



441 Freedom Parkway NE  
Atlanta, GA 30307

<http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov>

## **Jack Watson Papers: A Guide to His Papers at the Jimmy Carter Library**

### **Collection Summary**

Creator: Jack H. Watson Jr., 1938-

Title: Jack H. Watson Jr. Papers

Dates: 1938-1981

Quantity: 54 linear feet, 8 linear inches; 125 containers

#### Identification:

Accession Number: 91-01

National Archives Identifier: 591191

#### Scope and Content:

This collection contains correspondence, memoranda, letters, handwritten notes, studies, speeches, recommendations, position papers, press releases, briefing papers, proposals, reports, political statements, and news clippings. These records document all aspects of the 1976 and 1980 presidential campaigns. This includes the formation of political strategy; polling data; administrative type of work such as personnel and budget matters; development of recommended positions and proposals on issues. This material relates to political and strategic decisions concerning the campaign such as finance, scheduling, staffing, congressional targeting, campaign deadlines, and state and field operations. In addition, some of the correspondence contains key memorandums and reports to Jimmy Carter revealing the first campaign outlines, strategies, and fundraising possibilities. The collection also includes Jack Watson's White House papers, his papers related to his gubernatorial race in Georgia, in 1981-1982. The material relates to pre-election campaign activities and Jack Watson's service as Chairman of the Georgia Department of Human Resources.

#### Creator Information: Jack H. Watson Jr.

Jack H. Watson, Jr. was born October 24, 1938 in El Paso, Texas. He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Vanderbilt University and received his law degree from Harvard Law School. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a Pathfinder and Reconnaissance Team Leader, First Force Reconnaissance Company, and left the Marine Corps with the rank of Captain. Watson became associated with Jimmy Carter's during the 1970 gubernatorial campaign. When Carter became governor, he implemented a reorganization of Georgia's administrative structure. Carter appointed Watson to the 15-member board of directors of

the new Department of Human Resources, which combined all the function of the traditional state health and welfare departments. The Department of Human Resources was the largest agency in the reorganized state government of Georgia.

He served as head of the Carter-Mondale Policy Planning Group in 1976, and later was Director of the Transition Team during the transition of government from President Ford to President Carter. In the Carter administration from 1977-1981, he served as Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs, Secretary to the Cabinet, and White House Chief of Staff. He chaired the President's Interagency Coordinating Council created by Executive Order in 1978 to coordinate implementation of the President's domestic policy. In 1980, he directed the transition of government from President Carter to President Reagan.

#### 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.

#### Related Material:

Related materials in this repository: Records of the 1976 Campaign Committee to Elect Jimmy Carter; DPS-Bill Johnston Files; DPS-Simon Lazarus Files; Chief of Staff Files

Separated material: Photographs transferred to Audiovisual Department

#### Index Terms:

Limited to major topics under each category

Persons: Charles Kirbo, Jules Sugarman, Chester Davenport, Bo Cutter, Curt Hessler, Wellford, Harrison, Patricia Yarham

Organizations: Georgia Department of Human Resources, Georgia Finance Committee, Department of Labor, Department of Justice, Department of Agriculture, Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Subjects: Presidential campaigns; campaign strategy, campaign finance, delegate selection, presidential debates, civil rights, education, justice, international energy, domestic energy, government organization, health care foreign policy, government reorganization, defense, employment, employment discrimination, health, welfare, criminal justice, energy conservation, economic development, transportation, social security and business taxation.

Places: Plains and Atlanta, Georgia

Types of Material: Correspondence, memoranda, resumes, press clippings, press releases, speeches, pamphlets, recommendations, handwritten notes, letters, studies, position papers, briefing papers, proposals, reports, news clippings, and political statements

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 Jack H. Watson signed on February 28, 1991.

Processing information: The first series of the collection was opened in October 2015. Subsequent series in the collection were opened in November 2015; January 2016; February 2016. The open dates are indicated in the series descriptions.

System of Arrangement:

The records of the Jack H. Watson, Jr. Papers are divided into ten series:

<b>Series Title</b>	<b>National Archives Identifier</b>
<a href="#">Jack Watson's Personal Files</a>	591193
<a href="#">Jack Watson's Speech Files</a>	24331134
<a href="#">Jack Watson's Georgia Department of Human Resources Files</a>	24331135
<a href="#">Jack Watson's 1976 Campaign and Transition Files</a>	24331294
<a href="#">Jack Watson's 1980 Campaign and Transition Files</a>	26083666
<a href="#">Jack Watson's 1976 Campaign and Transition Correspondence Files</a>	25389863
<a href="#">1981-1982 Gubernatorial Campaign Files</a>	26125711
<a href="#">White House Correspondence Files</a>	26335610
<a href="#">White House Trip Files</a>	27049014
<a href="#">White House Subject Files</a>	26329341

**Detailed Description of the Collection**

**Personal Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 1-3. This series was opened in October 2015. This series consists of speeches, correspondence, memoranda, and news clippings. The material relates to Jack Watson early activities and achievements. Arranged by folder title.

**Speech Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 4-5. This series was opened in October 2015. This series consists of speech drafts, edits, memoranda, briefings, background material, and speeches given by Jack

Watson to various organizations, clubs and events. Included are pen or pencil annotations by Jack Watson. Topics include civil rights, education, justice and youth. Arranged alphabetically by folder title and chronologically thereunder.

### **Georgia Department of Human Resources Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 6-10. This series was opened in November 2015. This series consists of correspondence, memoranda, newspaper clippings, and speeches. Topics include alcoholism, civil rights, health care, and housing. The material relates to pre-election campaign activities and Jack Watson's service as Chairman of the Georgia Department of Human Resources. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

### **1976 Campaign and Transition Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 11-63. This series was opened in January 2016. This series consists of speeches, resumes, applications, memoranda, personnel material, publications, briefings, staff and political desk reports, campaign schedules, and memoranda on transition policies and staffing. Also included are reports, meeting notes, weekly progress reports, Congressional recommendations for individual constituents requesting positions in the Administration, recommendations from the general public, and recommendations from the general public to the transition planning group on foreign policy issues. Also included is memoranda to Jack Watson, letters of transmittal which accompanies the various option papers, published documents, Congressional Reports, list of contributors, and policy suggestions.

The series also contains briefing books that provide relevant information on specific topics and pressing concerns, policies, and agency reorganization plans for various departments such as Health, Education and Welfare, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Interior, the Treasury Department, and Department of Justice. This material provides an overview of the Departments and their functions; outline of objectives, resources, and operation methods. This material also depicts the particular attention given to the consideration of women and minorities in filling positions.

Topics include education, employment, foreign policy, defense, health, welfare, criminal justice, energy conservation, economic development, transportation, social security, community development, international and domestic energy matters, and government reorganization. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

### **1980 Campaign and Transition Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 64-65. This series was opened in February 2016. This series consists of correspondence, memoranda, briefing book overviews, press releases, planning notes, progress reports, schedules, recommendations for positions, and transition coordination lists. The outgoing memorandums are primarily from Jack Watson concerning the logistics of the transition. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

### **1976 Campaign and Transition Correspondence Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 66-80. This series was opened in January 2016. This series consist of correspondence concerning positions in the Carter Administration with notations from Jack

Watson, letters of recommendations, resumes, reports, memoranda, position papers, policy advice, suggestions, and request for jobs. Arranged alphabetically by last name.

### **1981-1982 Gubernatorial Campaign Papers**

Scope and Content: Containers 81-87. This series was opened in February 2016. This series consists of correspondence, campaign memoranda, contribution regulations, form letters, list of contributors and amount of contribution, itemized receipts, financial disclosure reports, appointment books, schedules, speeches, advertisements, pamphlets, newsletters, and news clippings. Also included is Jack Watson's political strategy announcement, campaign platform, lists of solicitors, and fundraising activities. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

### **White House Correspondence Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 88-94. This series was opened in March 2016. This series includes correspondence to and from Jack Watson, letters of recommendations, memoranda, resumes, newspaper clippings, congratulatory letters, invitations, and letters of thanks. Arranged alphabetically by last name.

### **Jack Watson's White House Trip Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 95-104. This series was opened in March 2016. This series consists of correspondence, itineraries, schedules speeches, memoranda, briefing books, newspaper clippings, travel vouchers, receipts, and publications. Arranged chronologically.

### **Jack Watson's White House Subject Files**

Scope and Content: Containers 105-125. This series was opened in April 2016. This series consist of personal correspondence, memoranda, speeches, schedules, press releases, daily briefings, travel vouchers, newspaper clippings, schedules, telephone logs, itineraries and photographs. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

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## Container List

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Commencement Exercise of Pine Bluff High School, 5/24/56  
Correspondence, 3/54-12/60

#### **Container 2**

Easter Seals - Volunteer Legal Responsibilities of Board Members  
Governor's Race, 3/74-1/75  
Governor's Race, 1974 County Votes News Clippings  
Governor's Race, Platform Statement of Bert Lance, 1974  
Harvard Club of New York City, 1976  
Harvard Law School Class of 1966 - 10th Anniversary  
High School English and Social Studies Papers, 1956  
King and Spalding  
Know Your ABC's by League of Women Voters, 1974  
Lawyers Club of Atlanta, 12/68-12/74  
Legal Memoranda, 1981-1982  
Marriage - Jack Watson and Carol Jones, 1960  
Medical College of Pennsylvania National Board  
Mental Health Speech Material  
Mohr, Greg Eugene - Tribute, 1975  
NROTC Certification, 8/13/58  
Parham, Jim  
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Southern Association of Student Councils (SASC) Journal, 1955  
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Atlanta - Which Way Atlanta, 1972  
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Child Welfare, 4/73  
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Speech - Bahasar Gracian's Manual  
Speech - Busbee, Governor George's Comments on Title XX Funds, 4/10/75  
Speech - Foresees Club of the Coca-Cola Company, 1/16/75

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