

Henry Brandon Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Laura J. Kells with the assistance
of Jennifer Bridges and Lisa Madison



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

1995

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Collection Summary

Title: Henry Brandon Papers

Span Dates: 1939-1994

ID No.: MSS82722

Creator: Brandon, Henry, 1916-1993

Extent: 20,400 items; 73 containers plus 17 oversize plus 2 classified; 32.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Journalist and author. Correspondence, memoranda, diaries, articles, reviews, speeches, reports, transcripts of interviews, reference files, notes, appointment books, scrapbooks, and other papers relating to Brandon's career as chief American correspondent for the *Sunday Times*, London. Documents his coverage of major events and presidential administrations of the second half of the twentieth century, his interest in international relations, and his personal and official contacts with prominent American and world figures.

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

Acheson, Dean, 1893-1971.

Brandon, Henry, 1916-1993.

Brandon, Henry, 1916-1993. As we are. 1961.

Brandon, Henry, 1916-1993. Conversations with Henry Brandon. 1966.

Bush, George, 1924-

Carter, Jimmy, 1924-

Ford, Gerald R., 1913-2006.

Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963.

Kissinger, Henry, 1923-

Lippmann, Walter, 1889-1974.

Macmillan, Harold, 1894-1986.

Mead, Margaret, 1901-1978.

Miller, Arthur, 1915-2005.

Monroe, Marilyn, 1926-1962.

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

Reagan, Ronald.

Sadat, Anwar, 1918-1981.

Thatcher, Margaret.

Wilson, Edmund, 1895-1972.

Wright, Frank Lloyd, 1867-1959.

Organizations

Brookings Institution.

Subjects

Cold War.

Foreign correspondents--England--London.

History, Modern--1945-1989.

History, Modern--1989-

International relations.

Presidents--United States.

Places

Europe--Foreign relations--United States.

United States--Foreign relations--Europe.

United States--Politics and government--20th century.

Titles

Sunday times (London, England : 1931)

Occupations

Authors.

Journalists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Oscar Henry Brandon, journalist, foreign correspondent, and author, were donated to the Library of Congress by his widow, Mabel H. Brandon, in 1994.

Transfers

Items have been transferred from the Manuscript Division to other custodial divisions of the Library. Some photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division. Sound and video recordings have been transferred to the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division. All transfers are identified in these divisions as part of the Henry Brandon Papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Henry Brandon in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress has been retained by Mabel H. Brandon until her death. After that time, the copyright reverts to the public. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for further information.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Henry Brandon 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.

Security Classified Documents

Government regulations control the use of classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified items.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date

Event

1916, Mar. 9

Born Oscar Henry Brandeis, Liberec, Czechoslovakia

circa 1934-1938

Studied at universities in Prague, Czechoslovakia, and Lausanne, Switzerland

1939

Emigrated to England

1939-1983	Journalist, <i>Sunday Times</i> of London, England
1943-1945	War correspondent, North Africa and Western Europe
1945-1946	Correspondent, Paris, France
1947-1949	Roving diplomatic correspondent based in New York, N.Y.
1949-1983	Washington correspondent, Washington, D.C.
1961	Published <i>As We Are</i> (N.Y.: Doubleday. 282 pp.)
1964-1970	Wrote "State of Affairs" column for <i>Saturday Review</i>
1966	Published <i>In the Red: The Struggle for Sterling, 1964-1966</i> (London: Andre Deutsch. n.p.) Published <i>Conversations with Henry Brandon</i> (London: Andre Deutsch. 288 pp.)
1967	Published American edition of <i>In the Red: The Struggle for Sterling, 1964-1966</i> (Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 114 pp.)
1969	Published <i>Anatomy of Error: The Inside Story of the Asian War on the Potomac, 1954-1969</i> (Boston: Gambit. 178 pp.)
1970	Married Mabel Hobart Wentworth
1973	Published <i>The Retreat of American Power</i> (N.Y.: Doubleday. 368 pp.)
1979-1981	Syndicated columnist, <i>Washington Star</i> , Washington, D.C.
1983	Retired as Washington correspondent and associate editor, <i>Sunday Times</i> of London, England
1983-1993	Guest scholar in foreign policy studies, Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.
1984-1991	Wrote "Inside Washington" column for New York Times World Syndicate
1988	Published <i>Special Relationships: A Foreign Correspondent's Memoirs from Roosevelt to Reagan</i> (N.Y.: Atheneum. 436 pp.)
1992	Editor, <i>In Search of a New World Order: The Future of U.S.-European Relations</i> (Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution. 177 pp.)
1993, Apr. 20	Died, London, England

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Oscar Henry Brandon (1916-1993) span the years 1939-1994 and relate primarily to his professional life as a journalist. Brandon spent the major portion of his career as chief American correspondent for *The Sunday Times* of London. He covered presidential administrations

from Franklin Roosevelt to Ronald Reagan and interviewed renowned Americans in the political and cultural arenas. His papers document his coverage of many of the major events in the second half of the twentieth century, his interest in foreign policy, and his official and personal contacts with prominent Americans and world figures. They are arranged in six series: [Diaries](#), [Engagement Calendars and Address Books](#), [Interview File](#), [Reference File](#), [Speeches and Writings File](#), and [Miscellany](#).

The [diaries](#) in the first series provide accounts of Brandon's activities, meetings with officials, reports of conversations at social engagements, and his reflections on events spanning over fifty years. He occasionally attached clippings, notes, and other related material to the entries. Although entries were not made for each day, the diaries provide frequent impressions of historical events and personal glimpses of major figures with whom Brandon interacted socially. These individuals include Dean Acheson, John F. Kennedy, Henry Kissinger, and Walter Lippmann.

Appointment books with attached address books in the [Engagement Calendars and Address Books](#) series complement the diaries and serve as additional records of Brandon's activities, friends, and contacts.

The [Interview File](#) contains typed transcripts and handwritten notes from interviews Brandon conducted for publication or for gathering background information. Brandon conducted taped conversations with leading Americans in the 1950s and 1960s which were published in the *Sunday Times* and in two books, *As We Are* and *Conversations with Henry Brandon*. Transcripts from these interviews are filed in this series. Interview subjects include George Bush, Jimmy Carter, Gerald R. Ford, John F. Kennedy, Margaret Mead, Harold Macmillan, a joint interview with Arthur Miller and Marilyn Monroe, Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, Anwar Sadat, Margaret Thatcher, Edmund Wilson, and Frank Lloyd Wright. As a working journalist, Brandon also took notes during meetings and interviews which appear in other series.

The [Reference File](#) contains clippings, notes, and other material relating to prominent individuals and subjects. The most extensive topics include a file labelled "biographical material" containing information on important world leaders and individuals, a grouping titled "countries and geographical locations" which includes sections on Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States, and a valuable segment labelled "international affairs."

The [Speeches and Writings File](#) contains Brandon's published articles, books, and other writings as well as speeches, assorted notes and notebooks, and a newsletter titled "Henry Brandon from Washington" which he issued in the early 1980s. Many of his newspaper articles are mounted in scrapbooks. Extensive files relating to his memoirs, *Special Relationships*, are a significant source of information in which Brandon brought together copies of relevant diary entries, notes, writings, and clippings.

Among the [Miscellany](#) are a small amount of personal and biographical material and files relating to some of Brandon's activities outside journalism. One such activity was his participation in the Committee on the Constitutional System, established to suggest reforms to the American Constitution. A major portion of the series, however, relates to Brandon's work as a guest scholar in foreign policy at the Brookings Institution from 1983 to 1993 and focuses on the end of the Cold War and the future of United States-European relations. During this period Brandon made several trips to his native Czechoslovakia, and several files relate to events in that country as well as his trips there. Brandon wrote a number of pieces on Czechoslovakia which are filed in the [Speeches and Writings File](#).

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in nine series:

- [Diaries, 1941-1991](#)
- [Engagement Calendars and Address Books, 1949-1987](#)

- Interview File, 1957-circa 1991
- Reference File, 1942-1993
- Speeches and Writings File, 1939-1993
- Miscellany, 1943-1994
- Oversize, 1948-1983
- Classified, 1947-1991
- Top Secret, 1947-1966

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-13	<u>Diaries, 1941-1991</u> Bound volumes and loose leaf pages containing thoughts and accounts of activities and meetings. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 13-15	<u>Engagement Calendars and Address Books, 1949-1987</u> Appointment Books with attached address listings and address books. Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 16-21	<u>Interview File, 1957-circa 1991</u> Transcripts, notes, and other writings pertaining to interviews conducted by Brandon. Arranged alphabetically by name of interview subject.
BOX 21-45	<u>Reference File, 1942-1993</u> Notes, clippings, writing, reports, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by topic and chronologically by year therein.
BOX 45-69	<u>Speeches and Writings File, 1939-1993</u> Manuscripts of articles, books and other writings, and drafts, notes, newsletters, speeches, correspondence, background material, and reviews. Arranged alphabetically by type of writing and therein by name of publication or subject.
BOX 69-73	<u>Miscellany, 1943-1994</u> Correspondence, memoranda, clippings, notes, and reports relating to the Brookings Institution and the Committee on the Constitutional System, as well as a few personal and biographical subjects. Arranged alphabetically by activity or topic.
BOX OV 1-OV 17	<u>Oversize, 1948-1983</u> Oversize scrapbooks containing clippings of Brandon's articles as well as a few telegrams, reviews, and related material. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed.
BOX CL 1	<u>Classified, 1947-1991</u> Government security classified correspondence and memoranda. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed.
BOX TS 1	<u>Top Secret, 1947-1966</u> Top secret government security classified correspondence and memoranda. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-13	Diaries, 1941-1991 Bound volumes and loose leaf pages containing thoughts and accounts of activities and meetings. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1	1941-1948 (4 folders)
BOX 2	1949-1951 (3 folders)
BOX 3	1952-1954 (3 folders)
BOX 4	1955-1957 (3 folders)
BOX 5	1958-1961 (6 folders)
BOX 6	1962-1965 (8 folders)
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Engagement Calendars and Address Books, 1949-1987

Container

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BOX 44	Disarmament, nuclear proliferation and nonproliferation, 1974-1982, undated
	Naval forces, 1978-1982
	Pacifism, neutralism in Europe, 1981
	Rapid deployment, 1981-1982
	Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), 1975-1980, undated (2 folders)
	Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START), 1982-1983, undated
	Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), 1984-1986, undated
	Trident submarine, 1978-1981
	Organizations, 1963-1969, 1975-1983
	Reagan administration <u>See also Container 29, Reagan, Ronald</u> Congress, 1981-1982
	Defense, 1981-1984
	Domestic policy, 1976-1982

Reference File, 1942-1993

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	Economy, 1980-1982, undated
	Foreign policy, 1979-1986, undated (2 folders)
	Miscellany, 1980-1984, undated
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	Relations with press, 1982-1984
	White House staff, 1980-1982
	Science and technology, 1957-1963, 1969, 1975-1979
BOX 45-69	Speeches and Writings File, 1939-1993
	Manuscripts of articles, books and other writings, and drafts, notes, newsletters, speeches, correspondence, background material, and reviews.
	Arranged alphabetically by type of writing and therein by name of publication or subject.
BOX 45	Articles
	Magazines
	<i>Saturday Review</i> , 1960-1970, undated (3 folders)
	Various publications
	1947-1974 (2 folders)
BOX 46	1975-1990, undated (2 folders)
	Newspapers
	<i>Daily Telegraph</i> (London, England), 1942, 1988-1991
	New York Times World Syndicate
	1984-1989 (4 folders)
BOX 47	1990-1993, undated (3 folders)
	<i>Sunday Times</i> (London, England)
	Correspondence, 1956-1983 (2 folders)
	General
	Bound, 1948-1983 <i><u>See also Oversize</u></i>
	Unbound
	1942-1972 (2 folders)
BOX 48	1974-1983, undated (2 folders)
	Interview pieces, 1957-1970
	Kissinger, Henry, series, 1976-1977, undated (3 folders)
	Trostnikov, Victor, 1959, 1967, 1990, undated
	"Unwinnable War" series, 1969
BOX 49	Various papers

	Bound, 1939-1948 (2 folders)
	Unbound, 1948-1992, undated (2 folders)
	<i>Washington Star</i> (Washington, D.C.), 1978-1981 <u>See Oversize</u>
BOX 50	Books
	<i>Anatomy of Error</i>
	Background notebooks, 1950-1971, undated (11 folders)
BOX 51	Drafts, undated (2 folders)
	Reviews and comments, 1969-1970, undated <u>See also Oversize</u>
	<i>As We Are</i>
	Draft, undated (2 folders)
	Miscellany, 1960-1964, undated
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	<i>Conversations with Henry Brandon</i> , 1966-1968, undated (2 folders) <u>For additional material see Containers 16-21, Interview File</u>
BOX 52	<i>In the Red</i> , 1964-1967, undated (3 folders)
	<i>In Search of a New World Order</i> , 1991-1992, undated (3 folders)
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	Background notebooks, 1969-1972 (1 folder)
BOX 53	(4 folders)
	General, undated
	Notes, 1969-1972, undated (2 folders)
BOX 54	Various drafts, 1972, undated (14 folders)
BOX 55	(6 folders)
	<i>Special Relationships</i>
	Background notebooks
	Acheson, Dean, 1947-1978, undated
	Adenauer, Konrad, arms control, Georges Bidault, Isaiah Berlin, Ernest Bevin, Blacks (African Americans), and Charles Bohlen, 1950-1986, undated
	Anecdotes and quotes, 1948-1977, undated (2 folders)
BOX 56	Art, 1967-1971, undated
	British ambassadors, 1949-1983, undated
	British relations, 1953-1985, undated (3 folders)
	Bundy, McGeorge, Zbigniew Brzezinski, and George Brown, 1963-1978, undated

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	Callaghan, James, Clark M. Clifford, Winston Churchill, John Foster Dulles, and Anthony Eden, 1953-1986, undated
BOX 57	Carter, Jimmy, 1977-1986, undated (2 folders)
	Countries, 1950-1977, undated
	Declining American century, 1962-1986, undated
	Dobrynin, Anatoly, 1962-1984, undated
	Eisenhower, Dwight D., 1951-1986, undated (2 folders)
	Ford, Gerald R., Alexander Haig, W. Averell Harriman, Edward Heath, Richard Helms, and Central Intelligence Agency, 1956-1977, undated
BOX 58	Historic watersheds, mistakes, and generalities, 1950-1984, undated
	Hoover, J. Edgar, Hubert H. Humphrey, and H. L. Hunt, 1966-1983, undated
	Interviews, 1958-1985, undated
	Johnson, Lyndon Baines, 1958-1988, undated (2 folders)
	Kennan, George F., 1941-1983, undated
	Kennedy, John F., Edward M. Kennedy, and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, 1960-1988, undated (1 folder)
BOX 59	(2 folders)
	Kennedy, Robert, Nikita Khrushchev, Labor Party, and Walter Lippmann, 1950-1986, undated
	Kissinger, Henry, 1969-1987, undated (4 folders)
BOX 60	Leadership, 1978-1984, undated
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	McCarthyism (Joseph McCarthy), and Eugene McCarthy, 1949-1985, undated
	McNamara, Robert S., Jawaharlal Nehru, Dean Rusk, James Reston, Helmut Schmidt, George P. Shultz, Helmut Sonnenfeldt, and Adlai E. Stevenson, 1949-1988, undated
	Nixon, Richard M., 1968-1986, undated (2 folders)
	Personal, 1949-1984, undated
BOX 61	Political parties, 1964-1984, undated
	Press, 1963-1984, undated
	Reagan, Ronald, 1942-1988, undated (2 folders)
	Thatcher, Margaret, Paul A. Volker, and Harold Wilson, 1964-1977, undated
	Truman, Harry S., 1948-1984, undated
	United States, 1941, 1953-1985, undated
	United States-Soviet relations, 1950-1986, n.d
BOX 62	Various topics, 1949-1986, undated (4 folders)

Speeches and Writings File, 1939-1993

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	Washington, D.C., 1949-1984, undated (2 folders)
BOX 63	Correspondence, 1986-1992, undated Outline and notes, undated Reviews, 1988-1989, undated Various drafts, undated (7 folders)
BOX 64	(10 folders) Fragments, 1960, undated Newsletters, 1981-1983, undated (3 folders)
BOX 65	Notes Notebooks Khrushchev, Nikita, visit to the United States, 1959 Miscellaneous subjects, undated (9 folders)
BOX 66	Trip notes Asia, 1953 China, 1974, undated (5 folders) Iran, 1978, undated London, England, 1980 South America, 1960
BOX 67	U.S.S.R., 1947, 1956, circa 1979, 1989, undated (5 folders) Vietnam, circa 1967 Unbound, 1986-1993, undated (3 folders)
BOX 68	Speeches Background material, 1964-1987, undated (2 folders) Texts, 1962-1984, undated (4 folders) Various writings, 1946-1956, 1965-1973, 1980-1991, undated (1 folder)
BOX 69	(3 folders)
BOX 69-73	Miscellany, 1943-1994 Correspondence, memoranda, clippings, notes, and reports relating to the Brookings Institution and the Committee on the Constitutional System, as well as a few personal and biographical subjects. Arranged alphabetically by activity or topic.
BOX 69	Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C. Conferences Ditchley Foundation, 1984-1990 (5 folders) International Institute for Strategic Studies

Miscellany, 1943-1994

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	1984-1988 (3 folders)
BOX 70	1989-1991 (3 folders) Correspondence and memoranda, 1983-1992 Institute for East-West Security Studies course, Prague, Czech and Slovak Federal Republics, 1990-1991 Miscellany, 1983, 1990-1992, undated Topics Arms control, 1983-1993, undated (2 folders) Czechoslovakia 1987-1991 (2 folders)
BOX 71	1992, undated (2 folders) Eastern Europe, 1990-1993, undated European Community, 1982, 1988-1992, undated (2 folders) Germany, 1988-1992, undated (2 folders) Great Britain, 1990-1993, undated Miscellaneous, 1990-1993, undated New Europe, 1975, 1982, 1988-1993, undated (3 folders) <i>For additional material see Container 52, In Search of a New World Order</i>
BOX 72	Russia and former U.S.S.R., 1992-1993, undated Trade, 1989-1993, undated U.S.S.R., 1987-1991, undated (2 folders)
BOX 73	Committee on the Constitutional System, 1981-1984, undated (5 folders) Personal and biographical material Biographical information, 1987, undated Class reunion, Vienna, Austria, 1981-1984, undated Correspondence, 1943, 1950-1954, 1965-1991, undated Miscellany, 1994, undated References to Brandon, 1948-1951, 1962-1965, 1972-1988, undated Wedding congratulations, 1970
BOX OV 1-OV 17	Oversize, 1948-1983 Oversize scrapbooks containing clippings of Brandon's articles as well as a few telegrams, reviews, and related material. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed.
BOX OV 1	Speeches and Writings Articles

Newspapers

Sunday Times (London, England)

General

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BOX OV 2 1952-1954

BOX OV 3 1953-1958

BOX OV 4 1958-1960

BOX OV 5 1959-1962

BOX OV 6 1962-1963

BOX OV 7 1963-1964

BOX OV 8 1964-1966

BOX OV 9 1966-1967

BOX OV 10 1968-1969

BOX OV 11 1970-1971

BOX OV 12 1972

BOX OV 13 1973

BOX OV 14 1974-1978

BOX OV 15 1978-1983

BOX OV 16 *Washington Star* (Washington, D.C.), 1978-1981 (Container 49)

BOX OV 17 Books

*Anatomy of Error*Reviews and comments, 1969-1970, undated ([Container 51](#))

BOX CL 1 Classified, 1947-1991

Government security classified correspondence and memoranda.

Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed.

BOX CL 1 Reference File

Biographical materials

Rostow, Walt W., 1966 (Container 30)

Speeches and Writings File, 1947-1953

Books

Special Relationships

Background notebooks

Adenauer, arms control, Bidault, Berlin, Bevin, Blacks, and Bohlen, 1953 (Container 55)

Callaghan, Clifford, Churchill, Dulles, and Eden, 1953 (Container 56)

Kennan, 1947 (Container 58)

Miscellany, 1991

Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.

European Community, 1991 (Container 71)

BOX TS 1 Top Secret, 1947-1966

Top secret government security classified correspondence and memoranda.

Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed.

BOX TS 1

Reference File

Biographical materials

Rostow, Walt W., 1966 (Container 30)

Speeches and Writings File

Books

Special Relationships

Background notebooks

Kennan, 1947 (Container 58)