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U.S. PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON A NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM
(CLAY COMMITTEE): Records, 1954-55

Accession A71-77
Processed by: JAW
Date Completed: June 3, 1971

The records of the President's Advisory Committee on a National Highway System (the Clay Committee) were deposited in the Eisenhower Library in May, 1971, by the National Archives.

Linear feet shelf space occupied:	4
Approximate number of pages:	7,200
Approximate number of items:	2,028

Literary rights in the unpublished and published writings of the Committee belongs to the people of the United States.

By agreement with the donor, the following classes of documents will be withheld from research use:

1. Papers relating to private business affairs of individuals and to family and personal affairs.
2. Papers relating to investigations of individuals or to appointments and personnel matters.
3. Papers containing statements made by or to the Committee in confidence unless in the judgment of the Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.
4. All other papers which contain information or statements that might be used to injure, harass or damage any living person.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The records of the President's Advisory Committee on a National Highway System span the months from July 1954 to March 1955, but the most significant part of the collection span the months September -- November 1954.

One third of the collection consists of correspondence sent and received by the Committee, memoranda, reports and plans submitted to the Committee, and public opinion on the national highway system. Portions of this file consist of printed material submitted to the Committee concerning construction and financing of various highway systems.

About 40% of the collection consists of testimony and reports made by 22 organizations at the public hearings on October 7 and 8, press releases concerning the hearings and various activities of the Committee, and rough drafts, charts, and maps used in writing the final report to the President. Much of the material presented at the public hearings concerning financing and construction of a national highway system was incorporated into the final report submitted to the President.

The remaining portion of the collection consists of miscellaneous notes and telephone numbers, secretary's shorthand notebooks, 3"x 5" cards on the hearings, and a 3"x 5" card file of correspondents' addresses.

10 items were removed from the records and turned over to the book collection and 11 photographs were turned over to the photo collection.

NOTE ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON A NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM

At the Governors' Conference of July 12, 1954, Vice President Nixon, on behalf of President Eisenhower, urged that the nation's highway system be expanded and strengthened because the existing system was obsolete and inadequate.

In response to the invitation from the President to recommend cooperative action which might be taken to provide adequate highways, the Governors created a special seven man Highway Committee with Governor Walter J. Koehler, Jr. of Wisconsin as Chairman. An inter-agency Committee within the Federal government was also established and included representatives from the Departments of Defense, Commerce, Agriculture and Treasury, the Bureau of Budget, and the Council of Economic Advisers.

On September 7, 1954, the appointment of the President's Advisory Committee on a National Highway Program was announced. This Committee was composed of Lucius D. Clay, Chairman of the Board, Continental Can Company, Chairman; Stephen D. Bechtel, of San Francisco, California, President, Bechtel Corporation; David Beck, of Seattle, Washington, President, International Brotherhood of Teamsters; S. Sloan Colt, of New York, President, Bankers' Trust Company; and William A. Roberts, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, President, Allis Chalmers Manufacturing Company. Mr. F.C. Turner was appointed Executive Secretary of the Committee.

The Committee was requested by the President to study the problem and report back to him, working in cooperation with the Special Highway Committee of the Governors' Conference and the Interagency Committee. Public hearings were held by the Committee in Washington, D.C. on October 7 and 8, 1954 at which 22 organizations associated with the highway problem made proposed construction program.

The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee were reported to the President in January 1955 and the Committee was then terminated.

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

Box Nos. Series

1-4 Subject-Correspondence File, 1954-1955. 4 containers.

Letters sent and received, alphabetically arranged by correspondent or topic. Some printed items.

4-6 Committee Hearings, 1954. 2 containers.

Reports, testimony, and correspondence submitted to the Committee, summary and report of testimony received by the Committee, press releases, some miscellaneous material.

7-8 Drafts of Report, "A 10-Year National Highway Program." 2 containers.

Corrected typescripts and mimeographs of drafts 2 and 3, charts and maps used, final copy of the Report, and mailing list.

9-10 Secretary's Files, 1954-1955. 2 containers.

Notes on mailing lists and telephone numbers, stenographer's notebooks of a few letters, 3" x 5" card notes on people appearing at Committee Hearings, and 3" x 5" cards of correspondents' addresses.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	Subject-Correspondence File, 1954-1955
1	Pending (Correspondence, 1954)
	“A”
	Administrative Memoranda (empty)
	Appointments - Office (empty)
	“B” (1)-(3)
	“C”
	Personal - General Clay
	Committee Business (1)-(3)
	Committee Business - Report on “Highway Needs: 1955-1964. All Roads and Streets.”
	Committee Business - report on “The Parking Industry”
	“D”
	DDE (Correspondence with the President)
	“E”
	“F”
2	“G”
	“H” (1)(2)
	Hearings-October 7-8, 1954 (1)-(5)
	“I”

Invitations

“J”

“K”

“L”

Legislation

“Mc”

“M”

Special Message to Congress (Jan. 1955)

Miscellaneous

“N”

“O”

Organization (of the Committee)

“P”

3 Plans (1)-(11)

4 Plans (12)-(13)

Press (releases, clippings, and speeches) (1)-(3)

“Q” [empty]

“R” (1)(2)

Report

“S”

Speaking Engagements

“T”

“U”

“V”

“W”

“X-Y-Z”

Information re Collection

Items Turned Over to Book Collection and Photo Collection

Committee Hearings, 1954

The President’s Advisory Committee on a National Highway Program (1)(2)

5 Reports and Plans (1)(2)

Miscellaneous Press Releases

“A 10-year National Highway Program” (Draft No. 2)

Vice President Nixon’s Address to Governors” Conference, July 12, 1954

Opening Remarks by General Clay-October 7, 1954

Schedule of Organizations Appearing October 7 and 8, 1954

Summary of Public Hearings (1)(2)

Truck Trailer Manufacturers Association-October 8, 1954

American Toll Ways Authority-S.E. Wiseman, Executive Director - October 8, 1954

American Municipal Association Policy - October 8, 1954

American Municipal Association Testimony-October 8, 1954

Private Truck Council of America, Inc. - October 8, 1954

Association of American Railroads - October 8, 1954

American Automobile Association - October 8, 1954

National Association of Township Officials - October 8, 1954

Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. - October 8, 1954

American Trucking Associations, Inc. - October 8, 1954

National Association of Motor Bus Operators - October 8, 1954

American Petroleum Institute - October 8, 1954

American Association of State Highway Officials - October 8, 1954

6 Automobile Manufacturers Association - October 7, 1954

National Association of County Officials - October 7, 1954

Automotive Safety Foundation - October 7, 1954

National Parking Association - C.L. McGavin - October 7, 1954

American Road Builders' Association - October 7, 1954

Conference of Mayors - October 7, 1954

Trucking Industry - October 7, 1954

Chamber of Commerce of the United States - October 7, 1954

American Farm Bureau Federation - October 7, 1954

The National Grange - October 7, 1954

Press Release - Sept. 7, 1954 (From Mr. Hagerty's office)

Press Release - Sept. 22, 1954 (From Mr. Hagerty's office)

Press Release - Oct. 6, 1954 (F.C. Turner)

Press Release - Oct. 7, 1954 (Mr. Turner)

Press Release - October 7, 1954

Press Releases - From Dept. of Commerce (Oct. 8, 1954)

Press Conference Minutes - Oct. 8, 1954

Press Release - October 8, 1954

Press Release - Dec. 3, 1954

Data Sheet – “Highway Problems of the U.S.”

Miscellaneous (Nationwide Highway Finance Study - July 16, 1954)

Report of U.S. Conference of Mayors

National Highway Users Conference, Inc.

General Clay (Miscellaneous reports and correspondence) (1)(2)

Mr. Turner (Miscellaneous reports and correspondence) (1)(2)

Chronological File - Sept. 14, 1954 to Feb. 9, 1954 (of outgoing correspondence) (1)-(3)

Maps

Drafts of Report, “A 10-Year National Highway Program”

7 Draft No. 2 - Typed Copy

Draft No. 2

Draft No. 2, Copies #6 and #7

Draft No. 2, Copies #9 and #10

Draft No. 2, Copies #11 and #12

Draft No. 2, Copy #13

Draft No. 2, Copies #23 and #24 - Preliminary Work

Draft No. 3, Copy #6 - Working Copy

Draft No. 3, Copy #29

Draft No. 3, Copy #30

- 8 Draft No. 3, Copy #31
Draft No. 3, Copy #32
Draft No. 3, Copy #33
Maps and Charts
Annotated Draft
Final Copy
Mailing Lists (1)(2)
 - Secretary's Files, 1954-1955
- 9 Notes and Telephone Calls
Notebook (1)-(5)
- 10 3" x 5" Card Notes on Hearings
3" x 5" Cards – Correspondents' Addresses

END OF CONTAINER LIST