

MASENG, MARI: Files, 1988-1989 – REAGAN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

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MASENG, MARI: Files, 1988-1989(5.8 l.ft.; Box 1-15)

Office of Speechwriting, Speechwriter, 1981-1983

Office of Public Liaison, Deputy Assistant to the President (Director), 1986-1987 ([see separate inventory](#))

Office of Communications, Assistant to the President (Director), July 1988-January 1989

Biography

Mari Maseng was born in Chicago on March 15, 1954. She attended the University of South Carolina, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 1975.

After university graduation, Maseng became a reporter for the *Charleston Evening Post*. Shortly after leaving college, Maseng began her long association with Republican politicians. In 1979, she began work as a press aide to Representative Phil Crane (R-IL) and also served as a Staff Director for Senator Bob Dole's presidential primary campaign in 1979. After Dole dropped out of the race, she supported the Reagan-Bush team.

Maseng served throughout the 1980 Reagan campaign and on four separate occasions within the Reagan Administration. Maseng began work as a media strategist for the Reagan-Bush campaign and then as a press aide to Mrs. Reagan during the transition period. In 1981 Maseng served in the White House as a member of the President's speechwriting staff leaving in November 1983. In November 1983, she started to work for Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole as Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

Ms. Maseng left government service in November 1985 to become Director of Corporate Relations at the Beatrice Companies in Chicago, and was named a Corporate Officer by the Board of Directors.

Maseng was brought back to the White House in May 1986 to be the Director of the Office of Public Liaison. She remained at the White House until July 1987. At this time she became Press Secretary of the Senator Robert Dole for President Campaign. After Senator Dole suspended his campaign in early 1988, she was, again, recruited for a White House position. She returned to the White House in July 1988 replacing Tom Griscom as Director of the Office of Communications and Planning and as Assistant to the President.

After leaving the White House at the end of the Reagan administration, Maseng founded her own political and communications consulting firm. However, for the third time Maseng worked for Senator Robert Dole as communications director of the Dole presidential campaign in 1996. She

remained with the campaign until Dole received the nomination and then returned to her private company.

In 1991 Maseng married George Will, columnist for the *Washington Post* and a regular contributor to ABC News. They have one son.

Scope & Content Note

Mari Maseng returned to the White House in July 1988 as Assistant to the President for Communications and Planning, and Director of the Office of Communications. She replaced Tom Griscom who left the White House when his mentor and fellow Tennessean, Howard Baker, left in June 1988. The collection reflects this short time period but also reflects Maseng's responsibilities as the ultimate head of speechwriting, public affairs and media relations. The communications arm of the White House was heavily involved in molding "Reagan legacy" pieces and assisting with the election of then Vice President George H.W. Bush.

As presently constructed the Office of Communications does not have a set of "office" records. The Library identified some administrative material within the other directors but most of it was in the final boxes of Maseng's material sent to record's management. We have retained this material within the Maseng collection.

The Office of Communications was briefly reorganized in 1984 when David Gergen left the post of Director of Communication in the fall of 1983. The Communications Office and all its suboffices operated as part of the Deputy Chief of Staff's (Michael Deaver) responsibility. Day-to-day supervision was handled by Michael McManus. At this time a post was created to handle "communication planning" which was filled by Pam Bailey.

With the hiring of Patrick Buchanan as the Director of Communications in early 1985, the Office of Communications returned to its original status. While Buchanan intended to fill the Pam Bailey position, and actually hired someone, it was actually never used during the Buchanan years. When Tom Griscom replaced Patrick Buchanan in March 1987, the post was renamed – Assistant to the President for Communications and Planning and Maseng continued with this title also. This combined the post in one person, and they retained the position of Director of the Office of Communications.

The Library does not appear to have a Maseng collection for her time in the Office of Speechwriting as a speechwriter. Please refer to the Office of Speechwriting: Speech Drafts and Research Office to find material associated with Ms. Maseng as a speechwriter.

The collection consists of four series: SERIES I: Subject File, SERIES II: Trip File; SERIES III: Bush-Quayle 1988 Campaign; and SERIES IV: Publications.

SERIES I: Subject File, 1988 (4.6 l.ft.; Box 1-12)

This series consists of material relating to interaction with special interest groups; editing and approving speeches and statements on the Defense Authorization veto, the plant layoff bill veto,

the Iranian Airline shoot down, and the President's farewell address; creating communication "action plans" to assist White House agendas such as the FY 1990 budget, public diplomacy plans; and Reagan "Legacy" issues; and speeches, themes, and planning focused on the election of Vice-President George H.W. Bush and the President's role in assisting the Vice-President. This series also contains material relating to administrative matters for the Office of Communication including staff meeting agendas and notes, weekly issues reports to the President, staff manuals, forms, parking, salary and hiring issues. Administrative files within this collection often contain material from previous Directors of Communication, Thomas Griscom and Patrick Buchanan. The material in this series is arranged alphabetically.

SERIES II: Trip File (.4 l.ft, Box 12-13)

This series consists of material relating to trips taken by the President in support of the Vice-President's 1988 campaign for the Presidency. Files consist of trip schedules, notes on planning the trip, speech drafts, speech finals, and local press coverage. Often several events or even additional stops are included within the folders. The material in this series is arranged chronologically.

SERIES III: Bush-Quayle 1988 Campaign (.4 l. ft.; Box 13-14)

This series consists of material relating to publications to promote George Bush's candidacy; manuals and directories from the Campaign on surrogate speakers and building coalitions; a copy of George Bush's Inaugural Address and a Richard Wirthlin poll commissioned by the Republican National Committee on national public attitudes for the time period of October 31, 1988-November 2, 1988. The material is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

SERIES IV: Publications (.4 l.ft.; Box 14-15)

This series consists of magazines and reports published during late 1988. It includes the centennial of the National Geographic magazine; journals from the Government Accounting Office and the Brookings Institute; a manuscript version of the Heritage Foundation's *Mandate for Leaders: III*; and reports on the White House Conference on Drug-Free America and fiscal year 1990 budget material. Larger items have been transferred to the book collection. The material is arranged alphabetically by publication title.

CONTAINER LIST

SERIES I: SUBJECT FILE

Box 1

AIDS (1)(2)

Administration (1)(2)

The Almanac of American Politics, 1988 – Selected Pages

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

American Newspaper Publishers Association (ANPA)

Armed Forces Voters Week

Articles on Administration Officials

Attacks on Reagan at the Democratic National Convention
Attorney General Thornburgh
Baker, James – Resignation
Bevacqua, Anita
Beyond War Broadcast
Bios
Boca Raton Letter
Boland, Matthew
Brinkley, David
Brokaw, Tom
Budget (1)-(4)
Businessweek Interview Joe Wright/OMB
California Fundraisers
Campaign 1988

Box 2
Campaign Watch Summary
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
Captive Nations Day Statement - 07/13/1988 (P)
Cavazos, Lauro
Child Abduction
Child Care
CNN Interview 09/09/1988
CNN Interview 01/12/1989
Columnists
Combined Federal Campaign
Communications, Office of
[Communications, Office of – Historical Information]
[Communications, Office of – Review] (Binder) (1)-(3)
Communications Staff Meetings (1)(2)
Communications Wrap-Up of Election Coverage
Computer Information
Contras
Counsel re: Speeches (empty)
CTRCK Codes
Demuth, Chris (AEI) (1)-(3)
Department of Defense Authorization (1)-(4)

Box 3
Devine, Donald [Citizens for America]
Dolan Geneva Trip
Domenici
Domestic Policy Speech (1)-(3)
Donattelli Meeting
Dresses
Drought

Drug Bill
Drugs (1)-(3)
Duberstein
Duberstein Personal Press Plan
Economic Bulletin
Economic Policy Council (1)(2)
Education and Bennett
Statement on Employment
ESPN Interview / POTUS
Ethics Bill (1)(2)
Ethics in Government
Executive Office of the President – Drug-Free Workplace Plan
Falling from Grace
Family Magazine

Box 4
Farewell Address - POTUS
Farewell Back-Up
Fetal Research
First Lady Talking Points
Fisher, Audrey, Interview
Foreign Policy
Foreign Policy [Speech] University of Virginia: Charlottesville 12/16/1988
Forest Fires
French Journalists, MM/FD (Maseng/Donatelli) Meeting - 11/08/1988 (1)(2)
Glassner, Mike
Gorbachev
Government Waste
Grace Commission
Greenville Professional Women's Forum
Gribben, Bill
Hayes, Stephen
Highway Users Foundation
Hispanic Briefing
Hispanic Media
Hispanics
Homeless
Horatio Alger Association
[Housing – Possible Arkansas Event]
Human Events
Interviews – White House
Interviews Following Events
Issues Update – 07/08./1988
Issues Update – 07/22/1988
Issues Update – 07/29/1988
Issues Lunch – 09/12/1988 (empty)

Issues Paper - 09/18/1988 (empty)
Issues Lunch 10/03/1988
Issues Lunch 10/17/1988 (empty)
Issues Lunch: 10/24/1988 (empty)
Issue Paper: 11/04/1988
Issues Lunch: 11/10/1988 (empty)
Issues Lunch: 11/14/1988
Issues Paper: 12/05/1988 (empty)
Issues Paper: 12/09/1988
Issues Paper: 12/16/1988 (empty)
Issues Updates – Communications Section
Issues Updates – Weekly Report to the President (1)

Box 5

Issues Updates – Weekly Report to the President (2)-(5)
Japanese Internment Legislation - Signing Ceremony
Jobs
Judicial Nominees
Key Political Reporters
Klugmann, Mark
Koppel: News from Earth
Kudlow, Lawrence
Labor, Department of - Secretary McLaughlin (1)(2)
LaFarge Corporation
Last 100 Days
Last Six Months (1)(2)
Legacy
Legacy Booklets [“Reagan Record” & “Promises Made, Promises Kept”]
Legal Services
Library Court Coalition/Meetings/Eric Licht (1)-(3)
Marlin [Fitzwater]
Maseng Biography
McKay Report
McLaughlin Interview
Meal Acceptance Guidelines
Media and Broadcast Relations
Media Bashing
Media/Communications
Media Events

Box 6

Media Executives Briefing 08/03/1988
Media Fall Plan (1)-(3)
Media: Fall Plan / Local - E. Board (1)-(3)
Media Fall Plan / Op-eds M. Blakey
Media Plan for Surrogates

Media Requests
“Meet the Press”
Minimum Wage Supporters
NASA/Also See Space
National Federation of Business and Professional Women – Vice President’s Speech,
07/24/1988
National Governor's Association (POTUS) 08/08/1988
Nedelman, Jeffrey (1)(2)
Negative Campaigning
Nevada
Newspaper Column - POTUS
Nicaragua
Nobel Peace Prize
Nominations
Noriega
U.S. vs. North
October Planning (1)-(3)

Box 7
Oglesby Memos
[Ohio Press Reaction to Frank Lavin Visit]
O'Neill, George 09/08/1988
One Liners
Op-ed Info. (Blakey) (1)(2)
Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Statement
Parental Leave
Parking, Communications Office
People - Garry Clifford
Personnel - Media & Broadcast Relations (1)(2)
Personnel - Public Affairs
Personnel - Research
Personnel – Speechwriting (1)-(6)
Planning
Planning I – July 1988 (1)(2)
Planning I – August 1988
Planning I – September 1988
Planning I – October 1988
Planning I – November 1988
Planning II – April 1988
Planning II – May 1988
Planning II – June 1988

Box 8
Planning II – July 1988 (1)-(4)
Plant Closings
Political Planning File (1)(2)

Polyconomics
Post Election Events - Marion Blakey
Poverty and Employment August 1988
POTUS Address to Junior High Students 11/14/1988 (1)(2)
POTUS Address to the United Nations 09/26/1988 (1)-(4)
Presidential Remarks – Resignation of James Baker III 08/05/1988
President's Committee on the Arts & Humanities
Press at Republican Convention
Press Conference, Final
Press Coverage – 1988 (1)-(3)

Box 9
Press Coverage – 1988 (4)-(6)
Press Items, Possible
Privatization - Presidential Decision
[Proposition 65 – California] (1)(2)
Public Affairs
Quad Commission
Quayle, Dan
Radio Address Memos
Radio Speech
Rahn, Richard
Range / Hooley
Reagan Record / Blakey
The Reagan Record on the Crusade for a Drug-Free America
A Report from the National Drug Policy Board – Toward a Drug-Free America: The
National Drug Strategy and Implementation Plans
Republican Convention (1)-(4)
Research (empty)
Retrospective - Requests for Interviews
Ronald Reagan (RR) Farewell
Rowney, Ambassador Edward
Sanchez, Rudy
Satellite Addresses
Schedule, Pending Information / Recommendations (1)-(3)

Box 10
Science and Mathematics Award
Security Information
September Highlights
September 1988 Planning (1)-(5)
Smith, Congressman Dennis
Smith, Hedrick - Interview
Social Security
South Carolina
Space

Speech Themes
Speeches, Timeliness of Comments
Speechwriters Read
Stationary
Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)
Target Groups
Television Addresses - Presidential
Teller, Edward
[Terry Abdo – Personal Documents]
Themes [1988]
Themes [Campaign 1988]
Themes [Democratic Opinion re: Reagan]
Themes [Drug Issues - July 1988]

Box 11

Themes [Economic Recovery] (1)-(3)
Themes [Events – Fall 1988]
Themes [Last Seven Months – July 1988]
Themes [Last Six Months – July 1988]
Themes [Legislative Issues – July 1988]
Themes [Speech – July 1988]
Themes [Trips – July 1988]
Themes [White House Activities – July 1988]
Tickler (1)(2)
Trade Bill
Transition
[Transition Resignations & Resumes] (1)(2)
United Nations Security Council - Vice President's Remarks
University of Virginia
USA Today Television
USIA Programming in Support of the 1988 Elections Report (1)(2)
Van Dongen, Dirk
Victory 1988
Waldron / Events
Wallace, Mike Interview
Washington Campus
Washington Industrial Roundtable
Washington Institute for Near East Policy
Weyrich
Whalen, Richard
Whales
White House Correspondence Manual, 1986 (1)(2)

Box 12

White House Staff Gift Record Forms
White House Staff Manual, 1988 (1)-(3)

Whittaker Chamber Farms
Wick, Charles / USIA
Williamson, Rich
Wilson, James Q.
Wirthlin (1)-(3)
Women Appointees / Rebuttal
Women Issues
World Press Institute
Wright, Joe
The Year of the Young Reader
Youth 2000

SERIES II: TRIPS

Box 12, cont.

Presidential Trip to Iowa and Illinois, Drought- 07/14/1988 (1)-(3)
Presidential Trip to Cincinnati 08/08/1988 (1)(2)
Presidential Trip to Missouri – 09/14/1988
Presidential Trip to Houston, TX - 09/22/1988
Presidential Trip to Chicago, IL - 09/30/1988 (1)(2)
Presidential Trip to Detroit, Michigan - 10/07/1988 (1)

Box 13

Presidential Trip to Detroit, Michigan - 10/07/1988 (2)(3)
Presidential Trip to Philadelphia, PA, & West Orange, NJ – 10/12/1988 (1)(2)
Presidential Trip to Ohio 10/19/1988
Presidential Trip to Raleigh, NC & Bowling Green, KY- 10/21/1988
Presidential Trip to California, Nevada, Wisconsin, Ohio, 11/01/1988-11/02/1988
Presidential Trip to Warren, MI & Mesquite, TX, 11/05/1988
Presidential Trip to California 11/07/1988

SERIES III: Bush-Quayle 1988 Campaign

Box 13, cont.

Bush-Quayle '88: National Coalitions Leaders Manual (1)-(4)
George Bush: Leadership on the Issues, RNC, October 1988
Inaugural Address, 01/20/1989
Surrogates, Bush/Quayle
Wirthlin Poll for Republican National Committee, 10/31/1988-11/02/1988 (1)-(4)

Box 14

Wirthlin Poll for Republican National Committee, 10/31/1988-11/02/1988 (1)-(14)

SERIES IV: Publications

Box 14, cont.

The Brookings Review, Winter 1988
Budget, 1990 – Pamphlets
The Deficit Debate: Critical Crossroads to the Future, Touche Ross, 1984

The GAO Journal, Fall 1988

Mandate for Leadership III: Policy Strategies for the 1990s, Heritage Foundation, 1989
(1)-(4)

Box 15

Mandate for Leadership III: Policy Strategies for the 1990s, Heritage Foundation, 1989
(5)-(10)

[Material Transferred to Book Collection – Transfer Forms]

National Geographic - December 1988

National Geographic Society Centennial Awards, 1888-1988 - Brochure

Our Changing Planet: A U.S. Strategy for Global Change Research, Committee on
Earth Sciences, 1989

Regulatory Program of the United States Government, April 1, 1988-March 31, 1988

The White House Conference for a Drug Free America: Final Report, June 1988