Descriptive Summary
Languages: English
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla 92093-0175
Title: Robert S. Dietz Papers
Identifier/Call Number: SMC 0028
Physical Description: 9.2 Linear feet (22 archives boxes, 2 card file boxes, and 2 oversize folders)
Date (inclusive): 1936-1995
Abstract: Papers of geologist Robert S. Dietz (1914-1995), including correspondence, writings, and files relating to Jacques Piccard's submersible ocean research vessel, the bathyscaphe Trieste.

Scope and Content of Collection
Papers of geologist Robert S. Dietz (1914-1995), including biographical materials, correspondence, writings, and files relating to Jacques Piccard's submersible ocean research vessel, the bathyscaphe Trieste. The collection contains two fairly small series containing Dietz's letters and a limited selection of his research files on various topics, including meteor craters, astroblemes, continental margins, plate tectonics, ocean basins, and Soviet oceanography. The more significant series include thorough documentation of his writings and publications, including reports authored while Dietz was a Scientific Liaison Officer at the London Office of Naval Research (ONR), his formative research papers on the theory of continental drift, and Dietz's intellectual confrontations with creationists in the public sphere. The collection also includes papers and sound recordings relating to the important research collaboration between Dietz, the ONR, the U.S. Navy Electronics Laboratory and Swiss explorer and inventor Jacques Piccard, which resulted in record-breaking deep ocean dives in Piccard's bathyscaphe Trieste off the coast of Guam in 1959 and 1960.

Arranged in five series: 1) BIOGRAPHICAL, 2) CORRESPONDENCE, 3) BATHYSCAPH TRIESTE, 4) WRITINGS, and 5) SUBJECT AND RESEARCH FILES.

Biography
This text is adapted from a Dietz biography by Deborah Day, 1999.

Robert Sinclair Dietz was born in Westfield, New Jersey, 1914, a son of civil engineer Louis Dietz and Bertha Dietz. He was educated at the University of Illinois from 1933-1941 where he received B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in geology with a minor in chemistry. He joined ROTC his junior year. While Dietz's degrees were from the University of Illinois, most of his doctoral work was done at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) under the direction of his mentor, Francis P. Shepard, who had faculty positions at both institutions before the war. While a student in Illinois, Dietz became interested in the Kentland structure in Indiana and identified it as a meteoric impact site. He wanted to write his dissertation on Kentland, but his professors steered him toward marine geology. Dietz and his fellow graduate student K. O. Emery together with Francis P. Shepard first described the submarine phosphorites off California.

Dietz was unable to obtain employment as a marine geologist after receiving his doctorate, as this field was not yet recognized. He was called to active duty as a ground officer in the U.S. Army Air Corps with the 91st Observation Squadron in Fort Lewis, Washington, and served as a pilot with many missions in South America. World War II, he remained in the reserves for an additional fifteen years and retired as a lieutenant colonel.

After his wartime military service, Dietz received a letter from Dr. Eugene LaFond, a colleague he had met at Scripps, asking him to organize a sea-floor studies group at the Navy Electronics Laboratory (NEL) in San Diego. Dietz accepted and became the founder and director of the Sea Floor Studies Section of NEL. This position included an opportunity to be a geological oceanographer on Admiral Richard E. Byrd's last expedition to Antarctica, the navy-sponsored Operation HIGHJUMP. While at NEL, Dietz participated in several joint NEL-SIO oceanographic cruises to explore the Pacific basin, notably MidPac in 1950. H. William Menard and Dietz delineated the Cape Mendocino submarine scarp on MidPac; Menard later described its fracture zone as a type locality. Working with Robert Dill, they made the first map of the deep sea fan at the mouth of Monterey Submarine Canyon that showed large amounts of sediments channeled into the deep sea from the continent.

Dietz's laboratory purchased the first Canadian "aqua-lungs" invented by Emile Gagnan and Jacques Cousteau, and NEL Sea Floor Studies Section scientists became proficient in their use. In 1953 the group together with several members of the SIO staff formed a private consulting firm called Geological Diving Consultants. GDC was hired by major oil companies interested in initiating oil exploration off the central California coast. GDC's seafloor geological maps were used in the discovery of two major oil fields off Santa Barbara and Point Conception. Dietz contributed directly by making hundreds of dives along the California and Baja California coasts.
Robert S. Dietz was an early and convincing proponent of continental drift, and he wrote incisive papers contributing to the concept he called sea-floor spreading. Dietz traveled widely in the American west and was appointed chief scientific consultant for the Barringer Crater Company, owners of Meteor Crater, because of his expertise in meteoric impacts. He was a popular teacher and led many field trips for his introductory courses to the Grand Canyon and other points of geological interest. After his retirement, he became interested in the publications of creation scientists and their assertions that the Grand Canyon was much younger than suggested by geologists, created on a time scale consistent with biblical texts. He attended creationist science conferences, corresponded with conference speakers, and visited exhibits representing their point of view. Dietz collaborated with scientific illustrator John C. Holden on a book entitled Creation/Evolution Satiricon: Creationism Bashed (Winthrop, WA: Bookmaker, 1987), which refuted creationist views of earth history.

Throughout his career, Dietz made many significant contributions in the fields of geology, marine geomorphology, and oceanography. Edwin Hamilton, one of the first geologists he recruited at NEL, noted that in geomorphology, Dietz contributed original work in geomorphic evolution of the continental terrace, in the origin of continental slopes and margins, in the development of the Hawaiian swell, and in the development of the abrupt change in slope at the continental margins. He contributed broadly to knowledge of the geomorphology of the northwest Pacific and the Arctic basin. Dietz contributed to an understanding of turbidity-current channels, and sedimentation in the continental terrace and in the deep Pacific.
Dietz was well known for his advocacy of continental drift and for the term "sea-floor spreading," which he coined. Dietz was interested in lunar craters as a graduate student and returned to the interest during the last years of his professional career. He achieved prominence by studying meteorite craters, both on Earth and on the moon, and arguing that these impact craters were common. He long argued, in opposition to economic geologists, that the nickel-iron rich deposit of Sudbury Basin in Ontario, Canada, resulted from a meteoric impact. He used shatter coning to identify impact sites including the Ries and Steinheim basins in Germany (1958) and the Vredefort Ring in South Africa (1961). He coined the phrase "astrobleme" to describe impact structures created by high energy extraterrestrial objects striking the earth. He lived long enough to see most of his findings, called iconoclastic by his colleagues in the 1950s and 1960s, confirmed. Dietz was a very independent thinker characterized by his colleagues as one of the foremost geologists of his generation, and characterized by historians as one of the modern proponents of catastrophism. He called himself an astrogeologist. Dietz enjoyed discussion of new ideas. He often recognized the significance and implications of discoveries made by others earlier than the discoverers themselves, and he urged his students and colleagues to write about their discoveries in the widest context of geology.

Dietz received many distinguished honors during his career; among these were the Walter H. Bucher Medal of the American Geophysical Union, the Gold Medal of the Department of Commerce, the Alexander von Humboldt Prize (West Germany), and the Penrose Medal of the Geological Society of America.

Robert Sinclair Dietz died of a heart attack on Friday, May 19, 1995, at his home in Tempe, Arizona.

References:

Preferred Citation

Acquisition Information

OFF-SITE STORAGE
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE. ALLOW ONE WEEK FOR RETRIEVAL OF MATERIALS.

Publication Rights
Publication rights are held by the creator of the collection.

Digital Content
A small selection of materials from the collection have been digitized. The digitized images may be viewed by searching the phrase "Robert S. Dietz papers" in quotes, on the UC San Diego Library Digital Collections website.

Restrictions
Original Dictaphone sound recordings in Box 24 are restricted. Most have been reformatted, and digital listening copies are available upon request.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Creationism
Continental drift
Sea-floor spreading
Plate tectonics
Meteorite craters
Oceanographic submersibles
Dietz, Robert S. (Robert Sinclair), 1914-1995 -- Archives
Piccard, Jacques
Shepard, Francis P. (Francis Parker), 1897-1985
Trieste (Bathyscaphe)
United States. Navy. Electronics Laboratory
BIOGRAPHICAL

Scope and Content of Series
Series 1) BIOGRAPHICAL: A selection of materials including personnel files, awards, photographs and publicity documenting the life and career of Robert Dietz.

Bibliographies
Curriculum vitae
University of Illinois - Master's degree certificate 1939
Navy and federal civilian personnel records 1936-1974
Honors, awards and appointments 1936-1994

Certificates 1964-1986
General note
Includes certificates for Dietz's participation in submersible research, including the R/V Ben Franklin, Aluminaut, and a diving saucer to Scripps Canyon in 1964. Additional certificates documenting achievements may also be found in Dietz's Navy and federal civilian personnel records, and the Honors, Awards and Achievements folders.

Photographs of Robert Dietz 1938-1988
Photographs from TransPac Expedition, Japan 1953
Geological Diving Consultants clipping undated
Press releases and publicity 1938-1970
Pencil portrait by H. Ishida 1961 November 22
Dietz family genealogy 1961, 1985
Atlantic Oceanographic & Meteorological Labs (AOML) personnel files 1963-1975
General note
Includes statement of highlights of scientific contributions written by Dietz.

Letter to brother Lew Dietz, repaying 1934 tuition assistance 1985
Biographical profiles 1985-1994
Profile on Dietz and Harry Hess by Robert Stevenson undated
General note
Typescript covers background on Dietz and Hess, and the nearly simultaneous development of their respective ocean basin origin theories in 1960. Original folder states title of Stevenson book was to be Oceanography for Astronauts.

Dietz Bluff, Antarctica - Photographs and articles 1987-1988
Penrose Medal - Geological Society of America 1988
Honorary doctorate, Arizona State University - Acceptance speech and publicity 1988
Honorary doctorate, Arizona State University 1988
General note
Some of Dietz's photographs were published in Life Magazine v. 65, no. 10 in September 1968.

Asteroid 4666 Dietz - Photographs and articles 1993
CORRESPONDENCE

Scope and Content of Series

Series 2) CORRESPONDENCE: Arranged chronologically. Early correspondence discusses research topics, the NEL, SIO personalities, and expeditions such as TransPac. A selection of letters from the 1950s and early 1960s document the effort to bring Jacques Piccard’s bathyscaphe Trieste to the United States for deep ocean diving experiments, which supplements materials in the BATHYSCAPH TRIESTE series. Important correspondents include E. L. Hamilton and Gordon Lill.

Box 3, Folder 1-16  

1939-1995, and undated
BATHYSCAPH TRIESTE
Scope and Content of Series
Series 3) BATHYSCAPH TRIESTE: Materials in this series document Dietz's role in important research collaborations between London's Office of Naval Research, Jacques Piccard, and the U.S. Navy Electronics Laboratory regarding reinforcement and testing of the bathyscaph Trieste. It includes correspondence, reports, memoranda, diving logs, sound recordings and research files on submersibles and deep ocean diving dating primarily from 1956 to 1964. Specifically, it includes original records relating to the development and execution of Project Nekton. The Project Nekton operation was a series of manned shallow test dives and deep dives off the coast of Guam, which culminated in Trieste submerging to a record-setting depth of approximately 35,800 feet in the Challenger Deep, at the southern end of the Mariana Trench. The series includes both paper documentation and sound recordings that were referenced by Dietz and Piccard for the publication of their book Seven Miles Down: The Story of the Bathyscaphe Trieste (1961).


A) Papers and Records: Dietz's paper documentation relating to Trieste and deep-submersible research. Includes correspondence, technical memoranda (primarily from the US Navy teams associated with Project Nekton), diving logs, and photographs.

B) Sound Recording Transcripts: In 2000, sixty-one Dictabelts from the Dietz collection believed to contain content related to Trieste were reformatted to audiocassette, and the recordings were also transcribed at that time. This subseries contains a transcript for all sixty-one reformatted recordings, in addition to a small selection of additional transcripts generated from other original recordings (not in the collection) made during Trieste dives around 1960. Content on the tapes not related to the unique history of the Trieste (i.e., speakers reading from manuscripts or commenting on manuscript edits, probably related to Seven Miles Down), was not transcribed.

C) Audiocassettes: These audiocassettes are reformatted and remastered recordings of sixty-one Dictaphone belts from the Dietz Papers, a project that was completed in 2000 as a joint preservation effort between the SIO Archives and the U.S. Navy. Most of the recordings contain observations, recollections, and commentary on the Trieste's Project Nekton dives, and in some recordings, the speakers (primarily Dietz, Jacques Piccard, and Andreas Rechnitzer) appear to be referring to notes, memoranda, or manuscripts. The recordings date from between 1958 and 1963. At the time of processing, any notations that were written on the Dictabelt envelopes were copied and transcribed onto the cassette cases; these notations have been recorded in the finding aid. Full transcripts of these recordings are also available in the preceding subseries. The sixty-one Dictabelt recordings were reformatted onto fourteen audiocassette tapes, and there are two copies of each tape. The audiocassettes were digitized in 2008, and digital versions of the recordings are available to researchers upon request.

D) Dictaphone Belts: Dietz's papers originally contained almost 100 Dictaphone belt sound recordings which were created by Dietz, Jacques Piccard, Andreas Rechnitzer, and others. Fifty-four of these belts were in a box Dietz labelled, "Trieste B'Scaph File Letters." Other belts were found throughout the collection. In preparation for reformating, the belts were gathered and arranged alphabetically by the given title on the original envelopes (so similar titles, like "Big Dive" or "San Diego Dives" could be grouped together) and all notations, including dates, were transcribed and transferred to the finding aid. For organization, the belts were given unique sequential numbers by archives staff. In 2000, sixty-one belts that were appraised and considered likely to contain important content were reformatted to audiocassette and transcribed; in 2008, the audiocassettes were digitized. While the original belts are restricted, the reformatted versions and transcripts are available for research.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4, Folder 1</th>
<th>Photographs of Trieste and Trieste II ca. 1953-1964</th>
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<tr>
<td>General note</td>
<td>Includes images of the 1961 launch off San Diego, 1964 launch of Trieste II, Jacques and Auguste Piccard, and artistic renderings of submersibles.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Box 4, Folder 2 | Photographs of echograms showing illusion of Trieste landing on bottom undated |
| Box 4, Folder 3 | News clippings on Trieste 1957-1962 |
| Box 4, Folder 4 | Proposal by A. and J. Piccard for collaboration between the National Science Foundation...with the bathyscaph Trieste 1954 |
| Box 4, Folder 5 | Resolution submitted to the Symposium on Aspects of Deep Sea Research 1956 March 1 |
| Box 4, Folder 6 | Technical memorandum 2-57 - Translation of French papers concerning diving results of the bathyscaph FRNS-3 1956-1957 |
| Box 4, Folder 7-10 | Trieste - Reports and memoranda 1956-1960 |
| Oversize FB-549, Folder 15 | Plans, elevation (bow and stern) and longitudinal section of deep-diving submersible 1957 June |
| General note   | Designed and drawn by Lt John B. Stubbs. |

| Box 4, Folder 11 | Press release - Bathyscaph Trieste in the Mediterranean 1957 February 27 |
| Box 4, Folder 12 | Preliminary report of the Hudson Laboratories Bathyscaphe program 1957 July-October |
| Box 4, Folder 13 | Preliminary Reports on the 1957 Scientific Investigations with the Bathyscaph Trieste 1957 |
| Box 4, Folder 14 | The 1957 Diving Program of the Bathyscaph Trieste, by A. B. Rechnitzer 1959 December 28 |
| General note   | NEL Report 941. |

| Box 4, Folder 15 | Reprints signed by J. Piccard (in French) on Trieste dives 1957-1958 |
| Box 4, Folder 16 | Accounts and paper "Misadventures at Capri" on 1957 Trieste dives off Capri 1957-1959 |
| General note   | Includes typescripts of diving log. |

| Box 4, Folder 17 | Project Nekton - Proposal for official recognition and support ca. 1958 |
| Box 4, Folder 18 | Calendar of events and dive reports from San Diego 1959 |
| Box 4, Folder 19 | Project Nekton negatives ca. 1959 |
| General note   | Black and white images of people socializing and examining papers, including Dietz and Piccard. |

| Box 4, Folder 20 | Project Nekton manuscript ca. 1960 |
| Box 4, Folder 21 | Diving notes from 1953-1959 - Commentary on Trieste dives off Italy, San Diego, and Guam undated |
| Box 4, Folder 22 | French Navy bathyscaph B-11,000 ca. 1960 |
| Box 4, Folder 23 | History of the bathyscaph - Notes and manuscripts ca. 1960 |
| Box 4, Folder 24 | Jacques Piccard - Notes and biographical data by R. Dietz ca. 1960 |
| Box 4, Folder 25 | Trieste diving log, Loma Sea Valley 1961 September 14 |
| Box 4, Folder 26 | Archimede (French bathyscaph) - Ocean floor negatives, Kuril Trench 1962 |
| Box 22, Folder 12 | NEL flier on Trieste II - Includes research program summary, diagram, etc. 1964 |
| Box 4, Folder 27 | Francis Shepard - Recollections of Trieste dive in La Jolla Canyon 1964 March 7 |
| Box 4, Folder 28 | 25th anniversary of the Trieste deep dive - Booklet 1985 |

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**Sound Recording Transcripts**

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**Robert S. Dietz Papers**

**SMC 0028**
Box 5, Folder 1  
**Dives #61 and #64 1959-1960**  
**General note**  
Includes transcript of live action report from observers standing by during Dive #61, as well as a version of a transcript adapted from dictabelts 15-18.

Box 5, Folder 2  
**Dive #63 1959**  
**General note**  
Transcript of live action report.

Box 5, Folder 3  
**Dive #69 1960 January 9**  
**General note**  
Transcript of live action report.

Box 5, Folder 4-5  
**Transcriptions from reformatted dictabelt recordings, 1958-1963 - Dives of the bathyscaph Trieste**  
**General note**  
Typed transcript of 61 recordings reformatted to audiocassette from Dietz's collection of plastic Dictaphone belts. Speakers include Robert Dietz, Jacques Piccard, Andreas Rechnitzer, and an unidentified speaker. The content is primarily observations, commentary, and recollections concerning Trieste dives, in particular dives made in the Challenger Deep, and off the coast of Italy and San Diego.

Box 5, Folder 6  
**Piccard's recollection of Trieste construction in 1952**

Box 5, Folder 7  
**History of Trieste and its coming to the U.S., by R. Dietz** undated

Box 5, Folder 8  
**History of Project Nekton and report of 1954 Trieste dive with Dr. Pollini, Italy** undated

Box 5, Folder 9  
**Project Nekton - "The Big Dive" accounts by Piccard, Walsh and Dietz 1959-1960**

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**Audiocassettes**

Box 23, Folder 1  
**Dictabelts 1-5 - Reformatted undated**  
**General note**  
**Access**  
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 2  
**Dictabelts 6-10 - Reformatted 1960**  
**General note**  
**Access**  
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 3  
**Dictabelts 11-14 - Reformatted undated**  
**General note**  
**Access**  
Original restricted (digital version available).
Box 23, Folder 4  Dictabelts 15-18 - Reformatted 1960
General note
Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 5  Dictabelts 19-22 - Reformatted 1960 July
General note
Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 6  Dictabelts 23-25 - Reformatted undated
General note
(23-25) Italian dive, R. Dietz, 8 March. Skips/repeats throughout. Actual recording of the dive starts at time 4:00 (the first part records a child singing, nothing to do with the dive). Time 00:39:52.
Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 7  Dictabelts 26-29 - Reformatted undated
General note
Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 8  Dictabelts 30-35 - Reformatted undated
General note
Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 9  Dictabelts 36-40 - Reformatted 1960 May 27
General note
Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 10 Dictabelts 41-45 - Reformatted 1960
General note
Access
Original restricted (digital version available).
Box 23, Folder 11

**Dictabelts 46-50 - Reformatted undated**

General note

Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 12

**Dictabelts 51-55 - Reformatted undated**

General note

Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 13

**Dictabelts 56-60 - Reformatted 1960, 1962**

General note

Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 14

**Dictabelts (unnumbered) - Reformatted 1959-1960**

General note

Access
Original restricted (digital version available).

Box 23, Folder 15-28

**Full duplicate set of audiocassettes**

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**Dictaphone Belts**

Box 24, Folder 1

**Dictabelts 1-5 undated**

General note
"The Big Dive" to 37,800 in the Trieste, Jacques Piccard dictating.

Access
Restrictions Apply

Box 24, Folder 2

**Dictabelt 6 undated**

General note
Comments on the "Big Dive" by R. Dietz to complete J. Piccard's description.

Access
Restrictions Apply

Box 24, Folder 3

**Dictabelt 7 undated**

General note
"On Big Dive," J. Piccard #2, 4 March.

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<tr>
<th>Box 24, Folder 4</th>
<th><strong>Dictabelt 8 1960 January 14</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>General note</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dive to 37,000 feet, #1.</td>
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<th>Box 24, Folder 5</th>
<th><strong>Dictabelts 9-10 1960 January</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>General note</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tape just before big dive from NGD—first part has pieces from Rex and Drew, 1960 January.</td>
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<th><strong>Dictabelts 11-14 undated</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>General note</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R. Dietz.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>General note</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dive #61 - J. Piccard and A. Rechnitzer, depth of 18,000 ft., J. Piccard dictating.</td>
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<th>Box 24, Folder 8</th>
<th><strong>Dictabelts 17-18 undated</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>General note</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dive #64, 24,000 ft., J. Piccard, tapes #1-2.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dive log.</td>
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<td>Dietz on the Bathysonde.</td>
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<th><strong>Dictabelt 22 1960 July 14</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>General note</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From J. Piccard.</td>
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<td>Box 24, Folder 12</td>
<td>Dictabelts 23-25 undated</td>
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<td>General note</td>
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<td>Italian dive, R. Dietz, 8 March. Actual recording of the dive starts at time 4:00 (the first part records a child singing, nothing to do with the dive).</td>
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<th>Box 24, Folder 13</th>
<th>Dictabelts 26-28 undated</th>
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<td>General note</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Italian dive, R. Dietz.</td>
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<th>Box 24, Folder 14</th>
<th>Dictabelt 29 undated</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Italy dive with Pollini, J. Piccard #5, March 3.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Box 24, Folder 15</th>
<th>Dictabelts 30-33 undated</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>J. Piccard, February 27.</td>
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<td>J. Piccard on seepage of Trieste.</td>
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<td>Newton, J. Piccard, March 4.</td>
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| Box 24, Folder 32 | Dictabelts 62-65 undated  
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WRITINGS

Scope and Content of Series

Series 4) WRITINGS: The WRITINGS series constitutes the bulk of the Dietz papers, with extensive documentation of his publishing and research activities. Arranged in four subseries: A) ONR Reports and Memoranda, B) Articles, Essays and Presentations, C) Books, D) Notebooks.

A) ONR Reports and Memoranda: Dietz served as a Scientific Liaison Officer at the London Office of Naval Research in the mid-1950s. He authored the reports and memoranda in this series, which cover topics as varied as submersible research, the state of oceanography studies and technologies in different countries, and reports from scientific congresses.

B) Articles, Essays and Presentations: This subseries consists largely of original typescripts and reprints of Dietz's publications, however, it also includes book reviews, speeches, encyclopedia articles, rebuttals, letters to the editor, and articles written for the popular press. Most folders in this subseries include the final publication, often in the form of a signed reprint, though some also include manuscripts, drafts, outlines, supporting research materials, correspondence, original illustrations and line drawings, and photographs. Organized chronologically, with short abstracts and reviews and undated publications condensed at the front of the subseries.

C) Books: Manuscript material produced for three major books (one, Realms of the Sea, was never published). Seven Miles Down was co-written with Jacques Piccard, and references many of the documents in Series 3) BATHYSCAPH TRIESTE as source material. Dietz's confrontations with creationists over the age of the earth, Noah's ark, science education and other topics led to the publication of his 1987 book, Creation/Evolution Satiricon: Creationism Bashed. Additional material in Series 5) SUBJECT AND RESEARCH FILES and other writings in Subseries 4B supplement the topic of Dietz's public intellectual disputes with creationists.

D) Notebooks: Notebooks on a variety of topics, including conference attendance and research ideas. Arranged in approximate chronological order.

ONR Reports and Memoranda

Box 5, Folder 10
ONRL-85-54 Oceanography at Hamburg, Germany, and in Scandinavia 1954 September 27

Box 5, Folder 11
ONRL-110-54 Oceanography in Japan 1954 December 3, 1960
General note
Includes a supplemental 1960 report by Kazuhiko Terada on the same topic.

Box 5, Folder 12
ONRL-6-55 Post war German oceanography 1955 February 3

Box 5, Folder 13
ONRL-10-55 Oceanography on the Iberian Peninsula 1955 February 21

Box 5, Folder 14
ONRL-10-55 Related memo on Strait of Gibraltar and Italian submarines during WWII 1956 February 21

Box 5, Folder 15
ONRL-16-55 Oceanography at Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen, and Oceanographic Laboratory, Edinburgh 1957 February 28

Box 5, Folder 16
ONRL-33-55 Limnology and bottom sediments of Swiss Lakes 1955 April 22

Box 5, Folder 17
ONRL-40-55 Geological oceanography in France 1955 May 16

Box 5, Folder 18
ONRL-55-55 Recent developments in scuba diving in Europe 1955 June 30

Box 5, Folder 19
ONRL-71-55 Bathyscape Trieste 1955 August 10

Box 5, Folder 20
ONRL-91-55 USSR program in oceanography for the International Geophysical Year 1955 September 28

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ONRL-95-55 Calypso Oceanographic Expedition to the Eastern Mediterranean; Marine science in Turkey and Greece 1955 October 11

Box 5, Folder 22
ONRL-96-55 Cooperative research with French submarine geologists (May-June 1955); Beach studies and Elie Monnier cruise 1956 October 11

Box 5, Folder 23
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<td>Principles of measuring ocean currents by Bohneck 1955 January 26</td>
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<td>Russian survey of the Kurile Trench 1955 February 2</td>
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<td>Sea ice reporting and prediction in Europe 1955 March 4</td>
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<td>Box 6, Folder 6</td>
<td>Program to measure deep ocean currents at NIO 1955 March 9</td>
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**Technical Memoranda**

**Articles, Essays and Presentations**

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<th>Box 6, Folder 19</th>
<th>Shepard, F.P. and R. Dietz. The Emergence of (Santa) Catalina Island. American Journal of Science 1939</th>
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<td>Box 6, Folder 20</td>
<td>Shepard, F. P., Roger Revelle and R. Dietz. Ocean-bottom Currents off the California Coast. Science 1939</td>
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<td>Box 6, Folder 21</td>
<td>Clay Minerals in Recent Marine Sediments. University of Illinois Ph.D. thesis 1941</td>
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<td>Box 6, Folder 23</td>
<td>The Small Mounds of the Gulf Coastal Plain. Science 1945</td>
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<td>Box 6, Folder 24</td>
<td>Geological Structures Possibly Related to Lunar Craters. Popular Astronomy 1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 25</td>
<td>The Meteoric Impact Origin of the Moon's Surface Features. Journal of Geology 1946</td>
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<td>Box 6, Folder 26</td>
<td>Meteorite Impact Suggested by the Orientation of Shatter-cones at the Kentland, Indiana, Disturbance. Science 1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 27</td>
<td>Aerial Photographs in the Geological Study of Shore Features and Processes. Photogrammetric Engineering 1947</td>
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<td>6, 28</td>
<td>Antarctic 'Seeing.' Popular Astronomy 1948</td>
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<td>Some Pacific and Antarctic Sea-floor Features Discovered during the U.S. Navy Antarctic</td>
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<td>from the USS Nereus on a Cruise to the Bering and Chukchi Seas, 1947. U.S. Navy Electronics</td>
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<td>the Pacific Ocean off the California Coast and the Gulf of California. Bulletin Geology</td>
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<td>E. C. Buffington, A. J. Carsola and R. Dietz. Oceanographic Cruise to the Bering and</td>
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<td>Journal of Sedimentary Petroleum 1950</td>
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<td>7, 9</td>
<td>Substrata Acoustic Probe. NEL memoranda 1951-1958</td>
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<td>Memoranda on bottom sediment types using fathometers and acoustic penetration.</td>
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<td>7, 10</td>
<td>The Pacific Floor. Scientific American 1952</td>
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<td>American Association of Petroleum Geology 1952</td>
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<td>7, 14</td>
<td>Boquerón. Pacific Discovery 1953</td>
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<td>7, 15</td>
<td>Possible Deep-Sea Turbidity Current Channels in the Indian Ocean. Bulletin Geology Society</td>
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<td>Sound in the Sea. Asahi Kagaku 1953</td>
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<td>Islands. Journal of Geology 1953</td>
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<td>Possible Deep-Sea Turbidity Current Channels in the Bay of Bengal. Current Science 1954</td>
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<td>The Explosive Birth of Myojin Island. National Geographic 1954</td>
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<td>Arctic Basin Geomorphology 1955-1961</td>
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<td>Includes a folder on Ice island T-3 and Arctic/Hudson Bay sounding data.</td>
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<p>| Box 7, Folder 31 | Salient Problems of the Continental Terrace. Proceedings 8th Pacific Science Congress 1956 |
| Box 8, Folder 1  | Richards A. F. and R. Dietz. Eruption of Boquerón Volcano, San Benedicto Island, Mexico. Proceedings 8th Pacific Science Congress 1956 |
| Box 8, Folder 3  | Deep-Sea Diving by Bathyscaphe, Times Science Review (London) 1957 |
| Box 8, Folder 4  | Dietz, R., Russell Lewis, and A. Rechnitzer. The Bathyscaph. Scientific American 1958 |
| Box 8, Folder 5  | Point d'Impact Des Asteroides comme Origine des Bassins Oceaniques: Une Hypothese. Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique 1958 |
| Box 8, Folder 6  | 1100-Meter Dive in the Bathyscaph Trieste. Limnology and Oceanography 1959 |
| Box 8, Folder 7  | Drowned Ancient Islands of the Pacific. The New Scientist 1959 |
| Box 8, Folder 8  | Scott Cones in Cryptoexplosion Structures (Meteorite Impact?). Journal of Geology 1959 |
| Box 8, Folder 9  | Meteorite Impact Suggested by Shatter Cones in Rock. Science 1960 |
| Box 8, Folder 10 | Bathyscaphs and Other Deep Submersibles for Oceanographic Research 1960, 1965 |
| Box 8, Folder 11 | The Spreading Ocean Floor - Typescript draft for Saturday Evening Post &quot;Adventures of the Mind&quot; series 1960-1961 |
| Box 8, Folder 14 | Astroblemes. Scientific American 1961 |
| Box 8, Folder 16 | Vredefort Ring Structure: Meteorite Impact Scar? Journal of Geology 1961 |
| Box 8, Folder 17 | Continent and Ocean Basin Evolution by Sea Floor Spreading: Commotion in the Ocean. American Association of Petroleum Geology Distinguished Lecture Series 1962 |
| Box 8, Folder 18 | Commotion in the Ocean: The Growth of Continents and Ocean Basins. Hidaka Anniversary Volume Geophysical Institute, University of Tokyo 1962 |
| Box 8, Folder 19 | Ocean Basin Evolution by Sea Floor Spreading. From Continental Drift, International Geophysics Series 3, Chapter 10 1962 |
| Box 8, Folder 20 | Das Ratsel der Mittelozeanische Gebirge. Die Weltwoche 1962 |
| Box 8, Folder 21 | Ocean Basin Evolution by Sea Floor Spreading. Japanese Oceanographic Society 1962 |
| Box 8, Folder 22 | The Sea's Deep Scattering Layers. Scientific American. 1962 |
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| Box 9, Folder 1  | Collapsing Continental Rises: An Actualistic Concept of Geosynclines and Mountain Building. Journal of Geology 1963 |
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| Box 9, Folder 4  | Origin of the Continental Slopes. Presented at the American Association of Petroleum Geology convention 1963 |</p>
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<th>Box, Folder</th>
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<tr>
<td>9, Folder 5</td>
<td>Cryptoexplosion Structures: A Discussion. American Journal of Science 1963</td>
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<td>9, Folder 7-8</td>
<td>To Question Marine Profile of Equilibrium, Wave-Base and Wave-Built Terraces; with reply 1963-1964</td>
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<td>22, Folder 10</td>
<td>Do Tekellites Come from the Earth or the Moon? The New Scientist 1964</td>
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<td>9, Folder 9</td>
<td>Unyielding Continent, Mobile Seafloor 1964</td>
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<td>9, Folder 11</td>
<td>A Recycled Hydrosphere? Nature 1964</td>
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<td>9, Folder 12-13</td>
<td>Pan-Pacific Chilean Tsunami of May 1960 at San Diego and Environs - Manuscript, notes and photographs of San Diego harbor 1964</td>
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<td>9, Folder 15</td>
<td>Dietz, R. and Louis Butler. Shatter Cone Orientation at Sudbury, Canada. Nature 1964</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>The Third Surface. Chapter 1 from Papers in Marine Geology, Shepard Commemorative Volume 1964</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Dietz, R. and Nathan Ayer. Speculation on Oceanic Meteorite Impacts and Tsunamis 1965</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Roter Kamm, Southwest Africa: Probable Meteorite Crater. Meteoritics 1965</td>
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<td>Geosynclines, Mountains and Continent Building (with reply). Scientific American 1965</td>
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<td>Colston Symposium: Marine Geology and Geophysics. Science 1965</td>
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<td>Earth's Original Crust - Lost Quest? Tectonophysics 1965</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Review of Geologic Papers at the 11th Pacific Science Congress, Tokyo 1966</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Oceanography in the USSR. Sea Frontiers 1966</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Re: Geological Oceanography 1966</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Re: Continental Drift 1966</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Drifting Continents: An Outrageous Hypothesis Which May Well Be True. Analog 1966</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Shatter Cone at the Middlesboro Structure, Kentucky, and Striated Surfaces on Meteorites: Shock Fractures, not Slickensides. Meteoritics 1966</td>
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Box 10, Folder 14 | Equal Areas of Gondwana and Laurasia (Ancient Supercontinents). Nature 1966
Box 10, Folder 15 | Continents and Ocean Basins. What's New on Earth Symposium 1966
Box 10, Folder 16 | Geological Oceanography. From "Oceanography: Understanding Our Deep Frontier" (NAS/NRC narrated film series) 1966
Box 10, Folder 17 | Shatter Cones and Astroblemes. Adapted from a paper read at the Oregon Lunar Geological Field Conference 1966
Box 10, Folder 19 | Shatter Cones in Cryptoexplosion Structures. NASA 1966, 1968
Box 10, Folder 20 | Craters and Legends. Medical Opinion and Review 1966-1967
Box 10, Folder 21 | More About Continental Drift. Sea Frontiers 1967
Box 11, Folder 1 | Shatter Cone Orientation at Gosses Bluff Astrobleme. Nature 1967
Box 11, Folder 2 | Place of India in Continental Drift Morph Reconstructions 1968
Box 11, Folder 3 | Mineral Resources and Power from the Sea (Vast, Vital, Virtually Untapped) 1968
Box 11, Folder 4 | Reply to A. A. Meyerhoff's 'Arthur Holmes: Originator of Spreading Sea Floor Hypothesis.' Journal of Geophysics Research 1968

General note
Includes photograph of USCGSS Discoverer attempting a sounding.

Box 11, Folder 7 | Shatter Cones and Star Wounds. New Scientist 1968
Box 11, Folder 9 | The Origin of Continental Slopes. Nautilus 1968
Box 11, Folder 10 | Wave Base. Encyclopedia of Geomorphology 1968
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Box 11, Folder 13 | Ocean Floor in the Decade Ahead. Journal of the Marine Technology Society 1969
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Box 13, Folder 16  The Oceans from Skylab 4. Sea Frontiers 1974

Box 13, Folder 17  Ocean Wide, Ocean Deep. Industrial Research 1974

Box 13, Folder 18  Dietz, R. and J. McHone. Investigation of Possible Astroblemes in New Jersey and Canada (a Narrative Report) 1974


     General note
     Reminiscences about research on the ship E. W. Scripps and early research at SIO under F. Shepard.

Box 13, Folder 21  Plate Tectonics: A Revolution in Geology and Geophysics 1975

Box 13, Folder 22  Iceland: Where the Mid-Ocean Ridge Bares its Back. Sea Frontiers 1976

Box 14, Folder 1  The Restless Earth 1976-1977

     General note
     Unpublished manuscript written for German Playboy about climate change and geological evolution.

Box 14, Folder 2  The Present State of Plate Tectonics - Introductory remarks 1977

Box 14, Folder 3  Elgygytgyn Crater, Siberia: Probable Source of Australasian Tektite Field. Meteoritics 1977

Box 14, Folder 4  San Andreas: An Oceanic Fault that Came Ashore. Sea Frontiers 1977


Box 14, Folder 6  IFO's (Identified Flying Objects). Sea Frontiers 1978

Box 14, Folder 7  Plate Tectonics: Past, Present, and Future. Encyclopedia Britannica Yearbook of Science 1978

Box 14, Folder 8  Target Earth: Meteorite Craters and Astroblemes. Encyclopedia Britannica 1978

Box 14, Folder 9  Breaking the Seal: Bathysphere Dives of William Beebe, 1930-1934. “Grand Premières” Reader’s Digest France compilation 1979


Box 14, Folder 13  Dietz, R. and M. Woodhouse. Mediterranean Sub-bottom Giant Salt as a Messinian Precipitate. Presentation 1984

Box 14, Folder 14  Tektites and Terrestrial Meteorite Craters: Possible Associations. Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids 1984


Box 14, Folder 16  Introduction for Robert Ballard 1988

Box 14, Folder 17  Desiccated-Basin Model for Mediterranean (assorted writings) 1989

Box 14, Folder 18  Age of Rocks or Rocks of Ages? 1990

     General note
     Draft article for Geotimes on the International Conference on Creationism (ICC).
General note
Article about the K/T boundary collide impact.

Box 14, Folder 20  Are We Mining an Asteroid? Article on Sudbury Basin 1991
Box 14, Folder 21  Beaverhead Astrobleme 1991
Box 14, Folder 23  Sydney Chapman Memorial Lecture, University of Alaska Fairbanks 1992
General note
Dietz's biographical reminiscences on his research career and personal philosophies.

General note
Includes a folder of correspondence and press clippings relating to Dietz’s response to the CBS special on Noah’s ark.

Books
Seven Miles Down: The Story of the Bathyscaphe Trieste (1961)
Box 22, Folder 11  Publishing contract 1960 April 13
Box 15, Folder 1-3  Correspondence 1960-1962
Box 15, Folder 4  Notes and outlines
Box 15, Folder 5-11  Drafts and revisions

Realms of the Sea (unpublished) 1957-1970
Box 15, Folder 12  Introduction
Box 15, Folder 13  Chapter 1 - Geology
Box 16, Folder 1-3  Chapter 1 - Bathymetry, ancient islands, origin and geology
Box 16, Folder 4-7  Chapter 2 - Biology, continental drift, sea level spreading, currents and acoustics
Box 16, Folder 8-10  Chapter 3 - Continental margins and physical oceanography
Box 17, Folder 1-2  Chapter 5 - Ocean basins and sediments
Box 17, Folder 3  Chapters 7-8 - Resources and physical oceanography
Box 17, Folder 4  Chapters 9-10 - Deep scattering layer
Box 17, Folder 5-7  Creation/Evolution Satiricon: Creationism Bashed (1987)
Box 17, Folder 8  Notes and outlines
Box 17, Folder 9  Correspondence 1987
Box 17, Folder 10-13  Photocopies of annotations in Bible
Box 18, Folder 1-4  Typescript manuscript 1984-1985
Box 18, Folder 5  Typescript manuscript 1987

Notebooks
Box 18, Folder 5  Notes undated
Box 18, Folder 6  Cuba undated
Box 18, Folder 7  IGC undated
Box 18, Folder 8  USSR oceanography delegation visit to US 1965 October
Box 18, Folder 9  Taiwan/Israel 1983-1983
Box 18, Folder 10  Vadimecum Satiricon II 1987 September-December
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<td>Meusa/Portugal 1988</td>
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<td>Meteoritical Society/ICR short course/Earthquakes 1988</td>
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<td>Box 18, Folder 14</td>
<td>GSA 1988 November</td>
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<td>Box 18, Folder 15</td>
<td>AGU 1988 December</td>
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<td>Box 19, Folder 1</td>
<td>GSA/Notes on creation and evolution 1989-1990</td>
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<td>Box 19, Folder 2</td>
<td>Notes 1990</td>
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<td>Box 19, Folder 3</td>
<td>International Conference on Creationism (Pittsburg)/GSA 1990-1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subseries 5) SUBJECT AND RESEARCH FILES</td>
<td>Scope and Content of Series</td>
<td>Assorted files documenting Dietz's research interests over time, though they are not exhaustive or necessarily representative of original scientific research. Major themes include Soviet oceanography, creationism, continental drift, geomorphology, meteor impact craters, the Sudbury basin, and important single folders on Project Mohole and Francis P. Shepard.</td>
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<td>Box 22, Folder 13</td>
<td>Arctic cruise 1961</td>
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<td>Oversize FB-549, Folder 14</td>
<td>Arctic cruise - Nautilus track graph data 1961</td>
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<td>Arizona - State rock and fossil (petrified wood) proposals</td>
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<td>Arizona State University, Museum of Geology - Petrified wood installation 1990-1994</td>
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<td>Bahama Nexxus (BNX) 1982-1987</td>
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<td>General note</td>
<td>Includes slides of Dietz.</td>
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<td>Barringer Crater Company 1961-1975</td>
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<td>General note</td>
<td>Includes extensive correspondence.</td>
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<td>Barringer meteor crater - Composite bibliography 1969</td>
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<td>Fossilized egg 1980-1983</td>
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<td>Historical recognition of astroblemes - Notes for GSA 1994</td>
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<td>HMS Affray wreck - Photographs 1951</td>
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<td>Box 20, Folder 8</td>
<td>Hudson Bay and Nastapoka Arc 1972</td>
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<td>General note</td>
<td>Includes detailed letter describing 11-day expedition by J. Paul Barringer; memoranda about a possible impact site in Canada.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 9-10</td>
<td>International Conference on Creationism, Pittsburgh 1990</td>
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<tr>
<td>General note</td>
<td>Includes papers and abstracts. Used as a topic for Dietz's writings discrediting creationist &quot;science.&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 11</td>
<td>K/T impact crater and dinosaur demise ca. 1990</td>
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<td>General note</td>
<td>Includes photo of Dietz with John F. McHone.</td>
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<td>Meteor craters 1964-1965</td>
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<td><strong>Operation Highjump, Navy/Byrd Antarctic Expedition 1947</strong></td>
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<td>Includes photographs and a letter by Dietz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 21, Folder 2</td>
<td><strong>Project Mohole - Post-mortem file 1960-1962, 1989</strong></td>
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<td>Includes a 1989 &quot;historical note&quot; memo by Dietz explaining his opposition to the Mohole research, and notes from the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council, Committee on Oceanography, from 1961 April.</td>
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<td>Box 21, Folder 3</td>
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<td><strong>Shepard, Francis P. 1985-1993</strong></td>
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<td>Extensive biographical file, including photographs and recollections of Shepard prepared for his memorial service.</td>
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<td>Box 21, Folder 6-9</td>
<td><strong>Soviet (USSR) astroblemes and meteorite research 1972-1979</strong></td>
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<td>Includes Russian reprints, papers on the Zhamanshin crater, and correspondence from P. V. Florensky.</td>
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<td>Box 21, Folder 10</td>
<td><strong>Soviet (USSR) oceanography research 1959-1965</strong></td>
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<td>Includes photographs of Russian oceanographers and research centers.</td>
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<td><strong>Spokane, WA historic floods 1993</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sudbury Conference on Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution 1992</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Triton consulting 1968-1968</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Trou Sans Fond submarine canyon - Correspondence and data 1958-1968</strong></td>
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<td><strong>U.S. Navy Electronics Lab photographs ca. 1950-1970</strong></td>
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<td>Assorted black and white prints, mostly 8x10, of coastlines, specimens, figures and underwater research. May include some photographs by Dietz.</td>
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