

DUNLOP, BECKY NORTON: Files, 1982-1983 – REAGAN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

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**DUNLOP, BECKY NORTON: Files, 1982-1983**

Office of Presidential Personnel, 1981-1982; 1983 ([See Separate Inventory](#))

Office of Cabinet Affairs: Special Assistant to the President & Director of the Office of Cabinet Affairs, 1982-1983

**See Also:**           [Dunlop, Becky Norton: Papers, 1985-1989](#)

### **Biography**

Becky Norton Dunlop was born in 1951 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. At a young age, her family moved to Columbus, Ohio where she grew up and went to school. She graduated from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 1973.

After college, Dunlop was associated with the American Conservative Union from 1973-1980, completing her service as assistant executive director and consultant to the board. In 1977 she founded Century Communications, Inc., which focused on strategic planning, communications and managing for results.

Dunlop was involved with the Reagan Presidential Campaigns in 1976 and 1980. Dunlop continued her Reagan association as a volunteer and a “Service by Agreement” employee within the Office of Presidential Personnel of the Reagan Administration in March 1981. A year later she was given a permanent position at the White House as Special Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Cabinet Affairs handling the day-to-day coordination of Reagan Administration policy with Cabinet level appointees and managing the staff of the office.

In June 1983, Dunlop returned to the Office of Presidential Personnel as Deputy Assistant to the President and remained in that position until early 1985. She served in the Department of Justice in 1985-1986 as Senior Special Assistant to the Attorney General managing Cabinet level domestic policy issues including environment, family policy, federalism, tort reform, privatization and welfare reform. During 1987-1989, she was Deputy Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior and Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. President Reagan also appointed her to head the Interagency Committee for Women's Business Ownership, a U.S. Commissioner to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and as his Personal Representative to the Northern Marianas.

In the 1990s Dunlop served as the Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia in the Cabinet of Governor (later Senator) George Allen. Her responsibilities included the Departments of Environmental Quality, Historic Resources, Game and Inland Fisheries, Conservation and Recreation, the Marine Resources Commission, the Chesapeake Bay Local

Assistance Department and the Natural History Museum. She was the principal environmental policy advisory to the Governor and held this post from 1994 to 1998. During her tenure, the agencies were stream-lined, decentralized and down-sized. Governor Allen also appointed Mrs. Dunlop to serve as co-chair of the Governor's Council on Self-Determination and Federalism and Vice-Chair of his Commission on Environmental Stewardship. Dunlop is one of the few “free-market environmentalists” to have headed a government agency and put ideas into action. Her book, *Clearing the Air: How the People of Virginia Improved the State's Air and Water Despite the EPA*, (Tocqueville Institution, 2000) chronicles her experience for this time.

Dunlop also served in the administration of President George W. Bush. In 2002, Bush appointed her to a part-time post as chairwoman of the Federal Services Impasse Panel, which resolves disputes between agencies and labor unions.

Currently, Becky Norton Dunlop serves on the senior management team of The Heritage Foundation as Vice President for External Relations. Her responsibilities include the departments engaged in strategic outreach and communication to conservative public policy institutions and other leadership organizations, international, state and local government officials, business leaders and conservative policy activists. She represents Heritage and presents conservative policies and views in national and international venues.

In addition, Dunlop is a frequent speaker in the United States and internationally and writes and is a contributor to electronic and print media. Dunlop serves on a multitude of boards and foundations including the National Wilderness Institute, Defenders of Property Rights, the Family Foundation of Virginia, the Virginia Institute of Public Policy, the American Conservative Union, the Association of American Educators, the Institute for 21st Century Agriculture and the Reagan Alumni Association, the Institute on Religion and Democracy, the American Conservation Union and the Phillips Foundation.

She is on the Advisory Council for the Landmark Legal Foundation and Hunters for the Hungry, a member of the Philanthropy Roundtable and a Fellow with the Atlas Foundation. She recently served as an appointee of the Senate Majority Leader on the Women's Progress Commemoration Commission. She is also a member of the Board of Governors of the Reagan Ranch, Rancho del Cielo, in Santa Barbara, California.

Dunlop resides in Arlington, Va., with her husband, George S. Dunlop. Mr. Dunlop's former employee, Senator Jesse Helms gave Mrs. Dunlop away at their wedding.

### **Scope & Content Note**

Ms. Dunlop joined the Office of Cabinet Affairs in March 1982 as Special Assistant to the President and the Director of the Office of Cabinet Affairs. She replaced T. Kenneth Cribb who returned to work in the Office of the Counsellor (Ed Meese) as the Deputy Counsellor.

Dunlop's function was managing the Cabinet Affairs staff, coordinating Cabinet meetings, and coordinating and documenting the seven Cabinet Council meetings and circulating the position and policy papers for these meetings. In addition, Dunlop oversaw the day-to-day

communication and coordination of Reagan Administration policies with the Cabinet agencies.

Dunlop started in the White House with Presidential Personnel and she returned to that office in June 1983. She was continually interested in placing personnel with specific conservative principles and experience, and her Cabinet Affairs collection reflects this continued interest. Her collection arrived at the Library with a significant amount of empty subject folder within the Cabinet Affairs material. Since Dunlop carried over various functions from both her offices, please consult her collection for the Office of Presidential Personnel and personal papers here at the Library to see a full view of her work product.

The Dunlop Cabinet Affairs collection consists of 10 series: SERIES I: Cabinet; SERIES II: Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade; SERIES III: Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs; SERIES IV: Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture; SERIES V: Cabinet Council on Human Resources; SERIES VI: Cabinet Council on Legal Policy; SERIES VII: Cabinet Council on Management and Administration; SERIES VIII: Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and the Environment; SERIES IX: Subject File; Series X: Chronological File

### **Series Descriptions**

#### **SERIES I: CABINET FILES, 1982-1983 (0.2 l.ft.; Box 1)**

This series contains material relating to Cabinet meeting agendas, participant lists, and briefing papers and decision memos on the following topics: US-USSR Grain Agreement, product liability legislation, agricultural credit and marketing orders, distributing excess commodities in food banks, reforming the Combined Federal Campaign, reforming the personnel incentive system, abolishing the Federal Regional Council system, federal procurement policy, reforming food stamp regulation, status of immigration reform legislation, and a group of women's issues including child support, insurance and IRA spousal contributions. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

#### **SERIES II: CABINET COUNCIL ON COMMERCE AND TRADE, 1982-1983 (0.3 l.ft.; Box 1)**

This series contains material relating to the Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade meeting agendas, meeting minutes, participant lists, and briefing and background papers on the following topics: financing and exports, space commercialization, trade with Japan, Houdaille Petition, FCC syndication and financial interest rule, trade reorganization, auto industry, minority businesses and the SBA, enterprise zones, airline industry, patent and trademark infringement, DISC (Domestic International Sales Corporation), intellectual property sugar quotas, and government laboratories. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

#### **SERIES III: CABINET COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, 1982-1983 (0.7 l.ft.; Box 2-3)**

This series contains material relating to the Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs meeting agendas, meeting minutes, participant lists and briefing and background papers on the following topics: Hungarian application for IMF membership, financial markets, monetary policy,

exchange rates, African Development Bank, unemployment insurance benefits, job training, international state debt problems, public employee pensions, rural housing block grants, transportation user fees, federal credit policy, unemployment, education saving, pensions, farm credit system, windfall profit tax, crude oil decontrol, guarantees of tax exempt bonds, housing policy, stockpile methodology, revenue sharing, health insurance for the unemployed, railroad retirement benefits, tax benefits, Williamsburg Economic Summit, and general review of the economy and the economic outlook. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

**SERIES IV: CABINET COUNCIL ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, 1983 (5 folders; Box 3)**

This series contains material relating to the Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture meeting agendas, meeting minutes, participant lists and briefing and background papers on the following topics: rural development strategy, rural electrification, agricultural exports, and agricultural marketing production control orders. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

**SERIES V: CABINET COUNCIL ON HUMAN RESOURCES, 1982-1983 (0.1 l.ft.; Box 3)**

This series contains material relating to the Cabinet Council on Human Resources meeting agendas, meeting minutes, participant lists and briefing and background papers on the following topics: mandatory retirement ages, health care incentives, Medicare options, drug abuse prevention, job sharing, child support, urban conditions and policy, and the Depository Institution Holding Company Deregulation Act. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

**SERIES VI: CABINET COUNCIL ON LEGAL POLICY, 1982-1983 (0.2 l.ft.; Box 3-4)**

This series contains material relating to the Cabinet Council on Legal Policy meeting agendas, meeting minutes, participant lists and briefing and background papers on the following topics: civil rights policy, pension equity for women, antitrust issues, fair housing, "toxic torts," Intercircuit Tribunal proposal, and fee cap legislation. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

**SERIES VII: CABINET COUNCIL ON MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION,  
1982-1983 (0.1 l.ft.; Box 4)**

This series contains material relating to the Cabinet Council on Management and Administration meeting agendas, meeting minutes, participant lists and briefing and background papers on the following topics: work space management, reports of Inspectors General activities, real property reforms, federalism, capital formation, debt collection, reduction-in-force reform, personnel incentive system reform, procurement reform, and cash management. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

**SERIES VIII: CABINET COUNCIL ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT,  
1982-1983 (0.2 l.ft.; Box 4-5)**

This series contains material relating to the Cabinet Council on Management and Administration meeting agendas, meeting minutes, participant lists and briefing and background papers on the following topics: Synthetic Fuels Corporation, cost sharing for federal water projects, Environmental Protection Agency legislation, environmental speech, Clean Water Act reauthorization, nuclear licensing and regulatory reform, the Clean Air Act, Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing, international population, international environmental issues, coal slurry pipelines decision, and oil price declines. The material is arranged in chronological order by meeting dates.

**SERIES IX: SUBJECT FILE, 1982-1983 (1.5 l.ft.; Box 5-8)**

This series contains material relating to the management, procedures, and structure of the Cabinet Council system; a limited amount of monthly reports from agencies for 1983; yearly accomplishments for agencies for 1982; a limited amount of planning matrixes for Administration proposals; and the following topics: Freedom of Information Act amendments; Department of Education reorganization; sunsetting the Civil Aeronautics Board; status reports on computer support for White House offices; issue alerts from the Environmental Protection Agency, acid rain; the Reagan response to critics of the Administration's social policies (Fairness II notebook); Federal labor-management relations; budget issues and budget reviews; hazardous substances export policy; infanticide, problems for independent oil producers; State dinner guests; the coal slurry pipeline, environmental speech, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, food stamp regulatory reform; Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing; and merit system standards. The material is arranged alphabetically.

**SERIES X: CHRONOLOGICAL FILE, 1982 (1.ft., Box 9)**

This series contains material relating to chronological memos and letters with White House staff, her direct supervisor, Craig Fuller, agency staff, Congress and the general public. There are two sets of chronological correspondence. One is arranged by date and the second is arranged by date and alphabetical. This series contains a significant amount of material indicating Dunlop was continuing her work to place conservatives within the Reagan administration while working in Cabinet Affairs.

**Container List**

**Box 1**

**SERIES I: CABINET**

- Cabinet Meeting – 07/15/1982
- Cabinet Meeting – 07/20/1982
- Cabinet Meeting – 01/13/1983
- Cabinet Meeting – 01/31/1983
- Cabinet Meeting – 02/02/1983
- Cabinet Meeting – 03/24/1983
- Cabinet Meeting – 04/21/1983 (1)(2)
- Cabinet Time – 01/31/1983
- Cabinet Time – 05/12/1983

Cabinet Time – 05/18/1983  
Cabinet Time – 05/24/1983  
Cabinet Time – 01/31/1983  
Cabinet Time – 06/01/1983  
Cabinet Time – 06/06/1983

**SERIES II: CABINET COUNCIL ON COMMERCE AND TRADE**

Box 1, cont.

Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 07/21/1982  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 08/11/1982  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 12/15/1982  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 12/17/1982  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 12/21/1982  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 02/02/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 02/16/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 02/22/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 03/10/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 03/23/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 03/30/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 04/06/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 04/13/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 04/20/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 05/04/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 06/01/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 06/30/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 07/12/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 05/04/1983  
Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade – 05/04/1983  
Minutes for CCCT Meetings – 11/08/1982, 11/09/1982 and 11/19/1982  
Minutes for CCCT Meetings – 02/22/1983 (Revised), 03/02/1983 and 04/06/1983

Box 2

**SERIES III: CABINET COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 03/29/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 05/27/1982 Paper on Exchange Rates  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 06/01/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 06/03/1982 Paper on Unemployment Insurance  
Benefits  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 07/13/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 07/27/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 07/29/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 08/06/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 08/10/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 08/12/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 11/02/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 11/10/1982

Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 11/17/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 11/18/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 11/23/1982  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 01/04/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 01/11/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 01/11/1983 [Cancelled]  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 01/12/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 01/21/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 02/04/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 02/08/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 02/09/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 02/10/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 02/22/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 02/25/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 03/15/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 03/22/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 03/24/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 03/29/1983

Box 3

Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 04/05/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 04/12/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 04/14/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 04/21/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 04/26/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 05/12/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 06/02/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 06/21/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 06/22/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 06/24/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 06/30/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 07/05/1983  
Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs – 07/07/1983  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 10/24/1982 and 11/09/1982  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 11/02/1982, 11/10/1982, 11/16/1982, 11/17/1982 and  
11/18/1982  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 11/30/1982 and 12/07/1982  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 12/17/1982 and 12/21/1982  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 02/08/1983 and 02/09/1983  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 03/22/1983, 03/24/1983 and 03/29/1983  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 04/12/1983, 04/14/1983 and 04/21/1983  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 05/24/1983 and 06/02/1983  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 05/12/1983, 05/19/1983, 05/26/1983, 06/07/1983 and  
06/09/1983  
Minutes for CCEA Meetings – 06/21/1983 and 06/22/1983

**SERIES IV: CABINET COUNCIL ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Box 3, cont.

Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture – 01/17/1983  
Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture – 02/23/1983  
Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture – 02/28/1983  
Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture – 04/08/1983  
Minutes of CCFA Meetings – 12/07/1982 and 12/08/1982

**SERIES V: CABINET COUNCIL ON HUMAN RESOURCES**

Box 3, cont.

Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 03/30/1982  
Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 01/04/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 01/26/1983  
Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 04/26/1983  
Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 05/03/1983  
Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 05/11/1983  
Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 05/13/1983  
Cabinet Council on Human Resources – 07/07/1983

**SERIES VI: CABINET COUNCIL ON LEGAL POLICY**

Box 3, cont.

Cabinet Council on Legal Policy – 09/30/1982  
Cabinet Council on Legal Policy – 10/18/1982  
Cabinet Council on Legal Policy – 01/26/1983

Box 4

Cabinet Council on Legal Policy – 02/10/1983 (1)(3)  
Cabinet Council on Legal Policy – 03/24/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Legal Policy – 05/19/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Legal Policy – 06/20/1983

**SERIES VII: CABINET COUNCIL ON MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

Box 4, cont.

Cabinet Council on Management and Administration – 12/01/1982  
Cabinet Council on Management and Administration – 12/23/1982 (1)(4)  
Cabinet Council on Management and Administration – 01/12/1983  
Cabinet Council on Management and Administration – 01/21/1983 (1)-(3)  
Cabinet Council on Management and Administration – 04/28/1983  
Minutes of CCMA Meetings – 01/12/1983 and 01/21/1983

**SERIES VIII: CABINET COUNCIL ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT**

Box 4, cont.

Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - General  
Minutes of CENRE Meetings – 12/03/1982 and 12/08/1982  
Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 01/18/1983



Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 01/28/1983  
Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 02/09/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 03/01/1983  
Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 03/09/1983

Box 5

Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 03/25/1983 (1)(2)  
Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 04/07/1983  
Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 05/05/1983  
Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and Environment - 05/12/1983

SERIES IX: SUBJECT FILE

Box 5, cont.

1983 Administration Freedom of Information Act Amendment  
Birch Bayh (Empty)  
[Briefing on the Cabinet Council on Management and Administration, 01/11/1983 –  
Attendance List]  
[Cabinet Council Background Information]  
[Cabinet Council News Clippings]  
Cabinet Council Procedures  
Cabinet Resumes (1)(2)  
Calendar of Events  
[Civil Aeronautics Board-Sunsetting]  
Coal Slurry Pipelines (CM #121)  
Computer Information (1)-(3)  
Department of Education Reorganization  
Enterprise Zones (Empty Folder)  
Environment Speech Proposals  
Environmental Issues (Empty)

Box 6

[Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Acid Rain, Clean Air, Clean Water  
Issues] (1)(2)  
[Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Issue Alerts] (Notebook) (1)-(6)  
[Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed Ground Water Policy – State  
Department Comments]  
[Fairness II Briefing Book] (1)-(7)  
Federal Employees Health Benefits (Empty)  
[Federal Labor-Management Relations Program]  
FY 1984 Budget  
FY1984 Spring Review - Bailout Proposals (Binder) (1)

Box 7

FY1984 Spring Review - Bailout Proposals (Binder) (2)(3)  
FY 1984 Spring Review – Foreign Aid (1)-(3)  
FY 1984 Spring Review – Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (Binder) (1)(2)

FY 1984 Spring Review - Major Litigation (Binder) (1)-(4)  
FY 1984 Spring Review - Management Initiatives / Health (Binder) (1)-(3)  
Food Stamp Regulatory Reform  
[Handicapped Infants – Infanticide Issues] (1)(2)  
Hazardous Substances Export Policy (1)-(5)  
Infanticide (1)(2)

Box 8

Immigration (Empty)  
Independent Oil Producers  
Intergovernmental Advisory Council on Education (Empty)  
Labor Negotiations (Empty)  
[Monthly Accomplishments, May 1983, June 1983]  
[National Commission for Employment Policy]  
[National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Consultant Letter]  
Outer Continental Shelf Decision Memo – May 1983  
Overseas Private Investment Corporation  
[PAS Mailing List, 03/18/1983] (1)(2)  
Presidential Documents (Empty)  
Presidential Messages (Empty)  
Presidential Speaker (Empty)  
[Press Releases, February 1983]  
1981 Proposed Changes to Freedom of Information Act (1)-(3)  
Proposed Final Rules for Merit System Standards [Cabinet Council on Human Resources] November 1982  
Senate – Presidential Letter to Senators John Heinz, Howard Baker, Jesse Helm, S. I. (Sam) Hayakawa Regarding Abortion, 09/07/1982  
[State Dinner Guests]  
[State Dinner Invitees – Name List Service, 08/11/1982] (1)-(3)  
[State Dinners – Not Invited Name List Service – 12/20/1982]  
Synfuels Corporation (empty)  
[U.S. Trade Representative Planning Matrix, 01/24/1983]  
[Year End Reports, CY 1982] (1)-(4)

SERIES X: CHRONOLOGICAL FILES

Box 9

Chrons, 04/01/1982-05/17/1982  
Chrons, 05/18/1982-06/15/1982  
Chrons, 06/16/1982-09/13/1982  
Alpha Chrons – July 1982-October 1982, A-F  
Alpha Chrons – July 1982-October 1982, G-L  
Alpha Chrons – July 1982-October 1982, Mc-Q  
Alpha Chrons – July 1982-October 1982, R-Z