



## **Frankum, Ronald B.: Files, 1981-1982**

### **Finding Aid Type**

White House Staff and Office File Collections

### **Subtitle/Office**

Office of Policy Development, 1981-March 1982

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### **Record Type**

Textual

### **Biography**

## **Biography**

Ronald Bruce Frankum (November 17, 1935-March 22, 2020) was a government official at the California state and federal level, a lawyer, law educator, and business developer.

Frankum was born in Winfield, Kansas, and was raised in Odessa, Texas, completing high school there. He received his B.A. degree in history and government at the University of Texas in 1958. He earned a J.D. degree from the University of San Diego law school in 1965.

Frankum served as an officer in the United States Navy from 1958-1963 with a tour of duty in WESTPAC, and one tour as the legal officer at the Naval Training Center in San Diego. Frankum joined the California National Guard and was a Colonel (inactive reserve).

From 1967-1970, Frankum was a Special Assistant to Governor Reagan and also served as Executive Officer of the Office of Intergovernmental Management. He was a member of the California Constitution Revision Commission and was Executive Director of the State Reapportionment Commission.

From 1970-1972, Frankum was staff assistant to Lieutenant-Governor Edward Reinecke and continued in his post with the Intergovernmental Management for the state of California.

Frankum was active in the Republican party beginning in 1965 working as the area field director for the California Republican State Central Committee. After leaving California government he was a member of the California Republican State Committee, 1973-1975 and a member of the Executive Committee of Republican Associates, 1975-1977.

Following his time in the Reagan Gubernatorial administration, Frankum became the Director of the San Diego Urban Observatory, a multi-discipline, multi-program of urban research and action programs. In 1976, the San Diego Urban Observatory became the Center for Technical Services and Frankum was the president. The change refocused the programs to technology transfer, transportation studies, solar energy applications and other emerging technologies of the time.

He also began his teaching career as a lecturer on public administration in the California State University system at Fullerton and San Diego. Later in the 1970s, he became an adjunct Professor of Law at the University of San Diego. He also practiced law as an attorney during the 1970s. In 1974, he was appointed a public member of the Administrative Conference of the United States and filled his term ending in 1978.

Frankum was part of the 1980 President-Elect Office transition staff as a senior staff attorney.

In 1981, Frankum was appointed the Deputy Director of the Office of Policy Development (OPD). Martin Anderson, the Assistant to the President for Policy Development and Roger Porter, the Director of the Office of Policy Development were primarily focused on policies and policy advice to the President. Due to Frankum's familiarity with governing and government functions, they relied on him to provide administrative direction and decisions at the startup of the Office. Frankum was involved in office construction, office assignments, hiring and reporting practices for OPD.

Frankum left OPD in March of 1982 and began immediately as Deputy Director of the Office of Science and Technology in the Executive Office of the President. In July 1982, he was confirmed by the Senate as Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology and Assistant to the Director of the Office of Science and Technology, George "Jay," Keyworth. Again, he assisted with administrative matters for the office, combined with his policy background in science and emerging technologies.

Frankum was appointed to the Board of the Legal Services Corporation but not did not complete his term.

Frankum returned to private employment and for 35 years specialized in international business development with a focus on telecommunications in Asia, South Asia, Europe and the Balkans.

Frankum was a member of numerous organizations and served on boards in both the academic and corporate worlds. In addition, he has multiple publications, as author and editor/publisher. Frankum was knighted in London as a Knights Templar Chevalier, of the NATO Grand Priory.

Ronald B. Frankum died on March 22, 2020 in Del Mar, California. He and his wife, Virginia, had two children, Katherine and Ronald, Jr. They had three grandchildren. Frankum's son, Professor Ronald B. Frankum, Jr., is a historian teaching at Millersville University in Pennsylvania and is considered an expert on the Vietnam War and era. He has numerous publications on this subject.

## **Scope and Content Note**

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The Ronald B. Frankum collection consists of material donated to the Library by Mr. Frankum in July 1987. Upon examination, most of the material was determined to be presidential records and was used to enhance the very slight Frankum collection within the Office of Policy Development and to create a collection within the Office of Science and Technology.

The material reflects Frankum's interests and duties within the Office of Policy Development, administrative functions and a focus on technology or science subjects of interest to Frankum. Reagan Library collections are usually arranged with the subject material foremost. In this case, the arrangement reflects the heavier administrative duties done by Frankum.

The Ronald B. Frankum collection consists of four series; SERIES I: Frankum Reference File System Material; SERIES II: Administrative Material; SERIES III: Subject File; and SERIES IV: Chronological File.

## **Series List**

### **SERIES I: Frankum Reference Material**

It appears Frankum maintained these folders for his own personal reference. The material is varied including news-clippings, memos, correspondence, papers, etc. It seems Frankum had consistently used a reference file like this as he also has the same file system within his collection for the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

### **SERIES II: Administrative Material**

This series consists of administrative material regarding the Office of Policy Development. Material covers physical changes to offices; assignment of offices, personnel (including outside the Office of Policy Development) and budgeting. This series also contains personal administrative material for Frankum including desk calendars, and activity reports.

### **SERIES III: Subject File**

This series consists of material regarding budgeting; copyright; the Postal Commission; telecommunications; conservative issues and positions; Reagan policy positions and multiple news-clippings, articles and publications.

### **SERIES IV: Chronological File**

This series consist of multiple chronological files and a single correspondence folder. The material includes a standard chronological file which was kept in multiple binders and was found in the Office of Policy Development records. The remaining chronological files consists of memos and correspondence with specific individuals in the Office of Policy Development (Martin Anderson and Ed Gray) and Edwin Meese and his Deputy James Jenkins.

### **Last Modified Date**

2024-02-26

### **SERIES I: Frankum Reference Material**

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### **Box 1**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	January 1981
CLOSED	February 1981
CLOSED	March 1981
CLOSED	April 1981

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	May 1981
CLOSED	June 1981
CLOSED	July 1981
CLOSED	August 1981
CLOSED	September 1981
CLOSED	October 1981
CLOSED	November 1981
CLOSED	December 1981
CLOSED	January 1982
CLOSED	February 1982
CLOSED	March 1982

## **SERIES II: Administrative Material**

This series consists of administrative material regarding the Office of Policy Development. Material covers physical changes to offices; assignment of offices, personnel (including outside the Office of Policy Development) and budgeting. This series also contains personal administrative material for Frankum including desk calendars, and activity reports.

### **Box 2**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	[Articles re Office of Policy Development]
CLOSED	[Articles re Richard Allen Resignation]
CLOSED	[Computer Implementation - OPD]
CLOSED	[Continuity of Government] (Binder)
CLOSED	Correspondence Replies/RBF/OPD
CLOSED	[Desk Calendar - January 1981-March 1982]
CLOSED	Drug Policy Office Decision Memorandums
CLOSED	Executive Appointments A-L (Binder)
CLOSED	Executive Appointments M-Z (Binder)
CLOSED	Executive Office Building - 1982
CLOSED	[Executive Office of the President Telephone Directory, September 1981]

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	[Fred Fielding Memo re: Local Laws]
CLOSED	General Accounting Office (1)-(4)
CLOSED	[Memo on OPD Organization]
CLOSED	Office of Personnel Management (1)(2)
CLOSED	[OPD Conference Room Refurbishing]
CLOSED	[OPD Monthly Activity Reports July 1981-August 1981]
CLOSED	[OPD Personnel and Budget]
CLOSED	[OPD Personnel]
CLOSED	Office of Policy Development Resumes 1982
CLOSED	OPD Staff Activities Report (Submitted to EG 03/05/1981)
CLOSED	Presidential Management Interns
CLOSED	Progress Reports (EJG-EM)
CLOSED	[Resumes] I
CLOSED	Resumes II

### **Box 3**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	Resumes/Candidate Forms Sent to Personnel (Betty K.), 02/07/1981-02/20/1981
CLOSED	Resumes/Candidate Forms Sent to Personnel (Betty K.), 02/21/1981-03/31/1981
CLOSED	Resumes/Candidate Forms Sent to Personnel (Betty K.), 04/01/1981-06/05/1981
CLOSED	Resumes/Candidate Forms Sent to Personnel (Betty K.), 06/06/1981-08/21/1981
CLOSED	Room 208 I (Binder)
CLOSED	Room 208 II (Binder)
CLOSED	Support/Research Staff - Resumes
CLOSED	Technical Reproductions - Blueprints Rm 208 EOB 1981
CLOSED	Telephone Memos /RBF/ 2-19-81 [07/01/1981-12/31/1981]
CLOSED	Telephone Memos/RBF/2-19-81 [01/04/1982-04/14/1982]
CLOSED	[Welcome to the White House]

### **SERIES III: Subject File**

This series consists of material regarding budgeting; copyright; the Postal Commission; telecommunications; conservative issues and positions; Reagan policy positions and multiple news-clippings, articles and publications.

**Box 3, cont.**

Status	Title
OPEN	Administration's Enterprise Zone Proposal
CLOSED	[Administrative Conference of the United States - 1981 Report]
CLOSED	[ <i>America's New Beginning: A Program for Economic Recovery</i> ]
CLOSED	[ASPA (American Society for Public Administration) National Conference - 1982]
CLOSED	AT&T [Antitrust] Case
CLOSED	AT&T Case File
CLOSED	Beijing
CLOSED	[Budget Rescission Proposals - FY 1981]
CLOSED	[Budget Request and Related Materials - FY 1983]
CLOSED	[Budget Revisions: The Federal Program by Agency and Account - FY 1982]
CLOSED	Cabinet Councils, 1981
CLOSED	Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade Working Group, 1982
OPEN	Caribbean Basin Policy
CLOSED	[Cartoon Drawn by Ronald Frankum]
CLOSED	China Exhibition
CLOSED	[ <i>The Coming Boom: Economic, Political, and Social</i> ]
CLOSED	[ <i>Congressional Quarterly</i> Special Report - 02/27/1982]
CLOSED	<i>Conservative Digest</i> - February 1982

**Box 4**

Status	Title
CLOSED	Copyright
CLOSED	[Correspondence Meese-Hegarty re: Exceptional Leadership]



Status	Title
CLOSED	Economics - General
CLOSED	[Department of State Bulletin - January 1981]
OPEN	[Domestic Satellite Market]
CLOSED	[Edwin Harper]
CLOSED	E-COM [Electronic Mail Service] (Booklet)
OPEN	E-Com Postal Issues / Electronic Mail (1)-(7)
CLOSED	Evans-Novak Political Report - January-March 1982
OPEN	Fairness Doctrine
CLOSED	FEMA/EMPB Notes (RBF)
CLOSED	Federal Spending Control Guidelines 1981
CLOSED	Federal Spending Reduction: Expenditure Control Opportunities (Booklet)
CLOSED	[Federal Spending Reduction: The Twenty-Twenty Program]
CLOSED	<i>Government Executive</i> [Magazines, November 1982 & January 1982]
CLOSED	[Health Officials - Reagan Administration]
OPEN	Heritage Foundation, "A Strategy for Progress: The Federal Budget" (1)-(4)
CLOSED	<i>High Technology</i> , May/June 1982
OPEN	House Telecommunications Bill - H.R. 5158
CLOSED	Intergovernmental Relationships
OPEN	IBM - Antitrust
CLOSED	[James Dine Publications]
CLOSED	[ <i>Marketing News</i> Article re Richard Wirthlin - 03/05/1982]
CLOSED	Meeting America's Economic Crisis (Advance Proof)]
CLOSED	<i>Meeting America's Economic Crisis</i>
CLOSED	[Memos, Notes, Clippings re Telecommunications Deregulation]
CLOSED	Misc. Bio, Cards, Clippings, Reports 1981
CLOSED	Misc. Clippings, Letters, Memos, Notes 1982 (1)-(3)
CLOSED	[Misc. Memos, Letters, Clippings]
CLOSED	NARC (National Association of Regional Councils)

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	Federal Briefing
CLOSED	[National Building Museum Newsletter – Fall 1981]
CLOSED	[ <i>National Journal</i> – 03/13/1982]
CLOSED	National Public Radio (Packet)
CLOSED	[New Drug Project]
CLOSED	[New Initiatives for America] (Hudson Institute)
CLOSED	[Nine] 9 Digit Zip Code
CLOSED	Postal Rate Commission
CLOSED	PRC (Postal Rate Commission) Rate Decision 09/17/1981

### **Box 5**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	[President Reagan’s Program for Economic Recovery]
CLOSED	[“A Profile of Excellence and Public Service” re Charles Smith]
CLOSED	Proposal to Save USPS Funds by Private Consultant
CLOSED	Proposed Nomination to the FCC
CLOSED	Q & As: Ed Meese 05/03/1981 <i>Face the Nation</i>
CLOSED	Questions and Answers for the President 1982
CLOSED	Reagan Message to Congress re: Budget 03/17/1981
CLOSED	Rio Conference/RARC II
CLOSED	[San Diegans in White House – Article, May 1981]
CLOSED	S. 898 (1)-(7)
CLOSED	[Senate Amendments to S. 898 – Analysis, 1981]
CLOSED	Speech Draft “The Quest for Peace”
CLOSED	Strategic Evaluation Memoranda
CLOSED	Systems and Applied Sciences Corporation

### **Box 6**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	[The Tax Limitation-Balanced Budget Amendment – S.J. Resolution 58 and H.J. Resolution 350]
CLOSED	Telecommunications
OPEN	[Telecommunications Act of 1981] (1)-(4)

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	Telecommunications – The Players & What They Say
CLOSED	[ <i>Time</i> – 12/14/1981]
CLOSED	<i>U.S. vs. AT&amp;T</i>
CLOSED	[USPS/APWU Agreement, 1981]
CLOSED	[ <i>USS La Jolla</i> Commissioning – 10/24/1981]
CLOSED	[Vital Speeches of the Day – 11/01/1981]
CLOSED	[Washington International Business Report – 06/01/1981]
CLOSED	[ <i>The Washington Star</i> (Final Edition) – 08/07/1981]
CLOSED	[ <i>The Washingtonian</i> – March 1982]
CLOSED	[White House Press Releases]
CLOSED	[“White House Policy Making,” <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i> Article]
CLOSED	Wish We Had OPD Position Papers File [Drug Policy]

#### **SERIES IV: Chronological File**

This series consist of multiple chronological files and a single correspondence folder. The material includes a standard chronological file which was kept in multiple binders and was found in the Office of Policy Development records. The remaining chronological files consists of memos and correspondence with specific individuals in the Office of Policy Development (Martin Anderson and Ed Gray) and Edwin Meese and his Deputy James Jenkins.

#### **Box 6, cont.**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
CLOSED	OPD Staff Chron (RBF) January 1981-March 1981 [Includes April 1981](Binder)
CLOSED	OPD Staff Chron (RBF) April 1981-June 1981 [Does Not Include April] (Binder)
CLOSED	OPD Staff Chron (RBF) July 1981-[Includes August 1981] (Binder)
CLOSED	OPD Staff Chron September 1981-October 1981 [Includes 11/01/1981-11/15/1981] (Binder)

#### **OA 4189**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
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CLOSED	OPD Staff Chron October 1981-December 1981 (Binder)
CLOSED	Chron File (RBF Internal) January 1981-August 1981 (Binder)
CLOSED	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron - Internal, 09/18/1981-01/20/1982
CLOSED	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron - Internal, 01/21/1982-02/24/1982
CLOSED	Chron File RBF to Staff January 1981-August 1981 (Binder)
CLOSED	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron to OPD Staff, 1981
CLOSED	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron to OPD Staff, 1982
CLOSED	RBF to EJG (Ed Gray) or MCA (Martin Anderson) March 1981-[August 1981] (Binder)
CLOSED	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron to MCA (Martin Anderson)/EJG (Ed Gray), 09/03/1981-12/14/1981
CLOSED	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron to MCA (Martin Anderson)/EJG (Ed Gray), 12/15/1981-12/31/1981
CLOSED	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron to MCA (Martin Anderson)/EJG (Ed Gray), 1982
OPEN	RBF (Ron Frankum) Chron to EM (Ed Meese)/JJ (Jim Jenkins), 1982
CLOSED	General Correspondence File (Incoming and Outgoing) Incoming January 1981-July 1981, Outgoing January 1981-August 1981