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**Select List
of Photographs of
Harry S. Truman
1885-1953**



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE
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SELECT LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF
HARRY S. TRUMAN
1885-1953

Reproduced on the 2 rolls of this microfilm publication is a select list of about 1,000 photographs of Harry S. Truman, 33d President of the United States. The records, dated between 1885 and 1953, with one photograph dated 1958, are on deposit in the Audiovisual Branch of the National Archives. Most of the photographs were taken during the years of Truman's Presidency.

Born in Lamar, Mo., on May 8, 1884, President Truman spent his early years on his father's farm. He served in the U.S. Army during World War I and saw combat in France. Upon his return to civilian life in 1919, Truman became a partner in a haberdashery business in Kansas City but the store failed in the depression years of 1921-22. Truman then entered politics and was elected to the position of county court judge, an administrative post, in Jackson County, Mo. He served as judge from 1922 to 1924 and as presiding judge from 1926 to 1934. In 1934 he was elected to the United States Senate and was reelected in 1940.

The huge increase in Government operations and expenditures engendered by the entry of the United States into World War II caused Senator Truman to advocate the establishment of the Special Senate Committee to Investigate the National Defense Program (popularly called the "Truman Committee"). Truman became chairman of the committee and served from 1941 to 1944. The committee's task was to eliminate wasteful Government spending and to promote efficiency in the war effort.

In 1944 President Roosevelt chose Truman as his running mate to replace Henry Wallace. The Roosevelt-Truman ticket was victorious and on January 20, 1945, Truman was inaugurated as Vice President. Truman succeeded to the Presidency in less than 3 months when Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945. Truman was elected President in his own right in 1948. He refused to run again in 1952 and retired to his home in Independence, Mo.

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication consist of photographs taken of Truman from his childhood to his retirement. The photographs are of Government origin or were purchased outright by Government agencies from private sources. The records have been arranged by subject headings and thereunder in rough chronological order. The captions accompanying the photographs were assigned before the records were transferred to the National Archives where some of the original captions were typed or retyped for legibility. The record group number and the audiovisual file number have been added to each caption for assistance in ordering copies. All other explanatory marks, corrections, or additions made by the staff of the National Archives and Records Service have been enclosed in brackets.

All the photographs have been selected from record groups in the Audiovisual Branch of the National Archives as follows: Record Group 16, Records of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture; Record Group 19, Records of the Bureau of Ships; Record Group 38, Records of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; Record Group 48, Records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior; Record Group 64, Records of the National Archives and Records Service; Record Group 66, Records of the Commission of Fine Arts; Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service; Record Group 80, General Records of the Department of the Navy; Record Group 86, Records of the Women's Bureau; Record Group 111, Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer; Record Group 208, Records of the Office of War Information; and Record Group 306, Records of the United States Information Agency, particularly the series of photographic files from the New York Times Paris Office. The series was purchased by the U.S. Government in 1950. Most of the photographs are from Record Groups 80, 208, and 306.

Related photographs that were not microfilmed because of copyright restrictions may be viewed upon request in the Audiovisual Branch in the National Archives. Other related photographs are in the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, Independence, Mo., and in the Army Photographic Center and the National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication were prepared for filming by Allan Goodrich under the supervision of Josephine Cobb. Allan Goodrich also wrote these introductory remarks and provided the other editorial material.

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HARRY S. TRUMAN
1885-1953

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