

Svahn, John A. (Jack): Files, 1981-1987

Finding Aid Type

White House Staff and Office File Collections

Subtitle/Office

Policy Development

Specialization Heading

Assistant to the President

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Record Type

Textual

Biography

Brief Biography

John "Jack" A. Svahn is a former government executive and a public policy management consultant.

Svahn received his B.A. degree in political science from the University of Washington.

Svahn's federal government service began in the Nixon and Ford Administrations. From 1973 to 1976, Svahn held a succession of federal positions in the Social and Rehabilitation Service (SRS) of the then Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). He was Acting Administrator of the SRS and Director of the U.S. Office of Child Support Enforcement.

Before joining the Reagan Administration, Svahn was manager of government services for the accounting firm of Deloitte Haskins and Sells, Inc. from 1976-1979. After leaving Deloitte, Svahn became a consultant specializing in public policy management problems.

Returning to assist President-elect Reagan, Svahn was the head of the Task Force on the Health Care Financing Administration for the 1980 Transition Team. He then served as an Under Secretary of Health and Human Services and concurrently, as Commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

Svahn was appointed Assistant to the President for Policy Development in September 1983, succeeding Edwin Harper. Svahn left the White House in late 1986. Gary Bauer.was appointed Deputy Assistant to the President for Policy Development to succeed Svahn.

Following his time in Washington, DC, Svahn focused on his consulting business, In 2011, Svahn published a memoir of his long association with Ronald Reagan, "

There Must Be A Pony in Here Somewhere:" Twenty Years with Ronald Reagan: A Memoir.

He and his wife, Jill, now reside in Reno, Nevada.

Scope and Content Note

The Library is currently doing an arrangement project for the entire Office of Policy Development. Jack Svahn's collection will be finalized within the next year. The Library has done a preliminary arrangement of his material, but series may change and the contents may change as we continue to find more material for this collection.

Preliminary series are: SERIES I: Subject File; SERIES II: Budget Files; SERIES III: Handwritten Notes; SERIES IV: Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports; SERIES V:

Deaver Investigation; SERIES VI: Job Corps Letters; SERIES VII:

Calendars/Schedules; SERIES VIII: Phone Logs; SERIES IX: Press Clippings and Briefings; SERIES X: Publications; and SERIES XI: National Aguarium Material.

Series List

SERIES 01: SUBJECT FILE

SERIES 02: BUDGET FILES

SERIES 03: HANDWRITTEN NOTES

SERIES 04: DRUG ABUSE POLICY OFFICE WEEKLY REPORTS

SERIES 05: DEAVER INVESTIGATION

This series consists of select material from Jack Svahn's office. The material was deemed responsive to White House Counsel Peter J. Wallison's May 12, 1986 request for White House Staff cooperation with the FBI investigations of certain allegations regarding Michael Deaver, former Deputy Chief of Staff. Svahn requested Records Managment provide him with material regarding his daily schedules and telephone logs from May 1984 to May 1986, and his records relating to acid rain. This series consists of some of the searches done for material and responsive material from Svahn's work product. It is highly likely that most of this material is duplicates of other material within the Svahn collection.

SERIES 06: JOB CORPS LETTERS

SERIES 07: CALENDARS/SCHEDULES

SERIES 08: PHONE LOGS

SERIES 09: PRESS MATERIAL

SERIES 10: PUBLICATIONS

SERIES 11: NATIONAL AQUARIUM MATERIAL

Last Modified Date

2025-01-02

SERIES 01: SUBJECT FILE

Box 1

OPEN

OPEN OPEN	Status	Title
OPEN		Acid Rain (1)(2)
		Air Bags
OPEN		[Anti-Abortion Legislation]
OPEN		Avian Flu
OPEN		Biotechnology (1)(2)
OPEN		Briefing Material for Various Press Conferences, Interviews, etc. (1)-(3)
OPEN		Brokered Deposits
OPEN		Census Reports - Department of Commerce (1)(2)
OPEN		Census Reports (Advance Copies) - Department of Commerce (1)(2)
OPEN		CAB (Civil Aeronautics Board) Sunset
OPEN		Civil Rights/Grove City (1)-(4)
Box 2		
	Status	Title
OPEN		Civil Rights/Grove City (5)-(13)
OPEN		Civil Rights / Human Rights (1)-(4)
OPEN		Communications Meeting Material (1)(2)
OPEN Box 2 OPEN OPEN		Civil Rights/Grove City (1)-(4) Title Civil Rights/Grove City (5)-(13) Civil Rights / Human Rights (1)-(4)

[Combined Federal Campaign]

OPEN [Commission on Executive Legislative and Judicial Salaries]

OPEN Communications Meeting Material (1)(2)
OPEN Congressional Leadership, 12/26/1985

OPEN [Copper Industry]

OPEN Corporate Tax - Garret Financial Services, Inc.

OPEN Council for Black Economic Agenda

OPEN Deficit Reduction – Crime Prevention Committee

OPEN Drug Czar

Box 3

Status Title

OPEN Early Warning Report Updates – January 1986-August 1986

- Bledsoe Memos

OPEN Economic Policy Council, 01/21/1986 & 06/04/1986

OPEN "Economics and Budget Control" – L. Wesley Bankston

OPEN Executive Secretaries Meetings (1)-(3)

OPEN Farm Credit

OPEN Farm Policy - Farm Credit (1)-(8)

OPEN Food Safety Regulation

OPEN Government Waste (1)(2)

OPEN Gray Market Vehicles

OPEN [Grove City Civil Rights]

Box 4

Status Title

OPEN [Infanticide, Fetal Experimentation, Abortion – 01/22/1983

- Briefing Book] (1)(2)

OPEN Issue Papers, 1983

OPEN Issue Papers, 1984-1986

OPEN Japanese Auto Imports – UAW (United Auto Workers) Letter

OPEN [Legislative Strategy Meetings, September 1983 re: 1983

Priorities and Appropriations Outlook and Issues]

OPEN Maritime Policy (1)-(5)

OPEN National Computer Policy – Ventura College Ben Matley

OPEN Nuclear Power (1)(2)

OPEN Official Working Visit of Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan,

Los Angeles, January 2, 1985 (binder) (1)-(3)

OPEN / DIGITIZED Presidential Debates (1)
OPEN / DIGITIZED Presidential Debates (2)
OPEN / DIGITIZED Presidential Debates (3)
OPEN / DIGITIZED Presidential Debates (4)
OPEN / DIGITIZED Presidential Debates (5)

Box 5

Status Title

OPEN "Privatization in Britain" [PBS Documentary, 1985] -

Housed in AV Storage

OPEN [Public Housing Ownership Demonstration]

OPEN State of the Union

OPEN Steel Industry Trade Issues: Meeting with Mr. Meese and

Staff 01/05/1984

OPEN Strategic Petroleum Reserve Fill Analysis, Domestic Policy

Council, June 1986

OPEN Superfund (1)(2)

OPEN [Superfund]

OPEN Tax Information (1)-(10)

OPEN Tax Reform

OPEN Telephone Rates - Cabinet Council on Commerce and

Trade

OPEN Trade - Annual Report of the President of the U.S. on the

Trade Agreements Program, 1983

OPEN Trade, Tariffs, Imports (1)(2)

Box 6

Status Title

OPEN Trade, Tariffs, Imports (3)(4)

Status	Title
OPEN	Travel
OPEN	[Travel:] Seattle, WA – Paralyzed Veterans of America 07/30/1985-08/01/1985
OPEN	[Travel:] Hot Springs, VA - Business Council Conference 10/10/1985-10/12/1985
OPEN	[Travel:] Anaheim, CA - Orange County Economic Conference 11/06/1985-11/08/1985
OPEN	[Travel:] Hot Springs, VA - Business Council Conference 05/08/1986-05/10/1986
OPEN	[Travel:] Santa Barbara 08/16/1986-08/22/1986
OPEN	Trucking Deregulation
OPEN / DIGITIZED	United Nations, Population, A.I.D., Abortion (1)
OPEN / DIGITIZED	United Nations, Population, A.I.D., Abortion (2)
OPEN / DIGITIZED	United Nations, Population, A.I.D., Abortion (3)
OPEN / DIGITIZED	United Nations, Population, A.I.D., Abortion (4)
OPEN / DIGITIZED	United Nations, Population, A.I.D., Abortion (5)
OPEN / DIGITIZED	United Nations, Population, A.I.D., Abortion (6)
OPEN	United Nations, Population, A.I.D., Abortion [Articles]
OPEN	[Urban Issues Roundtable, 05/15/1985) (1)-(4)
OPEN	[Weekly Updates for the President]
OPEN	"White House Digest," November 18, 1983 - "President Reagan on Peace, Arms Reductions and Deterrence"
OPEN	[White House Fellows, 1985-1986 – Possible Choices fo r Office of Policy Development](1)
Box 7	
Status	Title
OPEN	[White House Fellows, 1985-1986 - Possible Choices for Office of Policy Development] (2)-(13)
OPEN	"White House Talking Points," 02/03/1983-05/22/1984, Office of Public Affairs
OPEN	"White House Talking Points," 06/19/1984-04/09/1985, Office of Public Affairs

OPEN Youth Employment Opportunity Wage

SERIES 02: BUDGET FILES

Box 7, continuted

Status Title

OPEN Department of Agriculture [Budget Review FY 85]

Box 8

Status Title

OPEN Department of Commerce, Small Business Administration,

& Export-Import Bank [Budget Review FY 85]

OPEN Department of Defense Briefing Charts [Budget Review FY

851

OPEN Department of Education [Budget Review FY 85]

OPEN Department of Justice [Budget Review FY 85]

OPEN EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) [Budget Review FY

851

OPEN NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)

[Budget Review FY 85]

OPEN Veteran's Administration [Budget Review FY 85]

OPEN

Budget – Mid-Session Review – State of Economy and

Budget Review Boards (Binder)((1)-(3)

Budget - Mid-Session Review - State of Economy and

OPEN Badget Mila Session Review State of Economy and

Budget Review Board Material I (1)-(10)

OPEN Budget – Mid-Session Review – State of Economy and

Budget Review Board Material: Economic Briefing

Box 9

Status Title

OPEN Budget – Mid-Session Review – State of Economy and

Budget Review Board Material II (1)-(10)

OPEN [Budget] 1986 Fall Director's Review International Affairs

(Binder) (1)-(5)

OPEN FY 1986 Department of Labor Fall Director's Review

(Binder) (1)(2)

Status **Title** HUD (Housing and Urban Development) 1986 Fall OPEN Director's Review (Binder) (1)-(4) **Box 10** Status Title HUD (Housing and Urban Development) 1986 Fall OPEN Director's Review (Binder) (5) OPEN Veteran's Administration [FY86 Director's Review] **SERIES 03: HANDWRITTEN NOTES** Box 10, continued Status **Title OPEN** Jack Svahn Handwritten Notes 1983 (1)(2) **OPEN** Jack Svahn Handwritten Notes 1984 (1)-(4) **OPEN** Handwritten Notes 1984 (1)-(4) **OPEN** Jack Svahn Handwritten Notes 1985 (1)-(4) **Box 11** Title Status **OPEN** Jack Svahn Handwritten Notes 1986 (1)-(3) [Svahn Handwritten Notes for "OPS" Meetings and Issue **OPEN** Notes, 1985 (1)-(7) [Svahn Handwritten Notes re: Don Regan Staff Meeting, **OPEN** 02/08/19851 [Louis Hayes Notes for Svahn Staff Meetings] (02/07/1985-**OPEN** 06/28/1985) [Hayes Notes for Svahn Meetings with Legislators, OPEN Agencies, Lobbyists, etc.] (11/14/1984-05/08/1985) [Hayes Notes for Svahn Meetings with Legislators, **OPEN** Agencies, Lobbyists, etc`.] (05/09/1985-09/08/1985) [Hayes Notes for Svahn Meetings with Legislators, etc.]

SERIES 04: DRUG ABUSE POLICY OFFICE WEEKLY REPORTS

House Efforts]

(09/09/1985-11/19/1985)

OPEN

OPEN

[Svahn Handwritten Notes Re: Women's Issues and White

Box 11, continued

20% 22, 0011011404	
Status	Title
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (05/17/1985-06/27/1985)
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (06/28/1985-08/15/1985)
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (08/16/1985-10/10/1985)
Box 12	
Status	Title
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (10/11/1985-11/21/1985)
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (11/22/1985-12/20/1985)
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (12/23/1985-03/02/1986)
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (03/03/1986-04/20/1986)
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (04/21/1986-06/22/1986)
OPEN	Drug Abuse Policy Office Weekly Reports (06/23/1986-10/12/1986)

SERIES 05: DEAVER INVESTIGATION

This series consists of select material from Jack Svahn's office. The material was deemed responsive to White House Counsel Peter J. Wallison's May 12, 1986 request for White House Staff cooperation with the FBI investigations of certain allegations regarding Michael Deaver, former Deputy Chief of Staff. Svahn requested Records Managment provide him with material regarding his daily schedules and telephone logs from May 1984 to May 1986, and his records relating to acid rain. This series consists of some of the searches done for material and responsive material from Svahn's work product. It is highly likely that most of this material is duplicates of other material within the Svahn collection.

Box 12, continued

Status **Title** [Deaver Investigation: Office of Records Management **OPEN Material** [Deaver Investigation: C-TRACK Printouts - Acid Rain, **OPEN** Subcode HE007-01 (Air Pollution)] [Deaver Investigation: C-TRACK Printout - Danny Boggs **OPEN** Files (Partial)] [Deaver Investigation: Schedules - Acid Rain] **OPEN** [Deaver Investigation: Schedules May 1984-December **OPEN** 1984] (1)-(3) OPEN [Deaver Investigation: Schedules 1985] (1)-(4) **OPEN** [Deaver Investigation: Schedules 1986] [Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs January 1984-February **OPEN** 19841 [Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs March 1984-April 1984] OPEN [Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs May 1984-June 1984] **OPEN** (1)(2)**OPEN** [Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs July 1984] [Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs August 1984-**OPEN** September 1984] [Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs October 1984-**OPEN** November 1984] **Box 13**

Status	Title
OPEN	[Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs December 1984]
OPEN	[Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs April 1985]
OPEN	[Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs May 1985]
OPEN	[Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs/Block Schedule 06/01/1985-06/28/1985]
OPEN	[Deaver Investigation: Phone Log 07/23/1985-07/26/1985]
OPEN	[Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs 06/28/85-08/31/1985]
OPEN	[Deaver Investigation: Phone Logs September 1985- October 1985]

T:41.

SERIES 06: JOB CORPS LETTERS

Box 13, continued

Status Title

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re – Original WHORM Filing Information]

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re] (1)-(16)

Box 14

Status Title

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re] (17)-(35)

Box 15

Status Title

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re] (36)-(53)

Box 16

Status Title

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re] (54)-(58)

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re - Not Opened at White House] (1)-

(17)

Box 17

Status Title

[Job Corps, Letters re - Not Opened at White House] (18)-

OPEN (30)

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re – Insufficient Return Address] (1)-(8)

Box 18

Status Title

OPEN [Job Corps, Letters re – Undeliverable Responses] (1)(2)

[Job Corps, Letters re - Outgoing Letters Needing

OPEN COPEN

Correction]

SERIES 07: CALENDARS/SCHEDULES

Box 18, continued

Status Title

OPEN Calendars/Schedules, 1984-1986 (1)-(3)

OPEN [Jack Svahn Meetings, 09/06/1983-October 1983]

OPEN [Jack Svahn Meetings, November 1983-December 1983]

OPEN [Jack Svahn Meetings, January 1984-April 1984]

Status	Title
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, May 1984-July 1984]
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, August 1984-October 1984]
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, January 1985-March 1985]
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, April 1985-June 1985]
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, July 1985-September 1985]
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, October 1985-December 1985]
Box 19	
Status	Title
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, January 1986-March 1986]
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, April 1986-June 1986]
OPEN	[Jack Svahn Meetings, July 1986-September 1986]
SERIES 08: PHONE LO	OGS
Box 19, continued	
Status	Title
OPEN	[Phone Logs, January 1984-March 1984]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, April 1984-July 1984]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, August 1984-October 1984]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, November 1984-December 1984]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, January 1985-March 1985]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, April 1985-June 1985]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, July 1985-September 1985]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, October 1985-December 1985]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, January 1986-April 1986]
OPEN	[Phone Logs, May 1986-September 1986]
SERIES 09: PRESS MA	ATERIAL
Box 19, continued	
Status	Title
OPEN	News Clipping Packets (01/09/1985-02/15/1985)

Status	ritte
OPEN	News Clipping Packets (01/09/1985-02/15/1985)
OPEN	News Clipping Packets (02/16/1985-02/19/1985)
Box 20	
Status	Title

OPEN News Clipping Packets (02/20/1985)

OPEN News Clipping Packets (02/21/1985)

OPEN News Clipping Packets (02/22/1985)

OPEN News Clipping Packets (02/23/1985-02/24/1985)

OPEN News Clipping Packets (02/25/1985)
OPEN News Clipping Packets (02/26/1985)

OPEN [Articles and Clippings with Svahn Annotations]

(11/01/1984-02/07/1985)

OPEN [Articles and Clippings with Svahn Annotations]

(02/08/1985-03/09/1985)

OPEN [Articles and Clippings with Svahn Annotations]

(03/10/1985-04/18/1985)

OPEN [Articles and Clippings with Svahn Annotations]

(04/19/1985-05/12/1985)

OPEN [Articles and Clippings with Svahn Annotations]

(05/13/1985-12/28/1985)

OPEN Clippings and Printouts of News Articles - OPD - 1986 (1)-

(4)

OPEN Ferraro Articles, July 1984

Box 21

Status Title
OPEN [Press Briefing, El Paso, TX, 08/13/1983]

[11e33 Bileting, E11a30, 1A, 00/13/1903]

OPEN [Press Briefings, Santa Barbara, CA, 08/16/1983-

08/18/1983]

OPEN [Press Briefings, Santa Barbara, CA, 08/19/1983 and

08/21/1983]

OPEN [Press Briefings, Century City, CA, 08/22/1983]

OPEN [Press Briefings, Century City, CA, 08/24/1983-08/25/1983]

OPEN [Press Briefings with Svahn Annotations] 02/19/1985-

02/20/1985) [re: Auto Import Restraints]

[Press Briefings with Svahn Annotations] 03/14/1985 &

OPEN 03/27/1985 [re: Social Security / Voluntary Auto

Restraints1

OPEN [Press Briefings, 04/01/1985 [re: Japanese Trade/Imports]

[Press Briefings with Svahn Annotations] 04/02/1985 [re:

OPEN Heckler, Rowney, Japanese Trade]

OPEN White House News Summary, Special Edition, 08/06/1988

SERIES 10: PUBLICATIONS

Box 21, continued

OPEN

Status	Title
OPEN	"An Economic Bill of Rights," by Martin Anderson, 1984
OPEN	American Association of Women Voters, Los Angeles [Newsletter], June/July 1984
OPEN	The American Legion, July 1984
OPEN	"AMA Newsletter" vol. 18, nos. 20-22, 1986
OPEN	Business Week, November 7, 1983
OPEN	Business Week, November 5, 1984
OPEN	"Capitol Hill," Spring 1985
OPEN	Chronicles of Culture, May 1984 & September 1984
OPEN	Citizens for America Publications
OPEN	Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, November 19, 1983
OPEN	Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, April 14, 1984
OPEN	Crain's Chicago Business 06/25/1984-07/01/1984
OPEN	Financier, February 1987
OPEN	"Inside the Administration," July 24, 1986
OPEN	Issues in Law and Medicine, July 1986
OPEN	"John Naisbett's Trend Letter," March 22, 1984
Box 22	
Status	Title
OPEN	Management Focus, March-April , 1984 - Peat Marwick
OPEN	Mandate for Leadership II: Continuing the Conservative

Revolution (transferred to Book Collection

"Memorandum," Spring/Summer 1984, AEI

OPEN	"National Security Record: A Report on Congress and National Security Affairs," January 1985
OPEN	"Prevention Notes," Issue 3 & 4, 1984
OPEN	Sequoia Institute Publications
OPEN	"The Socioeconomic Newsletter," vol. IX, nos. 3 & 4, 1984
OPEN	Speaking of Japan, January 1984
OPEN	"Talking Points," v.IV, nos. 1, 5-6, 11, 1984 & v. V, no.8, 1985
OPEN	"Tax Features," August & September 1984
OPEN	The University Bookman, Summer 1984
OPEN	"Washington Report," February & July 1986

Title

SERIES 11: NATIONAL AQUARIUM MATERIAL

Box 22

Status

Status	Title
OPEN	National Aquarium in Baltimore – Departmental Synopsis – October 1983
OPEN	National Aquarium in Baltimore – Board Meeting 12/15/1983
OPEN	National Aquarium in Baltimore – 1984 (1)-(5)
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD - Board of Governors Administrative Material (11/20/1984-12/30/1984)
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD - Board of Governors Administrative Material (12/31/1984-03/12/1985)
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD - Board of Governors Administrative Material (03/13/1985-04/16/1985)
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD - Board of Governors Administrative Material (04/17/1985-05/30/1985)
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD - Board of Governors Administrative Material (05/31/1985-06/24/1985)
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD - Board of Governors Administrative Material (06/25/1985-12/03/1985)
Box 23	

Statu	Title
OPEN	National Aquarium in Baltimore – Bylaws – Amended 10/01/1985
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD – Press Releases
OPEN	National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD - "Animal Update"
OPEN	National Aquarium – John Svahn – 1986 (1)-(4)