

Haverford College Library  
Special Collections

Finding Aid for the DOUGLAS BORGSTEDT CARTOONS  
1965-1982

Collection No. 836  
Accession #5278  
Six document boxes (3 linear ft.)  
© November 2006

**RESTRICTIONS**

No restrictions.

**RELATED MATERIALS**

Other Borgstedt cartoons are collected at Syracuse University, and at Wichita State University.

**ABSTRACT**

Political cartoons by Douglas Borgstedt, 1965-1982, concerning United States and world politics of the late 1960s and 1970s. Major themes include communism, diplomacy, war, and government corruption or ineptitude. Jimmy Carter, Richard Nixon, and Henry Kissinger are frequently featured.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Douglas Borgstedt (1911-2001) attended Haverford College from 1929-1931. He was cartoon editor (1940-42) for the *Saturday Evening Post* before serving in the United States Army (1943-45) where he was the first feature editor of *Yank* magazine, and was also decorated with the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit. Borgstedt later returned to the *Saturday Evening Post* as photography editor (1945-1963), before working as an editorial cartoonist for King Features Syndicate, the Copley News Service, and the *Philadelphia Evening and Sunday Bulletin*. His cartoons appeared in more than 90 newspapers as well as *New Yorker*, *Esquire*, *Colliers* and *Look* magazines, and have been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art and at the Metropolitan Museum.

(Information from *Who's Who in America, 1980-1981* and obituary in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Feb. 9, 2001.)

**SUBJECT HEADINGS**

Carter, Jimmy, 1924 -  
Communism and art  
Kissinger, Henry, 1923 -  
Middle East - politics and government  
Nixon, Richard M.

Politics in art  
United States - politics and government  
War – 20<sup>th</sup> century

## **SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION**

There are approximately 280 cartoons in this collection, dated between 1965 and 1982. The drawings are in ink, perhaps some pencil?, on cardstock, with some collage techniques used, when patterned material has been layered over the drawing. Many cartoons have been mounted onto red cardboard; in a few cases the original cardboard has been trimmed to fit into manuscript boxes. Many have dates on the reverse, but most are only month/day. Captions are constructed from printed letters that have been individually cut and pasted together to form words. Some cartoons are also marked with an indication of where they were published or distributed: the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, King Features Syndicate, Inc., or Copley News Service.

Common themes throughout the collection include world and U.S. politics, world leaders, communism, war, diplomacy, democracy, dictatorship, government corruption, and terrorism. There are particularly large collections featuring Jimmy Carter, Henry Kissinger, and Richard Nixon.

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION**

### **Box 1, subjects A-D**

#### Africa, one folder (12 items)

Themes include apartheid, racism, Ian Smith, B.J. Vorster, Rhodesia, Idi Amin.

#### Birth control and abortion, one folder (4 items)

Themes include birth control, overpopulation, and abortion.

#### Carter, James Earl, two folders (ca. 35 items)

Themes include Carter's personality and background, as well as his foreign policy, environmental and economic policies, the abortion issue, party politics, and campaign rhetoric.

#### China, one folder (2 items)

Themes include China's large population, and its relation to Taiwan.

#### Communism, one folder (3 items)

Themes include Chile's rejection of communism, the Warsaw Pact, Fidel Castro, Sukarno, and Kwame Nkrumah.

### **Box 2, subjects E-J**

#### Europe, one folder (11 items)

Themes include Francisco Franco, Charles de Gaulle, anticommunism, the Berlin Wall, terrorism in Italy, and neo-nazism.

Ford, Gerald, one folder (2 items)

Themes include inflation and price controls.

India, one folder (3 items)

Themes include Indira Ghandi, democracy, and dictatorship.

Iran, one folder (6 items)

Themes include Ayatollah Khomeini, short-sighted policies, violence, despotism, and student power.

Ireland, Northern, one folder (5 items)

Themes include bombings, violence, and failed attempts at cease fire.

Johnson, Lyndon, one folder (5 items)

Themes include the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, and the H bomb.

**Box 3, subjects K-M**

Kissinger, Henry, two folders (ca. 35 items)

Themes include Palestine, Israel, détente, Brezhnev, public opinion, peace, shuttle diplomacy, Egypt, Anwar Al Sadat, Elliot Richardson, Gerald Ford, China, Taiwan, neglecting domestic problems in favor of foreign policy, Latin America, the European economy, Kissinger's constant travel, and his success at negotiating.

Middle East, one folder (ca. 25 items)

Themes include Israel, Palestine, the endless cycle of war and negotiations, failed peace plans, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Menachem Begin, Anwar Al Sadat, Egypt, Libya, Iraq, and Middle Eastern investors in the U.S.

**Box 4, subject Nixon**

Nixon, Richard, three folders (ca. 40 items)

Themes include Vietnam, peace, foreign policy, anti-war demonstrations, Henry Kissinger, communism, Supreme Court nominations, the Republican Party, privacy, Spiro Agnew, public opinion, the economy, and Nixon's resignation, with many cartoons specifically concerning Watergate.

**Box 5, subjects Nuclear – U.S. Health**

Nuclear weapons, one folder (5 items)

Themes include nuclear proliferation, and the SALT talks.

Petroleum, one folder (9 items)

Themes include U.S. dependence on Arab oil, the danger of oil spills, and the U.S. trade deficit.

Reagan, Ronald, one folder (3 items)

Themes include Reagan's relationship to the Republican Party.

Terrorism, one folder (2 items)

Themes include the Olympics, terrorism, and power.

United Nations, one folder (3 items)

Themes include communism, the Third World, anti-Semitism, terrorism, and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

U.S. - Congress, one folder (6 items)

Themes include inefficiency, favoritism, bureaucracy, politics, tradition, and resistance to reform.

U.S. - Economy, one folder (8 items)

Themes include high cost of living, government responsibility, inflation, coal strike, government spending, recession, and poverty.

U.S. - Education, one folder (3 items)

Themes include a teachers' strike in Philadelphia and desegregation.

U.S. - Environment, one folder (4 items)

Themes include oil drilling in Alaska, wasted resources, pollution, and future generations.

U.S. - Foreign relations, one folder (4 items)

Themes include Korea, Mideast policy, trade imbalance with Japan, and U.S. aid to the Congo.

U.S. - Health care, one folder (4 items)

Themes include high cost of health care, doctors' resistance to a national health care plan, and exploitative nursing homes.

**Box 6, subjects U.S. Judicial - Z**

U.S. - Judicial leniency, one folder (4 items)

Themes include soft judges and capital punishment.

U.S. - Pensions, one folder (2 items)

Themes include unfairness, corruption, and reform.

U.S. - Politics, one folder (5 items)

Themes include dignity, priorities, elections, Wilbur Mills, and the Kennedys.

U.S. - Racism, one folder (3 items)

Themes include the Olympics and race relations generally.

U.S. – Space program, one folder (3 items)

Themes include Viking, Apollo 11, and the balance between success in the space program and handling problems back on earth.

U.S. – Miscellaneous subjects, one folder (16 items)

Various U.S. themes including the Census, drug abuse, illegal aliens, the Robert F. Kennedy shooting, railroads, Harry Truman, Pentagon leaks, demonstrations, flag-burning, and government corruption. There are also several cartoons with multiple targets.

U.S.S.R, one folder (3 items)

Themes include justice, prison, Jews, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Poland, and Afganistan.

Vietnam, one folder (7 items)

Themes include prisoners of war, draft dodgers, Gerald Ford, refugees, communism, peace, the U.S.S.R., and China.

**MATERIALS REMOVED**

None.

**PROCESSING INFORMATION**

Processed by J'aime Wells, 2006.