



Finding Aid for

OFFICIAL TELEGRAM FILE RECORDS, 1938-1948
Accession 50

Finding Aid Published: October 2011



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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
The Henry Ford
20900 Oakwood Blvd
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029
www.thehenryford.org
research.center@thehenryford.org

ACCESSION NUMBER: 50

CREATOR: Ford Motor Company. Henry Ford Office.

TITLE: Official telegram file records

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1938-1948

QUANTITY: 12.4 cubic ft.

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English

ABSTRACT: The Official telegram file records contain business telegrams of the Ford Motor Company as well as personal telegrams between the Ford family, the general public and students at the Edison Institute.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: The records are open for research.

COPYRIGHT: Copyright has been transferred to The Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).

ACQUISITION: Ford Motor Company Archives donation, 1964.

PREFERRED CITATION: Item, folder, box, accession 50, Official telegram file records, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Collection processed by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, December 1962

DESCRIPTION INFORMATION: Original collection inventory list prepared by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, and published in December 1962.

Finding aid prepared by Elyssa Bisoski, October 2011, and published in October 2011.

Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Ford Motor Company used telegrams for a variety of purposes in the 1940s. These uses included tracking shipments, keeping track of inventory and requests for parts. Using telegrams, the company was able to communicate efficiently with its many factories. Additionally, the Ford family received telegrams from the general public at moments of great joy, such as Henry and Clara's 50th wedding anniversary, as well as times of sadness, such as Edsel Ford's death in 1943. The family also used telegrams to communicate with students at the Edison Institute, allowing each to receive a personal birthday telegram from Henry Ford.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Official Telegram File records, organized chronologically, are comprised of incoming and outgoing telegrams of the Ford Motor Central Staff from 1944 to 1948. The telegrams primarily relate to Ford Motor Company business such as shipment tracking, assembly and production numbers, inventory levels, and parts requests. A significant portion pertains to World War II activities, the Willow Run Bomber Plant, aeronautical products, and aircraft services. In addition there is a box of telegrams received from well wishers on Henry and Clara Ford's 50th wedding anniversary in 1938 and Henry's birthday in 1938 and 1939. There is also a box of telegrams addressed to Ford family members and some Ford executives expressing sympathy on Edsel Ford's death in 1943. The condolences, arranged roughly in alphabetical order, are from all over the world; many are in foreign languages. Another box holds copies of telegrams personal in nature sent from Henry, Clara, or their secretaries between 1944 and 1946. A majority are birthday greetings, such as messages sent to Edison Institute (now The Henry Ford) students

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged chronologically.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford, Henry, 1863-1947

Ford, Clara Bryant, 1866-1950

Ford, Edsel, 1893-1943

Ford family

Ford Motor Company. Henry Ford Office.

Ford Motor Company. Willow Run Plant.

Willow Run Industrial Complex

Subjects

Automobile industry and trade

Aircraft industry--Michigan--Willow Run

Birthdays

Condolence notes

World War, 1939-1945

Genre and Form

Telegrams

CONTAINER LIST

Box no. **Description**

TELEGRAMS

Box 1	August - September 1944
Box 2	January 1-10, 1945 February 1-10, 1945 February 20-28, 1945
Box 3	March 1-10, 1945 March 10-20, 1945 March 19, 1945 April 1-10, 1945 April 10-20, 1945
Box 4	May 1-10, 1945 June 1-10, 1945 June 10-20, 1945 June 29-30, 1945
Box 5	July 1-10, 1945 July 10-20, 1945 July 21-30, 1945
Box 6	August 20-31, 1945 September 20-30, 1945
Box 7	January 3-5, 1946 January 7-8, 1946
Box 8	January 9-15, 1946
Box 9	January 18-19, 1946 January 19-31, 1946 February 1-10, 1946 February 10-20, 1946
Box 10	February 21-28, 1946 March 1-10, 1946 March 10-20, 1946 March 20-31, 1946 April 1-10, 1946

Box 11

April 10-20, 1946
April 20-30, 1946
May 1-10, 1946
May 10-20, 1946

Box 12

April 10-20, 1946
April 20-30, 1946
May 1-10, 1946
May 10-20, 1946

Box 13

July 20-31, 1946
August 1-10, 1946
August 20-31, 1946
September 1-10, 1946

Box 14

September 10-20, 1946
September 20-30, 1946
October 1-10, 1946
October 10-20, 1946

Box 15

October 20-31, 1946
November 10-20, 1946
November 20-30, 1946

Box 16

December 1-15, 1946
December 16, 31, 1946

Box 17

January 2-16, 1947
January 17-31, 1947
February 1947

Box 18

March - April, 1947

Box 19

May - June 1947

Box 20

June - July 1947

Box 21

August - September 1947

Box 22

December 1947

Box 23

January - February 1948

Box 24

March - April 1948

- Box 25**
May - July 1948
- Box 26**
July 22-30, 1948
August - September 1948
- Box 27**
October - November 1948
- Box 28**
December 1948
- Box 29**
Ford Family Telegrams -. Special Occasions
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford
 Golden Wedding, 1938
 Birthday, 1938
 Birthday, 1939
- Box 30**
 Condolences on death of Edsel Ford, May 1943
- Box 30A**
 Condolences on death of Edsel Ford, May 1943
- Box 31**
January 1944 - May 1945
May 1945 - December 1945