

GEORGE C. MARSHALL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

COLLECTION SUMMARY SHEET

COLLECTION: GORDON EWING COLLECTION

ACCESSION NUMBER: 92-23

DONOR: Mrs. Gordon Ewing

DATE OF GIFT: 1992

SIZE: 3 boxes

INCLUSIVE DATES: WW II and post WW II

BIOGRAPHICAL AND SUBJECT SUMMARY:

Gordon Atkinson Ewing (1912-) served with Radio In American Sector (RIAS) in Berlin from 1949 to 1957, rising to be director.

The papers are mainly clippings, scripts, and reports dealing with the uprising in East Germany in 1953.

Senator Joseph McCarthy's attack on Ewing and RIAS as reported in the media is also covered.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AND ARRANGEMENT:

Documents arranged by type of material: biographical material, letters, RIAS reports and organizational material, newspaper/magazine clippings & radio scripts (in both English and German), a transcript of a 1981 RIAS interview with Ewing, a RIAS scrapbook, and a 312 page loose-leaf book (in German) on RIAS.

RESTRICTIONS: None

LOCATIONS: Vault - Upper Level

COLLECTION REGISTER AVAILABLE: Yes

(MS 132)

Ewing, Gordon Atkinson 1912- Papers 3 boxes

Biographical Sketch

Gordon Ewing (1912-) was a major figure in Radio In American Sector (RIAS) during the American Occupation in Berlin following WW II.

He served in the US Army from February 1941 to October 1941 as a private; from September 1942 to December 1945 as an officer, reaching the rank of Major.

He served with RIAS in Berlin from May 1949 to February 1957, becoming director of RIAS in September 1953.

During the East German "uprising" beginning June 16, 1953 and crushed by the Soviet Army on June 17, Gordon Ewing used RIAS broadcasts to keep listeners informed of events.

During this same period Ewing was attacked by Senator Joseph McCarthy and was to be called to testify before McCarthy's Senate Committee about communists on the staff at RIAS. This action provoked an outcry in the press, who overall strongly supported Ewing and the work of RIAS

Scope and Content Note

The Gordon A. Ewing papers cover mainly the years 1949 to 1957, the period during which Ewing served in Radio In American Sector (RIAS) in Berlin.

They are arranged by type of material: biographical material, letters, RIAS reports and organizational material, newspaper/magazine clippings & radio scripts (in both English and German), a transcript of a 1981 RIAS interview with Ewing, a RIAS scrapbook, RIAS photographs, and a 312 page loose leaf book (in German) on RIAS.

The biographical material includes Ewing's military records and civil service performance reports.

The letters are to and from Ewing, dealing with RIAS business.

RIAS material includes organizational charts, reports, and programming outlines.

Newspaper/magazine clippings & radio scripts deal mainly with the Berlin/East Germany uprising in 1953 and the RIAS reporting of it. They also include reports of Senator Joseph McCarthy's attack on Ewing and RIAS and the media response in support of Ewing.

A 112 page transcript of a May 1981 RIAS interview with Gordon Ewing contains some information on himself, but deals mainly with the activities of RIAS. It includes anecdotes about political figures such as John McCloy, Willie Brandt, etc. with whom Ewing worked.

Photocopies of 24 photographs of RIAS personnel, important visitors, and activities are included

The scrapbook has pictures, clippings, etc. dealing with RIAS activities.

The loose-leaf book, written in German, is a history of RIAS and its activities.

(132) GORDON ATKINSON EWING PAPERS

Container List

Box/Folder(s)

- 1 1 RIAS Interview with Gordon Ewing, May 19, 1981
- 2 Gordon Ewing Military & Civil Service Records
- 3 RIAS Gordon Ewing Letters
- 4 RIAS Organization & Programming Information
- 5 RIAS Official Reports
- 6 RIAS News Clippings, Radio Scripts, Magazine Articles
1953
- 7 RIAS News Clippings, Radio Scripts, Magazine Articles,
(in German)
- 8 RIAS Special Reports (in German)
- 9 RIAS Photographs
- 2 Large Scrapbook on RIAS
- 3 Loose-leaf Book (312 pages) in German, Die Geschichte
des RIAS August 1973

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SEPARATION RECORD

COLLECTION: GORDON EWING COLLECTION

ACCESSION NUMBER: 92-23

The following items have been removed from the collection:

Description of items	Location
24 photographs, 8x10" (xerox copies in Box 1, Folder 9 of Ewing collection)	Photograph collections Vault-lower level

(MS 132)

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