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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection documents Waldemar A. Nielsen's work as Executive Director of the President's Committee on Information Activities Abroad (the Sprague Committee), from February to December 1960, and consists mainly of outlines, drafts, and background material for the Sprague Committee Report. The collection also contains a small amount of material pertaining to Nielsen's work with the African American Institute and Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships, Inc.

In 1959 President Dwight D. Eisenhower asked Mansfield Sprague, a former counsel for the Secretary of Defense, to serve as chairman of a new committee, the President's Committee on Information Activities Abroad. In his letter to Sprague dated December 2, 1959, President Eisenhower stated that the Committee's purpose was "to review the findings and recommendations of the Committee on International Information Activities (the Jackson Committee) in its report dated June 30, 1953, and consider changes in the international situation which affect the validity of the findings and recommendations in that report." In other words the President wanted the earlier report updated.

Sprague accepted this assignment and the work of forming the Committee began. On February 17, 1960 the President publicly announced the establishment of this Committee and listed its members as follows: Mansfield D. Sprague, Chairman; C.D. Jackson; Philip D. Reed; Livingston T. Merchant; George V. Allen; Allen W. Dulles; Gordon Gray; Karl T. Harr Jr.; John N. Irwin II; and Waldemar A. Nielsen, Executive Director.

The Committee's staff included representatives of the White House, Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense, Department of State, and the United States Information Agency. The Sprague Committee held the first formal meeting on February 29 and met for the last time on December 27. The Sprague Committee submitted its final report, "Conclusions and Recommendations of the President's Committee on Information Activities Abroad," to President Eisenhower on December 23, 1960.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	<p>Sprague Committee Meetings – February 1960</p> <p>Sprague Committee Meetings – April 1960</p> <p>Sprague Committee Meetings – May 1960 [discussion of PCIAA-21, The Problem of U.S. Public Understanding of International Affairs; of PCIAA-1/1, Armed Forces Radio and Television Service/Voice of America Relationships; of PCIAA-10, The Collateral Effects of Training Foreign Military Personnel; and the use of television for education purposes]</p> <p>Sprague Committee Meetings – June 1960 [discussion of PCIAA-23, The Impact of Achievements in Science and Technology Upon the Image Abroad of the U.S.]</p> <p>Sprague Committee Meetings – July 1960 [discussion of PCIAA-33, Information Efforts in Support of Mutual Security; of PCIAA-10/1, The Collateral Effects of Training Foreign Military Personnel; and of PCIAA-28/1, The Role of the Armed Forces in Psychological and Informational Activities Abroad]</p> <p>Sprague Committee Meetings – August 1960 [discussion of PCIAA-39, Agricultural Technical Assistance and The American Image; of PCIAA-41, The Role of the American University in International Relations; of PCIAA-42, A Program for Foreign Educational Development; of PCIAA-21/2, The Problem of U.S. Public Understanding of International Affairs; of PCIAA-34/1; and of PCIAA-38/1, Repeal of the Connally Amendment]</p> <p>Sprague Committee Meetings – September 1960 [discussion of preliminary and final report drafts]</p> <p>Sprague Committee Meetings – October 1960 [discussion of report drafts]</p> <p>Sixth Drafts [Chapter I – The Role of the Psychological Factor in Foreign Policy and the Requirements for an Adequate Information System; Chapter V – New Dimensions of Diplomacy, December 5, 1960]</p> <p>Fifth Drafts [Chapter VI – International Activities of Private Persons and Organizations, and of the Mass Media, November 17, 1960]</p> <p>Fourth Drafts [Chapter V – New Dimensions of Diplomacy, November 4, 1960]</p>

Second Drafts [Second Draft Annex Report]

Preliminary Drafts

Outlines

Background Materials (1) [recommendations involving additional expenditures; transcript of conversation between Sprague and Nielsen; “The Seven Pillars of Prestige;” Institute for Defense Analyses comments on the Sprague Committee draft report; minutes of ad hoc meeting held on May 6, 1960]

Background Materials (2) [draft Joint Resolution on International Educational Development; “The Non-Profit Sector of American Private Enterprise”]

The Department of State *Bulletin* [Vol. XLIV, No. 1128, February 6, 1961 issue with article, “Sprague Committee Reports to President Eisenhower on U.S. Information Activities Abroad”]

Correspondence 1967-1968 [Sprague Committee Report]

Correspondence 1961 (1) [African American Institute; Abbott Washburn’s presentation of the Sprague Report to President John F. Kennedy; “Fifth Freedom” program of educational development for emerging countries; incorporation of the U.S. Information Agency into the State Department; Task Force on the U.S. Information Agency]

Correspondence 1961 (2) [Dr. Stanley Andrews; Abbott Washburn; Edward R. Murrow, Senator J. W. Fulbright; John N. Hutchison; Gordon Gray; Livingston T. Merchant; Nelson A. Rockefeller; Joseph Irving Coffey; Mansfield D. Sprague; C.D. Jackson]

Correspondence 1960 [Mansfield Sprague; A. Sirkin; Ruth Sivard; Robert J. Phillips; Emmons Brown; Col. John F. Twombly III; Edmund A. Gullion; Alfred V. Boerner; Dean Rusk; Townsend Hoopes; William H. Jackson; Robert E. Hampton; Joseph M. McDaniel Jr.; Shepard Stone; copy of letter from President Eisenhower asking Mansfield Sprague to serve as Chairman of the Committee on Information Activities Abroad]

Press Releases (1)(2) [Sprague Committee Report; U.S. Information Agency]

Newsclippings

Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships, Inc.

2 *The Peace Corps: Perspectives for the Future* (1)(2) [Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Development Assistance Opportunities in the Next Decade for the Peace Corps, National Academy of Sciences, August 1974]

Draft of Public Version (1) [“The Eisenhower Legacy, Presidential Years, 1953-1960, A National Television Special for the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Dwight D. Eisenhower, October 14, 1990,” National Video Communications in association with WETA/Washington, D.C.]

Draft of Public Version (2) [draft of proposed public version, “The Role of the Psychological Factor in Foreign Policy and the Requirements for an Adequate Information System”]

Draft of Public Version (3) [“Toward a Stronger Foreign Service: Report of the Secretary of State’s Public Committee on Personnel, June 1954”]

END OF CONTAINER LIST