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Max Cleland Papers: A Guide to His Papers at the Jimmy Carter Library

Collection Summary

Creator: Cleland, Joseph Maxwell (Max) 1942-

Title: Max Cleland Papers

Dates: 1961-1982

Quantity: 39 linear feet, 77 containers

Identification:

Accession Number: 87-06

National Archives Identifier: 587335

Scope and Content:

The collection contains correspondence, reports, photographs, press clippings, press statements, speeches, invitations, handwritten notes, and magazines. The material relates to Max Cleland's tenure as a Georgia State Senator, Administrator of the Veterans Affairs Agency, and his participation in the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs to improve hospitals. The material reflects his concerns for Vietnam veterans regarding employment, health care, drug abuse, and education. The collection also contains personal correspondence, photographs, and memorabilia.

Creator Information: Cleland, Joseph Maxwell (Max)

Joseph Maxwell (Max) Cleland was born in Atlanta, Georgia on August 24, 1942. He grew up in Lithonia, Georgia and graduated from Stetson University in DeLand, Florida in 1964. He received a Master's degree from Emory University in 1968. Cleland served in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of captain from 1965-1968. He was wounded in combat in Vietnam ending his military service. He was of member of the Georgia Senate from 1971-1975, and was an unsuccessful candidate for Lieutenant Governor in 1974. In 1975, he served as a consultant to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and became a professional senate staff member from 1975-1977. He was appointed as Administrator of the U.S. Veterans Administration by President Jimmy Carter in 1977 and served until 1981. He was the Georgia Secretary of State from 1982-1996, and then elected as a Democrat to the U.S. Senate in 1996. He served as Senator from 1997 to 2003. He was not re-elected in the 2002 election year.

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.

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Index Terms:

Limited to major topics under each category
Persons: Cleland, Max

Organizations: Veteran’s Administration, Senate Committee on Veteran’s Affairs

Subjects: Veterans, hospitals, employment, education, drug abuse, handicapped

Places: Atlanta, Georgia, Washington D.C., Vietnam

Types of Material: Correspondence, reports, photographs, press clippings, press statements, speeches, invitations, handwritten notes, and magazines

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 Max Cleland signed May 13, 1987.

Processing information: This collection was opened in March 2011.

The records of the Max Cleland Papers are divided into six series:

Series Title	National Archives Identifier
<u>Max Cleland’s State Senate Correspondence Files</u>	5717281
<u>Max Cleland’s Veterans Administration Invitation Files</u>	5717282
<u>Max Cleland’s Veterans Administration Subject Files</u>	5717283
<u>Max Cleland’s Personal Subject Files</u>	5720561
<u>Max Cleland’s Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs Hospital Inspection Files</u>	5720562
<u>Max Cleland’s Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs Subject Files</u>	5720563

Detailed Description of the Collection

Max Cleland's State Senate Correspondence Files

Scope and Content: Containers 1-7. This series was opened in 2011. This series consists of general correspondence from Georgia constituents. The material also includes summaries of major legislation that passed the House and Senate during the 1974 Georgia General Assembly. In addition, this series contains a draft report of the establishment of the Office of Lieutenant Governor. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Max Cleland's Veterans Administration Invitation Files

Scope and Content: Containers 8-17. This series was opened in 2011. This series contains invitations received, accepted, and regretted by Max Cleland. Arranged alphabetically by last name.

Max Cleland's Veterans Administration Subject Files

Scope and Content: Containers 18-45. This series was opened in 2011. This series consists of personal and administrative correspondence, reports, studies, news clippings, photographs, and trip files. Most of the correspondence consists of congratulation letters on Cleland's appointment, thank you letters, and invitations for appearances. Also included are many requests for copies of the Confederate Prayer, greeting cards, a small amount of inner office memorandums and correspondence, and reports from the Task Force on Veteran's Rehabilitation. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Max Cleland's Personal Subject Files

Scope and Content: Containers 46-60. This series was opened in 2011. This series consists of personal correspondence, press clippings, photographs, guest registers, and military medals and honors received. Also included is material from Cleland's state Senate tenure including speeches and speech material, statements, press releases, press publicity packets, and articles and magazines. A great deal of the state Senate material relates to Vietnam veteran bills, the handicapped, and tuition scholarships for veterans. In addition, this series includes material from the state Senate, Lieutenant Governor, and Secretary of State Campaign races. Cleland's book drafts, personal biography, college thesis papers, and articles and information relating to veteran issues are also included. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Max Cleland's Senate Committee On Veterans Affairs Hospital Inspection Files

Scope and Content: Containers 61-70. This series was opened in 2011. This series consists of detailed reports on individual veteran hospitals based on inspections carried out by the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign War personnel. The inspections were part of the Senate Committee's mission to improve hospital services for veterans. Arranged alphabetically by the city in which the hospital was located.

Max Cleland's Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs Subject Files

Scope and Content: Containers 71-77. This series was opened in 2011. This series contains publications, reports, evaluations, and legislative papers related to veteran's issues regarding employment, education, pardons, medical care, and hospitals. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

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