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Guide to MS145 John J. Middagh Papers

Heather Lindsay

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Guide to

MS 145

JOHN J. MIDDAGH PAPERS

Span Dates 1893-1973
Bulk Dates 1950-1972
13 feet, 5 inches (linear)

Processed by Heather Lindsay
June 1997

Citation: John J. Middagh Papers, 1893-1973, MS 145, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso
BIOGRAPHY

On January 2, 1916, John Judy Middagh, Jr. was born to John Judy Middagh and Reba Fowler Middagh, in Lawrenceville, Illinois. He attended school in Lawrenceville until 1928, when he and his parents moved to Odessa, Texas, where he completed high school. He attended Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College from 1932-1935. During 1936, he worked at The Odessa News-Times as an office boy and printer's devil. In September of that year, he went to the University of Missouri to study journalism. He obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from the University of Missouri in 1938 and, after graduation, he worked at The Oklahoma News as a paper boy and reporter until the paper ceased publication in 1939. Middagh then returned to The Odessa News-Times, and worked from June to September, 1939, when he left to join the staff of the El Paso Herald-Post.

In 1941, Middagh left his position with the El Paso Herald Post to join the Army. On May 3, 1942, he married the former Winifred Marie McVey of El Paso. During his four years of service in the military, he took part in the campaigns in Hurtgen Forest (where he was wounded), the Battle of the Bulge, and the advance on the Rhine River. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Presidential Unit Citation, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the European Campaign Ribbon with two stars.

When he returned from WWII, Middagh went back to work as a reporter and telegraph editor at The El Paso Herald-Post until he joined the faculty of Texas Western College in September 1948 where he taught journalism. Middagh eventually became the co-chairman of the Department of Journalism and Radio-Television, which was renamed the Department of Mass Communication. He was also director of the College's Student Publications.

Middagh received a Master's Degree in History from Texas Western College in 1952. His thesis was titled Frontier Journalism in El Paso, 1872-1900. He continued to research the history of El Paso and its newspapers, and in 1958 he published Frontier Newspaper: the El Paso Times. At the time of his death he was also gathering material for a book he was thinking of calling Utah Street: Tenderloin Tales of the El Paso Border. There is also evidence in the collection that he was collecting research material for a book about The El Paso Herald Post.

Middagh and his wife had two sons and a daughter, John McVey, William Andrew, and Marie. He died on February 18, 1973.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I. Personal, 1942-1973. 7.5 linear inches (2 document boxes). This material includes personal information and family history, journal entries, travel information and guides, and books with annotations.

Arranged alphabetically. This material includes newspaper clippings, research notes, correspondence, student papers, class information, and a few photographs.

Series III. Photographs. 2.5 linear inches (1 document box). Arranged alphabetically by title of folder.

Series IV. Periodicals, 1918-1972. 5 linear inches (1 document box). Arranged alphabetically by the title of the periodical. This material consists of periodicals collected by Middagh that were not in a specific research file.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The John J. Middagh Papers includes thirty-three boxes and consists primarily of research files collected and organized by Middagh over the course of his career as a reporter and journalism professor. His primary research was the history of El Paso; he also had files on current events of the times, such as Communist Propaganda, John F. Kennedy, and the first moon landing.

The **Personal** series consists of Army papers, a few photographs of family members, and family history information. There are a few entries from journals he kept regarding classes he was teaching. Five of the journals remained, but for space purposes all but one journal was discarded after the notes were removed to folders. Journal 3102 was kept as an example. There are also maps and travel brochures that he collected, and five annotated books that were received with the papers.

The **Research Files** include information on the history of El Paso. These files also contain some correspondence. Middagh's notes for his books are included in this series. As a reporter and professor of journalism, he was also very interested in the current events of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, and he collected articles and information on a wide variety of subjects during this time period, including some student papers.

The **Photographs** are copies of original photographs, the subject being the history of El Paso. There is also a report on medical photography by one of his students. It includes a number of photographs and details the most effective techniques and materials to use for medical photography. The oversized photographs are unidentified, with a western theme.

The **Periodicals** consist of copies of UTEP's *The Ass* and *El Burro*, including a copy of the issue that caused the publication to cease for a time. There is also a gathering of various titles that might have been used in his classes.

**PROVENANCE**

The John J. Middagh Papers were donated to the University of Texas at El Paso Library C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department by Winifred M. Middagh in June 1976. In March 1995 she signed a deed of gift.
LITERARY RIGHTS

Restrictions: Student papers may not be photocopied without that person's permission.

NOTES TO RESEARCHER

The newspaper clippings are very fragile and should be handled with care.

The folder titles with square brackets were assigned by the processor, not John J. Middagh.

PERSONAL

1 1 [Personal - Army Papers]
2 [Personal Papers - Miscellaneous]
3 [Memorial Park - Middagh Luna]
4 [Middagh Obituaries]
5 Mother's "Most Unforgettable Character" [Family History]
6 [Journal 3102]
7 [from Journal 3203 - 1972]
8 [from Journal 3312, 1972]
9 [from Journal 3401, 1972]
10 [Tourism/Travel Information and Guides]
11 [Travel Info. - Bermuda]
12 [Travel Info. - Europe]
13 [Travel Info. - Mexico]
14 [Travel Info. - Texas]

2 Five Books

   Pearl, Cyril. The Girl With the Swansdown Seat. 1956.
   Spencer, Herbert and Edgar Allen Poe. Philosophy of Style and Philosophy of Composition. 1959.

   Thouret, P. Anthony. Pour qui n'a pas vu Reims au sortir de l'Enreinte Allemande. October 1918

RESEARCH FILES

3 15 ABM - Sentinel Fuss [1969]
16 Africa [1953 - 1969]
17 V.P. Agnew
18 Stephen Aguirre (spon. by: Edw. H. Kornhauser)
19 Frederick Lewis Allen (Books Material) [1954 - 1968]
20 Apollo [1969 - 1972]
21 [Arkansas Gazette - September 4, 1931]
22 Atom Bomb [1949 - 1954]
23 Babb, Walter Dillard, Reg. No. 41412-T
25 Ben Barnes [1968 - 1972]
4 26 Basketball - NCAA #1 [1966]
27 William Beaumont, Course Data
28 Behavior
29 Berlin Crisis, 1948 [1948 - 1952]
30 Lady Flo and Lord Beresford
31 [Bethune, Philip H.]
32 Bible [1956 - 1966]
33 "The Big Rape Americans Ignore"
34 [Billy the Kid]
35 Birch Society [1961 - 1962]
36 Black Power [1966 - 1970]
37 Fort Bliss
38 Book [1963, 1970]
39 Book Listings, 1961
40 Book Reviews [1957 - 1966]
5 41 Bullfighting [1959 - 1965]
42 Butterfield Overland Mail, Jackass Mail
43 Calley [Vietnam Scapegoat]
44 Cameras
45 Capote Book
46 M.W. Carrico
47 [Case Histories of the "New York Issue of Holiday" and "A Ladies Home Journal Article"]
48 Castro, Arturo [Correspondence]
49 Census, 1970
33 50 Chamizal, with Photographs
51 China
52 Chester Chope
53 Churchill
54 CIA Scrap
6 55 City-County Merger
56 Civil Rights Fight
57 Columbia University Journalism Report
58 Common Market
59 Communication and Ignorance
60 Communist Propaganda [Issues of "Czechoslovak Life" 1949]
61 Congress and Capitol
62 Congressional Voting
63 John Connally and Texas Politics
64 Consensus Government
65 Conservation
66 Miss Anastacia Cooper
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<td>Pioneers (Civic)</td>
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<td>Religious Groups</td>
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<td>Rudolph Chevrolet</td>
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<td>1st 4 Chapters &quot;El Paso Southwest History&quot;</td>
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<td>Southwest History Foundation [1]</td>
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<td>Southwest History Foundation [2]</td>
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<td>120</td>
<td>Southwest - Ranch Country</td>
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<td>121</td>
<td>The Southwest I, El Paso and Vicinity (Owen White)</td>
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<td>122</td>
<td>The Southwest II, New Mexico and Arizona</td>
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<td>The Southwest III, El Paso</td>
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<td>124</td>
<td>Strike, 1972</td>
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<td>125</td>
<td>Telephone and Telegraph Company</td>
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<td>Texas Western College</td>
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<td>El Paso Times</td>
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|     | "Chapter IX - Wide Open Town"
| 127 | Chapter XXV, Frontier Newspaper: The El Paso Times[1] |
| 128 | Chapter XXV, Frontier Newspaper: The El Paso Times[2] |
| 129 | Draft of Book [1] |
| 130 | Draft of Book [2] |
| 131 | Draft of Book [3] |
| 132 | [Dust Cover] |
| 133 | E.P. Newspaper - Times |
| 134 | Book II, PDR Letter |
| 135 | Politics |
| 136 | Research [1] |
| 137 | Research [2] |
| 138 | Research [3] |
| 139 | [Research] [4] Frontier Times 1952, etc. |
| 140 | Ysleta Edition, April, 1882 [photocopy] |
| 141 | Transportation - Air |
| 142 | Transportation - Automotive |
| 143 | Transportation - Railroads |
| 144 | Industry - Utilities |
| 145 | Engledow and Jones |
| 146 | [Enrique Fernandez] |
| 147 | Far East (Asia, Excluding China, which see) |
| 148 | Firearms |
| 149 | [The Flowsheet 1928, Texas College of Mines Yearbook] |
| 150 | Flynn |
| 151 | 3402 Material [Report on Foot-Mouth Disease] |
| 152 | Foreign Policy (U.S.) Acheson Aptmt. |
| 153 | Chris Fox |
Box 155  France
Folder 156 Mt. Franklin Pix
        157 Frontier Newspaper
        158 Glasgow, Gen. Wm. J
        159 Germany
        160 Goldwater, B.
13  161 Grade Distribution [1969]
    162 Graffiti
    163 Great Britain
    164 "Great Western"
    165 Greek Crisis
    166 Guild
    167 ["The Gun Days - I"]
    168 David Hall, October 18, 1970
    169 Nancy Miller Hamilton
    170 John Wesley Hardin
    171 M.A. Harlan Administration
    172 Juan Hart
    173 Juan S. Hart
    174 Hate Groups
    175 [Health Plan]
    176 Hemingway
    177 H.P. Book, July 22, 1970 [Herald-Post]
14  178 Hickel Letter
    179 History Book Incidentals
    180 Miscellaneous History
    181 History of the British Empire
    182 Hist. 324 (Europe)
    183 History of Russia
    184 Times Book #2, Hooten
    185 J. Edgar Hoover
    186 ["Horses and Their Masters in History," Dallas News, September 17, 1939]
    187 [Houston Chronicle]
    188 Human Events
    189 H.H. Humphrey [Photograph]
    190 Hunter Later Years
    191 Ibarra's Series on Chicanos
    192 Interesting Clips
    193 In Every War But One
    194 IACF (Intn'l. Assn. For Cult. Freedom)
    195 Israel - Arab War, 1967 Editions
15  196 Italy
    197 Jamaica
    198 President Johnson
    199 John Birch Society Material [1]
200  John Birch Society Material [2]
201  John Birch Society Material [3]
202  Jolly, Manson S.
203  Jornada Del Muerto
16  204  [Journalism Class]
205  [Journalism - "Concerning Dissent and Civil Disobedience"]
206  Journalism - Education 3418
207  [Journalism Education]
208  [Miscellaneous Articles on Journalism and Newspapers]
209  [Journalism Classes - Graded Papers] [1]
210  [Journalism Classes - Graded Papers] [2]
211  [College and University Journalism Programs]
17  212  [Chiang Kai-Shek]
213  Maury Kemp Letters
214  Maury Kemp Memoirs
33  215  John F. Kennedy
216  Kent State Massacre
217  [Henry Kissinger]
218  Korea
219  Kraenzel
220  Ku Klux Klan
221  Labor
222  Land in the U.S.
223  Laos, Cambodia
224  Latin America
225  [Lawrence County News Sold," Lawrence County News, January 30, 1964]
18  226  R.W. Lee of the Herald Post
227  Art Leibson
228  Letters to the Editor
229  Sinclair Lewis
230  [A.J. Liebling]
231  Duplicates on Life and Literature of the Southwest
232  London Times
233  Ralph Lowenstein
234  ["Lungers' Plea for Recreation Gets Group Free Ride to E.P."]
235  MacArthur
236  Magoffin Family
33  237  [Man on the Moon]
238  Manchester Book
239  Maps
240  Marijuana
241  Marshall Plan
19  242  Joe McCarthy
243  Plagiarism - McCrocklin
244  McKinney's Book (Forgotten Flying Field)
245  H.L. Mencken  
246  Mexico, Near El Paso, History in El Paso Area  
247  Miller, Vernon L. (Editorials)  
248  [Jud Milton]  
249  Mission ’73  
250  Mississippi (Oxford)  
251  Model for a Revolution [New York Times]  
252  Montezuma Weekly Times  
253  Monty Material (1)  
254  Monty Material (2)  
255  Monty II - Folder 1  
256  Monty II - Folder 2  
20  257  Muscat & Oman  
258  National Review  
259  Nature and Outdoors  
260  Near East  
261  Neill Historical Material  
262  [Nevada - Territorial Enterprise] "Mark Twain's Newspaper"  
October 6, 1961 & September 2, 1960 [Range S, Shelf 2]  
263  [New Mexico Gold, Silver Mines for Sale]  
264  [NMSU gets files of 10 Cruces Newspapers]  
265  S.H. Newman  
266  News in Review 1948, 1947, 1949  
267  Newspaper Circ. & Nos.  
268  [Blank newspaper layout/design form]  
269  Newspapering odds and ends  
270  Madame Nhu  
271  Nixon  
272  Nixon China Trip  
273  China Trip - Nixon  
21  274  Nova Utep Magazine  
275  "Numbers" Game  
276  [Ohio - Columbus Dispatch] "1871-1971 Centennial" [Range S, Shelf 2]  
277  Start of "Old Homes" Series [El Paso]  
278  Old Pix  
33  279  [Lee Harvey Oswald]  
280  [Pentagon Papers and freedom of the press]  
281  [Pentagon - "The Selling of the Pentagon"] from subpoena to recommittal]  
282  [Pentagon - CBS statements in pertinent documents]  
283  [Pentagon - coverage and comment - April]  
284  [Pentagon - coverage and comment - May]  
285  [Pentagon - coverage and comment - June, July]  
286  [Pentagon - cartoons and index]  
22  287  Poker
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288 Politics and Pistols
289 E.M. Pooley [El Paso Herald-Post editor]
290 [The Popular Dry Goods Company]
291 Peter Principal
292 Presidents
293 Presidents Concept of the Strong President
294 Pueblo Affairs January 1969
295 The Rails Arrive
296 Realtors PR Talk October 6, 1971
297 Rebel Raider
298 [R.B. Redic]
299 Republican Party
300 [Gary Leland Roberts]
301 Dorrance D. Roderick
302 F.D. Roosevelt
303 F.D. Roosevelt
304 [Robert Ruark]
305 Russia
306 San Francisco
307 Salt War
308 Saturday Evening Post
309 Schlock Novel
310 Segregation
311 Selman, John
312 The Sentinel
313 Sex Education Campaign
314 Shadle, Martha
315 Simmons, Aikman, Marshall correspondence
316 Since Yesterday
317 Situation Ethics
318 Slater, H D
319 Slurvian
320 Dean Small
321 Dean Ray Small
322 Dr. Smiley (Material from Colorado Papers)
323 James A. (Uncle Jimmy), Smith of the Herald
324 C.L.S. Marshall
325 Southwest Catholic Register
326 Anglo-American S. West History
327 S'west Hist. found
328 Southwest Studies
329 Southwestern Literature
330 [Bibliography of southwestern books from C.L. Sonnichsen]
331 Speeches
322 Stafford, Bart
333 State National Copy
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<td>346</td>
<td>&quot;Photos show old days of Texas Rangers&quot; - E.P. Herald Post - September 5, 1963</td>
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<td>&quot;Judge R.E. Thomason and the Jencks and Matison Communist Trials,&quot; &quot;The Babb Case&quot; A.W.P.</td>
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<td>T.R.B. - and New Republic</td>
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<td>&quot;Train riding is no fun anymore&quot; - E.P. Times February 22, 1964</td>
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<td>357</td>
<td>Train Robberies (1887) and George Harold</td>
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<td>Tugwell Constitution</td>
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379 Bryan Woolley
380 Words [1]
381 Words [2]
28 382 Journalistic History of World War II
383 [WWII news clippings]
384 ["Writing Case History, #5 and #8"]
385 Karl Wyler
386 Yalta Papers
387 Yemen
388 [YMCA]
389 Younger Generation (foreign)
390 Younger Generation
391 Younger Generation (recent university demonstrations)
392 Youth Groups
393 [The Youth's Companion] December 21, 1893
33 425 [Chamizal - with photographs]
426 John F. Kennedy
427 [Lee Harvey Oswald]
428 Man on the Moon, 1969
429 [Tarahumara Indians of Mexico]

PHOTOGRAPHS
29 394 [Report on "Medical Photography" by Barbara Lubecki]
395 ["Band of El Paso Boys"]
396 [Cigar Store on San Antonio St.] (owned by Geo. Ogden and H.B. Chaman)
397 [Miss Etta Clark's residence 401 South Utah Street]
398 [Ms. Tilly Howard's "House of Ill Repute", home and stable]
399 [Pomeroy's El Paso Transfer Company]
400 [Saloons, El Paso]
401 [Dr. Thatcher's office]
402 [US Mail Stagecoach], (Geo. Ogden driving)
33 403 [Oversized Photographs - Unidentified Historical - With a Western Theme, Document Removed Form]
33 430 [Oversized Photographs - Unidentified Historical - With a Western Theme]

PERIODICALS
30 404 [The Ass, Texas Western College, n.d.]
405 [El Burro, October 1955 - November 1969
407 [Famous Writers Magazine, 1967]
408 [Harper's Magazine, October 1950]
409 [National Review, September 15, 1972]
410 [Newsweek, June 28 - July 12, 1971]
411 [Physical Culture 1918, 1922]
412 [The Quill, August 1971 - September 1972]
31 413 [The Seminar, September 1971]
414 [Sports Illustrated, August 16, 1954 & March 28, 1966]
415 [The Silver City Enterprise, June 25, 1970]
416 [Time, June 28, 1971 - July 12, 1971]
32 417 [America's Front Page News 1690-1970]
418 [Harper's Weekly, January 6, 1906]
420 [Look - January 12, 1965, "Inside the Twentieth Century]
421 [Philadelphia Inquirer, September 15, 1962]
422  Dorrance D. Roderick [Article in Publication-"Editor and Publisher, the Fourth Estate," January 3, 1931, signed by Roderick]
423 [Vanity Fair, January 1916, "Winston Churchill"]