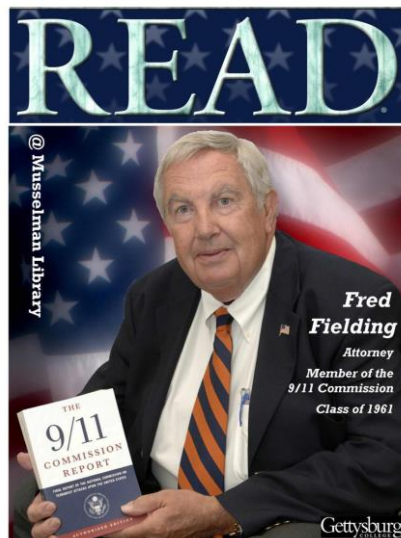


Gettysburg College  
Musselman  
**Library**  
*special collections*

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Guide to MS-216:

Fred Fielding 9/11 Commission Papers



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections and College Archives

Ron Couchman

## MS-216: Fred Fielding 9/11 Commission Papers

Processed by Ron Couchman

### Size

9 boxes, 9 cubic feet

### Location

Special Collections

### Dates

Inclusive: December 2002 – July 2014

Bulk: March 2003 – December 2004

### Provenance

Gift of Fred Fielding, Member of the 9/11 Commission.

### Biographical Note

Fred Fisher Fielding was born in Philadelphia and raised in Mechanicsville, Pennsylvania. He received his B.A. degree cum laude from Gettysburg College in 1961 with a major in Political Science. He attended the University Of Virginia School Of Law, where he was on the Editorial Board of the Virginia Law Review, earning a J.D. degree in 1964.

After serving in the United States Army from 1965-1967, rising to the rank of Captain, he served at the pleasure of the President in the Nixon White House as Associate Counsel from 1970 to 1972 and Deputy Counsel from 1972 to 1974. His judgment would be sought by two subsequent U.S. Presidents as well when he was named White House Counsel to President Ronald Reagan from 1981 to 1986 and to President George W. Bush from February 2007 to January 2009. In addition, he was a member of the President's Commission on Federal Ethics Law Reform, a member of the Secretary of Transportation's Task Force on Aviation Disasters, and a member of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission).

As an internationally known litigator, mediator, and strategic adviser, Mr. Fielding has received numerous awards and accolades during his career. When Mr. Fielding was appointed White House Counsel in 2007, TIME magazine described him as “the ultimate Washington lawyer-insider . . . he’s the guy who helps you defend your position, stick to your principles, but tries to work out a reasonable compromise . . . he is highly regarded by everyone.” The New York Times noted that he “has an independence of judgment and independence of stature.” Washingtonian magazine, in picking the top lawyers to whom other lawyers and judges would turn if they were in trouble, named Mr. Fielding and characterized him as “very shrewd, smart and discreet . . . an attorney with a reputation for keeping people from getting into trouble in the first place.” His numerous honors include selection as a “Legend in the Law” by the Washington Lawyer magazine, as a “Legal Visionary” by the Legal Times, as the District of Columbia Bar Association’s “Lawyer of the Year 2004,” and as one of the “Best Lawyers in

America” for business litigation by Corporate Counsel magazine. His additional activities include board memberships in numerous charitable and public corporations, including his leadership in establishing the Fielding Fellows Program which will be the cornerstone of a Center of Presidential Leadership at the Eisenhower Institute of Gettysburg College.

### Agency Note

The National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, also known as the 9/11 Commission, was set up on November 27, 2002, "to prepare a full and complete account of the circumstances surrounding the September 11 attacks", including preparedness for and the immediate response to the attacks. The commission was also mandated to provide recommendations designed to guard against future attacks.

Chaired by former New Jersey Governor Thomas Kean, the commission consisted of five Democrats and five Republicans. The commission was created by Congressional legislation, with the bill signed into law by President George W. Bush.

The commission's final report was lengthy and based on extensive interviews and testimony. Its primary conclusion was that the failures of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) permitted the terrorist attacks to occur and that if these agencies had acted more wisely and more aggressively, the attacks could potentially have been prevented.

After the report's release in July 2004, the commissioners reorganized themselves with private funding into a watchdog group known as the Public Discourse Project in order to advocate for the Commission's recommendations and to monitor progress. That group remained active until December, 2005.

The commissioners meet together one additional time at a National Security Program: Homeland Security Project – Today's Rising Terrorist Threat and the Danger to the United States: Reflections on the Tenth Anniversary of The 9/11 Commission Report, offered by 'The Bipartisan Policy Center' and supported by the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, July 21-22, 2014.

### Scope and Content Note

The collection contains copies of many of the official documents of the 9/11 Commission, including meeting minutes, public hearing and selected reading binders, press releases and documents associated with the release of the 9/11 Commission Report in the summer of 2004. There are several gaps in the material and the early public hearings and commission minutes are missing.

### Series Description

The collection is divided into four series. **Series I:** Official Commission Documents, **Series II:** Commission Activities and Communication, **Series III:** Final Report and Post-Release Activity - Public Discourse Project, **Series IV:** Supplemental Material.

**Series I: Official Commission Documents** – this series contains meeting minutes, March 2003 – March 2004; public hearing briefing binders beginning with the Sixth Public Hearing, including the interviews with President Bush and Vice President Cheney and President Clinton and Vice President Gore; and selected reading and information binders prepared by commission staff teams. These documents are

organized into four subseries: A - Commission Meetings, B – Commission Hearings and Interviews, C – Information Inquiry Binders, D – Information Folders.

**Series II: Commission Activities and Communication** – this series contains material collected and saved by Fred Fielding, one member of the tenth member commission. The material follows the activities of the commission from its creation in December 2002 through the final report is July 2004 and contains a collection of the communication between commission members, with and from the commission staff, administrative agencies and the public at large. The material is organized by subject within three main chronological periods of commission activity. These subject areas include: prep material for public hearings, fact finding activity, commission organization and operation, negotiation and communication with the White House and other executive agencies, commission discussion and deliberations often in the form of e-mail messages, press releases and other statements from the commission, communication with the Family Steering Group, correspondence to Fielding or the full commission from persons who wanted to provide information or influence commission findings, and news articles about the commission’s activities. This material would suggest that Mr. Fielding did much to facilitate cooperation between the commission and the Bush White House. The chronological subseries are: A – Organization, B – December 2002 – August 2003, C – Bulk Dates Fall 2003, D – Bulk Dates Spring 2004.

**Series III: Final Report and Post-Release Activity: Public Discourse Project** – this series contains Commission activity in preparation for the release of the final report, briefing material at the time of release, response to the report by the government and others, reorganization of the Commissioners as the privately funded advocacy group the ‘Public Discourse Project’, the status of recommendations at a one-year review, and a Bipartisan Policy Center program on Reflections on the Tenth Anniversary of The 9/11 Commission Report. This material is arranged into four subseries: A – Release of Final Report, B – Public Discourse Project, C – One-Year Review, D – Commission Report: Ten Years Later

**Series IV: Supplemental Material** – this series contains material collected by Mr. Fielding and perhaps distributed to Commission members regarding terrorism and the volatile political situation in the Middle East and extra copies of the final report and recommendations.

## Box List

### Box 1

#### Series 1: Official Commission Documents

##### **Subseries A: Commission Meetings**

- 1-0 Finding Aid
- Commission Meeting Binders
  - March 20, 2003
  - April 10, 2003
  - April 30 – May 1, 2003
  - May 21, 2003
  - June 5, 2003
  - June 26, 2003
  - July 31, 2003

- August 14, 2003
- September 9 – 10 2003
- February 10, 2004
- February 24, 2004
- March 2, 2004

Other Commission Meeting Minutes

- 1-1 September 23, 2003
- 1-2 October 14, 2003
- 1-3 November 6 – 7, 2003
- 1-4 December 8, 2003

Box 2

Series 1 continued

**Subseries B:** Commission Hearings and Interviews

Commission Meeting Binders

- Sixth Public Hearing: “Security and Liberty” - December 8, 2003
- Seventh Public Hearing: “Borders, Transportation, and Managing Risk” - January 26-27, 2004
- Ninth Public Hearing: “National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice” - April 8, 2004
- Tenth Public Hearing: “Law Enforcement and the Intelligence Community” - April 13-14, 2004

Box 3

Series 1 continued

**Subseries B continued**

Public Hearing Briefing Binders

- Twelfth Public Hearing day 1: “The 9/11 Plot” - June 16, 2004
- Twelfth Public Hearing day 2: “Improvising a Homeland Defense” - June 17, 2004

Interview Binders

- Background binder for President Clinton and Vice President Gore interviews
- Background binder for President Bush and Vice President Cheney interviews

Box 4

Series 1 continued

**Subseries C:** Information Inquiry Binders

Commission Selected Readings Binders

- Selected Readings Teams 1, 6, 7, & 8
- Selected Readings Teams 3, 4, 5, & 9
- Background Documents from the House/Senate Joint Inquiry into 9/11

## Box 5

### Series 1 continued

#### **Subseries D:** Information Folders / Public Hearing Folders

- 5-1 Unedited transcript from the 4<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing
- 5-2 Unedited transcript from the 6<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing
- 5-3 Unedited transcripts from the 7<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing
- 5-4 Unedited transcripts from the 8<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing
- 5-5 Unedited transcripts from the 9<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing (Rice)
- 5-6 Unedited transcripts from the 11<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing
- 5-7 Unedited transcripts from the 12<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing
- 5-8 Commission Press Clips December 2002 – January 2003
- 5-9 Commission Press Clips February 2003
- 5-10 Commission Press Clips March 2003
- 5-11 Commission Press Clips April 2003
- 5-12 Commission Press Clips May 2003
- 5-13 Commission Press Clips June 2003
- 5-14 Commission Press Clips July 2003

## Box 6

### Series 2: Commission Activities and Communications

#### **Subseries A:** Organization

- 6-1 Fielding Appointment to the Commission
- 6-2 Messages to Fielding upon his Appointment
- 6-3 Drafts of Fielding's Opening Statement
- 6-4 Commission Objectives
- 6-5 Resumes – Potential Staff
- 6-6 Directory – Commissioners and Staff

#### **Subseries B:** December 2002 – August 2003

- 6-7 First Public Hearing: The Attack, March 31- April 1, 2003
- 6-8 Second Public Hearing: Congress and Civil Aviation Security, May 22-23, 2003
- 6-9 Other Fact-Finding Activity
- 6-10 Statements from the Commission, First Interim Report – July 2003
- 6-11 Commission Organization and Operation
- 6-12 Communication with the White House and other Executive Offices
- 6-13 Commission Discussion and Deliberation
- 6-14 Communication with the Family Steering Group
- 6-15 Correspondence to Fielding or the Commission from Other Interested Persons
- 6-16 News Articles about the Commission
- 6-17 Miscellaneous

**Subseries C: Bulk Dates Fall 2003**

- 6-18 4<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Intelligence and the War on Terrorism, October 14, 2003
- 6-19 5<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Private/Public Sector Partnership for Emergency Preparedness, November 19, 2003
- 6-20 6<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Security and Liberty, December 8, 2003
- 6-21 Other Fact-Finding Activity
- 6-22 Statements from the Commission including Second Interim Report
- 6-23 Commission Organization and Operation
- 6-24 Communication with the White House and Other Executive Offices
- 6-25 Commission Discussion and Deliberation
- 6-26 Communication with the Family Steering Committee
- 6-27 Correspondence to Fielding or the Commission from Other Interested Persons
- 6-28 Press Clips and Media Advisories
- 6-29 Media Relations
- 6-30 Newspaper Clippings about the Commission
- 6-31 Fred Fielding Handwritten Notes
- 6-32 Fred Fielding Personal and Professional Material

**Subseries D: Bulk Dates Winter-Spring 2004**

- 6-33 Interviews with the President Bush and Vice President Cheney
- 6-34 Interview with President Clinton
- 6-35 7<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Borders, Transportation and Managing Risk, January 26-27, 2004
- 6-36 8<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Counterterrorism Policy, March 23-24, 2004

**Box 7**

**Series 2 continued**

**Subseries D continued**

- 7-1 9<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Condoleezza Rice, April 8, 2004
- 7-2 10<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Law Enforcement and the Intelligence Community, April 13-14, 2004 # 1
- 7-3 10<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Law Enforcement and the Intelligence Community, April 13-14, 2004 # 2  
(Threat and Response 2001)
- 7-4 10<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing: Law Enforcement and the Intelligence Community, April 13-14, 2004 # 3  
(Preparations for the Future)
- 7-5 Fact Finding – Intelligence Sharing between Agencies
- 7-6 Fact Finding – Interview Summaries
- 7-7 Statements by the 9-11 Commission
- 7-8 Commission Organization & Operation
- 7-9 Communication with the White House and Other Executive Offices
- 7-10 Commission Discussion and Deliberation
- 7-11 Communication with the Family Steering Group
- 7-12 Correspondence to Fielding or the Commission from Other Interested Persons
- 7-13 Press Clips and Media Relations

- 7-14 News Articles about the Commission
- 7-15 Miscellaneous and Supplemental Material
- 7-16 Fielding Personal and Professional Correspondence

### Series 3: Final Report and Post-Release Activity

#### **Subseries A:** Release of Final Report

- 7-17 Final Report Preparation
- 7-18 Report Release July 2004
- 7-19 Rollout Briefing Material Binder
- 7-20 Executive Summary
- 7-21 Statements from the Commission
- 7-22 News Articles and Press Clippings
- 7-23 Commission Organization and Operation
- 7-24 9-11 Commission National Speaking Tour
- 7-25 Communication with Family Group

### Box 8

#### Series 3 continued

#### **Subseries A** continued

- 8-1 Governmental Response to the Report
- 8-2 Other Response to the Report
- 8-3 Correspondence to Fielding or the Commission from Other Interested Persons
- 8-4 Fielding Handwritten Notes
- 8-5 The 9/11 Commission Report: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States; W. W. Norton & Company, New York, 2004

#### **Subseries B:** Public Discourse Project

- 8-6 Public Discourse Project Established
- 8-7 Public Discourse Project Organization and Operation
- 8-8 Continued Conversation and Dialog about the Report
- 8-9 Review and Support for Pending Legislation

#### **Subseries C:** One-Year Review

- 8-10 One-Year Anniversary, July 2005
- 8-11 Public Discourse Project Organization and Operation
- 8-12 Reports on the Status of 9/11 Commission Recommendations
- 8-13 Briefing Binder -- Report on the Status of 9/11 Commission Recommendations, Part III: Foreign Policy, Public Diplomacy, and Non-Proliferation
- 8-14 Preparations for the Final Report of the Public Discourse Project
- 8-15 Briefing Binder – Final Report of the 9/11 Public Discourse Project
- 8-16 Miscellaneous Communications
- 8-17 Miscellaneous Material



8-18 Personal Correspondence to Fielding

**Subseries D: The 9/11 Commission Report: Ten Years Later**

National Security Program: Homeland Security Project – **Today's Rising Terrorist Threat and the Danger to the United States: Reflections on the Tenth Anniversary of The 9/11 Commission Report**, offered by 'The Bipartisan Policy Center' and supported by the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, July 21-22, 2014

8-19 Program Folder – Ten Years Later, Sponsored by the Bipartisan Policy Center at The Annenberg Public Policy Center of The University of Pennsylvania, July 21-22, 2014

8-20 Booklet -- Reflections on the Tenth Anniversary of the 9/11 Commission Report

8-21 Briefing Book for 9/11 Commissioners

Box 9

Series 4: Supplemental Material

Supplemental Material produced for the United States Special Operations Command by Universal Strategy Group, Inc. Research and Analysis Division

- **Directed Study of Iran**; February 2010 (published volume and DVD)
- **Directed Study of Lebanese Hezbollah**; October 2010 (published volume and DVD)
- **Directed Study of Al Qaeda**; August 2011 (published volume and DVD) Produced for United States Special Operations Command
- **Illegal Drugs: A Global Crisis**; May 2011 (published volume and DVD) Beta Reporting and Video – Continuing Aviation Security Failures
- Mamdani, Mahmood; **Good Muslim, Bad Muslim: America, the Cold War, and the Roots of Terror**; Pantheon Books, New York, 2004
- **The 9/11 Commission Report: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States**; W. W. Norton & Company, New York, 2004 (8 copies)

Related Collections

MS-205: The Larry Recla Ground Zero Collection

VFM-463: Petrus, Steve, Class of 1995, Reflections on 9/11

Additional Information

**The 9/11 Commission Report: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the U. S.**; New York, Norton, 2004 HV6432.7 N39 2004

**Without Precedent: The Inside Story of the 9/11 Commission**; Kean, Thomas H.; New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 2006 HV6432.7 .K43 2006

**The 9/11 investigations : staff reports of the 9/11 Commission : excerpts from the House-Senate joint inquiry report on 9/11 : testimony from fourteen key witnesses, including Richard Clarke,**

**George Tenet, and Condoleezza Rice /** edited by Steven Strasser ; with an introduction by Craig R. Whitney; New York : PublicAffairs, c2004 HV6432.7 A132 2004

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