

Don Grisham collection.
Inclusive: 1947-1964, Bulk: 1963-1964
Baylor Collections of Political Material, W. R. Poage Legislative Library
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Summary Information

Creator	Grisham, Don
Extent (quantity/size)	2 document boxes.
Language	English
Abstract	The Don Grisham collection contains material relating to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy including transcriptions of police radio transmissions, correspondence, and investigation files from the Dallas Police Department. The collection also contains material related to Lee Harvey Oswald and his family prior to 1963.

Subjects

Correspondence. / Dallas (Tex.) -- History. / Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963 -- Assassination. / Oswald, Lee Harvey. / Records (Documents) / United States -- Politics and government -- 1963-1969.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access and Use All requests for copying of materials must be submitted to the W. R. Poage Legislative Library in writing. Please use the Request Form for Copying Materials sheet. Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator (s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Use/Reproduction Restrictions: The collection is open for research.

Originals/Copies All copies

Preferred Citation When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Don Grisham collection, Accession #108, Box #, Folder #, Baylor Collections of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University.

Processing Information Described by Will Overton and released on 2021-08-02.

Scope and Content

The materials in the Don Grisham collection have an inclusive date range of 1947-1964, with the bulk spanning 1963-1964, in the days and months following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The items in this collection are significant, because they contain information collected in the aftermath of the assassination of President Kennedy including transcriptions of police radio transmissions from the day of the assassination and first-person statements from each officer involved in the hunt for Oswald as compiled by Dallas Police Sheriff J.E. Bill Decker. Content also includes information about Lee Harvey Oswald and court cases his family were involved in prior to the JFK assassination.

Originally bound in notebooks and binders, the collection consists of photocopies of material held in the Texas State Archives. As such, the materials are in excellent condition.

Administrative/Biographical History

Donald Hugh Grisham was born on July 26, 1960, in Waco, Texas. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from Tarleton State University and worked as a filing clerk at the Attorney General's Office in Austin, Texas.

Grisham's interest in the John F. Kennedy assassination stems from a memory in which he and his father watched as Jack Ruby killed Lee Harvey Oswald on November 24, 1963. Grisham has had a strong interest in the JFK assassination but is not a self-ascribed researcher on the subject.

The materials in this collection were accumulated by Grisham in 1982, during his time in the state Attorney General's office. The office offered transfer of three copies of the materials to the Texas State Archive who declined because they already possessed copies. Grisham later gifted these copies to the Poage Legislative Library in 2007.

Related Resources

Related records in other Archive collections

Loretta J. Dunbar papers, 1963

Dick Russell papers, Inclusive: 1924-2011, undated, Bulk: 1964-2003, undated

Gus Russo papers, Inclusive: 1932-2006, Bulk: 1953-1998

Gordon Schendel papers, Inclusive: 1964-1990, undated, Bulk: 1964-1970, undated

Related citations

Don Grisham collection, Accession #108, Control File, Baylor Collections of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University.

Archival Arrangement

The Don Grisham collection originally consisted of bound notebooks and reports that were loosely organized with no true chronological arrangement. Previously, the reports were spiral bound and the notebooks were housed in three-ring binders. No previous inventories existed for the collection prior to the latest round of processing.

The collection is now arranged into two series: I. Notebooks and II. Reports. Folders within each series are organized alphabetically by topic.

Series 1: Notebooks. 1961-1964

Administrative Information

Originals/Copies All copies

Series I. Notebooks contains material that was originally held in three-ring binders. The contents of these folders include police reports, material related to the Dallas Police Department's investigation of the assassination, and photographs.

Box 1. Folder 1. Dallas Police (1 of 2), 1961-1964

Box 1. Folder 2. Dallas Police (2 of 2), 1961-1964

Box 1. Folder 3. Investigation of the Assassination of the President (1 of 2), 1963-1964

Box 1. Folder 4. Investigation of the Assassination of the President (2 of 2), 1963-1964

Box 1. Folder 5. Investigation of the Operational Security Involving the Transfer of Lee Harvey Oswald – November 24, 1963, 1963

Box 1. Folder 6. Photographs, 1963-1964

Series 2: Reports. 1947-1964

Administrative Information

Originals/Copies All copies

Series II. Reports contains previously spiral-bound documents. Materials contained in the series include police reports, court documents, correspondence, and transcriptions of police radio transmissions. Overall, the series is in excellent condition.

Box 1. Folder 7. Dallas Police Report, 1963-1964

Box 2. Folder 1. Kennedy, John Fitzgerald Assassination – Nov. 22, 1963 Investigation by J.E. Bill Decker, Sheriff of Dallas County, Texas, 1963

Box 2. Folder 2. Lee Harvey Oswald, 1947-1964

Box 2. Folder 3. "Marguerite C. Oswald vs King Candy Company", Final Judgement, 1958-1959

Box 2. Folder 4. "Marguerite C. Oswald vs Liberty Insurance Company of Texas", Final Judgement, 1959

Box 2. Folder 5. Officer J.D. Tippit, 1952-1963

Box 2. Folder 6. Texas Supplement Report – Correspondence File (1 of 2), 1963-1964

Box 2. Folder 7. Texas Supplement Report – Correspondence File (2 of 2), 1963-1964

Box 2. Folder 8. Transcripts of Dallas Police Radio Transmissions (1 of 2), 1963-1964

Box 2. Folder 9. Transcripts of Dallas Police Radio Transmissions (2 of 2), 1963-1964