

HODSOLL, FRANCIS (FRANK) S.M.: Files, 1981 – REAGAN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

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HODSOLL, FRANCIS (FRANK) S.M.: Files, 1981. 6.3 ft.

Office of the Chief of Staff: Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy to the Chief of Staff, 1981

Biography

Frank Hodsoll was born in Los Angeles on May 1, 1938. His father, Francis Hodsoll, ran an import-export company in the Philippines. Hodsoll attended the Cate School, a college preparatory boarding school near Santa Barbara. He earned a B.A degree from Yale University, where he majored in Art History and American Studies, and was active in college theater and radio. He went on to obtain M.A. and LL.B. degrees from Cambridge University, and a J.D. degree from Stanford Law School.

Hodsoll served in the Army in 1959-1960, while simultaneously working as a Congressional assistant. In the 1960s and 1970s he held a wide variety of jobs, including work as a State Department foreign service officer, service with a British trading company in the Philippines (1964-1971), a year as an associate with a New York law firm (1965-1966), and positions in the Council for Environmental Quality (1972-1973), Environmental Protection Agency (1973-1974), and Department of Commerce (1974-1977).

James Baker, who had been Under Secretary of Commerce when Hodsoll was in the Commerce Department, made Hodsoll staff coordinator for Ronald Reagan's debate preparation during the 1980 Presidential campaign. After Election Day, Hodsoll worked for the 1980-1981 Reagan transition staff, handling staffing matters involving the incoming Administration.

Hodsoll continued as Baker's assistant after Reagan became President in January 1981. He advised Baker on policy issues, especially those with a foreign relations aspect. He also assisted Baker in issue identification, management matters, and policy execution, and was a designated liaison to various outside groups.

In the fall of 1981, OMB Director David Stockman proposed deep cuts in the budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), with the aim of eventually eliminating the agency. Hodsoll's concern for the NEA led him to approach Baker about becoming its new Chairman when the incumbent's four-year term expired in November. With Baker's backing, Reagan nominated Hodsoll for the position, and he was quickly confirmed by the Senate. Under Hodsoll, the NEA maintained most of its budget appropriation level. Hodsoll helped persuade Reagan to establish the President's Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and emphasized making the arts more accessible to the public. He was awarded an Oscar and an Emmy for his work on film and video preservation.

Hodsoll continued as NEA Chairman until early in the George H. W. Bush administration. He then went to OMB, to become that agency's first Deputy Director for Management. Hodsoll left OMB when Bush left the Presidency in 1993. Later in the 1990s, Hodsoll served as county commissioner for Ouray County, Colorado. He went on to work for the National Association of Counties, as a consultant on federal management and policy, as a member on the US National Commission for UNESCO, and as Chairman of George Mason University's Center for Arts and Culture. Hodsoll died of cancer in Falls Church, Virginia on July 24, 2016.

Scope and Content Note

Hodsoll's files are arranged in two series, which cover his 11 months on the White House staff. Additional Hodsoll material from his time in the White House is interfiled in the James Baker collection and other collections in the Chief of Staff office.

SERIES I: SUBJECT FILE, 1981 (3.0 l.ft., Boxes 1-8)

Alphabetically arranged files pertaining to issues in which Hodsoll was involved. Topics include immigration and refugee policy, the Americans formerly held hostage in Iran, US policy toward Iran and other selected countries, court claims by foreign nationals, unsolicited resumes, the National Security Council's internal organization and processes, US intelligence policy, telecommunications policy, the space shuttle, the March 1981 assassination attempt on President Reagan, and taxes and other selected domestic issues. There are also many documents pertaining to Hodsoll's involvement with the White House Fellowship program, the Wilson Center, and the bicentennial of the Battle of Yorktown. Some material was created by James Baker, and given to Hodsoll for filing or further action.

When the Hodsoll collection was processed, the Reagan Library determined that a substantial portion of the Subject File consisted of pre-presidential documents. These documents are now part of the collection Reagan-Bush Transition Staff: Papers (Series VI).

SERIES II: PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE POLICY, 1980 – August 1981. (3.0 l.ft., Boxes 8-16)

This series pertains specifically to the President's Task Force on Immigration and Refugee Policy, which was formed in March 1981. The Task Force officially consisted of: its Chairman, Attorney General William French Smith; Mr. Hodsoll, the White House representative; the Secretaries of State, Defense, Education, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Treasury; and the heads of OMB and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Except for Hodsoll and French Smith, however, lower-level agency personnel usually attended meetings in place of the Secretaries and other agency heads. The Attorney General presented the Task Force's final recommendations to President Reagan in a Cabinet meeting on July 16, 1981.

Another bloc of records on the Task Force is in the White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject File category FG258-03 (Task Force on Immigration and Refugee Policy).

We have divided this series into two subseries: Subseries A: Subject File and Subseries B: Publications.

Subseries A. Subject File. 1980-1981. (2.5 l.ft., Boxes 8-15)

Alphabetically arranged files pertaining to the functioning of the Task Force and the issues it examined. Topics include: refugees and immigrants from Cuba, Haiti, Eastern Europe, Vietnam, and Africa; the aftermath of the 1980 Mariel boatlift of Cuban refugees, including options for short-term housing sites; legal and illegal immigration from Mexico; the Carter Administration's Select Committee on Immigration and Refugee Policy; review of current Government policies toward immigrants and refugees; the membership and work of the Task Force's working groups; the drafting of a fact sheet and Presidential statement on immigration and refugees; Government management, organization, and staffing issues pertaining to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and other agencies; background papers, agendas, and minutes for Task Force meetings; proposed immigration legislation; the March 1981 meeting between President Reagan and Mexican President Lopez Portillo; reports and statistical information on immigration and refugees; and a partial copy of the Task Force's final report.

Subseries B: Publications, 1980-1981. (0.5 l.ft., Boxes 15-16)

This subseries consists of published materials accumulated by Hodsoll in the course of his work with the Task Force, and draft and final versions of Task Force reports. It is arranged alphabetically by author.

Container List

SERIES I: SUBJECT FILE, January 1981-November 1981

Box 1

Central America

Czech Claims (1)(2)

[Hostage Compensation, President's Commission on] (1)(2)

Immigration (1)-(8)

Box 2

International Year of Disabled Persons

Iran (1)-(10)

Iran Hostages (1)-(4)

Box 3

Iran Hostages (5)-(12)

Iran [Proposal]

Israel

Italy

Jamaica

Japan

Joint Chiefs of Staff

Jordan

LOS [Law of the Sea]

March 30 [03/30/1981 Assassination Attempt]

Military Manpower (1)-(4)

NSC (1)-(3)

Box 4

NSC (4)-(6)
Refugees (1)-(6)
Resumes (1)-(9)

Box 5
Resumes (10)(11)
[Senior Staff Meetings] (1)(2)
Space Shuttle (1)-(5)
Supreme Court [Proposed Limits on Jurisdiction]
Tax Bill
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United Nations – US-Soviet Relations (1)(2)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Voting Rights Act

Box 6
White House Fellows (1)-(8)
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Box 7
White House Fellows Commission (10)-(14)
Wilson Center (1)-(10)
Yorktown [Bicentennial] (1)-(3)

Box 8
Yorktown [Bicentennial] (4)-(11)

**SERIES II: PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON IMMIGRATION AND
REFUGEE POLICY, 1980-August 1981**

Suberies A: Subject File, 1980-1981

Box 8, cont.

Arkansas (1)(2) [includes material on Eastern European and African refugees]

Congressional Relations

Detention Center & Chaffee Working File (1)-(9)

First Asylum

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Florida
General Correspondence (1)-(4)
[Immigrant Labor] (1)-(9)
Immigration and Refugee Announcement File
[Immigration and Refugee Policy Development] (1)-(3)

Box 10
[Immigration and Refugee Policy Development] (4)-(6)
[Immigration and Refugee Policy – Draft Public Statements]

Immigration and Refugees (1)-(12)

Box 11

Immigration and Refugees (13)-(18)

Immigration and Refugees [General] (1)-(11)

Box 12

Immigration and Refugees [General] (12)-(19)

Immigration and Refugees [Task Force] (1)-(9)

Box 13

Immigration and Refugees [Task Force] (10)-(23)

Immigration Fact Sheet and Statement – Comments [includes a Mexican Government study on Mexican emigration to the US, and material re Puerto Rico and Haitian refugees] (1)(2)

Box 14

Immigration Fact Sheet & Statement – Comments [includes a Mexican Government study on Mexican emigration to the US, and material re Puerto Rico and Haitian refugees] (3)-(10)

Lopez Portillo (1)-(3)

Lungren Bill (1)-(3)

Management (1)-(3) [President's Management Council]

Box 15

Management (4)

Personnel

Refugee Resumes (1)(2)

[Refugees – National Association of Counties (NACO)] (1)(2)

Subseries B: Publications

Box 15, cont.

North, David S. *Enforcing the Immigration Law: A Review of the Options*

North, David S. *Immigration and Income Transfer Policies in the United States: An Analysis of a Non-Relationship*

President's Management and Improvement Council. *Management Improvements in the Immigration and Naturalization Service Volume I* (1)-(5)

Box 16

President's Management and Improvement Council. *Management Improvements in the Immigration and Naturalization Service Volume I* (6)

President's Management and Improvement Council. *Management Improvements in the Immigration and Naturalization Service Volume II* (1)-(5)

State Department, U.S. *Country Reports on the World Refugee Situation August 1981* (1)(2)

State Department, U.S. *Report to the Congress on Proposed Refugee Admissions and Allocations for Fiscal Year 1982* (1)(2) [Hodsoll copy of draft]