Guide to the John G. Schmitz campaign materials MS.R.047

Contributing Institution: Special Collections and Archives, University of California, Irvine Libraries
Title: John G. Schmitz campaign materials
Creator: Schmitz, John G.
Identifier/Call Number: MS.R.047
Physical Description: 0.6 Linear Feet (1 box and 2 oversize folders)
Date (inclusive): 1968-1976
Date (bulk): 1972
Abstract: This collection comprises news clippings, correspondence, memoranda, press releases and other papers related to the 1972 campaign of John G. Schmitz as the nominee of the American Party for President of the United States. Also included are news stories and publications by and about the national American Party and its affiliated state parties.
Language of Material: English
Access
Collection is open for research. Access to fragile originals is restricted when preservation photocopies are available.
Publication Rights
Property rights reside with the University of California. Literary rights are retained by the creators of the records and their heirs. For permissions to reproduce or to publish, please contact the Head of Special Collections and Archives.
Preferred Citation
For the benefit of current and future researchers, please cite any additional information about sources consulted in this collection, including permanent URLs, item or folder descriptions, and box/folder locations.
Acquisition Information
Processing History
Biography
John G. Schmitz was born on August 12, 1930 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1964 Schmitz was elected as a Republican to the California State Senate and was reelected in 1966. He successfully ran for a seat in the United States Congress in 1970, where he represented Newport Beach, California (35th District) for a single term. After losing his congressional reelection bid in the June primaries in 1972, Schmitz was nominated to run for President of the United States by the American Party, known in California as the American Independent Party. Although unsuccessful, he and his running mate Tom Anderson received over a million votes in the 1972 presidential election. Schmitz returned to the Republican Party after this election and ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1976. He served again in the California State Senate from 1978-1982. Schmitz died on January 10, 2001, in Washington, D.C.
Collection Scope and Content Summary
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Clippings include those collected by the Schmitz-Anderson campaign office. They consist of both publicity (press releases) and unsolicited campaign coverage, and a few articles on Schmitz's activities before and after the campaign.
There are also a large number of letters and telegrams received by Schmitz or the campaign office. They include expressions of support, requests for materials, statistics on the election results, and letters calling Schmitz's attention to particular issues. Much of the correspondence also includes news clippings enclosed by the senders.
The collection includes newsletters and other documents concerning the history, activities, and platform of the American Party and affiliated state parties, for example, the American Independent Party, the Courage Party, and the Kansas Conservative Party. It does not contain any materials relating to Schmitz's terms in the California State Senate or the United States Congress.
The collection is arranged topically.
Related Collections
A related collection of political ephemera from Schmitz's senatorial office and campaigns can be found in the California Political Publication and Ephemera Collection (MS-R14), Special Collections and Archives, the UC Irvine Libraries.

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Papers relating John G. Schmitz's term in the United States Congress are at the Wichita State University Special Collections and University Archives. A finding aid is available online at their Web site. Two sound tape reels and one film reel of commercials used in Schmitz's presidential campaign are at the University of Oklahoma Political Commercial Archive, Department of Communication, Burton Hall, Norman, OK 73019.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
United States -- Politics and government
Politicians -- United States.
Campaign paraphernalia -- United States.
Presidents -- United States -- Election -- 1972 -- Archives
American Party -- Archives
American Independent Party of California -- Archives

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**American Party nationwide party materials**

- box 1, folder 1-2
- box 1, folder 1

**A Brief history of the organization and development of California's American Independent Party, and of the state party's conflict with the national Wallace campaign**, photocopy of a report ca. 1968

- box 1, folder 2

**American Party and affiliated state parties, correspondence, clippings, fliers, and newsletters, and undated 1972-1976**

- box FB-022, folder 3
- box FB-022, folder 3
- box FB-024, folder 1

**Platform brochure, undated**

**Oversize newsletters, and undated, use copies 1972-1974**

- box FB-024, folder 1

**Oversize newsletters, and undated 1972-1974**

- box 1, folder 3-8

**Campaign materials**

- box 1, folder 3
- box 1, folder 4
- box 1, folder 5-6

**American Party convention program and approved platform 1972**

**Campaign file, and undated 1972-1973**

**Correspondence received by Schmitz-Anderson campaign 1972-1975**

- box FB-022, folder 3
- box FB-024, folder 1

**Oversize material, use copies 1972**

**Oversize material 1972**

- box 1, folder 7-8

**News clippings, and undated 1971-1976**

- box FB-022, folder 3

**Writings of John G. Schmitz on the American Party and his Presidential campaign 1972-1973**