

FRANCIS I. THOMPSON COLLECTION

ACCESSION NUMBER 278

Processed October 2005

GEORGE C. MARSHALL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

COLLECTION SUMMARY SHEET

COLLECTION: Francis I. Thompson Collection

ACCESSION NUMBER: 278

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1945

DONOR: Pat & Dutton Stoy

RESTRICTIONS: None

DATE OF GIFT: March 2001

LOCATION: Small manuscripts

SIZE: 2 folders

COLLECTION GUIDE

AVAILABLE: Yes

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL FEATURES:** Francis Irving Thompson (F.I. Thompson or Tommy Thompson) was born in Washington, D.C. on July 22, 1907. After four years at McKinley Tech High School, he was ineligible to graduate lacking one credit in Music. At the age of 18 he became an office boy at International News Photos (INP). He soon became a well respected still photographer, and as his experience increased, he was appointed a White House News Photographer for INP. He began his career late in the Coolidge administration and continued through the Hoover, Roosevelt, and part of the Truman administrations. During that time he traveled with press corps *carte blanche*. He was the only civilian photographer allowed to go to the Potsdam Conference on the *Augusta* with President Truman. In December 1946, shortly before he suffered a cerebral accident which paralyzed his left side, he was elected president of the White House News Photographers Association. His disability limited his work and he went to work for USIA until his retirement. He died March 9, 1984.

**SUBJECT:** The Berlin Conference in June/July 1945; declaration of war with Japan, Germany and Italy; press corps rules

**FORMS OF MATERIAL:** The collection consists of a presidential log of the Berlin Conference; the Senate hearing making declaration of war; a Top Secret letter outlining press corps rules for the Berlin trip; two blank invitation cards printed for Field Marshall Göring.

**AUTHOR/DONOR:** Pat Stoy is the daughter of Francis I. Thompson and lives in Chapel Hill, NC.

**ARRANGEMENT:** 2 folders

FRANCIS I. THOMPSON COLLECTION #278  
CONTAINER LIST

- Folder 1     Invitation cards (blank) imprinted "Ministerpräsident  
Generalfeldmarschall Göring" (2 copies)
- Senate Hearing, 77<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session, "Address of the President of  
the United States," declaration of war with Germany, Japan, Italy
- Memo, Top Secret Bulletin, dated July 3, 1945, "For Members of  
Presidential Party" detailing etiquette and services for the Berlin trip
- Folder 2     Booklet, "Log of the President's Trip to the Berlin Conference," July 6,  
1945 to August 7, 1945

## SEPARATION SHEET

THOMPSON COLLECTION #278

Francis I. Thompson  
Civilian Photographer

Separated from collection:

The collection of almost 200 photographs covering the time period ca 1930-1945 taken by Thompson were integrated into the main collection of George C. Marshall Photographs and are searchable through the on-line catalog. They number 7706 – 7889. A collection guide for the photographs is available. Photos marked "F.I.T." should be credited to Francis Irving Thompson.