



Guide to

MS 145

JOHN J. MIDDAGH PAPERS

Span Dates 1893-1973

Bulk Dates 1950-1972

13 feet, 5 inches (linear)

Processed by Heather Lindsay
June 1997

Citation: John J. Middagh Papers, 1893-1973, MS 145, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

BIOGRAPHY

On January 2, 1916, John Judy Middagh, Jr. was born to John Judy Middagh and Reba Fowler Middagh, in Lawrenceville, Illinois. He attended school in Lawrenceville until 1928, when he and his parents moved to Odessa, Texas, where he completed high school. He attended Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College from 1932-1935. During 1936, he worked at *The Odessa News-Times* as an office boy and printer's devil. In September of that year, he went to the University of Missouri to study journalism. He obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from the University of Missouri in 1938 and, after graduation, he worked at *The Oklahoma News* as a paper boy and reporter until the paper ceased publication in 1939. Middagh then returned to *The Odessa News-Times*, and worked from June to September, 1939, when he left to join the staff of the *El Paso Herald-Post*.

In 1941, Middagh left his position with the *El Paso Herald Post* to join the Army. On May 3, 1942, he married the former Winifred Marie McVey of El Paso. During his four years of service in the military, he took part in the campaigns in Hurtgen Forest (where he was wounded), the Battle of the Bulge, and the advance on the Rhine River. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Presidential Unit Citation, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the European Campaign Ribbon with two stars.

When he returned from WWII, Middagh went back to work as a reporter and telegraph editor at *The El Paso Herald-Post* until he joined the faculty of Texas Western College in September 1948 where he taught journalism. Middagh eventually became the co-chairman of the Department of Journalism and Radio-Television, which was renamed the Department of Mass Communication. He was also director of the College's Student Publications.

Middagh received a Master's Degree in History from Texas Western College in 1952. His thesis was titled **Frontier Journalism in El Paso, 1872-1900**. He continued to research the history of El Paso and its newspapers, and in 1958 he published **Frontier Newspaper: the El Paso Times**. At the time of his death he was also gathering material for a book he was thinking of calling **Utah Street: Tenderloin Tales of the El Paso Border**. There is also evidence in the collection that he was collecting research material for a book about *The El Paso Herald Post*.

Middagh and his wife had two sons and a daughter, John McVey, William Andrew, and Marie. He died on February 18, 1973.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I. Personal, 1942-1973. 7.5 linear inches (2 document boxes). This material includes personal information and family history, journal entries, travel information and guides, and books with annotations.

Series II. Research Files, 1893-1973. 130 linear inches (26 document boxes).

Arranged alphabetically. This material includes newspaper clippings, research notes, correspondence, student papers, class information, and a few photographs.

Series III. Photographs. 2.5 linear inches (1 document box). Arranged alphabetically by title of folder.

Series IV. Periodicals, 1918-1972. 5 linear inches (1 document box). Arranged alphabetically by the title of the periodical. This material consists of periodicals collected by Middagh that were not in a specific research file.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The John J. Middagh Papers includes thirty-three boxes and consists primarily of research files collected and organized by Middagh over the course of his career as a reporter and journalism professor. His primary research was the history of El Paso; he also had files on current events of the times, such as Communist Propaganda, John F. Kennedy, and the first moon landing.

The **Personal** series consists of Army papers, a few photographs of family members, and family history information. There are a few entries from journals he kept regarding classes he was teaching. Five of the journals remained, but for space purposes all but one journal was discarded after the notes were removed to folders. Journal 3102 was kept as an example. There are also maps and travel brochures that he collected, and five annotated books that were received with the papers.

The **Research Files** include information on the history of El Paso. These files also contain some correspondence. Middagh's notes for his books are included in this series. As a reporter and professor of journalism, he was also very interested in the current events of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, and he collected articles and information on a wide variety of subjects during this time period, including some student papers.

The **Photographs** are copies of original photographs, the subject being the history of El Paso. There is also a report on medical photography by one of his students. It includes a number of photographs and details the most effective techniques and materials to use for medical photography. The oversized photographs are unidentified, with a western theme.

The **Periodicals** consist of copies of UTEP's *The Ass* and *El Burro*, including a copy of the issue that caused the publication to cease for a time. There is also a gathering of various titles that might have been used in his classes.

PROVENANCE

The John J. Middagh Papers were donated to the University of Texas at El Paso Library C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department by Winifred M. Middagh in June 1976. In March 1995 she signed a deed of gift.

LITERARY RIGHTS

Restrictions: Student papers may not be photocopied without that person's permission.

NOTES TO RESEARCHER

The newspaper clippings are very fragile and should be handled with care.

The folder titles with square brackets were assigned by the processor, not John J. Middagh.

PERSONAL

- 1 1 [Personal - Army Papers]
- 2 [Personal Papers - Miscellaneous]
- 3 [Memorial Park - Middagh Luna]
- 4 [Middagh Obituaries]
- 5 Mother's "Most Unforgettable Character" [Family History]
- 6 [Journal 3102]
- 7 [from Journal 3203 - 1972]
- 8 [from Journal 3312, 1972]
- 9 [from Journal 3401, 1972]
- 10 [Tourism/Travel Information and Guides]
- 11 [Travel Info. - Bermuda]
- 12 [Travel Info. - Europe]
- 13 [Travel Info. - Mexico]
- 14 [Travel Info. - Texas]
- 2 Five Books
 - Foster, Arnold and Benjamin R. Epstein. **Danger on the Right.** 1964.
 - Pearl, Cyril. **The Girl With the Swansdown Seat.** 1956.
 - Spencer, Herbert and Edgar Allen Poe. **Philosophy of Style and Philosophy of Composition.** 1959.
 - Strunk, William Jr. and White, E.B. **The Elements of Style.** 1959.
 - Thouret, P. Anthony. **Pour qui n'a pas vu Reims au sortir de l'Enreinte Allemande.** October 1918

RESEARCH FILES

- 3 15 ABM - Sentinel Fuss [1969]
- 16 Africa [1953 - 1969]
- 17 V.P. Agnew
- 18 Stephen Aguirre (spon. by: Edw. H. Kornhauser)
- 19 Frederick Lewis Allen (Books Material) [1954 - 1968]
- 20 Apollo [1969 - 1972]
- 21 [Arkansas Gazette - September 4, 1931]

	22	Atom Bomb [1949 - 1954]
	23	Babb, Walter Dillard, Reg. No. 41412-T
	24	Russel Baker, Art Buchwald [1969 - 1970]
	25	Ben Barnes [1968 - 1972]
4	26	Basketball - NCAA #1 [1966]
	27	William Beaumont, Course Data
	28	Behavior
	29	Berlin Crisis, 1948 [1948 - 1952]
	30	Lady Flo and Lord Beresford
	31	[Bethune, Philip H.]
	32	Bible [1956 - 1966]
	33	"The Big Rape Americans Ignore"
	34	[Billy the Kid]
	35	Birch Society [1961 - 1962]
	36	Black Power [1966 - 1970]
	37	Fort Bliss
	38	Book [1963, 1970]
	39	Book Listings, 1961
	40	Book Reviews [1957 - 1966]
5	41	Bullfighting [1959 - 1965]
	42	Butterfield Overland Mail, Jackass Mail
	43	Calley [Vietnam Scapegoat]
	44	Cameras
	45	Capote Book
	46	M.W. Carrico
	47	[Case Histories of the "New York Issue of Holiday" and "A Ladies Home Journal Article"]
	48	Castro, Arturo [Correspondence]
	49	Census, 1970
33	50	Chamizal, with Photographs
	51	China
	52	Chester Chope
	53	Churchill
	54	CIA Scrap
6	55	City-County Merger
	56	Civil Rights Fight
	57	Columbia University Journalism Report
	58	Common Market
	59	Communication and Ignorance
	60	Communist Propaganda [Issues of "Czechoslovak Life" 1949]
	61	Congress and Capitol
	62	Congressional Voting
	63	John Connally and Texas Politics
	64	Consensus Government
	65	Conservation
	66	Miss Anastacia Cooper

	67	Copyright Forms
	68	Council of Chairmen
	69	Cuba
	70	Current Events 3203 [Lesson Plan, Information for Class]
7	71	Customs Bureau History
	72	U.S. Customs Service
	73	A.K. Cutting
	74	Daily File 3418 [Class]
	75	[Articles - "The Day of the Six Shooter," and "The Gun Days"]
	76	Democracy in Action
	77	Democracy Losing by Default
	78	Senator Paul Douglas
	79	Dryden Press
	80	Doug Early [Journalism Class 3418 Substitute Teacher]
	81	Wyatt Earp
	82	Ecology; Environment
	83	Eisenhower
	84	Election, 1948, 1950, 1952, 1954
	85	Elements of Style
	86	Elephant Butte Dam
8		El Paso
	87	1900
	88	Banks
	89	Business - Commercial
	90	First Census - 1860
	91	City Directories
	92	City Government
	93	City Hall (1899)
	94	[City Plan, 1925]
	95	Downtown, Marshall Hall
	96	[Electric Company]
	97	Front. Newspaper Copy
	98	Ghost Towns, Mine Camps, Mil. Posts, etc.
	99	Herald
	100	[Historic Buildings]
	101	Historical Resumes
	102	[A Short History of Northeast El Paso]
	103	[History]
	104	History Foundation
	105	Industry - Heany
	106	Irrigation, Agriculture
	107	Junior College Campaign
	108	Medics, Hospitals
	109	Military Bases
	110	Modern
9	111	[The Story of El Paso's Newspapers]

	112	Newspapers - Herald Post
	113	Pioneer Days, Early Photos, Sports
	114	Pioneers (Civic)
	115	Religious Groups
	116	Rudolph Chevrolet
	117	1st 4 Chapters "El Paso Southwest History"
	118	Southwest History Foundation [1]
	119	Southwest History Foundation [2]
	120	Southwest - Ranch Country
	121	The Southwest I, El Paso and Vicinity (Owen White)
	122	The Southwest II, New Mexico and Arizona
	123	The Southwest III, El Paso
	124	Strike, 1972
	125	Telephone and Telegraph Company
	126	Texas Western College
		El Paso Times
	127	["Chapter IX - Wide Open Town"]
10	128	Chapter XXV, Frontier Newspaper: The El Paso Times[1]
	129	Chapter XXV, Frontier Newspaper: The El Paso Times [2]
	130	Draft of Book [1]
	131	Draft of Book [2]
11	132	Draft of Book [3]
	133	[Dust Cover]
	134	E.P. Newspaper - Times
	135	Book II, PDR Letter
	136	Politics
	137	Research [1]
	138	Research [2]
	139	Research [3]
	140	[Research] [4] Frontier Times 1952, etc.
	141	Ysleta Edition, April, 1882 [photocopy]
12	142	Transportation - Air
	143	Transportation - Automotive
	144	Transportation - Railroads
	145	Industry - Utilities
	146	Engledow and Jones
	147	[Enrique Fernandez]
	148	Far East (Asia, Excluding China, which see)
	149	Firearms
	150	[The Flowsheet 1928, Texas College of Mines Yearbook]
	151	Flynn
	152	3402 Material [Report on Foot-Mouth Disease]
	153	Foreign Policy (U.S.) Acheson Aptmt.
	154	Chris Fox

	155	France
	156	Mt. Franklin Pix
	157	Frontier Newspaper
	158	Glasgow, Gen. Wm. J
	159	Germany
	160	Goldwater, B.
13	161	Grade Distribution [1969]
	162	Graffiti
	163	Great Britain
	164	"Great Western"
	165	Greek Crisis
	166	Guild
	167	["The Gun Days - I"]
	168	David Hall, October 18, 1970
	169	Nancy Miller Hamilton
	170	John Wesley Hardin
	171	M.A. Harlan Administration
	172	Juan Hart
	173	Juan S. Hart
	174	Hate Groups
	175	[Health Plan]
	176	Hemingway
	177	H.P. Book, July 22, 1970 [Herald-Post]
14	178	Hickel Letter
	179	History Book Incidentals
	180	Miscellaneous History
	181	History of the British Empire
	182	Hist. 324 (Europe)
	183	History of Russia
	184	Times Book #2, Hooten
	185	J. Edgar Hoover
	186	["Horses and Their Masters in History," Dallas News, September 17, 1939]
	187	[Houston Chronicle]
	188	Human Events
	189	H.H. Humphrey [Photograph]
	190	Hunter Later Years
	191	Ibarra's Series on Chicanos
	192	Interesting Clips
	193	In Every War But One
	194	IACF (Intn'l. Assn. For Cult. Freedom)
	195	Israel - Arab War, 1967 Editions
15	196	Italy
	197	Jamaica
	198	President Johnson
	199	John Birch Society Material [1]

	200	John Birch Society Material [2]
	201	John Birch Society Material [3]
	202	Jolly, Manson S.
	203	Jornada Del Muerto
16	204	[Journalism Class]
	205	[Journalism - "Concerning Dissent and Civil Disobedience"]
	206	Journalism - Education 3418
	207	[Journalism Education]
	208	[Miscellaneous Articles on Journalism and Newspapers]
	209	[Journalism Classes - Graded Papers] [1]
	210	[Journalism Classes - Graded Papers] [2]
	211	[College and University Journalism Programs]
17	212	[Chiang Kai-Shek]
	213	Maury Kemp Letters
	214	Maury Kemp Memoirs
33	215	John F. Kennedy
	216	Kent State Massacre
	217	[Henry Kissinger]
	218	Korea
	219	Kraenzel
	220	Ku Klux Klan
	221	Labor
	222	Land in the U.S.
	223	Laos, Cambodia
	224	Latin America
	225	[Lawrence County News Sold," Lawrence County News, January
30, 1964]		
18	226	R.W. Lee of the Herald Post
	227	Art Leibson
	228	Letters to the Editor
	229	Sinclair Lewis
	230	[A.J. Liebling]
	231	Duplicates on Life and Literature of the Southwest
	232	London Times
	233	Ralph Lowenstein
	234	["Lungers' Plea for Recreation Gets Group Free Ride to E.P."]
	235	MacArthur
	236	Magoffin Family
33	237	[Man on the Moon]
	238	Manchester Book
	239	Maps
	240	Marijuana
	241	Marshall Plan
19	242	Joe McCarthy
	243	Plagiarism - McCrocklin
	244	McKinney's Book (Forgotten Flying Field)

245 H.L. Mencken
 246 Mexico, Near El Paso, History in El Paso Area
 247 Miller, Vernon L. (Editorials)
 248 [Jud Milton]
 249 Mission '73
 250 Mississippi (Oxford)
 251 Model for a Revolution [New York Times]
 252 Montezuma Weekly Times
 253 Monty Material (1)
 254 Monty Material (2)
 255 Monty II - Folder 1
 256 Monty II - Folder 2
 20 257 Muscat & Oman
 258 National Review
 259 Nature and Outdoors
 260 Near East
 261 Neill Historical Material
 o/s 262 [Nevada - Territorial Enterprise] "Mark Twain's Newspaper"
 October 6, 1961 & September 2, 1960 [Range S, Shelf 2]
 263 [New Mexico Gold, Silver Mines for Sale]
 264 [NMSU gets files of 10 Cruces Newspapers]
 265 S.H. Newman
 266 News in Review 1948, 1947, 1949
 267 Newspaper Circ. & Nos.
 268 [Blank newspaper layout/design form]
 269 Newspapering odds and ends
 270 Madame Nhu
 271 Nixon
 272 Nixon China Trip
 273 China Trip - Nixon
 21 274 Nova Utep Magazine
 275 "Numbers" Game
 o/s 276 [Ohio - Columbus Dispatch] "1871-1971 Centennial" [Range S, Shelf
 2]
 277 Start of "Old Homes" Series [El Paso]
 278 Old Pix
 33 279 [Lee Harvey Oswald]
 280 [Pentagon Papers and freedom of the press]
 281 [Pentagon - "The Selling of the Pentagon"] from subpoena to
 recommitment]
 282 [Pentagon - CBS statements in pertinent documents]
 283 [Pentagon - coverage and comment - April]
 284 [Pentagon - coverage and comment - May]
 285 [Pentagon - coverage and comment - June, July]
 286 [Pentagon - cartoons and index]
 22 287 Poker

	288	Politics and Pistols
	289	E.M. Pooley [El Paso Herald-Post editor]
	290	[The Popular Dry Goods Company]
	291	Peter Principal
	292	Presidents
	293	Presidents Concept of the Strong President
	294	Pueblo Affairs January 1969
	295	The Rails Arrive
	296	Realtors PR Talk October 6, 1971
23	297	Rebel Raider
	298	[R.B. Redic]
	299	Republican Party
	300	[Gary Leland Roberts]
	301	Dorrance D. Roderick
	302	F.D. Roosevelt
	303	F.D. Roosevelt
	304	[Robert Ruark]
	305	Russia
	306	San Francisco
	307	Salt War
	308	Saturday Evening Post
	309	Schlock Novel
	310	Segregation
	311	Selman, John
	312	The Sentinel
	313	Sex Education Campaign
	314	Shadle, Martha
	315	Simmons, Aikman, Marshall correspondence
	316	Since Yesterday
	317	Situation Ethics
	318	Slater, H D
	319	Slurvian
24	320	Dean Small
	321	Dean Ray Small
	322	Dr. Smiley (Material from Colorado Papers)
	323	James A. (Uncle Jimmy), Smith of the Herald
	324	C.L.S. Marshall
	325	Southwest Catholic Register
	326	Anglo-American S. West History
	327	S'west Hist. found
	328	Southwest Studies
	329	Southwestern Literature
	330	[Bibliography of southwestern books from C.L. Sonnichsen]
	331	Speeches
25	332	Stafford, Bart
	333	State National Copy

334 State Nat'l Series
 335 State Nat'l Series Pioneers
 336 Judge Pine - Steel Decision
 337 Steinbeck
 338 Jesse C. Stephens
 339 Adlai Stevenson
 340 Stoudenmire, Dallas
 341 Supreme Court
 33 342 [Tarahumara Indians of Mexico]
 343 Teacher Education Council
 344 Teaching Salaries Tact
 345 Texas Observer
 346 ["Photos show old days of Texas Rangers" - E.P. Herald Post -
 September 5, 1963]
 347 ["Texas Sketchbook"]
 348 TWC History
 349 Texas Western College conference notes
 26 350 Thesis material
 351 Judge Thomason
 352 ["Judge R.E. Thomason and the Jencks and Matison Communist
 Trials," "The Babb Case" A.W.P.]
 353 Times personnel Latham - Halloran
 354 Times statistics circulation, etc.
 355 Tombstone Epitaph
 356 T.R.B. - and New Republic
 357 ["Train riding is no fun anymore" - E.P. Times February 22, 1964]
 358 Train Robberies (1887) and George Harold
 359 Truman
 360 Tugwell Constitution
 361 Mark Twain's Farts
 362 [Boss Tweed]
 363 Ultra Right Hate Literature
 364 US Armed Services
 365 [UTEP search for pres.]
 366 Utah Street #1
 367 Utah Street-with photographs
 27 368 Vandiver, Sam
 369 Vietnam War
 370 Dale Walker Material
 371 Walker Case
 372 War - Anecdotes, story ideas
 373 War and GI morale
 374 War with Russia
 375 [Welfare]
 376 West
 377 Harry Dexter White Case

- 378 White Oaks R.R. 1885
- 379 Bryan Woolley
- 380 Words [1]
- 381 Words [2]
- 28 382 Journalistic History of World War II
- 383 [WWII news clippings]
- 384 ["Writing Case History, #5 and #8"]
- 385 Karl Wyler
- 386 Yalta Papers
- 387 Yemen
- 388 [YMCA]
- 389 Younger Generation (foreign)
- 390 Younger Generation
- 391 Younger Generation (recent university demonstrations)
- 392 Youth Groups
- 393 [The Youth's Companion] December 21, 1893
- 33 425 [Chamizal - with photographs]
- 426 John F. Kennedy
- 427 [Lee Harvey Oswald]
- 428 Man on the Moon, 1969
- 429 [Tarahumara Indians of Mexico]

PHOTOGRAPHS

- 29 394 [Report on "Medical Photography" by Barbara Lubecki]
- 395 ["Band of El Paso Boys"]
- 396 [Cigar Store on San Antonio St.] (owned by Geo. Ogden and H.B. Chaman)
- 397 [Miss Etta Clark's residence 401 South Utah Street]
- 398 [Ms. Tilly Howard's "House of Ill Repute", home and stable]
- 399 [Pomeroy's El Paso Transfer Company]
- 400 [Saloons, El Paso]
- 401 [Dr. Thatcher's office]
- 402 [US Mail Stagecoach], (Geo. Ogden driving)
- 33 403 [Oversized Photographs - Unidentified Historical - With a Western Theme, Document Removed Form]
- 33 430 [Oversized Photographs - Unidentified Historical - With a Western Theme]

PERIODICALS

- 30 404 [The Ass, Texas Western College, n.d.]
- 405 [El Burro, October 1955 - November 1969]
- 406 [Columbia Journalism Cumulative Index - Fall 1961 - Winter 1970 - 1971, Issues: Spring 1965, September/October 1971, November/December 1971]
- 407 [Famous Writers Magazine, 1967]
- 408 [Harper's Magazine, October 1950]
- 409 [National Review, September 15, 1972]
- 410 [Newsweek, June 28 - July 12, 1971]

- 411 [Physical Culture 1918, 1922]
- 412 [The Quill, August 1971 - September 1972]
- 31 413 [The Seminar, September 1971]
- 414 [Sports Illustrated, August 16, 1954 & March 28, 1966]
- 415 [The Silver City Enterprise, June 25, 1970]
- 416 [Time, June 28, 1971 - July 12, 1971]
- 32 417 [America's Front Page News 1690-1970]
- 418 [Harper's Weekly, January 6, 1906]
- 419 [Life, January 2, 1950-bound issue, July 5, 1968, December 26, 1969]
- 420 [Look - January 12, 1965, "Inside the Twentieth Century]
- 421 [Philadelphia Inquirer, September 15, 1962]
- 422 Dorrance D. Roderick [Article in Publication-"Editor and
Publisher, the Fourth Estate," January 3, 1931, signed by Roderick]
- 423 [Vanity Fair, January 1916, "Winston Churchill"]
- 424 [Washington Post - Reprint of Article, June 13-22, 1969 "Russia
Turns Back the Clock"]