



Dawson, Thomas C. II: Files, 1985-1987

Finding Aid Type

White House Staff and Office File Collections

Subtitle/Office

Office of the Chief of Staff: Deputy Assistant to the President and Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff

Disclaimer

This collection is available in whole for research use. Some folders may still have withdrawn material due to Freedom of Information Act restrictions. Most frequently withdrawn material is national security classified material, personal privacy, protection of the President, etc.

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Record Type

Textual

Biography

Biography

Thomas Dawson was born in Washington, DC in 1948, the son of a Department of State Foreign Service officer. He grew up mostly in the Washington area. He attended Washington and Lee University in Virginia for a year (1966-67), earned a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Stanford University in 1970, and spent a year doing graduate work at Princeton University. He left Princeton to work in the Department of State in economic affairs positions that included postings in Rio de Janeiro and London. In 1976, Dawson enrolled in graduate school at Stanford University, from which he earned an M.B.A. degree two years later. He was then hired by the Washington-based management consulting firm McKinsey & Company. Dawson was active in the 1980 Reagan-Bush campaign, working with the planning task force on examination of government organization. After Reagan won the election, Dawson became executive assistant to Transition Personnel Director E. Pendleton James. He continued to work under Mr. James in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel after Reagan assumed the Presidency in January 1981; however, in February, Dawson left Presidential Personnel for the Treasury Department, where he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Developing Nations (1981-1984) and Assistant Secretary for Business and Consumer Affairs (1984-1985). When Treasury Secretary Donald Regan became White House Chief of Staff in February 1985, he brought Dawson back to the White House as his assistant. Dawson left the White House Office again in March 1987, shortly after Regan resigned as Chief of Staff, and became Executive Vice President at Regdon Associates. Dawson briefly returned to the Treasury Department in early 1989. He subsequently held positions with the International Monetary Fund and the investment firm Merrill Lynch.

Scope and Content Note

Scope and Content

This collection is arranged in three series. Given the nature of Dawson's job, a large percentage of the material in the first two series pertains to Donald Regan and his work. At this time, the Reagan Library has not located any Dawson files from his time in Presidential Personnel.

Series List

SERIES I: DISKETTE FILE, 1985-1986.

This series consists of printouts from an 8-inch IBM Displaywriter diskette. IBM Displaywriters were word processors used widely in the Reagan White House. The White House Office of Records Management printed the entire contents of this diskette and made a document listing for the diskette.

Most of the folders in this series consist of chronologically arranged agendas for Daily Operations Meetings, the regular meetings of the White House senior staff under Donald Regan. Each of these folders list the date spans for the agendas contained. The Daily Operations Meeting agendas span 09/03/1985-11/06/1986. The following dates for Daily Operations Meeting agendas are missing:

09/11/1985	01/02/1986	04/29/1986	08/25/1986
10/01/1985	01/03/1986	04/30/1986	08/26/1986
10/14/1985	01/08/1986	05/01/1986	08/27/1986
10/15/1985	01/20/1986	05/02/1986	08/28/1986
10/24/1985	02/06/1986	05/05/1986	08/29/1986
10/25/1985	02/12/1986	05/06/1986	09/01/1986
11/11/1985	02/13/1986	05/07/1986	09/02/1986
11/18/1985	02/14/1986	05/09/1986	09/03/1986
11/19/1985	02/17/1986	05/26/1986	09/04/1986
11/20/1985	02/20/1986	06/09/1986	09/05/1986
11/21/1985	02/26/1986	06/23/1986	09/08/1986
11/28/1985	03/28/1986	06/27/1986	10/10/1986
11/29/1985	03/31/1986	07/24/1986	10/13/1986
12/24/1985	04/01/1986	08/07/1986	10/24/1986
12/25/1985	04/02/1986	08/18/1986	10/30/1986
12/26/1985	04/03/1986	08/19/1986	10/31/1986
12/30/1985	04/04/1986	08/20/1986	11/03/1986
12/31/1985	04/25/1986	08/21/1986	
01/01/1986	04/28/1986	08/22/1986	

Dates missing are mostly holidays, weekends and travel dates for the President and Mr. Regan.

The remaining diskette folders contain correspondence and memos. These folders have a document by document list for each folder and we have provided this document access showing the contents of folder [Correspondence, Memos] (1)(2).

SERIES II: PRESIDENTIAL EVENT FILE, 1986-1987

This series consists of chronologically arranged folders for events involving the President between September 1986 and February 1987. The folders contain scheduling information, advance planning for events, and event scenarios. The folders were originally sent to White House records management in a bloc along with several Donald Regan files. The Reagan Library staff transferred this material to Dawson's collection.

SERIES III: PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON WHITE HOUSE FELLOWSHIPS, 1985-1987

This series consists of a material pertaining to the White House Fellowship program, including a meeting of the President's Commission on White House Fellowships. Dawson was appointed a member of the Commission on White House Fellowships in 1986.

Last Modified Date

2024-02-26

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10/24/1985	02/06/1986	05/05/1986	08/29/1986
10/25/1985	02/12/1986	05/06/1986	09/01/1986
11/11/1985	02/13/1986	05/07/1986	09/02/1986
11/18/1985	02/14/1986	05/09/1986	09/03/1986
11/19/1985	02/17/1986	05/26/1986	09/04/1986
11/20/1985	02/20/1986	06/09/1986	09/05/1986
11/21/1985	02/26/1986	06/23/1986	09/08/1986
11/28/1985	03/28/1986	06/27/1986	10/10/1986
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Box 1

Status	Title
OPEN	[Daily Operations Meeting Agendas 09/03/1985-09/20/1985]
OPEN	[Daily Operations Meeting Agendas 09/23/1985-12/09/1985]
OPEN	[Daily Operations Meeting agendas 12/10/1985-03/14/1986]
OPEN	[Daily Operations Meeting Agendas 03/17/1986-05/23/1986]
OPEN	[Daily Operations Meeting Agendas 05/27/1986-07/25/1986]

Status	Title
OPEN	[Daily Operations Meeting Agendas 07/28/1986-09/30/1986]
OPEN	[Daily Operations Meeting Agendas 10/01/1986-11/06/1986][Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents:
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Vosburgh Memo to Christian re Tour Request, 04/16/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Dawson Letter to Leslie M. Alexander, 04/23/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Regan Straightwire to Bill Ellis re Bobby Piper, 04/30/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Dawson Letter to Frank A. Whetstone re President's Trip to Germany, 04/30/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Dawson Memo to Sprinkel re Redefinition of Poverty, 07/01/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Budget Deficit as a Percentage of GNP, [07/30/1985]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Employment-Population Ratio [08/05/1985]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Employment Population Ratio [08/09/1985]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Annual Average Employment-Population Ratio [08/09/1985]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Memo Unsigned – [Possible Talking Points for Regan], 09/03/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Dawson Memo to Regan re LSG Invitation List, 09/03/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Draft Press Notice re Hurricane Elena, 09/12/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Measurement of Dollar Movement, [09/23/1985]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Exchange Rate Quotations, 09/23/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Vosburgh Memo to Photo Office re Photo Request, 10/31/1985

Status	Title
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: September Congressional Phones Calls
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: October Congressional Phone Calls
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Dawson Memo to Regan re Horner and Loretta Cornelius, 11/11/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: - Tax Reform, Farm Bill, Gramm - Rudman, 12/16/1985
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Statement on Gramm - Rudman [1985]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Dawson Memo to Regan re Reading Material, 01/08/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (1) Contents: Remarks to Republican Women's Federal Forum [01/08/1986]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Dawson Memo to Collamore re Mailing List for the Fund for America's Future, 05/30/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Items - AT&T, Barber Conable, Terry Eastland, NY Post, Bill Marriott and Smithsonian Restaurant, Williams Companies and AMT, 06/10/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Fiester Memo to Renwick re Keys to Rooms 460 and 520, 08/25/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Dawson Memo to Jim Miller, re Information on Army Salaries, 08/26/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: DTR Memo to Al (Kington) re Agriculture Policy, 08/26/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Dawson Memo to Ball and Jim Miller re Legislative Area, 08/26/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Dawson Memo to Sprinkel re Leading Indicator, 08/26/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Regan Letter to Jeffrey M. Feiner re Retail Index, 08/26/1986

Status	Title
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Note for Donald T. Regan from David Chew re OP ED Piece, South Africa Strategy, Wirthlin Survey [08/29/1986]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Thomas Memo to Regan re Iceland / Post Iceland, 10/07/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Talking Points for WH Political Briefing, 11/05/1986
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Talking Points with Chancellor Kohl [1986]
OPEN	Executive Summary, Creating a Center for Education Statistics [1986]
OPEN	[Correspondence, Memos] (2) Contents: Document re "Twelfth Commandment" [n.d.]

SERIES II: PRESIDENTIAL EVENT FILE, 1986-1987

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Box 1, cont.

Status	Title
OPEN	09/24/1986 – GOP Fundraising, Detroit, Omaha (1)-(3)
OPEN	09/25/1986 – National Fraternal Congress, Washington, DC
OPEN	09/26/1986 – National Security Agency, Ft. Meade, Maryland
OPEN	09/29/1986 – Kansas City & Sioux Falls, SD
OPEN	09/30/1986 – World Bank/IMF Washington, DC
OPEN	09/30/1986 – Eagles Reception Washington, DC
OPEN	10/01/1986 – Carter Library – Atlanta (1)-(3)

Box 2

Status	Title
OPEN	10/07/1986 – Republican Governors, Washington, DC

Status	Title
OPEN	10/08/1986 – Raleigh, Atlanta (1)(2)
OPEN	10/11/1986-10/12/1986 – Pre-Summit Reagan/Gorbachev Iceland – Administrative (1)-(3)
OPEN	10/15/1986 – Baltimore, Maryland
OPEN	10/17/1986 – Senator Mark Andrews, F. R. [Fundraiser], Grand Forks, North Dakota
OPEN	10/23/1986 & 10/24/1986 – [Wisconsin, Missouri, Oklahoma, Florida] Tampa, Shreveport, Oklahoma City and St. Louis (1)(2)
OPEN	11/15/1986 – Margaret Thatcher Camp David Visit
OPEN	11/18/1986 – Ethics and Public Policy Dinner
OPEN	11/20/1986 – Senate Republican Dinner
OPEN	12/07/1986 – Kennedy Center Honors Gala
OPEN	12/08/1986 – Women Entrepreneurs
OPEN	12/14/1986 – Taping of “Christmas in Washington”
OPEN	01/27/1987 – State of the Union Address
OPEN	02/05/1986 [1987] – Prayer Breakfast
OPEN	02/20/1987 – C-PAC Luncheon [Conservative Political Action Conference]
OPEN	[Note re Copying (n.d.)]

**SERIES III: PRESIDENT’S COMMISSION ON WHITE HOUSE FELLOWSHIPS,
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Box 2, cont.

Status	Title
OPEN	[White House Fellows, 1985-1986 - Possible for Chief of Staff Office] (1)-(8)

Box 3

Status	Title
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OPEN [White House Fellows, 1985-1986 - Possible for Chief of Staff Office] (9)-(14)

OPEN White House Fellowships (1)-(5)

OPEN Mid-Year Commission Meeting, Friday, 01/23/1987 (1)(2)