netherlands, 1971
	France, Belgium, Netherlands, 1971, Nov. 4-14
	International Conference on Cities, Indianapolis, Ind. 1971
	Jan.-Apr. <i>See also Classified</i>
	(2 folders)
BOX 45	May-Nov. <i>See also Classified</i>
	(3 folders)
	Plenary meetings, 1971-1976, 1982-1984
	(4 folders)
	Summaries
	1971-1974
	(4 folders)
BOX 46	1975-1976
	(2 folders)
	Oil spills, 1970-1972 <i>See also Classified</i>
	(5 folders)
	Photographs, 1971-1976 <i>See also Oversize</i>
	Printed matter, 1972-2000
	(2 folders)
	Office of Technology Assessment, United States Congress, 1977-1980
BOX 47	Tax Court of the United States
	General, 1955-1957, 1965
	Memorandum opinions
	Vol. 1, 1957, Dec-1959, Dec
BOX 48	Vols. 2-3, 1960, Jan.-1961, Sept.

Government File, 1955-2004

Container

Contents

BOX 49	Vols. 4-5, 1961, Oct.-1964, Apr.
BOX 50	Vols. 6-7, 1964, May-1965, July
BOX 51	Opinions Vols. 1-2, 1957, Oct.-1963, Oct.
BOX 52	Vols. 3-4, 1963, Nov.-1965, July Photographs, 1959, 1962 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 53-64	Organizations, 1959-2005 Files relating to Train's service and association with the World Wildlife Fund (US) and other private sector organizations focused on conservation, the environment, and other public interests. Arranged alphabetically by name of organization.
BOX 53	African Wildlife Foundation General, 1962-2002 (2 folders) <i>Thirty-Five Years of Conserving Wildlife in Africa: A History of the African Wildlife Foundation</i> , 1997 American Conservation Association, 1976-1977, 1989-1996 Americans for Alaska, 2001-2002 Boone and Crockett Club, 1959-2004 (2 folders) Carter Center of Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., 1983-1985 Center for Strategic and International Studies, Enterprise for the Environment program, 1996 Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation, 1982-1999
BOX 54	Clean Sites, Inc. Correspondence, 1984-1995 General, 1984-1993 Newspaper clippings, 1984-1989, 1997 Printed matter, 1984-1994 Committee for the National Institute of the Environment, 1993-1995 Conservation Foundation General, 1965, 1978 Germany, 1976-1978 Letters of congratulation, 1965 (2 folders)
BOX 55	Osborn, Fairfield and the New York Zoological Society, 1964-1970 (3 folders) Task Force on Resources and Environment Correspondence, 1968-1969, 1998 (3 folders) Meeting minutes, 1968-1969 Notes and newspaper clippings, 1968-1969 Report, 1968 Elizabeth Haub Foundation, 1981-1988, 1996 <i>See also Container 100, Miscellany</i> Environment and Energy Study Institute, 1988-1990
BOX 56	German Marshall Fund of the United States, 1981 King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, 1984-2000

Organizations, 1959-2005

Container

Contents

	Miscellaneous, 1968, 2001
	National Tree Trust, 1990-1992
	(2 folders)
	Natural Resources Defense Council 1977-1985, 2000
	Parks International, 1989-1991
	Resolve, 1977, 1997-2003
	Resources for the Future, 1984-1996, 2002
	Rockefeller Brothers Fund
	General, 1984-2001
BOX 57	Photographs, 1984-2001
	Scientists' Institute for Public Information, 1982, 1992
	Trilateral Commission, 1980-1981
	(2 folders)
	Union Carbide Corp.
	General, 1977-1993
	Photographs
	Puerto Rico facilities tour, 1979
	Retirement from board, 1993
	Washington National Monument Association, 1996, 1995-2000
	World Heritage Trust
	30th anniversary, 2002
	(2 folders)
BOX 58	Correspondence, 1971-2005
	(2 folders)
	General, 1971-1972, 1985-1988, 1996-1997, 2005
	World Resources Institute
	General, 1981, 1990-1993
	Printed matter, 1973-1977, 1988-1996, 2005
	World Wildlife Fund (US)
	Chairman of the board
	Annual reports, 1991
	Climate change, dinner meeting, 1989-1990
	Correspondence, 1986, 1993-1994
	Goodall, Jane
	Correspondence, 1984-1986
	Global Primate Campaign, 1982-1985
	Institutional history, undated
BOX 59	National Commission on the Environment
	Correspondence, 1989-1993
	(2 folders)
	General, 1991-1993
	Remarks and notes by Train, 1991-1993
	Report of the commission
	Drafts, 1992, May-Oct.
	(2 folders)
BOX 60	Final report, 1992-1993
	Nature Conservancy, 1997-1991

Organizations, 1959-2005

Container

Contents

- Nepal
 - General, 1979-1991, 2002
 - Gyanendra, Prince, visit, 1986-1987
- North American Free Trade Agreement, 1992-1993
- Retirement and post-retirement
 - Correspondence, 1994
 - (2 folders)
- BOX 61**
 - Education for Nature program, 1994-2005
 - (2 folders)
 - General, 1994
 - Tribute dinner, 2004
- Rural Land Conservation Act, 1993
- Trips
 - Botswana, 1988
 - Galapagos Islands, 1994
 - Hong Kong, Japan, and Philippines, 1988
 - Japan, 1988-1994
 - Kenya, 1990
 - Madagascar, 1987-1991
 - Namibia, 1987
 - Nepal, Bhutan, and Thailand, 1986-1987
 - Nepal and Bhutan, 1990
- BOX 62**
 - Papua-New Guinea, 1994
 - Philippines and Nepal, 1993
 - South Africa and Zambia, 1986
 - Tanzania, 1991-1992
 - Thailand
 - General, 1986-1988
 - Photographs
 - Bhumibol Adulyadej, King of Thailand, audience, 1988
 - General, 1986
 - Zimbabwe and Namibia, 1991
 - World Wildlife Fund (International)
 - Correspondence, 1992, 2003
 - Meetings, 1987-1994
 - Philip, Consort to Elizabeth II of England
 - General, 1987
 - Photograph, 1984
- President
 - Annual reports, 1978-1984
- BOX 63**
 - Election, congratulatory letters, and news release, 1978
 - Los Angeles World Affairs Council, Los Angeles, Calif., 1982
 - Memoranda for file, 1978-1984
 - Migratory wildlife treaty, 1979
 - Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 1978-1979, 1988
 - Peace Corp volunteers, 1978-1983

Organizations, 1959-2005

Container

Contents

	Reagan, Ronald, presentation of World Wildlife Fund Award, remarks and photograph, 1983
	Trips and events
	Ireland, 1978-1984, 1997
	Miscellaneous, 1979-1985
	World Coal Study, 1978-1980
	World Conference on Sea Turtles, 1979
BOX 64	World Wildlife Fund (International)
	Meeting, Washington, D.C., 1984
	Philip, Consort to Elizabeth II of England, 1982
	Year 2000 Committee, 1981-1984
BOX 64-99	Speeches, Statements, and Writings File, 1898-2005
	Articles, drafts of books and related material, and speeches, statements, and testimony with background material.
	Arranged in article, book, and speeches files and thereunder chronologically.
	Articles
BOX 64	1965, Oct.-1974, Sept.
BOX 65	1974, Oct.-1986, Dec.
BOX 66	1987, Jan.-2004, Aug.
BOX 67	Books
	<i>A Memoir</i> , photographs, 1923-1990
	<i>Politics, Pollution, and Pandas</i>
	Correspondence, 1999-2005
	Drafts
	Copy A, 1980
	(2 folders)
	Copy B, 2001-2003
	(6 folders)
BOX 68	(4 folders)
	Miscellany, 1977, 1999-2004
	Press and media file, 2004-2005
	<i>The Train Family</i> , photographs and other illustrations, 1898-1990
	Speeches
	circa 1961-1965, Sept.
BOX 69	1966, Feb.-1969, Aug.
	(5 folders)
BOX 70	1969, Sept.-1970, June.
	(3 folders)
BOX 71	1970 July-1971 Feb.
	(4 folders)
BOX 72	1971
	Mar. 1-June 4
	(8 folders)
BOX 73	June 6-Sept. 21
	(7 folders)

Speeches, Statements, and Writings File, 1898-2005

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 74	Sept. 24-1971, Nov. 17 (7 folders)
BOX 75	Nov. 19-Dec. 10 1972 Jan. 21-Mar. 29 (6 folders)
BOX 76	Apr. 4-Oct. 26 (6 folders)
BOX 77	Nov. 20-Dec. 14 (2 folders) 1973 Jan. 9-Mar. 6 (5 folders)
BOX 78	Mar. 13-Apr. 30 (6 folders)
BOX 79	May 1-June 25 (7 folders)
BOX 80	June 28-Oct. 17 (6 folders)
BOX 81	Nov. 6-Dec. 18 (4 folders) 1974 Jan.10-Feb. 20 (3 folders)
BOX 82	Feb.25-May 17 (7 folders)
BOX 83	May 20-Sept. 16 (6 folders)
BOX 84	Sept. 17-Dec. 31 (7 folders)
BOX 85	1975 Jan.9-1975, Mar. 21 (7 folders)
BOX 86	Mar. 25-May 30 (7 folders)
BOX 87	July 2-Oct. 8 (8 folders)
BOX 88	Oct. 14-Dec. 22 (5 folders) 1976 Jan. 8-Mar. 22 (2 folders)
BOX 89	Mar. 29-May 25 (7 folders)
BOX 90	May 26-Aug. 20 (7 folders)
BOX 91	Sept. 25-Dec. 22 (4 folders)

Speeches, Statements, and Writings File, 1898-2005

Container

Contents

	1977
	Jan. 11-June 5
	(4 folders)
BOX 92	June 15-Nov. 4
	(7 folders)
BOX 93	1977, Nov. 7-1978, June 20
	(7 folders)
BOX 94	1978, June 24-1981, Feb. 22
	(7 folders)
BOX 95	1982, Mar. 3-1984, Sept. 24
	(6 folders)
BOX 96	1984 Dec. 10-1989, Mar. 23
	(7 folders)
BOX 97	1989, Apr. 20-1992, Nov. 5
	(6 folders)
BOX 98	1992, Dec. 7-1998, June
	(6 folders)
BOX 99	2000, Nov. 17-2005, Oct. 5
	(6 folders)
BOX 99-115	Miscellany, 1919-2005
	Awards and honors, biographical material, news clippings, photographs, topical files, and miscellaneous material.
	Arranged alphabetically by type of material or by topic.
BOX 99	Awards and honors
	American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1981-1982
	American Public Health Association, 1976
	Animal Welfare Institute, Albert Schweitzer Medal, 1956-1972
	Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation, Lindbergh Award, 1985
BOX 100	Clarkson College of Technology, Potsdam, N.Y., 1973
	Collier County Conservancy Award, Naples, Fla., 1976
	Columbia University, New York, N.Y., 1971
	Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pa., 1970
	Elizabeth Haub Prize, 1981 <i>See also Container 55, Elizebeth Haub Foundation</i>
	Garden Club of America, Frances K. Hutchinson Medal, 1984-1985
	Heinz Award, 2000-2001
	Humane Society of the United States, 1990
	International Pahlavi Environmental Prize, 1977-1978
	John and Alice Tyler Ecology Award, 1977-1978, 1997
	(3 folders)
BOX 101	League of Conservation Voters, 2003-2004
	Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., 1976
	Miscellaneous, 1969-1971, 1983
	National Park Foundation, 1991
	National Water Alliance, 1990
	National Wildlife Federation, Conservationist of the Year Award, 1975, 1988-1989
	(2 folders)

-
- Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla., 1972
Pheidole traini, ant species named in Train's honor, circa 1997
 Presidential Medal of Freedom
 General, 1991-1992
 Letters of congratulation, 1991-1992
 Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., 1970-1972
 Salem College, Salem, W.Va., 1975
 Southeastern University, Washington, D.C., 1975
 St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's City, Md., 1970
 University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., 1973
 Washington College, Chestertown, Md., 1996-1998
- BOX 102**
- Biographical material
 Childhood and young adulthood, 1920-1936
 General, 1968-1988, 1999-2004
 (2 folders)
 Résumés, 1952-1955, 1969, 1979
 Birthday greetings, 2000
 Boats, 1959-1974
 Carter, Jimmy, 1984
 Cartoon and poster, undated *See Oversize*
 Columbia University, New York, N.Y., Legislative Research Drafting Fund, 1991
 Environmental History Project, 2004
 Ephemera, 1970-1975, 1982
 Ford, Gerald, 1974-1977, 1998
 House Committee on Science and Technology, 1976
 Interviews with Train
 Dominick, David D.
 Interview, 1997-1998
 "The Nixon Environmental Agenda: An Insider's View of Republican Decision-Making, 1968-1973," 1999
- BOX 103**
- Forest History Society, 1993
 Miscellaneous, 1970-1976, 1984-2001
 (2 folders)
 Law of the Sea and ocean environmental policy
 Advisory Committee on the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, State Department, 1978-1979
 Advisory Committee on the Law of the Sea, 1977-1993, 2005
 The Oceans: A Challenging New Frontier, Subcommittee on International Organizations and Movements, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, 1968
 United States Commission on Ocean Policy, 2004
- BOX 104**
- Lecture bureaus, 1976-1980
 Maret School, Washington, D.C., 1996
 Mill Reef Club, Antigua, West Indies, 1973, 2001-2003
 National Environmental Policy Act, 1969-1978, 1988, 2004
 News clippings
 circa 1943-1971, Feb.
 (6 folders)

Miscellany, 1919-2005

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 105	1972, Jan.-1975, June (5 folders)
BOX 106	1975, July-2003, July (5 folders)
	Oil spills
	General
BOX 107	1975, Mar.-1976, July 1976, Dec.-1979 Mar., 1990 <i>Oil Transportation by Tanker: An Analysis of Marine Pollution and Safety Measures</i> , Office of Technology Assessment, 1975
	Photographs
	General, 1919, 1930, 1954-circa 1994, 2002-2003 <i>See also Oversize</i> (3 folders)
	Portraits of Train, 1930, 1957-2002
BOX 108	Slides, 1980-1985 Train homes, circa 1970, circa 1990 Wedding, Russell E. Train and Aileen Train, 1945
	Political file
	Bush, George W., administration, 2003-2004
	Presidential campaigns and transitions
	1972
	General
	Speech by Train
	1976
	1980
	General, 1979-1980
	President-Elect's Task Force on the Environment
	1988
	Bush, George H. W., speech on the environment (2 folders)
	Correspondence (2 folders)
BOX 109	General News clippings, 1988-1989 Speeches by Train
	2004
	Environment 2004
	General, 2003-2004
	<i>New York Post</i> Society of Environmental Journalists, annual conference, Pittsburgh, Pa.
	Republicans for Environmental Protection, 2004
	Republican Main Street Partnership, 1997-2000
	Republican National Committee, Natural Resources Policy Board, 1977-1980
	Spaulding, Josiah, 1974
	Population policy, 1974-1994
BOX 110	Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. General, 1941, 1973

Miscellany, 1919-2005

Container

Contents

- “The United States versus Japan: A Study of Sea Power in the Pacific,” senior thesis by Train, 1941-1945
- Printed matter, 1968, 1995
- Quesada, Elwood R., safari to East Africa in 1932, interview by Train, 1991
- Reunion dinner for associates at Department of Interior, Council on Environmental Quality, and Environmental Protection Agency, 1990
- Rockefeller, Laurance Spelman, 1989-1998
- Saudi Arabia, 1977-1978
- Scrapbook, 1973-1977 [See Digital File, same heading](#)
- Storm King Mountain, N.Y., power plant controversy
- Chronological file
- 1969; 1979, Apr.-Dec.
- 1980
- Jan.-Feb.
- Mar.-Dec.
- (2 folders)
- 1981, Jan.-Aug.
- 1983, 1992-1997
- Hudson River Foundation for Science and Environmental Research
- General, 1982.
- Incorporation briefing book, 1981
- Memoranda for the files, 1979
- New York University School of Law, New York, N.Y., conference, 1981-1983
- Settlement
- Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT II)
- St. Albans School, Washington, D.C., 1937
- St. George's School, Newport, R.I., 2005
- Stine, Jeffrey K., *Mixing the Waters: Environmental Politics and the Fight Over the Tennessee-Tombigee Waterway*, 1992
- Talbot Printing Co., 1976-1986
- (2 folders)
- Train, Aileen Bowdoin, 1946-1965
- Trips and events
- Chronological file
- 1961-1978
- (4 folders)
- 1981-1992
- (12 folders)
- 1993-1999
- (3 folders)
- Conference on Human Environment, Tenth Anniversary of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, Nairobi, Kenya, 1982 [See also Container 15, United Nations Conference on the Human Environment](#)
- Ditchley Foundation Conference, Ditchley Park, England, 1987
- Nepal, 1989
- Observer* (yacht), 1985-1986
- Philippines, 1988

Miscellany, 1919-2005

Container

Contents

	Reception in honor of the Trains, San Francisco, Calif., 1978
	Safaris
	1966, 1985-1991
	(4 folders)
BOX 115	1992-1996
	(3 folders)
	Soviet Union, Japan, and China, 1975
	World War II, military service, 1944-1946, 1952-1954
BOX CL 1	Classified, 1968-1976
	Documents containing national security information removed from the collection.
	Arranged and described according to the series and folders from which they were removed.
BOX CL 1	Government File
	Council on Environmental Quality
	Canada
	General, 1972-1975 (Container 12)
	China, 1971-1972 (Container 12)
	Chronological file, 1971, May (Container 13)
	Conferences
	United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, Sweden
	General, 1972 (Container 15)
	Memoranda
	For the files
	Indexed, 1972-1974 (Container 16)
	White House
	1972
	Jan.-June (Container 17)
	July- Dec. (Container 18)
	1973, Jan.-Feb (Container 19)
	Ocean dumping
	Chronological file, 1971-1972 (Container 20)
	(2 folders)
	Spain
	General, 1972 (Container 22)
	United States-Soviet Union environmental treaties and agreements
	Chronological file
	1972 Feb.-1973 Feb. (Container 24)
	(4 folders)
	1975 (Container 26)
	Meetings
	Interagency meeting, 1971 (Container 26)
	Vietnam, 1973 (Container 28)
	Department of the Interior
	Chronological file, 1969 (Container 31)
	Nomination, confirmation, and appointment
	Correspondence

- Conflict on interest issue, 1968-1969 (Container 32)
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society
 - Chronological file
 - 1969-1971 (Container 42) *See also North Atlantic Treaty Organization Classified*
(6 folders)
 - 1972-1973 (Container 43) *See also North Atlantic Treaty Organization Classified*
(5 folders)
 - Correspondence
 - General, 1971-1976 (Container 44)
(2 folders)
 - Experimental road safe vehicles, 1970-1971 (Container 44)
(2 folders)
 - International Cities Institute, 1971-1972 (Container 44)
 - Medical delivery systems, 1971-1972 (Container 44)
 - Meetings
 - International Conference on Cities
 - Indianapolis, Ind., 1971 (Containers 44) (Container 45)
(3 folders)
 - Oil spills
 - 1971, May-Nov. (Container 46)
 - 1972 (Container 46)
- BOX NATO 1 North Atlantic Treaty Organization Classified, 1973**
 - Documents containing national security information removed from the collection.
 - Arranged and described according to the series and folders from
- BOX NATO 1 North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society**
 - Chronological file, 1969-1973 (Container 43)
- BOX OV 1 Oversize, 1956-circa 2004**
 - Photographs, a poster, and a drawing.
 - Arranged and described according to the series, containers and folders from which the items were removed.
- BOX OV 1 Government File**
 - Department of the Interior
 - Photographs
 - General, 1969 (Container 33)
 - Department of the Treasury, photograph, 1956 (Container 33)
 - North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society, photograph, circa 1971-circa 1974 (Container 46)
 - Tax Court of the United States, photographs, 1959, 1962 (Container 52)
 - Miscellany
 - Cartoon, circa 1970 and poster, circa 2004 (Container 102)
 - Photographs
 - General

Oversize, 1956-circa 2004

Container

Contents

Train and John Paul II, circa 1983 (Container 107)

DF

Digital File, 1950-2001

Files of Train's activities and a scrapbook. The diaries are Microsoft Word and the scrapbook Adobe Acrobat files.

The series is comprised of forty-four files and 91.9 MB of data.

Diaries, Field Notes, and Appointment Books, 1950-2003 (Containers 1-8) [*See also Box 1, same heading*](#)

Digital ID: : mss85254_61_1

Miscellany

Scrapbook, 1973-1977 (Container 110) [*See also Box 110, same heading*](#)

Digital ID: mss85254_61_1