

Wilson
Box 43
Folder 27
Memorials: U.S.S. Enterprise
1956-1958

A collection of letters, telegrams, notices, postal cards and other items. **Examples are:** one page copy of "INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PRESERVATION OF USS ENTERPRISE" (n.d.) re/ a plea for the preservation of this notable carrier but requiring a group outside the Navy to implement this; 6 copies of News Release from the Office of Public Information, Dept. of Defense (10/6/56) – "Famed Carrier Enterprise to be Sold for Scrap" re/ memorial status not feasible, refit too costly & too small compared to ESSEX & MIDWAY class carriers; a letter (10/19/56) from constituent Richard J. Curran (S.D. Post 6, The American Legion) & Wilson's reply (10/25/56) re/ potential for building local support for saving the Big E; letters (Oct.-Nov. 1956) re/ more commentary from a constituent on saving the Big E; letter & editorial (11/56) re/ a "Fitting Memorial" to be preserved in San Diego; letter (11/27/56) from RAdm. E. C. Stephen (Chief of Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Navy) to Wilson re/ the desire of the City of San Diego to acquire the USS Enterprise; letters (Nov. 1956 & Feb. 1957) from Bill Rubin (President, U.S.S. Enterprise Assn.), Wilson & the Secretary of the Navy, Charles S. Thomas re/ interest in using San Diego as a memorial site for the Big E and qualifiers from the Secretary of the Navy; letters (2/21/57) re/ new federal budget, constituent suggestion of including preserving Big E and Wilson's reply; telegrams (3/5 & 8/23/57) re/ Big E "nearly stripped of removable items and scheduled to be offered for scrap next month;" letter (9/12/57) from Bill Rubin (U.S.S. Enterprise Assn.) thanking Wilson for all his help; a letter (2/19/58) from Bill Rubin & Wilson's reply (2/26/58) re/ failure to save the Enterprise, "Neil Morgan's stirring column on the death of the Enterprise & convention to be held in San Diego next July; copy of "Statement by Congressman Bob Wilson for insertion in the appendix of the Congressional Record" re/ Neil Morgan's column from the Evening Tribune; copy of a letter (2/3/58) from the Secretary of the Navy, Thomas S. Gates, Jr. to Wilson re/ naming our first nuclear carrier CVA(N) – 65 the USS Enterprise; postal cards & 1 letter (7/58) re/ constituent pleas to save the Enterprise by passing H.R. 13237, which was unlikely; letters & telegram (7/58) re/ further pleas on saving the Enterprise – Wilson replied that "The expense would be terrific and, among other things, the Navy unofficially has advised me that they do not look on this plan with favor;" postal card & letter (7/58) re/ constituent urges reduction in Foreign Aid and preserving the Enterprise & Wilson indicated little chance that this would happen; letters (7/58) re/ similar theme to the above.