

MYRON B. KUROPAS PAPERS, (1963) 1975-77

Collection Type

Federal Records

Extent

9.8 linear feet (ca. 19,000 pages)

Record Type

Textual

Access

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Processed by

Elizabeth Druga, June 2012

Biography

Myron B. Kuropas

Nov. 15, 1932 - Born in Chicago, IL

1949-53 - B.S., Loyola University, Chicago, IL

1953-55 - M.A., Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL

1956-71 - Teacher, principal, Chicago Board of Education, Chicago, IL

1973-74 - Ph.D. in education, University of Chicago

1971-75 - Deputy Director, Regional Director, ACTION, Chicago, IL

1976 - Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs, White House Office of Public Liaison

1977 - Legislative Assistant to Senator Robert Dole, Washington, DC

1991 - Author, The Ukrainian Americans

1991-2008(?) - Adjunct professor, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

2000 - School principal, DeKalb, IL, retired

Scope and Content Note

Myron B. Kuropas joined the White House staff in January 1976 as Special Assistant for Ethnic Affairs. The purpose of this newly created position was to maximize communication between government officials and ethnic communities, a key demographic group for the upcoming election. As part of the Office of Public Liaison (OPL) this position reported directly to William J. Baroody, Jr. Kuropas had previously served as the regional director of ACTION, a federal umbrella agency that combined several volunteer agencies including the Peace Corps and VISTA, in Chicago, developing programs such as Project Senior Ethnic Find, and also was active in various Ukrainian community groups. Prior to his appointment, the work of

ethnic liaison was handled in OPL by Theodore Marrs.

Kuropas acted as White House liaison with leaders of major ethnic organizations, including fraternal, civic, religious and academic associations. He met with representatives of ethnic groups, represented the White House at ethnic functions, advised the President on ethnic concerns and worked with federal agencies on programs regarding ethnic affairs. A "Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs Activities Report" that Kuropas submitted to Baroody, located in box 18, provides an overview of his tenure in this position.

Kuropas used OPL's Tuesday and Wednesday Meetings to help accomplish his liaison goals. He organized several regarding ethnicity and other topics, including neighborhood revitalization (May 5, 1976), education (May 18, 1976), and the 1980 census (June 1, 1976). Other meetings were arranged for the heads of ethnic organizations such as American Ethnic Leaders and Newspaper Editors (March 9, 1976) and Eastern European Ethnic Leaders (October 12, 1976). Kuropas also assisted with meetings not focused on ethnic issues, for instance the White House Conference on Historic Preservation (September 28, 1976).

Materials pertaining to these and other White House meetings can be found in the Subject File series. These folders usually include lists of invitees, agendas, handouts, memos, and White House paperwork for organizing such events. The bulk of the subject file consists primarily of routine background material on ethnic perspectives and election issues, including reports, articles, contact lists, correspondence, publications, and event programs. Exceptions are the files on the President's Committee on Urban Development and Neighborhood Revitalization, Ethnic Campaign 1976, the National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council, and the Presidential debate "Eastern Europe Gaffe." These folders contain non-routine materials such as memos, agendas, and drafts of remarks. A few folders scattered throughout the subject file contain materials relating to Kuropas's previous work at ACTION and his later position in Senator Dole's office.

While some letters can be found in the Subject File, the bulk of Kuropas's correspondence is located in the chronological file. Correspondence and memoranda exchanged between Kuropas and representatives of ethnic groups, the media, and other White House staff members concern participation in ethnic

events, requests for statements, and some routine administrative matters such as requests for travel or information from other White House offices.

Additional routine background materials can be found in the newspaper file. It contains a mixture of both full editions and clippings, mostly from ethnic newspapers but with a small portion of material from mainstream publications such as the New York Times. The majority feature stories about White House meetings with ethnic groups and ethnic concerns relating to the 1976 election.

Related Materials (June 2012)

The closely-related Kuropas Files, received in 1977 as part of President Ford's papers, contain materials documenting Kuropas's relationship with specific ethnic groups and the wide variety of events he attended as Special Assistant for Ethnic Affairs. They also contain more materials relating to his work as regional director of ACTION. Theodore Marrs, Special Assistant for Human Resources in the Office of Public Liaison, handled ethnic affairs prior to the creation of Kuropas's position and related materials can be found in his files. The President Ford Committee Records contain materials relating to ethnic groups and the 1976 election, particularly in the Thomas Ruffin Files and Ethnic Desk Files from the People for Ford Office.

Last Modified Date

2024-04-15

Chronological File, 1975-77.

(Boxes 1-2, 0.8 linear feet)

Correspondence between Kuropas and representatives of ethnic groups and media, as well as memoranda to and from other White House staff members. Topics include possible government employment for ethnics, invitations to White House meetings, requests for appearances by Kuropas or President Ford, and other ethnic concerns. Letters are sorted as incoming and outgoing by month, although no incoming correspondence is filed for over half of the months.

Arranged chronologically.

Box 1 - Chronological File

Status	Title
OPEN	December 1975, Incoming

Status	Title
OPEN	December 1975, Outgoing
OPEN	January 1976, Incoming
OPEN	January 1976, Outgoing
OPEN	February 1976, Incoming
OPEN	February 1976, Outgoing (1)-(2)
OPEN	March 1976, Incoming
OPEN	March 1976, Outgoing (1)-(2)
OPEN	April 1976, Incoming
OPEN	April 1976, Outgoing (1)-(3)
OPEN	May 1976, Incoming
OPEN	May 1976, Outgoing (1)-(2)
OPEN	June 1976, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	June 1976, Outgoing (1)

Box 2 - Chronological File

Status	Title
OPEN	June 1976, Outgoing (2)-(3)
OPEN	July 1976, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	July 1976, Outgoing (1)-(2)
OPEN	August 1976, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	August 1976, Outgoing (1)-(2)
OPEN	September 1976, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	September 1976, Outgoing (1)-(2)
OPEN	October 1976, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	October 1976, Outgoing (1)-(2)
OPEN	November 1976, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	November 1976, Outgoing
OPEN	December 1976, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	December 1976, Outgoing
OPEN	January 1977, Incoming [empty]
OPEN	January 1977, Outgoing

Subject File, (1963-74) 1975-77.

(Boxes 3-20, 7.5 linear feet)

Correspondence, memoranda, clippings, newsletters, printed materials, and press releases. Subjects include background materials for White House meetings addressing ethnic concerns, the administration's position on captive nations in Eastern Europe and the Sonnenfeldt Doctrine, ethnic groups and the 1976 election, and ethnic Bicentennial celebrations. Several folders relate to his work in Senator Dole's office. Some of the materials date back to the 1960s and may have been collected while Kuropas was working for ACTION.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 3 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	ACTION Ethnic Projects
OPEN	ACTION - Region V - Depolarization Projects
OPEN	Addressing the Needs of Ethnic America: A Proposal
OPEN	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
OPEN	Affirmative Action
OPEN	Alliance to Save Energy
OPEN	Alliance to Save Energy Organizational Handbook (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ambassadorial Appointments for Ethnic
OPEN	American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies Convention
OPEN	American Ethnic Leaders and Newspaper Editors Meeting, March 9, 1976
OPEN	American Ethnic Leaders and Newspaper Editors Meeting, March 9, 1976 - State Department Briefing Materials
OPEN	American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA)
OPEN	American Jewish Committee Seventieth Anniversary Dinner Program
OPEN	American Revolution Bicentennial Administration - Ethnic and Minority Conference (1)

Box 4 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	American Revolution Bicentennial Administration - Ethnic and Minority Conference (2)-(3)
OPEN	Asia Foundation (1)-(2)
OPEN	Balch Institute
OPEN	Baroni, Geno C. - Testimony for Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development
OPEN	Baroody, William
OPEN	Baroody Press Release on Kuropas Appointment
OPEN	Bicentennial Messages of President Ford
OPEN	Black Power
OPEN	Black/White Ethnic Relations
OPEN	Blue Collar Workers (1)-(2)
OPEN	Busing
OPEN	Captive Nations Week Proclamation, 1976
OPEN	Carter and the Ethnic

Box 5 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Carter Articles
OPEN	Carter Ethnic Pieces
OPEN	Catholic Conference on Ethnic Parishes (1)-(2)
OPEN	Catholic Vote (1)-(2)
OPEN	Cedar Rapids Community Schools Ethnic Workshop, August 1970
OPEN	Census Data
OPEN	Columbus Day Proclamation, 9/7/76
OPEN	Contact Information for Leaders of Ethnic Organizations
OPEN	Correspondence, Incoming (1)-(2)
OPEN	Correspondence, Outgoing
OPEN	Czechoslovak National Council of America - Documentation on Violations of the Helsinki Accords

Status	Title
OPEN	Democratic Platform Committee - 10 Points Submitted by Latvian Association
OPEN	Derwinski/Annunzio Press Release on Kuropas Appointment
OPEN	Détente (1)-(3)
OPEN	Détente - Helsinki - Sonnenfeldt

Box 6 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Dole, Bob - Speeches
OPEN	Dole Ethnic Press Clippings
OPEN	Eastern Europe Gaffe
OPEN	Ethni-City: A Guide to Ethnic Detroit, Vol. 2
OPEN	Ethnic Affairs Post-Carter Win
OPEN	Ethnic American Presses
OPEN	Ethnic Americans Questions to President Ford
OPEN	Ethnic Bicentennial Celebrations (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnic Brochure
OPEN	Ethnic Campaign, 1976 (1)-(3)
OPEN	Ethnic Clergy
OPEN	Ethnic Conferences
OPEN	Ethnic Issue Responses

Box 7 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnic Mailing Lists (1)-(3)
OPEN	Ethnic Media
OPEN	Ethnic Millions Political Action Committee (EMPAC)
OPEN	Ethnic Politics (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnic Position Papers (1)-(4)

Box 8 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnic Position Papers (5)-(8)

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnic Programs in National Endowment for the Humanities
OPEN	Ethnic Publications (1)-(6)
OPEN	Ethnic Research Center - City University of New York

Box 9 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnic Studies - General (1)-(4)
OPEN	Ethnic Studies Heritage Bill (1)-(3)
OPEN	Ethnic Women
OPEN	Ethnic Youth
OPEN	Ethnicity and Affirmative Action
OPEN	Ethnicity and the 1980 Census Meeting, June 1, 1976 (1)-(3)

Box 10 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnicity and Education Meeting, May 18, 1976 (1)-(4)
OPEN	Ethnicity and Mental Health Meeting, June 14, 1976 (1)-(4)
OPEN	Ethnicity and Neighborhood Revitalization (1)-(2)

Box 11 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnicity and Neighborhood Revitalization (3)
OPEN	Ethnicity and Neighborhood Revitalization Meeting, May 5, 1976 (1)-(3)
OPEN	Ethnicity, Denomination, and Inequality by Andrew Greeley (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnics in Baltimore
OPEN	Ethnics in Chicago (1)-(4)
OPEN	Ethnics in Detroit
OPEN	Ethnics in Indiana
OPEN	Ethnics in Minnesota

Box 12 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnics in New Jersey
OPEN	Ethnics in New York
OPEN	Ethnics in Philadelphia
OPEN	Ethnics in Pittsburgh (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnics in Wisconsin
OPEN	"Factors Influencing a Child's Ability to Learn"
OPEN	Family and American Pluralism
OPEN	Ford Campaign List of Ethnic Leaders
OPEN	General Publications
OPEN	General Pulaski's Memorial Day Proclamation, September 8, 1976
OPEN	Gift Parcels to Soviet Union
OPEN	Guidelines for Proposal Writers (Title III), Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction of Illinois, 1970-71
OPEN	H.R. 71 Signing Ceremony and Ethnic Editors Meeting, October 14, 1976
OPEN	Helsinki Accords - Monitoring
OPEN	Helsinki Statements
OPEN	Hispanic American Leaders
OPEN	Hungarian Freedom Fighters Meeting, October 21, 1976
OPEN	Illinois Ethnic Campaign
OPEN	Immigration Museum

Box 13 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Institute on Pluralism and Group Identity (1)-(2)
OPEN	Italian Vote
OPEN	Italian American Leaders Meeting, August 14, 1976
OPEN	Jewish Ethnicity Publications
OPEN	Kissinger and Ethnic Americans
OPEN	Kobelinski, Mitchell - Swearing-in Ceremony
OPEN	Kochman, Thomas - Papers (1)-(2)

Status	Title
OPEN	Kuropas Appointment Announcements - Ethnic Newspapers
OPEN	Kuropas Memos - Dole Office (1)-(2)
OPEN	Kuropas, Myron - Biographical Data
OPEN	Kuropas, Myron - Personal
OPEN	Latvians for President Ford
OPEN	Lerner Publications
OPEN	Letter to Editor, July 2, 1976

Box 14 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Letters Received - Dole Office
OPEN	Lincoln Day Dinner, 1976
OPEN	Medal of Freedom - Arthur Rubinstein
OPEN	Minnesota Immigration Archives
OPEN	Miscellaneous
OPEN	National Advisory Council on Ethnic Heritage Studies, March 16, 1976
OPEN	National Association of Arab Americans
OPEN	National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs (1)-(2)
OPEN	National Confederation of American Ethnic Groups
OPEN	National Endowment for the Arts - Guide to Programs
OPEN	National Ethnic Studies Assembly
OPEN	National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council
OPEN	National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council - Campaign Plan
OPEN	National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council - Ethnic Lists
OPEN	National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council Meeting, May 11, 1976

Box 15 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council Meeting, May 22, 1976
OPEN	National Trust for Historic Preservation - Swiss Avenue, Dallas, TX
OPEN	Neighborhood Redlining
OPEN	Neighborhood Revitalization - Community Development
OPEN	"Neighborhood Revitalization and Urban Public Policy" by Richard and Mary Ann Krickus (1)-(2)
OPEN	Neighborhood Shock: Case Study of Pittsburgh's East Street Expressway and Citizen Participation
OPEN	Office of the Public Liaison Annual Report
OPEN	Photograph of Polish Americans in the Ford Administration
OPEN	Photographs
OPEN	Polish American Leadership Meeting, September 2, 1976
OPEN	Polish Community Center of Buffalo, Inc., August 2, 1976
OPEN	Polish - Lithuanian - Estonian - Ukrainian Messages
OPEN	Polish Vote
OPEN	Political Prisoners (1)

Box 16 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Political Prisoners (2)-(3)
OPEN	Political Publications (1)-(4)
OPEN	President Ford Committee
OPEN	President Ford Committee - Campaign Committee on Ethnic Affairs (1)-(2)
OPEN	President Ford Meeting with Eastern European Ethnic Leaders, October 12, 1976 (1)-(2)
OPEN	President Ford Press Conference with Ethnic Editors, October 14, 1976

Box 17 - Subject File

Status	Title
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OPEN	President Ford's Remarks at Naturalization Ceremony at Monticello, July 5, 1976
OPEN	President Ford's Remarks in Milwaukee, WI, April 2, 1976
OPEN	President Ford's Remarks to Ethnic Leaders, May 5, 1976
OPEN	President Ford's Remarks to Polish American Congress, September 24, 1976
OPEN	President's Committee on Urban Development and Neighborhood Revitalization (1)-(4)
OPEN	President's Committee on Urban Development and Neighborhood Revitalization Interim Report
OPEN	President's Committee on Urban Development and Neighborhood Revitalization - Neighborhood Liaison Committee (1)-(2)
OPEN	Presidential Japanese American Proclamation, February 19, 1976
OPEN	Presidential Messages - Copies
OPEN	Press Releases
OPEN	Proposal for a Study of the Relationship Between Family and Achievement by Greeley and McCready
OPEN	Questionnaires
OPEN	Reagan Speech, July 6, 1976
OPEN	Republican Ethnic Youth
OPEN	Republican Platform, 1976
OPEN	Research Publications and Reports (1)

Box 18 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Research Publications and Reports (2)-(3)
OPEN	Response Magazine
OPEN	School Desegregation
OPEN	Slavic Materials
OPEN	Sonnenfeldt Affair (1)-(3)
OPEN	Sonnenfeldt Doctrine Letters
OPEN	Soviet Dissidents - Human Rights

Status	Title
OPEN	Spanish Speaking
OPEN	Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs- Activities Report (1)-(2)

Box 19 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs-Mission Statement
OPEN	Speech Material
OPEN	Speeches - Kuropas (1)-(3)
OPEN	Tesla Memorial [empty]
OPEN	"The Teacher" by Peter S. Mousolite
OPEN	Tolstoy Foundation
OPEN	Travel Vouchers - Outstanding
OPEN	Tuesday at the White House - Checklist of Procedures
OPEN	U.S. Press on Ethnic Vote
OPEN	Ukrainian Reception - Dole Office, May 18, 1977
OPEN	Ukrainian Americans for Nixon - Agnew
OPEN	Ukrainian Americans White House Meeting, June 24, 1976
OPEN	Ukrainian Week
OPEN	United States Government Manual, 1975-76

Box 20 - Subject File

Status	Title
OPEN	Urban Corps
OPEN	Valentyn Moroz Resolution
OPEN	Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents, April- October 1976 (Incomplete) (1)-(2)
OPEN	White House Conference on Historic Preservation, September 28, 1976 (1)-(2)
OPEN	White House Memos, January-March 1976
OPEN	White House Press Release on Kuropas Appointment

Status	Title
OPEN	Who's Left in the Neighborhood: A Report by the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs
OPEN	Youth Round Table (1)-(2)

Newspaper File, 1975-77.

(Boxes 21-23, 1.2 linear feet)

A mixture of full editions and clippings, predominantly from various ethnic newspapers written in English and foreign languages, featuring stories about Dr. Kuropas, White House meetings with ethnic groups, and ethnic concerns and endorsements relating to the 1976 election. Clippings from mainstream newspapers such as the New York Times and the Washington Post that pertain to ethnic affairs, particularly in relation to the election, are also included.

Arranged alphabetically by ethnic group.

Box 21 - Newspaper File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Arab
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Armenian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Bulgarian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Byelorussian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Chinese
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Croatian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Czechoslovakian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Estonian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Filipino
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Finnish
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - General (nationality non-specific)
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - German (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Greek
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Hungarian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Italian (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Japanese

Box 22 - Newspaper File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Jewish
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Latvian (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Lithuanian (1)-(2)
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Polish (1)-(3)
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Russian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Slovak (1)-(2)

Box 23 - Newspaper File

Status	Title
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Transylvanian
OPEN	Ethnic Newspapers - Ukrainian (1)-(3)
OPEN	Non-ethnic Newspapers (1)-(4)