

Gordon Schendel Papers
Inclusive: 1964-1990, undated, Bulk: 1964-1970, undated
Baylor Collection of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Summary Information

Creator	Schendel, Cynthia Schendel, Gordon Schendel, Margaret
Extent (quantity/size)	1 document box.
Language	English
Abstract	The Gordon Schendel papers consist of Schendel's notes regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy as well as newspaper clippings written by or about Schendel.

Subjects

Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.) / Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963 -- Assassination. / Mexico - History. / Oswald, Lee Harvey. / Research notes. / Schendel, Gordon. / Schendel, Margaret.

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 Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator (s) of this collection are in the public domain.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.
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Use/Reproduction Restrictions: The collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation	When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Gordon Schendel papers, Accession #95, Box #, Folder #, Baylor Collections of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University.
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Processing Information	Described by Thomas DeShong and released on 2020-08-27.
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Scope and Content

The Gordon Schendel papers range in chronology from 1964 to 1990 with several undated documents. The bulk of the materials date from the late 1960's since they concern the assassination of President John F. Kennedy which took place on November 22, 1963.

Most of the materials are notes, both typed and handwritten, produced by Gordon Schendel in connection to the investigation of John F. Kennedy's assassination. The Notes series is arranged alphabetically by topic and addresses several of the major characters surrounding the case including Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby, and the Warren Commission.

In addition to Schendel's research notes, there are also three folders of clippings that contain more information on John F. Kennedy, an article written by Gordon Schendel on his experiences living in Mexico, and an article written about Gordon Schendel when he joined the staff of McAllen, Texas's newspaper, the "Valley Evening Monitor." Overall, the materials in the collection range from average to good condition.

Administrative/Biographical History

Gordon Schendel, a native of Minnesota, graduated from the University of Minnesota and began a career in writing and journalism starting in 1946. While working in New York City, he met a magazine artist named Margaret Waltz. The couple married and had 5 children: Cynthia, William, Eric, Amy, and Jenny.

After living on the east coast for several years, the Schendel family moved to Mexico where they remained for 11 years. During that time, Gordon worked for "The Medical Tribune" and "The Medical World News." It was during their stay in Mexico that the Schendels became engrossed with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Gordon and Margaret, who often served as a fellow researcher and editor for her husband, accumulated clippings and books on the Kennedy assassination, the bulk of which now shapes the collection here at Poage Library. Despite his intentions, Gordon was never able to use his research and complete a book on the topic.

Gordon Schendel did, however, write several books during his career including "Jungle Wife," – which recounted the life of an Estonian jaguar hunter and his American wife during their stay in Brazil; "The Higher They Go," – a biography of former New York City mayor William O'Dwyer; and "Medicine in Mexico: From Aztec Herbs to Betatrons."

In 1965, the Schendels moved to McAllen, Texas, where Gordon joined the editorial staff of the local newspaper, the "Valley Evening Monitor." After the passing of her parents, the Schendels' daughter, Cynthia, donated the collection in August 2013.

Related Resources

Related citations

[Find A Grave, Inc. "Margaret Waltz Schendel." Memorial #97304434. Databases. Accessed August 26, 2020.](#)

Gordon Schendel papers, Accession #95, Control File, Baylor Collection of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University.

"Writing Can Be Dangerous, Newcomer to McAllen Says", "Valley Evening Monitor", February 14, 1965.

Archival Arrangement

Prior to this current round of processing, the collection was housed in acid-free folders with descriptive titles and date ranges. An inventory was created when the initial gift was donated in August 2013, but no finding aid

existed.

The original order of the collection has largely been maintained. Two series were created based on material type: I. Clippings and II. Notes. Within these two respective series, folders are arranged alphabetically.

Series 1: Clippings. 1964-1966

Administrative/Biographical History

Series I. Clippings is comprised of three folders. The first is a folder of general clippings relating to President John F. Kennedy's assassination. The second folder contains an article written by Gordon Schendel concerning his experiences in the town of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. The third and final folder holds an article written about Gordon Schendel when he accepted an editorial position for McAllen, Texas's newspaper, the "Valley Evening Monitor." This folder is particularly helpful as it contains biographical information on Gordon Schendel. Overall, these materials are in good condition. Most of the clippings have been photocopied onto acid-free paper.

Box 1. Folder 1. General, 1964

Box 1. Folder 2. Article, "A Medieval Town", Gordon Schendel, 1966 July

Box 1. Folder 3. Article, "Writing Can Be Dangerous, Newcomer to McAllen Says", 1965 February 14

Series 2: Notes. 1964-1990, undated

Administrative/Biographical History

Series II. Notes, the largest series in the collection, contains research materials that Gordon and Margaret Schendel collected concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The folders are organized alphabetically by topic. Most subjects are individuals who were involved in the assassination - including Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby - or in the investigation afterwards (i. e. the Warren Commission). The materials in this series are in average condition.

Box 1. Folder 4. General, 1988-1990

Box 1. Folder 5. Ballistics, undated

Box 1. Folder 6. Carol Miller, "Life", 1964 November 9

Box 1. Folder 7. Clayton Hickerson, 1964

Box 1. Folder 8. Diagrams by Margaret Schendel, undated

Box 1. Folder 9. "Facts and Revelations", Morris Bealle, 1964

Box 1. Folder 10. Ian Fleming, undated

Box 1. Folder 11. Incubus, undated

Box 1. Folder 12. Jack Ruby, 1964 June 21

Box 1. Folder 13. Jim Garrison, Statements, 1968 January

Box 1. Folder 14. John F. Kennedy Memorial Library, 1964

Box 1. Folder 15. John Pillion, Press Releases, 1964 September

Box 1. Folder 16. Kennedy Administration, Achievements, undated

Box 1. Folder 17. Lee Harvey Oswald, 1964, undated

Box 1. Folder 18. Marilyn Monroe, undated

Box 1. Folder 19. Right-Wing Conspiracy, undated

Box 1. Folder 20. "Saturday Evening Post", 1964 October

Box 1. Folder 21. Speculations, 1970, undated

Box 1. Folder 22. Warren Commission, 1964, undated