

**University of Oklahoma Libraries
Western History Collections**

Col. John M. Virden Collection

Virden, John M. (1908–1968). Papers, 1951–1968. 4 feet.

U.S. Air Force officer. Correspondence (1953–1968) regarding Virden's writings and other subjects; newspaper and magazine articles (1951–1968) by and about Virden; and one book-length manuscript (ca. 1965) entitled "Andrew J. Byrne," written by U.S. ambassador to France, James M. Gavin, with Virden's assistance. Principal correspondents in this collection include James M. Gavin, Carl Albert, Neill Bohlinger, Walker D. Grisso, and Arthur McAnally.

Box 1 Correspondence-W.D. Grisso-1958-1965; Arthur McAnally-1959-1966; Neill Bohlinger-1953, 1956-1968.

Folder:

1. Incoming correspondence-W.D. Grisso, 1958-1961, 10 letters.
2. Incoming correspondence-W.D. Grisso, 1962, 12 letters.
3. Incoming correspondence-W.D. Grisso, 1963, 9 letters.
4. Incoming correspondence-W.D. Grisso, 1964, 11 letters.
5. Incoming correspondence-W.D. Grisso, 1965, 8 letters.
6. Incoming correspondence-Arthur McAnally, 1959-1966, 23 letters.
7. Incoming correspondence-Neill Bohlinger, 1953, 1956-1961, 10 letters.
8. Incoming correspondence-Neill Bohlinger, 1962 12 letters.
9. Incoming correspondence-Neill Bohlinger, 1963-1964, 23 letters.
10. Incoming correspondence-Neill Bohlinger, 1965, 17 letters.
11. Incoming correspondence-Neill Bohlinger, 1966-1968, 9 letters.

Box 2 Correspondence-Carl Albert-1956-1967; Ralph McGill-1958-1968; Harold Martin-1957-1958, 1962-1968; Burke Davis-1958-1966; others

Folder:

1. Incoming correspondence-Carl Albert, 1956-1967, 22 letters.
2. Incoming correspondence-Charles Ward and Rex Chaney, Carl Albert's administrative

assistants, 4 letters.

3. Incoming correspondence regarding "Little Giant from Bug Tussle" article for *Post*. Correspondents: Carl Albert, W.D. Grisso, Harold Martin, Martin Sommers, Carl White, and others, 28 letters.
4. Incoming correspondence-Ralph McGill, 1958-1968, 13 letters.
5. Incoming correspondence-Harold Martin, 1957-1958, 1962-1968, 16 letters.
6. Incoming correspondence-Celestin Sibley, Dec. 27, 1958, 1 letter.
7. Incoming correspondence-Martin Sommers, 1956-1958, 13 letters.
8. Incoming correspondence-Martin Sommers, 1959-1963, 21 letters.
9. Incoming correspondence-*Saturday Evening Post*, 6/5/58 and 1962. Frederic Nelson and Clay Blair, Jr., 3 letters.
10. Incoming correspondence-Burke Davis, 1958-1963, 30 letters.
11. Incoming correspondence-Burke Davis, 1964, 32 letters.
12. Incoming correspondence-Burke Davis, 1965-1966, 14 letters.

Box 3 James M. Gavin Correspondence and Manuscripts for Publication. Correspondence from General Gavin contains much regarding Gavin's Ambassadorship to France, in particular his dealings with General de Gaulle. Also discussed is the developing situation in Vietnam.

Folder:

1. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1956, 5 letters.
2. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1957, 11 letters.
3. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1958, 5 letters.
4. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1959-1960, 10 letters.
5. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1961, 19 letters.
6. Incoming correspondence-Mrs. J.M. Gavin, 1961, 3 letters.
7. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1962-1963, 7 letters.
8. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1964, 15 letters.

9. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, Jan. 1965-May 1965, 16 letters.
10. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, June 1965-Dec. 1965, 15 letters.
11. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1966, 10 letters.
12. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1967, 19 letters.
13. Incoming correspondence-James M. Gavin, 1968, 9 letters.
14. "On Dealing With De Gaulle" letter, Gavin to Virden-5/12/65 and author's proof of the article, 2 pieces.
15. Correspondence-Linzee Prescott and James M. Gavin, 5 letters.
16. "The Mare's Nest" review by James M. Gavin, 1 piece.
17. Incoming and outgoing correspondence. "The War that Changed Wars" by Gavin, 1960. Precis included. 17 letters.
18. James M. Gavin, "The War That Changed Wars" 1960. Drafts and correspondence. 4 pieces.
19. James M. Gavin, "The War That Changed Wars" drafts. 5 drafts.
20. James M. Gavin, "The War That Changed Wars" final draft.
21. James M. Gavin, Correspondence and Research Material, "The War That Changed Wars". 5 pieces.
22. James M. Gavin, Correspondence and Research information for "The War That Changed Wars." 8 letters.

Box 4 James M. Gavin Correspondence regarding "Prince de Joinville" 1961-1965.
"Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript. (by Gavin)

Folder:

1. Incoming Correspondence (to Virden) "Prince de Joinville" April 1961-April 1962. Correspondents: Gavin, Burke Davis, Martin Sommers, James I. Robertson, Lib. of Congress. 21 letters.
2. James. M. Gavin, "Prince de Joinville" correspondence. Correspondents: Gavin, Carl Albert, Maurice Dumoncel, Lucille Haseman (Lib. of Cong.), Cass Canfield, Constance Clifford, includes manuscript "France and the Civil War in America" by Gavin. 1962, 23 letters.

3. James M. Gavin, "Prince de Joinville" correspondence. 1/63-1/65 Correspondents: Gavin, Maurice Dumoncel, Simon M. Bessie. 31 letters.
4. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript by Gavin, Chapters 1 and 2
5. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript, Chapters 2 (cont'd) and 3
6. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript, Chapter 4 and 5, parts I-IV of Chapter 6
7. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript, Chapter 6, parts V-XI
8. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript, Chapter 6, parts XII-XVII
9. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript, Chapters 7 and 8
10. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript, Chapter 9, parts I-V
11. "Andrew J. Byrne" Manuscript, Chapter 9, parts VI-X

Box 5 Correspondence Military Personnel, Speeches, Presidential Pilots and Airplanes,
Misc. Correspondence

Folder:

1. Correspondence-Presidential pilots and airplanes, 1953, 1956 (incoming and outgoing) 8 letters.
2. Spiral notebook-presidential pilots and airplanes, 1 pc.
3. Newspaper clippings-presidential pilots and airplanes, 6 pieces.
4. Correspondence and papers, Gettysburg College, Civil War Conference 1961, 17 items.
5. "Military Leadership of the Confederacy" by Lenoir Chambers. 2 copies.
6. Clippings-Gettysburg College Civil War Conference, 5 pieces.
7. Speech to U.S. Army Information School, Ft. Slocum, New York. Speech and correspondence, 1962, 9 items.
8. "Political Speech for All Occasions" (typescript, n.d. unknown), 4 pgs.
9. "Canals" article by *Army Times* editors with letter from A.A. Hoehling; March 17, 1964. 23 pgs.
10. Correspondence-Cherokees-Earl Boyd Pierce and Miss I. Hardin. 2 letters. Copy of *Junaluska* - transferred to WHC Library (Phillips) 32 pgs.

11. Newspaper clippings-Cherokees, 4 pieces.
12. Typescript for publication "Record of a Kashmir Trek" by P.M. Scales, sent Feb. 7, 1966. Pamphlet-*Queen's Westminster and Civil Service Rifles Retired Members' Assn. Newsletter*. Oct. 1965 pgs. 100-110. 32 pgs.
13. Correspondence-Buena Vista, Mexico. Battle and cemetery, 1957-1958, 8 letters.
14. Correspondence-Floyd L. Parks (encl. Patrick J. Hurley to Parks letter, 1/24/57) 1956-1959. 9 letters.
15. Correspondence-Sam Rayburn and secretary of H. S. Truman 1959-1960, 3 letters.
16. Correspondence-Patrick J. Hurley, 11/20/57; 7/13/61; 8/3/61, 3 letters.
17. Correspondence-Alfred M. Gruenther (U.S. Army General and Red Cross President) 1956-1957; 1962-1963. 10 letters. "The Controversial Red Cross" by Richard Carter. 1 pc.
18. Correspondence-Douglas MacArthur, III. Feb. 24, 1965 and Mar. 12, 1965. 2 letters.
19. Correspondence-General John K. Waters 1953, 1956, 1962-1966, 7 letters.
20. Correspondence-Robert Murphy, 10/9/59, 10/17/62, n.d., 3 letters.
21. Correspondence-Walter E. Griscti, 1963, 1964, 4 letters.
22. Correspondence-Frank_____. 7/17/67 and 6/12/68, 2 letters.

Box 6 Incoming Correspondence 1956-68; Employment Correspondence and Material 1953, 1960-1967; Outgoing Correspondence 1959-1960, 1965

Folder:

1. Incoming correspondence-Dana Reynolds-1958-1964, 8 letters.
2. Correspondence-Mel Ryder-n.d., 5/4/59; Dupuy to Ryder, 7/26/63, 3 letters.
3. Correspondence (incoming)-O.H. Whitt, 1963-1964, 4 letters.
4. Incoming correspondence-George A. Davis, 26 letters.
5. Incoming correspondence-Oklahoma Westerners, 1964, 5 letters. Certificate-"The Old Oakies Assn" 1 pc.
6. Correspondence (incoming) -James Ogletree, 1/9/63; 3/27/65; n.d., 3 letters.

7. Incoming correspondence-Franklin and Maxine Smith, 1964-1965, 3 letters.
8. Incoming correspondence-Bill Sharpe-April 1965-Sept. 1965, 4 letters.
9. Incoming correspondence-Fletcher _____. 1965, 4 letters.
10. Incoming correspondence-Ed McGaw, June 14, 1965, 1 letter.
11. Outgoing correspondence to Ed McGaw, 1967 (apparently returned to Mrs. Virden), 3 letters.
12. Incoming correspondence-Phil Harris, 1965-1966, 2 letters.
13. Incoming correspondence-A.D. Harlan, 9/3/65 and 11/17/67 (encl. McAnally to Harlan Letter, 11/8/67, 2 letters.
14. Incoming correspondence-William Boyd Sinclair-1965-1968, 10 letters.
15. Incoming correspondence-John E. Ingram, 1966, 2 letters.
16. Incoming correspondence-Savoie Lottinville, Sept. 5, 1967, 1 letter.
17. Incoming correspondence-William F. Donnelly, April 4, 1962. 1 letter.
18. Virden's dismissal from the *Army Times*, Feb. 1962-Jan. 1963, 3 items.
19. Virden's employment qualifications, and letters of recommendation, 1953, 1960-1967, 15 items.
20. Incoming correspondence-Virden's publications, 1957-1968. Misc. correspondents. 29 letters.
21. Misc. incoming correspondence. 1955-1968. 26 letters.
22. Misc. responses to Virden's Christmas greetings and gifts, 6 letters.
23. Misc. outgoing correspondence, 4 letters.
24. Oklahoma Civil War Centennial Commission-newsletters from Henry Bass; letter, Bass to Virden, July 7, 1965. 1 letter.
25. Letter copy-Leroy H. Fisher to Nettie Wheeler, May 22, 1962. 3 pieces. 1 letter.

Box 7 Publications, Correspondence and Research Materials, 1951, 1956-1967
Folder:

1. Typescript, *The Gettysburg Campaign of 1863* by Virden and John R. Elting, 1951, 82 pgs.
2. Correspondence-Charles Bloomfield and Rodger concerning *The Gettysburg Campaign of 1863*, 1958, 5 letters.
3. Correspondence and materials, "Pistols at Dawn" 1957-1958, 1963, Neill Bohlinger, major correspondent, 15 items.
4. Newspaper clippings, "Pistols at Dawn," 7 pieces.
5. Incoming correspondence-"Battle of Pea Ridge" 1958-1961. Includes "The South Lost the War in a Pea Patch," 7 letters.
6. Pamphlets, articles, publications on the Battle of Pea Ridge. 1956-1964, 13 items.
7. Newspaper clippings-Pea Ridge, 6 pieces.
8. Article from Back Talk-"Battle of Shiloh" and correspondence, 3 items.
9. Incoming correspondence-"Whatever Happened to Them?" for *Post*, 1960, 8 items.
10. Research notes-"Whatever Happened to Them?" n.d. 4 items.
11. "Whatever Happened to Them?" draft, 1 copy.
12. Correspondence and research material-Magruder and Custer, 1962. Major correspondent-Dolph? (A.A. Hoehling), 1 letter, A. McAnally. 15 items.
13. Newspaper clipping, Gen. John B. Magruder, *Savannah News*, 5/6/62, 1 pc.
14. Typescripts-"Papers of the Generals W.T. Sherman and P.H. Sheridan Collections on File in the Division of Manuscripts, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C." p.60-111, 1 item. "Indian Wars on the Plains" campaign details, 28 pgs, 1 item.
15. Correspondence-Wilbur S. Nye, 1962, 1964, 1967, 5 letters.
16. Correspondence-LeRoy Whitman, *Army Journal*, Jan. 30, 1963, 1 letter.
17. Newspaper clipping-Gettysburg-*Washington Post*, June 30, 1963, 1 piece.
18. Correspondence-Chester K. Shore, 2 letters.

Box 8 Publication Correspondence and Research Materials-Ft. Gibson, Sgt. York, "When the British Burned Washington."

Folder:

1. Incoming correspondence-Ft. Gibson publication. Major correspondents: W.D. Grisso, Savoie Lottinville, Carl Albert, James O. Welchel, A.M. Gibson, contract with OU Press, 25 items.
2. Newspaper clippings-Ft. Gibson, 41 pieces.
3. Published material-Ft. Gibson, 6 items.
4. Correspondence and research material-Sgt. York publication, 1964, 7 items.
5. Newspaper clippings-Sgt. York 1964, 20 pieces.
6. "When the British Burned Washington" rough drafts and research, 4 items.

Box 9 American Legion. Correspondence, Publications, Research Material. "Whatever Happened to the American Legion?" 1962-64

Folder:

1. Correspondence with *Post*- "Whatever Happened to the American Legion?" Major correspondent-William Emerson, Jr. 20 items.
2. "Whatever Happened to the American Legion" drafts, 3 items.
3. Drafts for publication, no title, 3 items.
4. Newspaper clipping-Memorial Day Service at Crisfield, Maryland, May 31, 1963. 3 pieces.
5. Correspondence and material, Dec. 1962-1963. (includes 14 pg. copy of typescript "King Legion" a history of the American Legion), 6 items.
6. Speeches and reports 1960-1963, 10 items.
7. "National Public Relations Division-Biographical Sketches," 7 pieces.
8. Spiral notebook-notes on the American Legion, 1 pc.
9. Newspaper clippings-Fairfax County Library vs. Virginia American Legion, 10 pieces.
10. Published material-pamphlets, articles, etc. 13 items.
11. Newspaper clippings, 4 pieces.

Box 10 Magazine and Newspaper Articles by and about Virden, 1955-68.

Folder:

1. "Little Giant from Bug Tussle" (Carl Albert) for *Post*. Proofs, drafts, article. 6 pieces.

2. "Little Giant from Bug Tussle" related material. Includes typescript "Portrait of a Barefoot Boy from Bug Tussle." 3 items.
3. Newspaper articles about Carl Albert, 1964, 4 pieces.
4. American Legion-statistics on *American Legion Magazine*, 10 pgs.
5. American Legion federal legislation, 1963, 11 items.
6. American Legion-Stephen Bayne's refusal of American Legion Award, 1963, 5 pieces.
7. Newspaper clippings of article by Virden in *Washington Daily* about Marshall Montgomery-1957, 3 copies.
8. Personality profiles for *The Civil War Times*, 5 pieces.
9. Copies of "Back Talk" articles by Virden, 1957, 1959, 1962, n.d., 15 pieces.
10. Newspaper clippings of "Back Talk" articles by Virden, n.d., 31 pieces.
11. Newspaper clippings of editorials and "Back Talk" articles by Virden, 1955-1958, n.d., 33 pieces.
12. "Back Talk" typescripts, n.d., 9 pgs.
13. Newspaper clippings of book reviews by Virden, 11 pieces.
14. Articles by Virden in the *American Weekend*, 1954, 1956, 6 pieces.
15. Research material for *Army-Navy Journal*. "1863," 17 pgs.
16. Newspaper clippings about Virden, 5 items.
17. Newspaper articles by Virden 1957, 1959, 14 pieces.
18. "As We See It" columns for the *American Weekend*, 1956-1958, 27 pieces.
19. Misc. newspaper articles and journal articles, 1967 and n.d., 14 items.
20. Newspaper clippings labeled "Lower the Porcullis," 2 pieces.
21. Newspaper clipping-Gavin to Virden, letter of Feb.14, 1961. 1 pc.
22. Newspaper clippings-Grisso to Virden, correspondence, 4 pieces.

23. Newspaper clipping-Watson to Virden letter, Feb. 27, 1964. 1 pc.
24. Newspaper clipping-Bohlinger to Virden letter, June 15, 1965. 1 pc.
25. Newspaper clipping-McGill to Virden letter, May 27, 1968. 1 pc.
26. Newspaper articles by Phil Harris about Virden, 1962, 1965, n.d., 15 items.
27. Newspaper articles by John Ingram in *Tulsa World*, 1963 and 1965, (Civil War and The West), 6 pieces.
28. Newspaper article about Burke Davis, Sept. 5, 1965. 1 pc.
29. Misc. newspaper articles, 1956-1970, 14 items.
30. "The City of Homes" (Wash., D.C.) article from *House and Garden*, July, 1962. 3 pgs.
31. Special newspaper edition, *New York Times*, "Civil War and Reconstruction" 1961, 1 item.
Saturday Evening Post, May 31, 1958. "Let Our Remaining Unknown Soldiers Rest in Peace," Editorial by Virden, pg. 10, 1 item.
Saturday Evening Post, March 24, 1962. "Little Giant From Bug Tussle" by Virden, pgs. 94-97. 1 item.
Saturday Evening Post, March 24, 1962. "Little Giant From Bug Tussle" by Virden, attached letter from Carl Albert, March 16, 1962. 1 item.
32. Typescript editorial by Virden for *Army Times* Publishing Co., April 29, 1958, with telegram from Martin Sommers. 6 pgs.

Box 11 Publications Containing Articles by and about Virden. 1957-1969.

The Pointer. February 1, 1957. "Elvis Degrades 'Army Blue'" by Virden p. 16.

Maryland. May-June 1953. "College of Military Science" about Virden, pgs. 28-29.

Armor. July-August 1957. "George B. McClellan: Shield of the Union" by Dr. Warren W. Hassler.
Book review by Virden pgs. 56-61.

Ex-CBI Roundup. May 1959. "Santa Claus Came to Mail Call" by Virden, p.12

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 June 13, 1959.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 June 20, 1959.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 Sept. 19, 1959.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.16 Jan. 23, 1960.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.16 Feb. 6, 1960.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.22 May 28, 1960.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.16 June 25, 1960.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.18 July 9, 1960.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.18 July 23, 1960.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 Dec. 17, 1960.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.16. Jan. 28, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.26 Apr. 22, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 May 6, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 July 1, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.23 July 15, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 July 29, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.22 Sept. 9, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.27 Sept. 23, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.25 Aug. 26, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.22 Nov. 18, 1961.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.26 Jan. 13, 1962.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.20 Feb. 10, 1962.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.22 Aug. 11, 1962.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.22 Sept. 15, 1962.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Back Talk" by Virden. p.12 Nov. 3, 1962.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Journal Bookshelf" by Virden. p.30 Sept. 7, 1968.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Pass in Review" by Virden. p.28 Nov. 9, 1968.

Army-Navy-Air Force Register. "Just 100 Years Ago" p.50 Aug. 31, 1963.

Sooner Magazine.. Jan. 1962. "How Tall is a Giant?" n.d. p.13

Civil War Times Illustrated, Special Gettysburg Edition. July 1963.

Manpower. Feb.-Mar. 1969. "Project Transition: Job Training Before He Comes Marching Home." p.12 by Virden. Published after his death.

Reader's Digest. Oct. 1955. "The General Went A.W.O.L." by Harold Martin about Virden. p. 29.

Reader's Digest. "Life in These United States" section by Virden. Dec. 1956. p.71

Panopticon of American History, a broadside presented to Virden by W.D. Grisso.

Historia, "La Guerre de Secession," by James M. Gavin (co-authored by Virden) June 1962.

Box 12 Scrapbooks-Newspaper Articles by Virden. 1953-1954.

Scrapbook 1 Pen and Ink Drawing of Airplane Pilot
Column "Tales Told to Me" in Air Force Daily, 1953

Scrapbook 2 Column "Tales Told to Me" in Air Force Daily, 1953-March 9, 1954
Column "Back Talk" Air Force Daily, March 12, 1954-June 14, 1954

Scrapbook 3 Column "Back Talk" June 15, 1954-Sept. 2, 1954.

Certificates and Diplomas Collection

Certificates and Diplomas, Box #11

VIRDEN, JOHN M.

1. Certificate of membership in The Old Oakies Association, n.d..

Addition to the Col. John M. Virden Collection, 2013:

Box 13

Folder:

1. Correspondence

- Letter from Carley L. Marshall (Captain, 9th Infantry, Commanding) to 1st Lt. John M. Virden: Commendation for the Emancipation Day program. 6/17/1937.

- V-mail from Ruth Hamilton to Lt. Col. John M. Virden: about Col. Virden's family. 4/2/1944.
- Letter from Frank to Monell: whereabouts of John and himself. 4/24/1944.
- Letter from Claude S. Chambers to Seminole Ration Board: about Mrs. Frank H. Virden's medical treatment at Hot Springs, New Mexico (with a handwritten note and Application for Special Mileage Ration on 7/7/1944). 7/7/1944.
- Letter from James M. Gavin (Major General, U.S. Army, Commanding) to F. L. Parks (Major General, War Department, Bureau of Public Relations): recommends Col. Virden to Parks for his present job. 2/22/1946
- Letter from F. L. Parks (Major General, USA, Director) to James M. Gavin (Major General, Hq 82nd Airborne Division): thank you letter for letting Parks know about Col. Virden. 2/25/1946.
- Extract copy of special orders No. 74 from Dwight D. Eisenhower (Chief of Staff): assigns Lt. Col. Virden to OC of S, Washington, D.C. 3/29/1946.
- Letter from F. L. Parks (Major General, GSC/Chief, Public Information Division) to Martin Sommers (Foreign Editor, Saturday Evening Post): about Mr. Martin's generous gesture of making up the cash which Col. Virden lost in Paris (with a list of receivers of the same letter). 12/23/1947.
- Letter from Martin Sommers (Foreign Editor, the Saturday Evening Post) to Floyd L. Parks (Major General): mentions about Col. Virden who escorted the tour of the editors and publishers. 12/24/1947.
- Letter from F. L. Parks (Major General, GSC, Chief, Public Information Division) to C. R. Huebner (Lt. Gen., Deputy Commander-in Chief, Headquarters, European Command): thank you note for the commendation of Col. Virden. 1/2/1948.
- Letter from F. L. Parks (Major General, GSC, Chief, Public Information Division) to Lt. Col. John M. Virden: commendation from Colonel George S. Eyster and members of the group of news editors and publishers whom Virden escorted in the occupation zones of Germany. 1/5/1948.
- Extract copy of special order No. 136 from Omar N. Bradley (Chief of Staff, United States Army): assigns Lt. Col. John M. Virden to Armed Forces Staff College. 7/8/1948.
- Memorandum from F. L. Parks (Major General, USA) to Lt. Gen. W. S. Paul (Director, P&A Division): about the transfer of Lt. Col. John M. Virden from the Air Force to the Army. 7/22/1948.
- Letter from John M. Virden (Lt. Colonel, G.S.C., Chief, Publications Section) to the Secretary of Instruction (Armed Forces Staff College): sends forms for Armed Forces Staff College. 8/4/1948.
- Order from E. C. Johnson, CWO, USA (Asst. Adj. General) to Commanding Officer (Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia): about the transfer of Lt. Col. John M. Virden. 8/27/1948.
- Letter from JEQ100A/HQ USAF WASH D C 222050Z to Comgenairu, Maxwell AFB Montgomery ALA: about Col. John M. Virden's duty from approximately 2/20/1949. 10/25/1948 (received date).
- Extract copy of special order No. 226 from Hoyt S. Vandenberg (Chief of Staff, United States Air Force): assigns Lt. Col. John M. Virden to Armed Forces Information School. 11/17/1948.

- Special order No. 40 from Laurence B. Kelley (Colonel, USAF, Chief of Staff): designates Lt. Col. John M. Virden as Senior Air Force Instructor at Armed Forces Info School. 3/3/1949.
- Letter from Arthur Carl Piepkorn (Chaplain (Lt. Col.), USA, Commandant) to Commandant (Armed Forces Information School): Letter of appreciation which mentions Lt. Col. Virden's lecture on public information policy and practice in the armed services. 5/21/1949.
- Extract copy of special Orders No. 149 from Jack Williams (Captain AGD, Asst. Adjutant): designate Col. John M. Virden Director, Dept. of History, Economics & Govt. 7/6/1949.
- Letter from Kenneth R. Powell (Colonel, USAF, Commanding) to Lt. Col. John M. Virden (Armed forces School): Letter of appreciation for the Air Force Exhibit in connection with Armed Forces Day. 5/22/1950.
- Letter from Dora Jane Hamblin (Time-Life International) to John M. Virden: sends pictures of Col. Virden at Orly. 3/3/1951.
- Letter from John M. Virden to Dora Jane Hamblin (Time-Life International): thank you letter for the picture. 3/12/1951.
- Note from John M. Virden to the manager of the Reynolds Hotel: asks to allow Major Walter Griscti to enter Col. Virden's room. 3/16/1951.
- Copy of telegram from Kingsbury Smith (General Manager for Europe) to C. T. Lanham (Brigadier General, Chief of Public Information): mentions about Col. Virden's help for organizing and planning the program. 4/26/1951.
- Letter from Vincent B. Schuman (Captain, Infantry) to Editor (News-Chronicle): about the article titled "The Battle of Gettysburg" which used a source without authors' (John M. Virden and John Elting) permission. 12/5/1951.
- Letter from Roy Lamson, Jr. (Lt. Colonel, GS, Historian) to Col. John M. Virden: about a historical research. 5/26/1952.
- Letter from Martin Sommers to Col. John M. Virden: about Col. Virden's illness, and Ralph McGill's story about the conventions. 8/6/1952.
- Letter Order No. 9-6050 from Carney S. Bartlett (WOJG, USAF Asst. Adj. Gen.) to Patricia Virden: allows Patricia Virden to travel to Oklahoma College of Women, Chickasha OK. 9/3/1952.
- Letter from S. Reolaro (Office de Cautions & d'Assurances Diverses) to John M. Virden: about Col. Virden's car and the importation duties. 10/24/1952. [2 copies]
- Letter (probably from General James Gavin) to Johnny: about books and whereabouts. 2/2/1953.
- Letter from Stephen Roskill to Roger: about some notes on KMF 26 and an issue related to ship (with a handwritten note to Col. Virden). 12/11/1958.
- Letter from J. W. Fulbright to Col. John M. Virden (Associate Editor, Army Navy Air Force Register): appreciation for Col. Virden's column in the Feb. 14 issue of the *Register*. 2/10/1959.
- Letter from C. R. Huebner (Lieutenant General, USA, Deputy Commander-in-Chief) to Chief, Public Information Division (Department of the Army): commandment to Col. Virden for escorting the party of publishers and editors during their extensive tour of the U.S. Zone, Germany. No date.
- Letter to Col. Virden: [in Chinese] (probably invitation, with an envelope). No date.

- Note from Daddy to My Bebe. No date.
- Note about the U.S. Treasury checks given to Lt. Col. Virden for General Eisenhower's tour of Atlantic pact tour. No date.

2. Documents

- Manuscript of the first briefing of "Command Relationship of Western Powers."
- Poem "Panorama of Italy."
- "Life in These United States" (from Lt. Col. John M. Virden to his Uncle John, probably for the funeral).
- Work Sheet for Report of Separation from the Armed Forces of the United States (for John M. Virden's retirement).
- Table of travel time in Europe.
- Record of the talking session by Col. Virden, Major Griscti, Lt. Col. Oldfield, and other officers about the tour in Europe with General Eisenhower (first page in missing).
- Report about Italy (people, geography and climate, housing, transportation, etc.)
- Paint on the leather (stone ax with blood and the letter "5")

3. Articles, 1944-Sept. 1953:

- *C.B.I. Roundup*. 5/4/1944. [pp. 5-8 are missing]
- *The Shanghai Evening Post* (with envelope from John M. Virden to Mrs. Virden). 10/15/1944.
- "Rugged Army Pales At Drop of 'Durn.'" 4/11/50.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." No date (probably 7/14/1953).
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/15/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/16/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/20/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/21/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/24/1953. [2 copies]
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/28/1953. [2 copies, one is incomplete]
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/29/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/30/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 7/31/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me." 8/3/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me: Look Back at Manassas—A Picnic Becomes a War." 8/6/1953. [3 copies]
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me: Of the Mysterious East, And How to Make Demands." 8/7/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me: Military Etiquette In Bathrobe and Slippers." 8/11/1953. [2 copies]
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me: Take a Tip: Don't Do Abroad What You Won't Do at Home." 8/12/1953. [2 copies]
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me: Patriotism Gets Reward With Some Loss of Teeth." No date (probably 8/17/1953). [2 copies]
- *Air Force Daily*, "Tales Told to Me: Uncle Billy's Bull Learns That Life isn't All Heifers." No date (probably 8/19/1953).

- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Pat Hurley Lost His Derby, But He was Glad it Busted.” No date (probably 8/21/1953).
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: French Foreign Legion Wants Honor Above All.” 8/31/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to me: Watermelons, Malaria And Uncle Billy’s Gall.” No date (probably 9/4/1953).
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Bold Ballad Bandit Bubble Bursts.” No date (probably 9/10/1953).
- *Air Force Daily*, “A Sweeter Tune for the AF.” No date (probably 9/26/1953).
- *Air Force Daily*, “Keep Your Pistol Cocked.” 9/27/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Neighbor Not Really Grabby, Just Asked All Adjacent Land.” No date (probably September 1953).

4. **Articles, Oct. – Dec. 1953**

- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: It’s Lucky They Didn’t Know How The Chinese Cure Hams.” No date (probably 10/7/1953). [2 copies]
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Ceylon Sheds Rules Once Each 109 Years.” 10/8/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Sherman’s Whiplash Tongue Cuts Down Corporal to Size.” 10/9/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Time Bringeth All—Even Pity for Irish.” 10/12/53.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Little Major’s Advice Solves Money Muddle.” 10/15/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Bunch’s Buzzing Bees Blitzkrieg Base Boss.” 10/16/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Tragedy Circumvented In Tense Border Drama.” 10/20/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Ford Carried Office in Hat, But Stocked No Spare Tires.” 10/21/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: How to Woo the Press: Better ‘Tea’ than Cigs.” 10/23/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Too Many Chiefs Upset Boss Of Mighty Hitler Wehrmacht.” 10/27/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “October, U.S.A.” October 1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Water Boy!” 12/3/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Ben Franklin’s Turkey” “Good morning, Ma’am.” 12/8/1953.
- “The Old System.” 12/10/1953.
- “Into The Wind” “Politics and Religion.” No date (probably in 1953 or 1954).

5. **Articles, 1954-1970**

- *Air Force Daily*, “America Turns on Joe.” 3/9/1954.
- *Air Force Daily*, “They Come in All Sizes.” No date (probably 3/9/1954).
- *Air Force Daily*, “They Threw The Book.” 5/11/1954.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Oleaginous Mess.” 5/14/1954.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Educated Clatter” “O! Pioneers.” 6/11/1954.
- “Treason Is a Gallows Crime.” 7/5/1954.

- “Goodbye, Mr. Cohn.” 7/28/1954.
- “Back Talk: Under the Plum Tree.” No date (probably in 1957).
- *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*, “Grim Day in History: British Soldiers Burned Capital 144 Years Ago.” 8/24/1958.
- *The Sunday Times*, “Competition Result: Summit Saws.” 5/10/1959.
- *Muskogee Sunday Phoenix and Times-Democrat*, “Round-Up: Indian Art Exhibit Postponed” “Looking Back At Muskogee Over The Years.” 12/4/1966.
- *Muskogee Sunday Phoenix and Times Democrat*, article about reviews for books “Once an Eagle” and “Combat Soldier” by John M. Virden. 10/13/1968.
- “Masterful Story Teller Col. Virden, Writer, Dies.” In 1968.
- “Col. Virden, Eisenhower’s Press Officer” (obituary). In 1968.
- “Ex-Weleetka Colonel Dies” (obituary). In 1968.
- “Col. John M. Virden, Ex-Times Aide, Dies. No date (probably December 1968).
- *Times-Democrat City*, “Round-Up: Virden’s Death Ends Area Correspondence.” In December 1968 or early 1969 [2 copies]
- “Harold Martin: Man Who Saved the Horses Rode Behind Them to Rest.” 1/8/1969.
- *Federal Times*, “Col. Virden, Writer, Press Officer, Dies.” 1/8/1969.
- “Memories of Virden.” 1/29/1969.
- *Army Times*, “Impressions: Homespun Crusader.” 2/19/1969.
- *Tulsa Tribune*, “No Mere Sooner ‘In’ Joke: Bug Tussle—the Reality.” 2/11/1970.

6. **Articles, Undated: Tales Told to Me, and Back Talk**

- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Pride Isn’t A Marine Monopoly.” December 3.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Bachelor Looies Same As Ever.” July 28.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Goat Escort’s Oratory Well Received.” No date.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Poet Riley Was Really Riled Up.” December 10.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: You Couldn’t Kid Wild Bill Hickok.” No date.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Gunsmoke in Congress Nothing New.” March 9.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: The Blues Ran At Bull Run.” No date.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: Alone At Last With 12 Wives.” October 26.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Tales Told to Me: No Fountain of Youth in Ernie’s ‘River’ ” (with a cartoon “New Look”). January 21.
- “Back Talk: Gabriel’s Gun Set Off the Powderkeg.” No date.
- “Back Talk: We Knew Catton’d Win that Pulitzer.” No date.
- “Back Talk: Pity the Columnist’s Laden Mailman.” May 14.
- “Back Talk: Soldier’s Diary Stiffens HST’s Spine.” June 11.
- “Back Talk: U.S. Tables Groan under Costly Food.” No date.
- “Back Talk: Film Men Give Oklahoma the Go-By.” No date.
- “Back Talk: I Like My Chicken . . . (title is damaged).” September 7.
- “Back Talk: Try Your Hand at This Concoction.” September 29.

7. **Articles, Undated**

- *Air Force Daily*, “Another Loud Gook!” “Kind Word for VA.” No date.
- *Air Force Daily*, “The Tax Hassle Goes On.” No date.
- *Air Force Daily*, “No 100 Percent Defense.” No date.

- *Air Force Daily*, “Mad Newsmen.” No date.
- *Air Force Daily*, “We Catch Hail Colombia.” No date.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Those Air Force Blues.” October 12.
- *Air Force Daily*, “Thankless Job.” October 20.
- “Let’s Stop Horsing Around.” No date.
- “The Man From Missouri.” No date. [2 copies]
- “Whipping Boy No. 1.” No date.
- “An Unseemly Housing Hagggle.” No date.
- “Broad-Ax Economy.” July 15.
- “The Old NCOs are Fading.” July 24. [2 copies]
- “Our Most Unpopular War.” August 3.
- “Passing of a Statesman.” August 7.
- “A People of Patience.” August 11. [2 copies]
- “Straw & the Camel’s Back.” August 21.
- “School for Captains.” August 31.
- “Commissary Survey Criteria.” September 8.
- “New Army Uniform.” September 9.
- “Cost of Living Index.” September 10.

8. **Articles, Undated**

- “The End of an Epoch?” July 22.
- “Back to the ‘Old Sutler.’ ” August 19. [2 copies]
- “Bolt to Freedom!” No date.
- “Beria Affair True to Soviet SOP.” No date.
- “The Gallantry Is All French.” May 11.
- “Robert S. Allen: Ike Stands Butler at Attention.” No date.
- “ ‘Hot’ Tax Data Falls to McCarthy.” March 9.
- “Uncle Sam Strolls Along Auto Row.” No date.
- “Poor, Pay, Good Time: By John M. Virden.” No date.
- “Ike, Adlai Face Dilemma Of Leadership.” No date.
- “The Battle of Gettysburg: Lee’s Unsuccessful Attack on Union’s Flanks Leads to Pickett’s Charge on Middle Which is Handled Bloody Defeat.” No date.
- *The Evening and Sunday Bulletin*, “Poignant Commencement: It Was a Sad Day at Bug Tussle.” No date.
- “Czech Colonel Sees War III As Inevitable. Reviewed by Col. John M. Virden.” No date.
- “Book Review: Tennessee Private Tells His Story Of Civil War. Reviewed by Col. John M. Virden.” No date.
- “Books: It’s A Shame Hoss Cavalry Had To Go. Reviewed by John M. Virden.” No date.
- “The Reconversion” (with a handwritten note). No date.

9. **Cartoons**

- *Air Force Daily*, cartoon “Hold That Tiger.” 8/21/1953.
- *Air Force Daily*, cartoon “Attention!” 3/9/1954.
- *Air Force Daily*, cartoon “Having Trouble Changing the Billboard.” August 1954.

- *C.B.I. Roundup*, cartoon “Strictly G.I. By Ehret. ‘There was a slight delay in my rotation’ ” (with a typed note). No date.
- *C.B.I. Roundup*, cartoon “Strictly G.I. By Ehret. ‘You myitkyina boys should have seen Carolina maneuvers’ ” (with a handwritten note). 10/26/1944.
- *Yank The Army Weekly*, cartoon “The Sad Sack. ‘Dream’ ” (with a handwritten note). No date.
- *Yank The Army Weekly*, cartoon “The Sad Sack. ‘First Come-First Served’ ” (with a handwritten note). No date.
- cartoon “I don’t mind the bugs, or the rain, or the infernal heat. What’s driving ME nutty is trying to remember what I used to look like!” (with a handwritten note). In 1944.
- “Taj Mahal” by Sgt. Elwood Jones. No date.
- *C.B.I. Roundup*, cartoon “The American Touch.” October 1944.
- cartoon “Grin and Bear It.” 9/12/1944.

10. Photographs

Photographs (14) of Colonel John Virden, including: military portraits; him presiding on a panel for the Armed Forces International School; Virden as part of the S.H.A.P.E. staff in 1951; at OU as a Delta Chi pledge in 1928; and at a Civil War memorial.