



Preliminary Guide to the James A. Joseph papers, 1961-2004 and undated

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Summary

Collection Title:

James A. Joseph papers, 1961-2004

Creator:

Joseph, James A. (James Alfred), 1935-

Abstract:

James A. Joseph is a Louisiana native who graduated from Southern University, Baton Rouge, and from Yale Divinity School. He is an ordained minister and is currently Professor of the Practice of Public Policy Studies and Leader-in-Residence at the Hart Leadership Program at Duke University. He is also responsible for launching the U.S. - Southern Africa Center for Leadership and Public Values. Joseph has worked for four U.S. presidents, beginning as Interior undersecretary for President Carter from 1977-1981. He has also served on the Advisory Committee to the Agency on International Development under President Reagan, and was appointed by President Bush to the Presidential Commission on Historically Black Colleges. In 1996, he was appointed as Ambassador to South Africa by President Clinton, where he served until 1999. He is also a former president and CEO of the Council on Foundations, 1982-1995. Collection includes correspondence, chronological files, calendars, clippings, memorabilia, notes, and administrative materials largely dating from Joseph's time as an undersecretary for the Department of the Interior and his ambassadorship to South Africa. Also included are some materials from his work for the Council on Foundations, largely dating from the late 1980s, and some awards and honors dating from the early 2000s. Some newspaper clippings dating from the 1960s discuss his Civil Rights work and ministerial activities. This material has not been processed and therefore no arrangement has been completed at this time. Acquired as part of the John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture.

Extent:

3 Linear Feet
2030 Items

Physical Location:

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Language:

English

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.00653

Permalink:

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/josephjames/>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], James A. Joseph Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection (2009-0015) (2000 items, 3 lin. ft.; dated 1961-2004) includes correspondence, chronological files, calendars, clippings, memorabilia, notes, and administrative materials largely dating from Joseph's time as an undersecretary for the Department of the Interior and his ambassadorship to South Africa. Also included are some materials from his work for the Council on Foundations, largely dating from the late 1980s, and some awards and honors dating from the early 2000s. Some newspaper clippings dating from the 1960s discuss his Civil Rights work and ministerial activities. This material has not been processed and therefore no arrangement has been completed at this time. Acquired as part of the John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture.

Addition (2012-0218) (3 items, 0.1 lin. ft.; dated 1999, 2002 and undated) comprises two photographs, one a 4x6-inch color official portrait (1999) the other a black-and-white 5x7-inch on location, perhaps in South Africa (undated), along with an article on Joseph in the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business magazine, vol. 3 no. 1 (Autumn 2002).

Addition (2012) (27 items, 0.1 lin. ft.; dated 1970-2000 and undated) contains primarily 16 color and black-and-white photographs ranging in size from 3x4-inches to 8x10-inches that document his official functions, clippings, an interview with Joseph following a plane crash he survived, and an invitations list for a cocktail party.

Biographical/Historical

James A. Joseph is a Louisiana native who graduated from Southern University, Baton Rouge, and from Yale Divinity School. He is an ordained minister and

is currently Professor of the Practice of Public Policy Studies and Leader-in-Residence at the Hart Leadership Program at Duke University. He is also responsible for launching the U.S.-Southern Africa Center for Leadership and Public Values.

Joseph has taught at Yale Divinity School and at Clairemont Colleges, where he served as chaplain. He was also active in the Louisiana Civil Rights movement during the 1960s. From 1971-1976 he worked as vice president of the Cummins Engine Co. and was president of the Cummins Engine Foundation. In 1977, he was appointed by President Carter to be the undersecretary of the Interior, where he served until 1981. He was also chairman of the presidentially appointed Commission on the Northern Marianas under President Carter; a member of the Advisory Committee to the Agency for International Development under President Reagan; and an incorporating director of the Points of Light Foundation and a member of the Presidential Commission on Historically Black Colleges under President Bush. He is also a former president and CEO of the Council on Foundations, 1982-1995.

Joseph served as ambassador to South Africa from January 1996 to November 1999, and was the first and only U.S. ambassador to present his credentials to President Nelson Mandela. In recognition of Joseph's contributions, South African President Thabo Mbeki awarded him the Order of Good Hope, the highest honor the Republic of South Africa bestows on a citizen of another country. Before serving in South Africa, Joseph was the first chairman of the board of directors of President Clinton's Corporation for National Service.

This information is taken from his personal papers and from Joseph's biography as written on the Hart Leadership Program website.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection.

All or portions of this collection may be housed off-site in Duke University's Library Service Center. The library may require up to 48 hours to retrieve these materials for research use.

Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The James A. Joseph papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 2005, 2012.

Processing Information

Processed by Meghan Lyon, March 2009

Encoded by Meghan Lyon, March 2009

Updated for addition 2012-0218 and unnumbered 2012 accession by Alice Poffinberger, February 2014

Accessions described in this guide include: 2009-0015, 2012-0218.

Materials may not have been ordered and described beyond their original condition.

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Names and Subjects

- United States -- Foreign relations -- South Africa

- Joseph, James A. (James Alfred), 1935-
- Joseph, James A. (James Alfred), 1935-
- United States. Department of the Interior

Collection Inventory

Accession (2009-0015) 1961-2004

Physical Description: 2 boxes, 1 oversize folder

Scope and Contents note

Collection (2009-0015) (3 lin. ft.; dated 1961-2004) includes correspondence, chronological files, calendars, clippings, memorabilia, notes, and administrative materials largely dating from Joseph's time as an undersecretary for the Department of the Interior and his ambassadorship to South Africa. Also included are some materials from his work for the Council on Foundations, largely dating from the late 1980s, and some awards and honors dating from the early 2000s. Some newspaper clippings dating from the 1960s discuss his Civil Rights work and ministerial activities. This material has not been processed and therefore no arrangement has been completed at this time. Acquired as part of the John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture.

Press releases, Department of the Interior, 1970s	Box 1
Department of the Interior management	Box 1
Personal, 1977-1980	Box 1
Chronological files/correspondence	Box 1
Council on Foundations, 1982	Box 1
Council on Foundations correspondence	Box 1
Speaking engagements, 1982	Box 1
Lectures at Pitzer, undated	Box 1
Humanities II course notes, 1965	Box 1
Christian Ethics course notes	Box 1
Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), 1980	Box 1

Council on Foundations correspondence, 1982	Box 1
Department of the Interior exit papers, 1981	Box 1
Miscellaneous articles and awards, 1979-2004	Box 1
Newspaper clippings	Box 1
Department of the Interior transition papers, 1977	Box 1
Cummins, 1970-1983	Box 1
Correspondence and reports, 2000-2004	Box 1
Undersecretary: Personal, 1980	Box 1
Department of the Interior chronological files, 1977-1978	Box 1
President of the United States visit to South Africa, March 1998	Box 2
U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission press coverage, February 1997	Box 2
First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton visit to South Africa press coverage, March 1997	Box 2
United States Ambassador James A. Joseph press coverage, 1996-1999	Box 2
Louisiana Senate and House honorary resolutions, 2004	Box 2
Ambassadorship congratulations, 1996	Box 2
Ambassadorship presentation and swearing-in statement, 1996	Box 2
Chronological files, 1979-1981	Box 2
Datebooks, 1996-1998	Box 2
Clippings, 1961-1975	Box 2

Honorary Mayor-President of Baton Rouge
award, 2004

Box Oversize 16

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Accession (2012-0218) 1999, 2002 and undated

Physical Description: 3 items

Scope and Contents note

Addition (2012-0218)(3 items, 0.1 lin. ft.; dated 1999, 2002 and undated) comprises two photographs, one a 4x6-inch color official portrait (1999) the other a black-and-white 5x7-inch on location, perhaps in South Africa (undated), along with an article on Joseph in the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business magazine, vol. 3 no. 1 (Autumn 2002).

Photographs (1999, undated), magazine article
(2002)

Box 2

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Accession (2012) 1970-2000 and undated

Physical Description: 27 items

Scope and Contents note

Addition (2012) (27 items, 0.1 lin. ft.; dated 1970-2000 and undated) contains primarily 16 color and black-and-white photographs ranging in size from 3x4-inches to 8x10-inches that document his official functions, clippings, an interview with Joseph following a plane crash he survived, and an invitations list for a cocktail party.

Plane crash, clippings, photographs, 1970-2000
and undated

Box 2

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