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PAARLBERG, DON: Records, 1954-61

Accession 67-17  
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Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 5.2  
Approximate number of pages: 10,200  
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The records of Don Paarlberg, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs and Food-For-Peace Coordinator, 1958-1961, were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in August, 1966. The collection is considered a part of the Presidential papers, the use of which is controlled by the terms of the letter of gift of Dwight D. Eisenhower to Franklin Floete dated April 13, 1960.

Literary rights to unpublished material in the records have passed to the United States as directed by President Eisenhower's letter of gift of April 13, 1960.

As specified in the deed of gift of President Eisenhower the following classes of documents will be withheld from research use:

1. Papers that are security-classified pursuant to law or Executive Order, until such classification shall be removed.
2. Papers the use of which may be prejudicial to the maintenance of good relations with foreign nations.
3. Papers containing statements made in confidence, unless the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.
4. Papers relating to family or private business affairs.
5. Papers containing statements which might be used to injure, harass, or damage any living person.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The records of Don Paarlberg, Special Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs and Coordinator of Food-For-Peace, encompass the years 1954-1961. The vast majority and the most significant portions of these records were created between 1958 and 1961.

Dr. Paarlberg entered government service in 1953 after an academic career at Purdue University, where he was a professor of agricultural economics. His first position in the Eisenhower Administration was as the economic advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, in the first Republican-managed Department of Agriculture in more than twenty years. In 1957 Dr. Paarlberg became the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Foreign agriculture. In late 1958 Dr. Paarlberg was chosen by President Eisenhower to succeed the retiring Gabriel Hauge as Special Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs. Early in 1960 the President added the responsibility of the newly-created position Coordinator of Food-For-Peace to Dr. Paarlberg's duties. Dr. Paarlberg served in this dual capacity to the conclusion of the Eisenhower Administration, at which time he returned to Purdue.

The Paarlberg collection is divided into two series: 1) materials concerning his staff function as Special Assistant for Economic Affairs, and 2) materials relating to his role as Coordinator of Food-For-Peace. Both series are subject files arranged alphabetically and chronologically there under.

Approximately three-fourths of the collection comprises Paarlberg's records as Special Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs, a position Dr. Paarlberg held from October 18, 1958, through January 21, 1961. Paarlberg's fiat as Special Assistant for Economic Affairs was of sweeping purview within the economic realm. Dr. Paarlberg's responsibilities encompassed general economic policy, balancing of the budget, balancing foreign trade, quotas, tariffs, and preparing background research for presidential decisions. In the exercise of these duties, Paarlberg worked closely with the Council of Economic Advisors, the Council on Foreign Economic Policy, the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Labor, State, and the Treasury, and the Bureau of the Budget. Approximately one-third of the series is concerned with agriculture, basically the problem of what to do with huge and increasing stocks of farm products, especially those of wheat and cotton. The series is rich in information concerning agricultural policies from formulation through their fruition as legislation. This series gives evidence to the intense struggles between the Administration and the Congress over farm policies. Dr. Paarlberg's purview included the other myriad economic elements affecting national policy. Paarlberg was involved in the sugar question following the Castro take-over in Cuba, a situation fraught with international complications; he was concerned with questions of oil and oil dependence; he was involved in the questions of minimum wages, unemployment compensation, and nation-wide strikes. A most perplexing problem, one which defied solution, was that of inflation. A problem of great concern both to the Administration and the public, materials within this series give evidence to the complex nature of the problem and the considerable amount of energy spent in attempts to rectify the situation of an ever mounting spiral of inflation.

The remainder of the collection, comprising the subject files of the Coordinator of Food-For-Peace, a position Dr. Paarlberg held from April 13, 1960, to January 21, 1961, are concerned with the disposal of surplus food to needy nations and peoples abroad. Food-For-Peace, an evolution of the 1954 Public Law 480, originally designed as a purely agricultural program intended to reduce surplus stocks, was transformed into a viable and valuable foreign policy during the last year of the Eisenhower Administration. The Food-For-Peace Program, through P.L. 480, provided assistance in three ways: 1) food sales for economic development, 2) food grants for disaster relief, and 3) food donations on a people-to-people basis. Not purely a governmental program, Dr. Paarlberg also coordinated the activities of the voluntary agencies and international organizations. In fiscal year 1960, twenty voluntary agencies and two international organizations participated in Food-For-Peace distribution on a people-to-people basis. The Food-For-Peace program was an interdepartmental effort. The Departments of Agriculture and State, including the International Cooperation Administration (ICA), had the major responsibility, but the Bureau of the Budget, the Treasury, Commerce, Defense, and other agencies were concerned. Paarlberg's role was primarily that of expediter.

Photographs from the collection have been transferred to the custody of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library Audiovisual Collection.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

- June 20, 1911 Born in Oak Glen, Illinois
- 1940 Received Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University
- June 23, 1940 Married Eve Louisa Robertson
- 1942 Received Master of Science degree from Cornell University
- 1944 Co-authored Food with F.A. Pearson
- 1946-1947 Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University
- 1947 Received Doctor of Philosophy degree from Cornell University
- 1948-1951 Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University
- 1951-1952 Secretary-Treasurer of the American Farm Economic Association
- 1952 Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University
- 1953 Secretary of the National Agricultural Advisory Committee
- 1953-1957 Economic Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture
- 1957-1958 Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Foreign Agriculture
- 1958-1961 Special Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs
- 1960-1961 Food-For-Peace Coordinator
- 1961-1962 Member of the Committee on Economic Development
- 1961-1969 Hillenbrand Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University
- 1962 Consultant to the Ford Foundation
- 1962- Member of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America
- 1964 Authored American Farm Policy
- 1968 Authored The Great Myths of Economics

1969-1976 Director of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture  
1976- Professor Emeritus of Purdue University

## DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

Box Nos.   Series

- 1-10    I. ALPHABETICAL SUBJECT FILE OF THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. 1954-1961. 10 containers

Memoranda, correspondence, speech drafts, notes, reports, agendas, minutes, press releases, and materials pertaining to the functions and activities of the Office of the Special Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject and chronological thereunder.

- 11-13   II. ALPHABETICAL SUBJECT FILE OF THE COORDINATOR OF FOOD-FOR-PEACE. 1954-1961 3 containers.

Memoranda, correspondence, charts and graphs, minutes, agendas, photographs, press releases, news kits, and materials pertaining to the functions and activities of the Office of the Food-For-Peace Coordinator. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject and chronological thereunder.

## CONTAINER LIST

Box No.    Contents

- 1            SERIES I: ALPHABETICAL SUBJECT FILE 1954-1961.
- ABEGS [Advisory Board on Economic Growth and Stability]--Council of Economic Advisors (1) (2) [1960] [Food-For- Peace; minimum wage; Fair Labor Standards Act]
- Administrative Matters [1960]
- Agriculture Department (1)-(3) [1959-1960] [Cash receipts from major farm commodities; Hoeven corn bill discussed; statement, Benson to House Agriculture Committee; alternative farm programs]
- Agriculture Department File No. 2 (1)-(7) [1958-1960] [Statement Benson to House Agriculture Committee; USDA, realized costs; payment-in-kind export-subsidy; Report to the American People re agriculture]
- Department of Agriculture No. 3 (1)-(6) [1960] [5th Annual Report; Kennedy farm proposals; commodity summaries; expansion of Rural Development Program; material re visit of Yugoslav Secretary of Agriculture; Freedom-From-Hunger; purchases of non-quota sugar; export and import programs as related to domestic price and income policies]
- 2            Department of Agriculture No. 4 (1)-(4) [1960] [Surplus commodities; proposed legislative programs; agricultural outlook for 1960s]
- Agricultural Message [1959] [Presidential message to Congress]
- Agriculture (General) [1960] [Production controls and Administrative problems]
- Agriculture--Rural Development Program [1960]
- Agriculture--Rural Electrification Administration [1960]
- Balance of Payments (1)-(5) [1959-1960] [Proposed program for increasing export sales; impact of proposed Buy American program; trade discrimination by OEEC; private capital outflows]
- Barter Program [1959] [PL 480; PL 931]

- 3 Bureau of the Budget (1)-(3) [1959-1960]
- Budget--1961 [1959]
- Budget Matters [1959-1960]
- Cabinet Committee on Price Stability for Economic Growth [1959-1960]
- Campaign--1960 (1)-(6) [1960] [Economic growth issue; outline of Republican strategy; Food-For-Peace party planks; farm policy positions of Democratic candidates; abbreviated text, Democratic Platform; farm policy]
- Campaign--II--1960 (1)-(5) [1960] [Campaign literature; memos re farm speeches by the candidates]
- Civil Defense--Emergency Stockpiling (Food) [1960] [Feasibility of relocating CCC grain stocks for defense purposes]
- 4 Classified Staff Memos [1959-1961] [Sino-Soviet economic challenge; chemical pesticides; 1961 budget; economic policy; Sugar Act; report of Life Sciences Panel; list of classified material burned, 1/11/61, in Paarlberg's office]
- Commerce Department (1)-(3) [1959-1960] [Trade with Puerto Rico and U.S. possessions; toll system for interstate highway system; GNP; short-term forecasts; export sales; GATT; out-look for 1960]
- Committee for Economic Development [1959]
- [Report of the] Committee on World Economic Practices [3/2/59]
- Congressional Joint Economics Committee (1)-(3) [1959-1960] [Prices and costs in manufacturing; military procurement and supply; policies for agriculture in the 1960s]
- Congressional Leadership Meetings (1) (2) [1960]
- Copper [1959] [Copper strike and implications thereof]
- Cotton (1)-(3) [1959] [Statistical notes; modifying import quotas; recommended reduction of quotas; U.S. cotton policy]
- Cotton Textiles (1)-(3) [1959-1960] [Japanese arrangement; import of cotton textiles; Section 22 inquiry]
- Council of Economic Advisors (1)-(6) [1958-1960] [Economic Report, 1958; English



- analysis of U.S. exports; OEEC concern over the U.S. dollar; Economic Report, 1959, current issues in monetary policy; uses of long-term projections]
- 5 Council on Foreign Economic Policy (1)-(4) [1958-1960] [Policy issues; trends in U.S. trade with USSR; use of local currencies for educational purposes in less developed areas; ICA agricultural assistance; disposal of agricultural surplus; savings in non-military spending]
- Currencies (Under PL 480) (1) (2) [1959-1960] [Problems with foreign currencies; use of loan repayments]
- Development Loan Fund [1960]
- Economic Growth [1959-1960] [Statistics]
- Economic Indicators (1) (2) [1959-1960]
- Education (1)-(4) [1959-1960] [UNESCO, supply of educational, scientific, and cultural materials; report, "Education for the Age of Science;" use of PL 480 funds for local education]
- Employment [1958-1960]
- Exports--U.S. [1960]
- Fact Finding [Boards] [1958] [Non-statutory boards appointed by the President, Secretary of Labor, or Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service--only three such had been appointed since Taft-Hartley]
- Farm Bills--HR 10355, HR 10370 [1960]
- Farm Loan Act [1959]
- Federal Reserve System [1960]
- Food Contamination (1)-(4) [1959-1960] [Cranberries; chemicals and food; control of toxic chemicals; actions re contamination]
- Foreign Trade [1960]
- 6 Francis Committee [Interagency Committee on Agriculture Surplus Disposal] (1)-(3) [1959-1960]

General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade [GATT] [1958, 1960]

Gold [1958-1959]

HEW [Health, Education, and Welfare] [1959]

Heavy Electrical Equipment [1959] [investigation of imports of power equipment]

Housing (1)-(3) [1958-1960] [Low-rent housing; public housing rents]

Inflation [1959]

Insurance, Health (for the Aged) [1959-1960]

Inter-Agency Textile Committee (Ad Hoc) [1959]

India--President's Visit to--1959 [1959-1960]

Inter-American Development Bank [1959] [Proposal for founding; President to Congress re IADB]

Inter-American Development Banking Institution [Mar. 1959]

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development--International Monetary Fund [1960]

International Industrial and Economic Coordination Center (Wyatt) [1960] [Proposed display center, Guy E. Wyatt and Associates]

International Trade [1959]

Khrushchev [1959] [Khrushchev's visit to U.S.]

Lead and Zinc (1) (2) [1958-1960] [Lead and zinc imports; tariff, protection]

Legislation--1960 [1959] [Legislative proposals]

7 Milk--Non-Fat, Dry [1959] [Suspension of dry milk contracts due to shortages in supply]

Minimum Wages--1960 [1960]

Mutual Security Program (1) (2) [1959]

NAC-- National Advisory Council [1959] [Financing foreign trade]

- National Agricultural Advisory Commission (1)-(3) [1954, 1957-1959]
- National Goals Commission [1959]
- Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization [1959-1960]
- Oil (1)-(4) [1957-1959] [Petroleum imports investigation; concern re implications of mandatory restrictions on imports; imports from Canada and Venezuela; history of natural gas legislation]
- Operations Coordinating Board [1959]
- President's Farm Speech (1)-(4) [1959-1960] [Preparations for the special message to Congress]
- President--Material for Speeches
- President--Press Conferences
- Price Supports--Budgetary Limits [1959]
- 8 Public Debt Management [1959]
- Public Works [1957, 1959]
- Railroad Retirement Data [1959]
- Rapid Tax Amortization [1959] [Proposed legislation]
- Reader's Digest Article [1959] [Re a request for an article on inflation]
- Recession [1959] [Re steps to relieve economic pressures]
- Rye [1959] [Re imposition of quotas on imports]
- Soviet Union--Trade with [1959]
- State Department (1) (2) [1959-1960] [U.S. foreign trade, 1940-58; world trade in primary commodities; transcript, Meet the Press, Undersecretary Dillon]
- State of the Union--1960 [1959]
- Steel [1959-1960] [Corporate profit; economic indicators re prolonged strikes; strike settlement]

- Sugar (1)-(5) [1959-1960] [Legislation; Cuban sugar quota reductions; sugar purchases; sugar supply situation; Cuba; Dominican Republic]
- 9 Tariffs (1)-(3) [1959-1960]
- Tobacco [1958-1959] [Price supports]
- Treasury Department [1959-1960]
- Unemployment Compensation [1958-1959]
- United Nations [1959]
- United States Tariff Commission [1959]
- Vice-President (1)-(5) [1959-1960]
- Wheat (1)-(5) [1958-1960] [Parity payments; wheat supply situation; National Grange; two-price plan for wheat; wheat utilization]
- 10 White House Staff (Members--General) (1)-(6) [1958-1960]
- Wool [1959-1960] [Import quota investigation]
- SERIES II: ALPHABETICAL SUBJECT FILE, FOOD-FOR-PEACE. 1954-1961.
- 11 Food-For-Peace (1)(2) [1960-1961] [PL 480; need for coordinator; description of coordinator]
- FFP Assistance Efforts [1959-1960] [Freedom-from- Hunger; U.S. assistance to agricultural production]
- FFP Background Information [1959-1960] [Origin of FFP program]
- FFP Cabinet Presentation (1)-(3) [1960] [Inter-agency presentation]
- FFP Coordinator (1)(2) [1960] [Selection and appointment of a coordinator]
- FFP--Disasters [1960] [Food relief to Chile]
- [FFP] India--Wheat 5/4/60 (1)-(4) [1960]

- FFP Meetings--DP (1)-(3) [1960]
- 12 FFP—Minister's Meet [1960]
- FFP Policy and Legislation [1959] [Proposed legislation]
- FFP--Publicity 1 (1)-(4) [1960] [Fact sheets; letters to network news (ABC, CBS, NBC)]
- FFP--Publicity 2 (1)-(4) [1960] [Agricultural programs and the budget]
- FFP--[Commemorative] Stamp [1960] [FFP postage stamp]
- FFP--Reference Matter [1959-1960] [Materials for speeches]
- FFP--United Nations (1)-(3) [1960] [FFP and UN food distribution programs]
- FFP Voluntary Agencies (1)-(5) [1960] [Use of voluntary agencies in food distribution abroad]
- FFP--W. H. Staff Memos [1959-1960]
- 13 PL 480--General (1)-(4) [1959-1960] [Food Stamp program; PL 480 extension]
- Title I--PL 480 Currencies (1)-(5) [Loan repayments; Indian grain deal; status of programming]
- Title II--PL 480--g[overnment] to g[overnment] Disaster (1)(2) [1960]
- Title III--PL 480--p[eople] to p[eople] donation-barter (1)-(3)
- Title IV--PL 480--dollar sales [1959-1960]

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