

DUBERSTEIN, KENNETH M.: Files, 1987-1989 – REAGAN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

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DUBERSTEIN, KENNETH M.: Files, 1987-1989

Office of Legislative Affairs, 1981-1983 – Deputy Director & Director – [See Separate Inventory](#)
Office of the Chief of Staff: Deputy Chief of Staff, 1987-1988; Chief of Staff to the President, 1988-1989

Kenneth Duberstein worked in the Office of the Chief of Staff from March 1987 until President Reagan left office in January 1989. Earlier in the Administration (1981-1983), he had served in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. Please see the separate finding aid for Duberstein's Legislative Affairs files. Also, please see the John C. Tuck collection within the Office of the Chief of Staff for further Chief of Staff work-related product for Kenneth Duberstein.

Duberstein was born in Brooklyn, New York on April 21, 1944. He attended Franklin and Marshall College in Pennsylvania, where a professor helped him become a Washington intern for Senator Jacob Javits (R-New York). During this internship, Duberstein earned a Master's degree in American Political Dynamics from American University. He attended New York Law School for a year, then returned to Franklin and Marshall as an administrative assistant to its president. Duberstein was hired by the General Services Administration (GSA) in 1970, and became Director of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs for this federal agency in 1972. He left GSA in August 1976 and joined the Department of Labor as a Deputy Under Secretary. After President Ford left office in 1977, Duberstein became a director for the Committee for Economic Development, a Washington public policy organization.

When President Reagan took office in January 1981, Duberstein joined the new administration as the Legislative Affairs person responsible for liaison with the House of Representatives. He became head of Legislative Affairs in December of that year. In December 1983, he left the White House and took a position with Timmons & Company Inc., the lobbying and public relations firm headed by former Reagan campaign and transition director William Timmons. Duberstein Congressional Liaison Team for the 1984 Reagan-Bush campaign organization.

In 1987 Duberstein returned to the White House as the deputy to the new Chief of Staff, Howard Baker, with responsibility for most of the White House's day-to-day operations. When Baker announced his resignation in June 1988, he recommended that Duberstein succeed him as Chief of Staff, and this recommendation was followed. Duberstein, who had a reputation as an efficient manager, saw to the smooth operation of the White House during the last six months of the Reagan Presidency. In addition, he acted as a chief policy adviser to the President, and helped develop and deliver White House support for George Bush's 1988 Presidential campaign. After Election Day, President Reagan appointed Duberstein the chief Administration coordinator for the transition to the incoming Bush Administration.

Duberstein is currently Chairman and CEO of The Duberstein Group, a Washington, DC planning and consulting firm. He also sits on the boards of directors of several companies. He was a technical consultant for the television series *The West Wing*.

Duberstein's files from his time in the Office of the Chief of Staff are arranged into four series.

SERIES I: SUBJECT FILE, 1987-1989 (1.7 l.ft., Boxes 1-5)

Alphabetically arranged files pertaining to issues and topics from the last two years of the Reagan Administration, including: the filling of Supreme Court vacancies; US-USSR relations; the Washington and Moscow Summits and the INF Treaty; the Iran-Contra affair; the 1988 State of the Union Address; long-range policy planning; the federal budget; AIDS, health care, drug abuse, welfare, housing, and other domestic issues; the 1988 Republican convention and Presidential campaign; and the transition to the George Bush administration. Most of the material pertaining to US-USSR relations was still security classified at the time the Reagan Library processed this series.

SERIES II: TRANSITION FILE, 1988-1989 (0.5 l.ft., Boxes 5-7)

This series includes material, administrative in nature, pertaining to the transition from the Reagan Administration to the George H. W. Bush Administration. Most material pertains specifically to the President-Elect's transition team, including: copies of public disclosure statements; lists and form letters documenting transition team requests for basic information on federal agencies; and material pertaining to the listing and verifying of transition people. Also present are: memos authorizing certain Bush transition personnel to communicate with Reagan Administration staff people in specific agencies; lists and other documents pertaining to general conduct guidelines for both Reagan and Bush transition personnel; and guidance for Reagan Administration staff on employment status during and after the transition. This series is arranged alphabetically.

SERIES III: PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, October-November 1988 (1.1 l.ft., Boxes 7-9)

Books of polls compiled for the White House by The Wirthlin Group, the polling organization headed by Richard Wirthlin. Wirthlin first conducted polls for Ronald Reagan during the 1980 campaign. After Reagan became President, Wirthlin directed many public opinion surveys for the White House, and regularly briefed the President and Cabinet officers on his findings. The polls are arranged chronologically.

SERIES IV: UNACKNOWLEDGED MAIL FILE, August-September 1988 (1.7 l.ft., Boxes 10-13 + Oversize Box 1)

This series consists of unanswered miscellaneous mail to the White House. It includes letters from the general public, magazines and newsletters, US Government publications, unsolicited resumes, polling information, and crank mail. Topics include the 1988 elections, economics, US-USSR relations, US-Mexico relations, and national defense. Most of the mail was addressed to Duberstein, Howard Baker, or President Reagan. It is arranged alphabetically.

SERIES I: SUBJECT FILE, 1987-1989

Box 1

Aid to the “Contras”
AIDS Commission
Briefing Material – Fall 1987 Issues (1)(2)
Briefing Material – “The President’s Strategic Plan”
Canada Free Trade Agreement
Candidates for Supreme Court [Notebook One] (1)(2)
Candidates for Supreme Court [Notebook Two] (1)(2)
Candidates for Supreme Court [Notebook Three] (1)-(3)
Candidates for Supreme Court [Notebook Four] (1)-(4)
Drug Issues
Duberstein [Chronology of Activities: 11/03/1988 Nancy Risque Memo]
[Early Warning Report to Chief of Staff for 01/19/1989]
[Fetal Experimentation (Armstrong, William L.)]
[Gorbachev Meetings \(1\)](#)

Box 2

[Gorbachev Meetings \(2\)](#)
Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Debt Limit
Health Care Issues
Housing Issues
INF Ratification
Iran Contra Issues #1 of 2 (1)(2)
Iran Contra Issues #2 of 2 (1)(2)
[Japan Whaling Association]
Japanese Internment
Labor Issues
Ferdinand Marcos
[\[Moscow Summit:\] Background Book for the Meetings of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Moscow, 05/29/1988-06/02/1988 \(1\)](#)
[\[Moscow Summit:\] Background Book for the Meetings of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Moscow, 05/29/1988-06/02/1988 \(2\)](#)

Box 3

[\[Moscow Summit:\] Background Book for the Meetings of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Moscow, 05/29/1988-06/02/1988 \(3\)](#)
[National Public Service Awards 1989]
[NATO Summit Background Book:] The President’s Trip to the NATO Summit, Brussels, Belgium, 03/02/1988-03/03/1988] (1)-(4)
1988 Political Campaign (1)(2)
1988 Republican National Convention
1988 State of the Union
Nomination of Judge Robert Bork
Nomination of Douglas Ginsburg
Nomination of Judge Anthony Kennedy (1)(2)
[Pardon Proposal: Hammer, Armand]
[Pardon Proposal: Hearst, Patty]

Quadrennial Pay Commission

Box 4

“Spinoff Project:” Douglas Morrow Project on NASA

Stock Market Issues/National Economic Commission

Trade Issues (1)(2)

Transition Issues (1)-(3)

[Transition: Miscellaneous Correspondence 01/18/1989]

[US Information Agency: Conference on Chemical Weapons]

[\[Washington Summit:\] Background Book for Meeting Between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987 \(1\)](#)

[\[Washington Summit:\] Background Book for Meeting Between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987 \(2\)](#)

[\[Washington Summit:\] Background Book for Meeting Between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987 \(3\)](#)

[\[Washington Summit:\] Background Book for Meeting Between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987 \(4\)](#)

[\[Washington Summit Briefing Book: The Meetings of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987\] \(1\)](#)

[\[Washington Summit Briefing Book: The Meetings of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987\] \(2\)](#)

[\[Washington Summit Briefing Book: The Meetings of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987\] \(3\)](#)

Box 5

[\[Washington Summit Briefing Book: The Meetings of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, Washington, DC, 12/08/1987-12/10/1987\] \(4\)](#)

Welfare Reform Issues

[White House Personnel Requests]

Williamsburg Charter

[World’s Fair 1992 (Wick, Charles Z.)]

SERIES II: TRANSITION FILE, 1988-1989

Box 5, cont.

Duberstein – Transition (1)-(8)

Duberstein – Transition [Cabinet] (1)(2)

Duberstein – Transition [Executive Office of the President Agencies] (1)(2)

Duberstein – Transition [Sub-Cabinet Agencies] (1)(2)

Box 6

Duberstein – Transition [Sub-Cabinet Agencies] (3)-(8)

[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (A)]

[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (B)] (1)(2)

[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (C)] (1)(2)

[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (D)]

[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (E-F)]

[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (G)] (1)(2)
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (H-J)]
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (K-L)]
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (M)] (1)(2)
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (N-Q)]

Box 7

[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (R)]
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (S)] (1)(2)
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (T-V)]
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (W)]
[Transition Teams Disclosure Statements (X-Z)]

SERIES III: PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, October-November 1988

Box 7, cont.

WH National Monitor October 1988 Volume 1 of 3

Box 8

WH National Monitor October 1988 Volume 2 of 3
WH National Monitor October 1988 Volume 3 of 3

Box 9

[Note re WH National Monitor October 1988-November 1988]
WH National Monitor October 1988-November 1988 Volume 1 of 2
WH National Monitor October 1988-November 1988 Volume 2 of 2

SERIES IV: UNACKNOWLEDGED MAIL FILE, August-September 1988

Box 10

[Note re Mail to File]
[Mail to Howard Baker (A-B)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (C-H)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (I)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (J)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (K)] (1)-(3)
[Mail to Howard Baker (L-M)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (N-ND)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (NE-R)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (S-SO)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (SP-Z)]
[Mail to Howard Baker (Anonymous)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (A-BN)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (BO-COK)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (COL)] (1)(2)
[Mail to Duberstein and others (COM-CR)]

Box 11

Duberstein, Chief of Staff - 6

[Mail to Duberstein and others (CS-DN)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (DO-DZ)] (1)(2)
[Mail to Duberstein and others (E-G)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (H-J)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (K-LE)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (LF-MARJ)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (Market Opinion Research)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (MARL-MZ)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (N – National B)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (National C – National Z)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (NATJ-PAH)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (PAI-PZ)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (Q-R)]

Box 12

[Mail to Duberstein and others (S-SC)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (SD-SEM)] (1)-(3)
[Mail to Duberstein and others (SEN-SH)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (SI-SL)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (SM-STAT)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (State Department Watch)] (1)-(4)
[Mail to Duberstein and others (STAU-SZ)]

Box 13

[Mail to Duberstein and others (T – United States M)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (United States N – WASG)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (Washington – WE)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (WF – Williams G)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (Williams H – WZ)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (X-Z)]
[Mail to Duberstein and others (Anonymous)] (1)(2)

Oversize Box 1

[Mail to Howard Baker (Oversize)]