

**Guide to the Post-Presidential Correspondence with  
George H.W. Bush  
(1964-1968; 1974-1993)**

**Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum**

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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Post-Presidential Correspondence with George H.W. Bush (1964-1968; 1974-1993)

**Creator:** Susan Naulty

**Extent:** .4 linear feet (1 document box)

**Repository:** Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum  
18001 Yorba Linda Boulevard  
Yorba Linda, California 92886

**Abstract:** This series contains correspondence relating to and between Richard Nixon and George H. W. Bush ranging in years from 1964 to 1993. Topics include correspondence favoring George Bush for Vice President in 1968; Bush's appointment as Ambassador to China and later Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA); the duties as Vice President; the 1988 Presidential campaign; and foreign and domestic policy during the George H. W. Bush Administration.

## Administrative Information

**Access:** Open

**Publication Rights:** Copyright held by the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation

**Preferred Citation:** Folder Title. Box #. Post-Presidential Correspondence with George H.W. Bush (1964-1968; 1974-1993). Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation, Yorba Linda, California.

**Acquisition Information:** Gift of Richard Nixon

**Processing History:** Processing was begun prior to 2003 by Susan Naulty and completed in 2004 by Greg Cumming.

## Biography

**Richard Nixon** was born in Yorba Linda, California, on January 9, 1913. After graduating from Whittier College in 1934, he attended Duke University Law School. After passing the bar exam he joined the firm of Bewley, Knoop, & Nixon in Whittier, CA, leaving to enter the Navy from 1942 to 1944. He was elected to Congress in 1947 serving until 1950. Richard Nixon then became a Senator (1951-1953) and in 1952 joined Dwight D. Eisenhower as the Vice-Presidential candidate on the Republican Presidential ticket. After losing a 1960 bid for the Presidency and a 1962 California Gubernatorial election, former Vice President Nixon joined the law firm of Mudge, Stern, Baldwin, and Todd in New York. Richard Nixon decided to enter the 1968 presidential election and was elected 37<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. He resigned; facing impeachment charges for possible involvement in a cover-up in August 1974 after the Watergate scandal broke.

After his resignation President Nixon wrote several best selling books. Beginning in the 1980's he served as an "elder statesman" offering his thoughts and opinions to various Presidents until his death in 1994.

Nixon biographical sketch compiled from *RN: A Memoir*, and the collection.

**George Herbert Walker Bush** was born on June 12, 1924, in Milton, Massachusetts, to Dorothy Walker Bush and Prescott Bush (Republican Senator Connecticut 1952-1962). He enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a Seaman 2<sup>nd</sup> class on his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, June 12, 1942. Receiving his wings and commission in June 1943 while still 18 years old, he was the youngest pilot in the Navy at that time. On active duty from August 1942 to September 1945 during World War II, Mr. Bush flew torpedo bombers off the USS San Jacinto. For his courageous service in the Pacific Theater Mr. Bush was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and three Air Medals. On January 6, 1945, Mr. Bush married Barbara Pierce of Rye, New York. Today they are the parents of five children: George, John (Jeb), Neil, Marvin, and Dorothy Bush Koch. Their second child, Robin, died of leukemia in 1953. The Bushes have 14 grandchildren.

Following World War II, Mr. Bush entered Yale University. He graduated as a Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in economics in 1948. After his graduation, George and Barbara Bush moved to Texas, where he worked as an oil field supply salesman for Dresser Industries. In 1951, he co-founded The Bush-Overbey Oil Development Company. Two years later he co-founded the Zapata Petroleum Corporation. In 1954, at the age of 30, he became co-founder and president of a third firm, Zapata Off Shore, which pioneered in experimental offshore drilling equipment.

Following an unsuccessful bid for a Senate seat in 1964, Mr. Bush was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1966 from Texas' 7<sup>th</sup> District. One of the few freshman members of Congress ever elected to serve on the Ways and Means Committee, he was reelected to the House two years later without opposition. Congressman Bush lost a second campaign for the Senate in 1970.

In 1971, George Bush was named U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. He served there until 1973, when he became Chairman of the Republican National Committee. In October 1974, Ambassador Bush traveled to Peking, where he served as Chief of the Liaison Office during the critical period when the United States was renewing ties with the Peoples Republic of China. In 1976, Ambassador Bush was appointed Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. In 1980 after George Bush's unsuccessful bid for the GOP nomination for President, Ronald Reagan selected George Bush to be his running mate. On January 20, 1981, George Bush was sworn in for the first of two terms as Vice President. In 1988, Vice President Bush became the 41<sup>st</sup> President of the United States.

Former President Bush is a resident of Houston, Texas, and serves on the Board of Visitors of M.D. Anderson Hospital, is currently on the board of the Episcopal Church Foundation and serves on the vestry of St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Kennebunkport, Maine.

Bush biographical sketch compiled from a biography available at <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu>.

**Scope and Content Summary:** This series contains correspondence relating to and between Richard Nixon and George H.W. Bush beginning in 1964 during Bush's run for a U.S. Senate seat from Texas. The correspondence consists of memoranda, letters, notes, briefings, and news articles. Topics include Richard Nixon's support for Bush in 1964; correspondence favoring George Bush for Vice President in 1968; Bush's appointment as Ambassador to China and later Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA); the duties of a Vice President; the 1988 Presidential campaign; 1988-89 Presidential transition; and notes and letters regarding foreign and domestic policy during the George H.W. Bush Administration.

**Related Collections:**

Post-Presidential Correspondence with Ronald Reagan (1974-1996)

1968 Campaign Materials

George Herbert Walker Bush Presidential Library and Museum, College Station, Texas.

## Container List

| <b>George H.W. Bush Correspondence</b> | <b>Box:Folder</b> |
|--|-------------------|
| 1964-1968                              | 1:1               |
| 1974-1979                              | 1:2               |
| 1980-1984                              | 1:3               |
| 1988                                   | 1:4               |
| Jan-Oct 1989                           | 1:5               |
| Nov-Dec 1989                           | 1:6               |
| Jan-Jun 1990                           | 1:7               |
| Jul-Nov 1990                           | 1:8               |
| Dec 1990                               | 1:9               |
| 1991                                   | 1:10              |
| 1992-1993                              | 1:11              |