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KESTNBAUM, MEYER: Special Assistant to the President and Chairman,  
Commission on Intergovernmental Relations 1955-1960

Pre-Acc.

Prepared by: Roland W. Doty, Jr. December 1968

Files of Meyer Kestnbaum, the Special Assistant to the President for implementation of the Hoover Report, and Chairman, Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, 1955-1960.\*

Pre-Accession

This file was received at the Library along with the White House Central Files and files of other members of the White House Staff in 1961.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied:	11.33
Cubic feet:	11 1/3
Approximate number of items:	2000
Approximate number of pages:	28,333

Restrictions applicable to this file are contained in the letter of Dwight D. Eisenhower to Franklin Floete, dated April 13, 1960. See Public Papers of the Presidents, Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1960-61, pp.348-352. In accordance with Paragraph 7 of that letter, approximately 12% of the records in this file have been closed to research at this time.

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\* There are a few items in this file dated 1953-54 and January 1961.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The material in this file pertains primarily to Meyer Kestnbaum's duties as Special Assistant to the President for implementation of recommendations of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of Government (called the "Second Hoover Commission"). The file also contains material pertaining to Mr. Kestnbaum's chairmanship of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and his role in implementing the recommendations of that Commission; and material on the Joint Federal-State Action Committee. The subject matter of these files reflects the issues with which these three commissions dealt. Below is a partial list of major subject areas in this file:

Areas of Authority of local, state and Federal Government

Competition of the Government with private enterprise

Conservation

Delegation of Presidential duties

Education

Federal Budget and accounting

Federal electric power vs. private electric power

Federal paperwork management

Federal Personnel and Civil Service

Federal Supply System

Federal Transportation

Forestry

Lending Agencies

Military Supply

Organization of the Defense Department

Real Property Management

Reduction of the costs of government

Research and development in the Defense Department

Urban Problems

Veterans Affairs

Water Use

Welfare (Public Assistance)

The major portion of the material concerns the formulation of legislation or executive orders to implement recommendations of the "Second Hoover Commission", liaison between the "Second Hoover Commission" and agencies concerning recommendations, recommendations of the "Second Hoover Commission" to the President's Cabinet (See folder number 155 for example of the latter, by use of "Cabinet Papers"), and general correspondence on improving Operations in the Executive Branch. The file is additionally important because it often reveals why some of the recommendations of the "Second Hoover Commission" were not implemented.

This file is not the working file of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of Government ("Second Hoover Commission"), or any of the other commissions. It is Mr. Kestnbaum's own White House office file.

Listed below are other files that would contain information relating to the subject matter of this file, along with the current status of each file:

Files of the President's Advisory Committee on Government Organization-file is in Library's holdings and is available for research, Accession A67-3.

Files of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of Government - file is not in Library's holdings at present.

Files of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations- file is in Library's holdings and will be available when processed, Accession A67-5.

Files of the Administrative Assistant and Deputy Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Relations, Howard Pyle, 1955-59 file is in Library's holdings and is available for research.

Files of the Deputy Assistant to the President for Interdepartmental Affairs, Robert E. Merriam, 1958-61 file is in Library's holdings and is available for research.

Files of the Special Assistant and Special Consultant to the President , Douglas R. Price and John H. Stambaugh, relating to the Joint Federal-State Action Committee, 1956-61 - file is in Library's holdings and is available for research.

Files of the Joint Federal-State Action Committee-file is not in Library's holdings at present.

Files of the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations - file is not in Library's holdings at present.

Additional material may be found also in the White House Central files and in other files.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

- Jan. 24, 1953 Executive Order approved establishing the President's Advisory Committee on Government Organization
- July 10, 1953 Act approved establishing the second Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of Government
- July 10, 1953 Act approved establishing the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
- Apr. 21, 1954 Meyer Kestnbaum appointed Chairman, Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
- June 28, 1955 Final Report of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
- June 30, 1955 Final Report of the second Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of Government
- Oct. 10, 1955 Meyer Kestnbaum appointed Special Assistant to the President to facilitate the implementation of the "Second Hoover Report" and the report of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
- June 24, 1957 Proposal of the President establishing the Joint Federal-State Action Committee
- Sept. 24, 1959 Act approved establishing the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
- Apr. 12, 1960 Final Report of the Joint Federal-State Action Committee
- Dec. 14, 1960 Meyer Kestnbaum died.

## SERIES DESCRIPTION

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Series</u>
1	Administrative Series. 1955-January, 1961. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, lists, and news clippings pertaining to activities of the office of Meyer Kestnbaum such as personnel matters, office expenses, reports of accomplishments, and descriptions of Mr. Kestnbaum's files. Index of files precedes folders arranged numerically by assigned number (A-1 thru A-9). Each folder has a subject title.
1-3	Series: Joint Federal-State Action Committee. 1957-1960. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, near-prints, and booklets. Folders are arranged numerically by assigned number (1 thru 9). Each folder has a subject title.
3	Series: Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. 1959-1960. Correspondence, reports, near-prints and booklets. Folders are arranged numerically by assigned number (10 thru 11). Each folder has a subject title.
3-5	Series: Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations. 1954-1959. Correspondence, memoranda, notes, reports, near-prints and booklets and news clippings. Folders are arranged numerically by assigned number (12 thru 27). Each folder has a subject title.
5-34	General Subject Series: 1955-1960. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, maps, holographic notes, booklets, and news clippings. Folders are arranged numerically by assigned number (28 thru 180) except that several folders do not have numbers. Each folder has a subject title. Material in this series pertains principally to the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of Government but may also pertain to other committees and commissions as described under "Scope and Content". It should be noted that published reports of the C.O.E.B.G. in this series often contain additional typed pages not found in copies of reports given ordinary distribution.

## CONTAINER LIST

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#### ADMINISTRATIVE SERIES

- 1      Index of Files, Honorable Meyer Kestnbaum, Special Ass't to the President.
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- A-2 Administrative - Budget Bureau, Relationship with M. Kestnbaum
- A-3 Administrative - Budget Finance, Office of Meyer Kestnbaum
- A-4 Administrative - Personnel (General) Office of M. Kestnbaum
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- A-8 Administrative - Status Reports of Meyer Kestnbaum's Activities (See also subject files of each activity)
- A-9 Administrative - Final Report to the President; Index of Files for Presidential Library re Meyer Kestnbaum's Activities 1/3/61

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3.      Joint Fed. State Action Committee, Oct. 3-4, 1957, Agenda//Staff Reports
4.      Joint Fed. State Action Committee, Nov. 14-15, 1957 Agenda/Staff Papers
5.      Joint Fed. State Action Committee, July, 1957 Brookings Inst. (Emily J. Sady)  
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11.    Intergovernmental Relations - Address by Meyer Kestnbaum May 14, 1960

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13.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, Dec. 1956-Feb. 1959
- 4      14.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, Report to the President, June 1955 (For Transmittal to the Congress)
15.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, Summary of Major Statements or Recommendations - Bureau of the Budget - May 1956
16.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, Hearings July 29, 1957
17.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, Cabinet Presentation June 29, 1956 - Fed. State-Local Relations
18.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, 1956-57, Comments on Recommendations - Misc.
19.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, 1955, Dept. of Agric.
20.    Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, Census of Governments, 1955-56
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  - 25. Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, State Constitutional Studies, Oct. 1956-Apr. 1957
  - 26. Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations, State Gov't. (Aug. 1955 issue re: The Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations)
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