

Wilson
Box 45
Folder 12
Natural Resources: Water/Mexico
1962

A collection of press releases, letters, telegrams, postal cards, news clippings & other items.

Examples are: a Dept. of the Interior press release for February 11, 1962 – “Joint Action Being Considered To Alleviate Salinity Problems On Lower Colorado – 3 pages of details; a telegram (2/21/62) from Holtville Chamber of Commerce to Wilson re/ the “serious threat to Mexicali Valley, Baja California, Mexico from waste discharge into Colorado River from Welton Mohawk Drainage;” a telegram (2/12/62) from Calexico Chamber of Commerce to Wilson containing the same message as the one from Holtville; office note & telegram (1/62) re/ telephone call from constituent R.E. Hazard & Wilson’s sympathy to the water salinity problem faced by Mexico; copy of a letter (2/16/62) from Mobley Meadows Milam (Attorney at Law, Calexico) to Congressman D. S. Saud re/ Mexico Salinity Problem and Mr. Milam’s negative view about Mexico’s complaints; letters, press releases & telegram (Nov. 1961-Feb. 1962) re/ State Dept. response to a telegram sent to Wilson from Charles Provost (Secretary, Imperial Mexicali Cotton Exchange concerning the grave situation for lower California’s 300,000 inhabitants; a collection of letters, postal cards and telegrams (2/62) from Wilson’s constituents and his responses re/ “the Bomb on the Border” television program had heightened the awareness of constituents as to the plight of those in the Mexicali Valley -- these letters indicate sympathy for them; a letter (2/20/62) from Don Brown (President, Brawley Chamber of Commerce) & Wilson’s reply (2/28/62) re/ “serious threat to Mexicali Valley of the waste discharge into the Colorado River from the Wellton-Mohawk Draining Project;” copy of typed draft with commentary re/ “Mr. Sayre – State Department – Mexican Desk 182 x 2638 dictated the following over the phone March 16, 1962 – This is a draft which we are still trying to get clear. Title: 1944 Water Treaty with Mexico;” copy of news release for Friday, March 16, 1962 – “Office of the White House Press Secretary The White House 1944 Water Treaty With Mexico;” a letter (3/22/62) from Frederick Dutton (Asst. Sec. of State) to Wilson re/ “latest developments in the controversy arising from Mexican charges of excess salinity in deliveries of Colorado River water to the Mexicali valley in the winter of 1961-1962;” a number of letters & postal cards (3/62) from constituents & Wilson’s replies re/ “the serious problem that exists in the Mexicali Valley;” letters & photocopy of news from the *Evening Tribune* re/ La Mesa Chamber of Commerce and Wilson cover the salinity issue and Wilson offer 3 suggested solutions as well as criticizing the Kennedy Administration’s delay on this across the border crisis; letters & photocopy of news item (3/62) re/ Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce and Wilson with similar commentary to the previous material cited; stapled packet of corresp. (3/62) re/ responses to constituent’s concern about Mexicali salinity problem from State Dept. and Wilson; a letter (4/5/62) from the Colorado River Board of California , their Resolution adopted on April 4, 1962 & Wilson’s reply (4/9/62) re/ the Board’s opposition to any proposal that might increase the scheduled annual delivery of water to Mexico – *this was based on the 1944 treaty wording*; telegram & letter (May-June 1962) re/ a constituent’s support for a “fair distribution of usable water to Mexicali Irrigation District; 4 page copy of an August 8, 1962 telegram to Bill Roberts, Time Life Broadcast, Inc. (Washington, D.C.) re/ KOGO Editorial summarizing the issues of

Mexicali Valley salinity, especially as increased by the Welton-Mohawk Drainage Project – a normal 800 parts of salt per million parts of water increased to a level at times of more than 3000 parts of salt; a letter (7/20/62) from Lemon Grove constituent Allen Evans & letters (Aug.-Sept. 1962) from Frederick G. Dutton (Asst. Sec., State Dept.) & Wilson re/ projected action on salinity issue, but Wilson's frustrations with Depts. of State & Interior delays; a letter (4/13/63) from constituent Peter W. Kaiser (Agricultural-Nutritional Foundation, Inc.) & Wilson's reply (4/17/63) re/ commentary on \$6 million appropriation for research and methods to eliminate salt-intrusion problems – these “ funds be used for eliminating the basic cause of salt-intrusion.”