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MATTINGLY, THOMAS W.: Medical History of Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1911-1987

Accessions 88-11, 88-11/1, 87-9, 87-9/1
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Dr. Thomas W. Mattingly, cardiologist and chief cardiological consultant to Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1952-58 and 1968-69, deposited this medical history in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in 1987 and 1988.

Linear feet shelf space occupied: 2.0
Approximate number of pages: 3200
Approximate number of items: 1000

In June 1987 Dr. Mattingly executed an instrument of gift for these papers. Literary property rights in the unpublished writings of Thomas W. Mattingly in these papers and in other collections of papers received by the United States of America from others and deposited in any depository administered by any agency of the United States of America are assigned and given to the United States of America.

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1. Papers and other historical materials the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or a libel of a living person.
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

January 19, 1907	Born, Marbury, Charles County, South Carolina
1928	Bachelor of Science, Georgetown University
1930	Doctor of Medicine, Georgetown University Medical School
June 3, 1935	Married Frances E. Wannamaker
1934-58	Medical Corps, U.S. Army
1947-49	Chief of Cardiology, Brooke General Hospital, San Antonio, Texas
1950-58	Chief, Cardiovascular and Renal Division, Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D.C.
1952-58	Chief Military Cardiology Consultant to President Dwight D. Eisenhower
1956-58	Chief, Department of Medicine, Walter Reed
1958-62	Director of Medical Education, Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C.
1962-67	Chairman, Department of Medicine, Washington Medical Center
1967-68	Coordinator, Metropolitan Washington Regional Medical Program, for District of Columbia Medical Society
1968-69	Chief Civilian Consultant in Cardiology to former President Dwight D. Eisenhower
1969-74	Cardiology consultant in private practice and Senior consultant, Medical Division, Department of State
1974	Semi-retirement
1980-86	Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of South Carolina School of Medicine

[For additional biographical information, see the curriculum vitae in Mattingly's biographical folder, Box 4.]

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Dr. Thomas Mattingly has provided in this history a detailed account of Dwight D. Eisenhower's health, including all medical disorders and their treatment. Mattingly relied, in preparing this account, primarily upon the papers of Eisenhower's personal physician, Dr. Howard McC. Snyder, and Eisenhower's medical records held by the Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Army. The history is made up of narrative sections combined with appendices which consist of copies of Eisenhower's clinical and laboratory records. These records include reports of physical examinations, consultation reports, doctor's progress notes, charts, EEG recordings, x-ray films and photographs. In addition to such other sources as correspondence and newspaper clippings, the history also contains chronologies, lists, reference notes, and bibliographical information.

Researchers should note that the first folder in Box 1 contains lists that serve as tables of content for the history. Also, the second folder in Box 1 consists of Mattingly's account of how and why he prepared the history. This introductory material also explains how Mattingly's study drew upon a history begun in the 1960's by Dr. Snyder but left unfinished because of Snyder's deteriorating health and subsequent death.

Mattingly divided his study into separate analytical accounts of the history of each of Eisenhower's body systems. As one might expect, the cardiovascular system received the greatest attention, followed by the gastrointestinal system. In preparing this study, Mattingly brought into his discussion of each system the historical and personal events surrounding each illness. In doing so, he gave particular attention to emotional and personality factors that may have contributed to Eisenhower's illness.

In conducting research on his subject, Mattingly came to several conclusions about Eisenhower's health and its professional care. Perhaps his most significant conclusion is that autopsy findings supported his tentative diagnosis, made shortly after the 1955 heart attack, that the infarction had left a sizeable aneurysm on the wall of the heart and, consequently, had put the President at greater risk than either Snyder or Paul Dudley White acknowledged. Furthermore, Mattingly asserted that the aneurysm required consistent administration of anticoagulants in order to prevent "showers" of emboli that might have posed risks to the President's life, and that neither Snyder nor Dr. Leonard Heaton managed Eisenhower's anticoagulant therapy as carefully as the situation required.

Following the narrative history and appendices, which end in Box 3, is a small series of medical records on Mamie Eisenhower, her mother and father, and the President's oldest brother, Arthur Eisenhower. Unlike Dwight D. Eisenhower's history, these files contain no narrative interpretations by Mattingly. The third series is comprised of biographical files on the physicians who administered to Eisenhower's medical needs during the last two decades of his life. The fourth and final segment of the history is composed of x-ray films and photographs taken of Eisenhower from 1946 through his death in March 1969.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

SERIES I: MEDICAL HISTORY OF DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

- 1 Lists of Files and Films [additional copies can be found in Box 5]
- History of the Development of the Life Health Record of Eisenhower [including efforts of Dr. Howard M. Snyder to prepare a history of Eisenhower's health]
- General Health (1)-(3) [Eisenhower's health, from infancy to death; personality and situational factors affecting DDE's health]
- General Health - Addenda
- Cardiovascular System Part One [possibility that DDE had a heart attack in 1949; disagreement between Mattingly and other physicians over possibility that 1955 heart attack left a cardiac aneurysm]
- Cardiovascular System Part One - Addenda
- Cardiovascular System Part Two
- Cardiovascular System Part Two - Addenda #1 - #4
- Cardiovascular System Part Two - Addenda #5 - #9
- Cardiovascular System Part Two - Addenda #10 - #16
- Cardiovascular System Part Three
- 2 Cardiovascular System Part Three - Addenda #1 - #12 (1)(2)
- Cardiovascular System Part Three - Addenda #13 - #28 (1)(2)
- Cardiovascular System Part Four
- Cardiovascular System Part Four - Addenda
- Cardiovascular System Part Five
- Cardiovascular System Part Five - Addenda #1 - #3

Box No. Contents

- 2
(cont.) Cardiovascular System Part Five - Addenda #4
- Cardiovascular System Part Five - Addenda #5 - #18
- Cardiovascular System Part Six - 1966 [portions authored by Dr. Loren F. Parmley]
- Cardiovascular System Part Six - 1966 - Addenda #1 - #12
- Cardiovascular System Part Six - 1966 - Addenda #13 - #17
- Cardiovascular System Part Six - 1967 and Addenda
- Cardiovascular System Part Six - 1968-69 [includes comments on DeBakey's recommendation that a transplant be considered, and Denton Cooley's recommendation that a bypass be performed]
- Cardiovascular System Part Six - 1968-69 - Addenda #1 - #4
- Cardiovascular System Part Six - 1968-69 - Addenda #5 - #17
- Cardiovascular System Part Seven and Addenda [extensive analysis of autopsy findings]
- 3 Cardiovascular System Part Eight [Ibid.]
- Cardiovascular System Part Eight - Addenda
- Gastrointestinal System Part One and Addenda
- Gastrointestinal System Part Two and Addenda #1 - #11
- Gastrointestinal System Part Two - Addenda #12 - #18
- Gastrointestinal System Part Three and Addenda #1 - #4
- Gastrointestinal System Part Three - Addenda #5 - #17
- Genitourinary System
- Hematopoietic System [physicians' disagreements over anticoagulant therapy]
- Metabolic and Endocrine Systems
- Musculoskeletal System

Box No. Contents

3 Nervous System
(cont.) Respiratory System and Addenda #1 - #5

 Respiratory System - Addenda #6 - #19

 Special Sensory Organs (Ears, Eyes and Skin)

 Dental Care

 SERIES II: MEDICAL HISTORIES OF OTHERS

4 Elivera Doud

 John S. Doud

 Arthur Eisenhower

 Mamie Doud Eisenhower

 SERIES III: BIOGRAPHIES OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

 Colonel James M. Fairchild [DDE's dentist, 1953-61]

 Colonel Robert J. Hall

 Lt. Gen. Leonard D. Heaton

 Maj. Gen. Carl W. Hughes

 Colonel Doss O. Lynn

 Lt. Col. Olive F. G. Marsh [administrative assistant to Dr. Howard M. Snyder, 1954-61; research and editorial assistant to Snyder, then Mattingly, in preparing the history of Eisenhower's health]

 Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Mattingly

 Colonel Loren F. Parmley

 Maj. Gen. George M. Powell

 Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder

Box No. Contents

- 4 Dr. Paul Dudley White - Activities as Consultant, Sept. 25 - Nov. 11, 1955
(cont.) Dr. Paul Dudley White - Activities as Consultant, Nov. 12, 1955 - Feb. 14, 1956

 Dr. Paul Dudley White - Activities as Consultant, Feb. 14 - Oct. 28, 1956

 Dr. Paul Dudley White - Activities as Consultant, Nov. 1956 - 1969

 Dr. Paul Dudley White - Biographical Material

 Dr. Paul Dudley White - News Clippings

 Dr. Paul Dudley White - Research on, by Dr. Oglesby Paul

 SERIES IV: X-RAY FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS [transferred to audiovisual
 section]
- 5 Lists of X-Ray Films

 Postmortem X-Ray Films - Heart and Aorta, March 1969

END OF CONTAINER LIST