



# Hodsoll, Francis "Frank" S.M.: Files, 1981

## **Finding Aid Type**

White House Staff and Office File Collections

## **Subtitle/Office**

Office of the Chief of Staff

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## **Record Type**

Textual

## **Biography**

## **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**

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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 List**

### **SERIES I: SUBJECT FILE, January 1981-November 1981**

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).

### **Suberies A: Subject File, 1980-1981**

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 (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.

### **Last Modified Date**

2024-02-26

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### **Box 1**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Central America
OPEN	Czech Claims (1)(2)
OPEN	[Hostage Compensation, President's Commission on] (1)(2)
OPEN	Immigration (1)-(8)

### **Box 2**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	International Year of Disabled Persons
OPEN	Iran (1)-(10)
OPEN	Iran Hostages (1)-(4)

### **Box 3**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Iran Hostages (5)-(12)
OPEN	Iran [Proposal]
OPEN	Israel
OPEN	Italy
OPEN	Jamaica
OPEN	Japan
OPEN	Joint Chiefs of Staff
OPEN	Jordan
OPEN	LOS [Law of the Sea]
OPEN	March 30 [03/30/1981 Assassination Attempt]
OPEN	Military Manpower (1)-(4)
OPEN	NSC (1)-(3)

### **Box 4**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
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OPEN NSC (4)-(6)  
OPEN Refugees (1)-(6)  
OPEN Resumes (1)-(9)

**Box 5**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Resumes (10)(11)
OPEN	[Senior Staff Meetings] (1)(2)
OPEN	Space Shuttle (1)-(5)
OPEN	Supreme Court [Proposed Limits on Jurisdiction]
OPEN	Tax Bill
OPEN	Telecommunications (1)-(3)
OPEN	United Nations - US-Soviet Relations (1)(2)
OPEN	U.S. Chamber of Commerce
OPEN	Voting Rights Act

**Box 6**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	White House Fellows (1)-(8)
OPEN	White House Fellows Commission (1)-(9)

**Box 7**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	White House Fellows Commission (10)-(14)
OPEN	Wilson Center (1)-(10)
OPEN	Yorktown [Bicentennial] (1)-(3)

**Box 8**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Yorktown [Bicentennial] (4)-(11)

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

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**

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.

**Box 8, cont.**

Status	Title
OPEN	Arkansas (1)(2) [includes material on Eastern European and African refugees]
OPEN	Congressional Relations
OPEN	Detention Center & Chaffee Working File (1)-(9)
OPEN	First Asylum

**Box 9**

Status	Title
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OPEN Florida  
 OPEN General Correspondence (1)-(4)  
 OPEN Immigration and Refugee Announcement File  
 OPEN [Immigration and Refugee Policy Development] (1)-(3)

**Box 10**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	[Immigration and Refugee Policy Development] (4)-(6)
OPEN	[Immigration and Refugee Policy - Draft Public Statements]
OPEN	Immigration and Refugees (1)-(12)

**Box 11**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Immigration and Refugees (13)-(18)
OPEN	Immigration and Refugees [General] (1)-(11)

**Box 12**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Immigration and Refugees [General] (12)-(19)
OPEN	Immigration and Refugees [Task Force] (1)-(9)

**Box 13**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Immigration and Refugees [Task Force] (10)-(23)
OPEN	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**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	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)
OPEN	Lopez Portillo (1)-(3)
OPEN	Lungren Bill (1)-(3)
OPEN	Management (1)-(3) [President's Management Council]

**Box 15**



<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	Management (4)
OPEN	Personnel
OPEN	Refugee Resumes (1)(2)
OPEN	[Refugees – National Association of Counties (NACO)] (1)(2)

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

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**Box 15, cont**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	North, David S. <i>Enforcing the Immigration Law: A Review of the Options</i>
OPEN	North, David S. <i>Immigration and Income Transfer Policies in the United States: An Analysis of a Non-Relationship</i>
OPEN	President's Management and Improvement Council. <i>Management Improvements in the Immigration and Naturalization Service Volume I</i> (1)-(5)

**Box 16**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Title</b>
OPEN	President's Management and Improvement Council. <i>Management Improvements in the Immigration and Naturalization Service Volume I</i> (6)
OPEN	President's Management and Improvement Council. <i>Management Improvements in the Immigration and Naturalization Service Volume II</i> (1)-(5)
OPEN	State Department, U.S. <i>Country Reports on the World Refugee Situation</i> August 1981 (1)(2)
OPEN	State Department, U.S. <i>Report to the Congress on Proposed Refugee Admissions and Allocations for Fiscal Year 1982</i> (1)(2) [Hodsoll copy of draft]