



441 Freedom Parkway NE
Atlanta, GA 30307

<http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov>

Bruce Mazlish: A Guide to His Papers at the Jimmy Carter Library

Collection Summary

Creator: Bruce Mazlish, 1923-2016

Title: Bruce Mazlish Papers

Dates: 1976-1979

Quantity: 1 linear feet, 4 linear inches, 3 containers

Identification:

Accession Number: 10-02.a

National Archives Identifier: 5801474

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of typed and handwritten notes, and transcripts of book, "Jimmy Carter, A Character Portrait". A majority of material are interview transcripts, conversations, and briefings of Jimmy Carter, journalists, politicians, White House staff, and members of the Carter family. Also included is a research report that was done on Carter's life and early career leading up his presidency.

Creator Information: Emeritus Bruce Mazlish

Bruce Mazlish was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1923. His father, Louis Mazlish, had immigrated as a teenager from what was then Russia. A largely self-taught engineer and entrepreneur, Louis Mazlish started a laundry service for which he developed much of the equipment. He married Lee Reuben in 1919, and had three children, of whom Bruce was the middle, with an older brother Robert and a younger sister, Elaine.

Bruce Mazlish attended local public primary schools in Brooklyn, and then elected to go to Boys High School, which drew its students on a city-wide basis. Upon graduation he entered Columbia University in 1940. Having enlisted in the Officer's Reserve Corps, Mazlish was called up in 1943, and underwent basic training in the US infantry. Subsequently he served in the Office of Strategic Services, assigned to the Far East arena, in Morale Operations. When the war ended, Columbia granted him a catch-up BA dated 1944.

Mazlish worked as a journalist at The Washington Daily News (now defunct) for half of a year, spent a year with his wife in Mexico working on a novel, and then worked at a

third-rate prep school, teaching English (for which he was qualified) and History (which he learned by reading one chapter ahead of his students). Teaching the latter gave him an original view of the discipline, and the G.I. Bill drove educational expansion and demand for teachers in the post-WWII years.

In this way, Mazlish stumbled onto the path of the academic world, teaching history for two years at the University of Maine, Brunswick campus, and then completing advanced degrees at Columbia University in literature (MA thesis: "Defoe: Criminologist," 1947) and then a Ph.D in Modern European History, where he worked mainly under Professors Shepherd Clough and Jacques Barzun (thesis on "Burke, Bonald and De Maistre: A Study in Conservative Thought", 1955)."

Professor Mazlish was best known for putting Nixon on the couch in "In Search of Nixon: A Psychohistorical Inquiry" (1972). The book, by his reckoning, was an attempt to fuse science, or at least psychoanalytical insight, with the study of contemporary history. "Nixon is a man torn between his mother's dislike of warfare and his father's sharp competitiveness," Professor Mazlish wrote. "He is extremely ambivalent about his aggressive impulses and tends to deal with them by projection onto others."

He passed on November 27, 2016 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Restrictions:

Restrictions on Access: These papers contain documents restricted in accordance with applicable executive order(s), which governs National Security policies, applicable statutes/agency restrictions, and material which has been closed in accordance with the donor's deed of gift.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction: Copyright interest in these papers has been donated to the United States Government. Some of the records may be subject to copyright restrictions (i.e. newspapers, publications, etc.). Researchers should contact the publisher for further information.

Index Terms:

Limited to major topics under each category

Persons: Bruce Mazlish and Ed Diamond

Subjects: Jimmy Carter

Places: Plains

Types of Material: notes, interviews, transcripts

Administrative Information:

Preferred citation: [Type of Document], [Names of Sender and Recipient or Title of Document], [Date], [Collection Title], [Series Title], [Folder Title], [Box Number], Jimmy Carter Presidential Library.

Acquisition information: These donated historical materials were received under provisions of the instrument of gift that Bruce Mazlish signed January 28, 2010.

Processing information: The series of the collection was opened in February, 2020.

System of Arrangement:

The records of the Bruce Mazlish are divided into one series:

Series Title	National Archives Identifier
Bruce Mazlish Personal Files	5801788

Detailed Description of the Collection

[Bruce Mazlish Personal Files](#)

Scope and Content: Container 1-3. This series was opened in February, 2020. The series consists of typed and handwritten notes, and transcripts of book, “Jimmy Carter, A Character Portrait”.

The majority of material are interview transcripts, conversations, and briefings of Jimmy Carter, journalists, politicians, White House staff, and members of the Carter family. Also included is a research report that was done on Carter’s life and early career leading up his presidency.

Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

[Return to series list](#)

Container List

Bruce Mazlish Personal Files

Container 1

“A Day in the Life of Jimmy Carter”, 4/14/77
Interview - Alston, Philip Jr., 1/77
Interview - Anderson, Jack, 11/2/77
Interview - Anderson, Patrick, 12/7/76
Interview - Bell, Griffin, 2/77
Interview - Bellow, Saul, 3/30/77
Interview - Bourne, Peter, 12/7/76
Interview - Broder, David, 10/25/77
Interview - Brown, Ben and Robinson, Edmond, 12/5/76
Interview - Brown, Larry, 5/13/77
Interview - Butler, Landon, 1/77
Interview - Caddell, Pat, 12/16/76
Interview - Carter, Billy, 8/4/76
Interview - Carter, Hugh, 3/30/77
Interview - Carter, Jimmy, 8/6/76
Interview - Carter, Jimmy and Moyers, Bill, 5/6/76
Interview - Carter, Lillian, 7/76
Interview - Clark, Robert, 1/19/77
Interview - Compton, Ann, 4/14/77
Interview - Coombs, Orde, 6/30/76
Interview - Cornelius, Wayne, 5/5/77
Interview - Daniloff, Nicholas, 1/28/77
Interview - Deardourff, John, 1/13/77
Interview - Diamond, Ed
Interview - Donaldson, Sam, 3/30/77
Interview - Elfin, Mel, 4/27/77
Interview - Eizenstat, Stuart, 12/76
Interview - Gaston, Paul, 2/17/77
Interview - Glass, Andrew, 2/23/77
Interview - Greider, William, 10/25/76
Interview - Gunter, John, 1/6/77
Interview - Gwartzman, Milton, 11/2/77
Interview - Hall, Faneuil, 2/25/76
Interview - Harris, Charles
Interview - Hayward, J.C., 1/21/77
Interview - Hicks, Charles
Interview - Hill, Jessie, 1/77
Interview - Jordan, Florence
Interview - Jordan, Hamilton, 10/24/76
Interview - Kearns, Doris, 1/27/77

Interview - King, Susan, 5/23/77
Interview - Kirbo, Charles, 1/25/77
Interview - Kranish, Arthur, 4/27/77

Container 2

Interview - Leshner, Stefan, 4/14/77
Interview - Lipshutz, Robert, 2/22/77
Interview - Maddox, Lester, 1/77
Interview - McMillan, George, 4/7/77
Interview - Moore, Frank
Interview - Morgan, Tom, 3/20/77
Interview - Murphy, Reg, 4/18/77
Interview - Neustadt, Richard, 2/16/77
Interview - Oliver, Ross, 3/24/77
Interview - Orrick, John F., 3/10/77
Interview - Otten, Allen, 11/9/76
Interview - Patton, Earl Jr.
Interview - Peachman, Joe, 2/10/77
Interview - Pett, Saul, 11/7/77
Interview - Quinn, Sally, 5/10/77
Interview - Rafshoon, Gerald
Interview - Reese, Maxine
Interview - Rindskopf, Elizabeth, 3/30/77
Interview - Schneiders, Greg, 2/23/77
Interview - Sherr, Lynn, 7/16/76
Interview - Socolow, Sanford, 4/26/77
Interview - Spann, Gloria Carter, 7/8/76
Interview - Thomas, Mary Ann, 3/77
Interview - Thompson, Hunter, 4/28/77
Interview - Utterbach, Marcia and Terry, 1/10/77
Interview - Wilkie, Curtis, 7/76
Interview - Williams, Frank and Virginia, 3/77
Interview - Williams, Jan, 3/77
Interview - Winter, Don, 2/8/77
Interview - Wise, Phil J., 3/77
Interview - Wurfel, Walt, 11/30/76
Interview - Young, Don, 3/3/77

Container 3

List of Interviews

White House Briefing - Jody Powell, 4/25/77
Wolff, David, Chonofsky, Stan and Mulvihill, Peter - "The Jimmy Carter Primer" - Interactive Qualifying Project, 5/25/76 [1]
Wolff, David, Chonofsky, Stan and Mulvihill, Peter - "The Jimmy Carter Primer" - Interactive Qualifying Project, 5/25/76 [2]
Wolff, David, Chonofsky, Stan and Mulvihill, Peter - "The Jimmy Carter Primer" - Interactive

Qualifying Project, 5/25/76 [3]

Wolff, David, Chonofsky, Stan and Mulvihill, Peter - "The Jimmy Carter Primer" - Interactive
Qualifying Project, 5/25/76 [4]

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Last modified: February 27, 2020