

Eger Vaughan Murphree Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by John Butler



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

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Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

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Collection Summary

Title: Eger Vaughan Murphree

Span Dates: 1932-1963

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1957-1962)

ID No.: MSS50146

Creator: Murphree, Eger Vaughan, 1898-1962

Extent: 1,000 items; 4 containers; 1.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Scientist, engineer, and businessman. Correspondence, speeches, memoranda, reports, newspaper clippings, photographs, and biographical material relating primarily to Murphree's activities as president of Esso Research and Engineering Company and as an official of the Fifth World Petroleum Congress.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Lacy, William Sterling Byrd, 1910-1978--Correspondence.

McCone, John A. (John Alex), 1902-1991--Correspondence.

Murphree, Eger Vaughan, 1898-1962.

Nixon, Richard M. (Richard Milhous), 1913-1994--Correspondence.

Seaborg, Glenn Theodore, 1912- --Correspondence.

Strauss, Lewis L.--Correspondence.

Teller, Edward, 1908-2003--Correspondence.

Organizations

Esso Research and Engineering Company.

Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

World Petroleum Congress.

Subjects

Petroleum industry and trade--Congresses.

Petroleum industry and trade.

Science--International cooperation.

Scientists--Soviet Union.

Occupations

Businessmen.

Engineers.

Scientists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Eger Vaughan Murphree, engineer, scientist, and businessman, were given to the Library of Congress by the Esso Research Engineering Co. in 1966.

Processing History

The papers of Eger Vaughan Murphree were arranged and described in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Eger Vaughan Murphree is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Eger Vaughan Murphree are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Eger Vaughan Murphree Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1898, Nov. 3	Born, Bayonne, N.J.
1920	B.S. in chemistry, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.
1921	M.S. in chemistry, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. 1922-1924 Staff assistant and research associate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. C. Rabelais
1924-1930	Chemical engineer, chemical engineering division, Solvay Process Co., Syracuse, N.Y.; director, 1926-1930
1930	Married Madelaine Johnson (died 1933)
1930-1934	Director, Jasco Inc., Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana, development and research department
1934	Married Georgie
1934-1945	Vice president and director, Hydro Engineering and Chemical Co.
1934-1962	Manager of development and research, Standard Oil Development Co. (later Esson Research and Engineering Co.); successively, vice president, 1937-1946; executive vice president, 1946-1947; and president, 1947-1962
1941-1945	Member, Office of Scientific Research and Development
1942-1945	Member, executive committee, Manhattan Project
1950-1962	General Advisory Committee, Atomic Energy Commission

1951-1959	President, Permanent Council of the World Petroleum Congress
1956-1957	Special assistant to secretary of defense
1962, Oct. 29	Died, Overlook, N.J.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Eger Vaughan Murphree (1898-1962) span the years 1932-1963, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1957-1962. The collection consists primarily of correspondence and speeches, supplemented by reports, memoranda, newspaper clippings, photographs, and biographical information. The papers are organized into three groupings: subject file, speeches and writings, and miscellany.

The correspondence in the subject file is composed primarily of carbons or photocopies of incoming and outgoing letters for the years 1956-1962. There is no correspondence previous to 1956. The correspondence is mostly of a business nature and concerns Murphree's activities as president of Esso Research and Engineering Company, the research and development arm of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, and his activities as an official of the Fifth World Petroleum Congress in the period 1956-1960. Of special interest in the Fifth World Petroleum Congress file is correspondence relating to the admission of Soviet scientists to the United States and their restriction with regard to technical information.

Correspondents include William Sterling Byrd Lacy, John A. McCone, Richard M. Nixon, Glenn Theodore Seaborg, Lewis L. Strauss, and Edward Teller.

Murphree's writings include typed, mimeographed, and handwritten copies of his speeches, addresses, and published articles for 1932-1962. An index to the published articles is in the biographical file in the miscellany.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Subject file
BOX 1	American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1960-1961
BOX 1	American Chemical Society, 1958-1960
BOX 1	American Institute of Chemical Engineers, 1960-1962
BOX 1	Anti-smog devices, 1959-1961
BOX 1	Atomic energy, 1957-1962
BOX 1	Atomic Industrial Forum, 1957-1962
BOX 1	Chamber of Commerce, 1961
BOX 1	Department of Defense activities, 1957-1961
BOX 1	Fifth World Petroleum Congress
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1956-1962 (13 folders)
BOX 2	List of reports (2 folders)
BOX 2	Programs (2 folders)
BOX 2	Memoranda, 1956-1959, n.d. (3 folders)
BOX 2	Fluid solids technique, 1960
BOX 2	Iron ore reduction, 1961
BOX 2	Letters of condolence to Mrs. Murphree, 1962-1963
BOX 2	Letters of congratulation, 1962 (3 folders)
BOX 2	Miscellaneous correspondence, 1957-1962 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Non-company research activities, 1959-1962
BOX 2	Permanent Council of the World Petroleum Congress, 1958-1962
BOX 2	Research activities, 1959-1962 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Sixth World Petroleum Congress, 1961-1962 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Society of Chemical Industry, 1959-1962
BOX 2	Technical education, 1957-1962 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Speeches and writings
BOX 3	1932-1958 (15 folders)
BOX 4	1959-1962 (6 folders)
BOX 4	Miscellany
BOX 4	Biographical material, including index to Murphree's published articles
BOX 4	Memoranda, 1956

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 4	Newspaper clippings
BOX 4	Passport
BOX 4	Photographs
BOX 4	Printed matter
BOX 4	Report on vapor resources for the Solvay Process Co., 1936