

CRAIG, CALVIN FRED.

Calvin Fred Craig papers,1953-1979

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Craig, Calvin Fred.
Title: Calvin Fred Craig papers,1953-1979
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 612
Extent: 2.5 linear feet (4 boxes), 2 oversized papers boxes and 1 oversized papers folder (OP), and AV Masters: .25 linear ft. (CLP)
Abstract: Papers of Calvin Fred Craig, who served as Grand Dragon of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan including constitution and by-laws; membership and information cards; minutes and notes, printed material, photographs, and Klan memorabilia.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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Related Materials in This Repository

Ku Klux Klan collection, Ku Klux Klan, Carlock Unit No. 71 (Carlock, Illinois) records, Ku Klux Klan, Knox County Unit No. 14 (Knoxville, Tennessee), Knox County Klan No. 14 records.

Source

Gift, 1981.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Calvin Fred Craig papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note

Calvin Fred Craig, native of Atlanta, Ga., was born May 5, 1928. A heavy-equipment operator, Craig served as Grand Dragon of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan during the 1960s. In October of 1965, he and other officers of the Knights were called before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. His only serious brush with the law came in 1966, when he refused to provide Klan records to a House committee and was later fined for contempt of Congress.

In April 1968, Craig called a news conference to announce that he had resigned his Klan post to work for a nation where "black men and white men can stand shoulder to shoulder in a united America." It is reported that he was influenced by Xernona Clayton, a black civil rights activist who was in charge of the Atlanta Model Cities program, a federally financed interracial neighborhood improvement group which Clayton and Craig served on together. In 1970 however, having soured on the Model Cities program, he helped form a secretive white group called the Christian Americans Patriotic Society, and in 1975, with Klan membership declining, he helped publicize a revival of the Klan in Georgia. By 1984, however, he had dropped out of both groups. He died in Newnan, Georgia on April 13, 1998.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the papers of Calvin Fred Craig from 1953-1979. The papers primarily pertain to Craig's involvement in the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (KKKK), particularly while serving as Grand Dragon of the Georgia Realm. The papers include correspondence; a few records including KKKK minutes and notes and circular letters from Craig to Klan members; legal records such as photocopies of KKKK incorporation records and a transcript from a 1966 case against Craig by the District of Columbia.

The photographs contain images of Klan events including, cross burnings, marches, and rallies, many in the Atlanta area and the funeral of Eldon Edwards, the U.S. Klan Imperial Wizard. The printed material includes broadsides, brochures, flyers, constitution and by-laws; membership cards, printed rituals and regulations, as well as Craig and other Klan officers testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. The collection also includes ephemera such as Klan cuff links and lapel pins, as well as two Klan robes and some audiovisual materials such as speeches and interviews.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Appointment certificates, 1959-1960
1	2	Cards (business, membership, etc.)
1	3	Cartoons (published and unpublished in the)
1	4	Clippings
1	5	Clippings
1	6	Correspondence, 1958-1964
1	7	Correspondence, 1965-1968
1	8	Correspondence, 1969-1970
1	9	Correspondence, 1971-1979
1	10	Correspondence, no date
1	11	Election literature, State Representatives and State Senate
1	12	Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Circular letters [from Craig], 1961-1969, 1975
1	13	Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Notes
1	14	Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Minutes, lists, 1960-1968
1	15	Legal, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Articles of Incorporation, Fulton County, Georgia, July 1, 1916 (photocopy)
1	16	Legal, Supreme Grand Colony of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Articles of Incorporation, Fulton County, Georgia, July 1, 1916 (photocopy)
1	17	Legal, Fulton County Superior Court Grand Jury presentment, July-August 1961
1	18	Legal, United States District Court for the District of Columbia USA vs. Calvin Fred Craig, January 3, 1966
1	19	Petition from Citizen's of Georgia, re Opposition to House Bill 5 [cross burning, wearing robes, and permit to carry guns], no date
OP3	-	Poster [hand drawn], "Presented to Calvin F. Craig, Grand Dragon, Walter E. Fisher, June 6, 1966"

Photographs

2	1	Americus, Georgia, Klan march, 1965 (4 photos)
OP1	1	Atlanta, Georgia, aerial view, circa 1960s
2	2	Atlanta, Georgia, Dinkler Plaza Hotel, Klan meeting [includes Calvin Craig, Bill Davidson, E.E. George, Rev. R.I. Bagley, C.C. Perkins, James R. Venable], December 1960 (16 photos)
2	3	Atlanta, Georgia, Downtown (Peachtree and Baker), Klan march, June 1965 (1 photo)
2	4	Atlanta, Georgia, Downtown, Klan march, circa June 1965 (8 photos)
2	5	Atlanta, Georgia, Georgia State Capitol, woman picketer "We want segregation in all our schools," no date (1 photo)
2	6	Atlanta, Georgia, Grant Park, Klan gathering, no date (1 photo)

- 2 7 Atlanta, Georgia, Hurt Park, Klan rally, 1966 (3 photos)
- 2 8 Atlanta, Georgia, Klan rally [showing African Americans looking on], June 1965 (5 photos)
- 2 9 Atlanta, Georgia, Krystal Restaurant [African Americans looking inside at Klan members], January 18, 1964 (1 photo)
- 2 10 Atlanta, Georgia, Leb's Restaurant, Civil rights demonstration, January 25, 1964 (4 photos)
- 2 11 Atlanta, Georgia, Colonial Store (Whatley Street and Jonesboro Road), Pickets boycotting store, December 1960 (7 photos)
- 2 12 Cordele, Georgia, Klan rally, no date (3 photos)
- 2 13 Crawfordville, Georgia, Klan rally at Murden School and at the Taliferro County Courthouse, no date (2 photos)
- 2 14 Craig, Calvin, no date (2 photos)
- 2 15 Edwards, Eldon (U.S. Klan Imperial Wizard), Klan rally, no date (2 photos)
- 2 16 Edwards, Eldon (U.S. Klan Imperial Wizard), Funeral, August 1960 (9 photos)
- 2 17 Jones, J. Robert, Grand Dragon of North Carolina United Klans of America, no date (1 photo)
- 2 18 Maddox, Lester
- 2 19 South Georgia Klan rally, no date (1 photo)
- 2 20 Stone Mountain, Georgia, Klan rally, August 31, no year (5 photos)
- 2 21 United Klans of America, Imperial Board, no date
- 2 22 Unknown location, Car (overturned) in field and unidentified individual, December 1960 (4 photos)
- 2 23 Unknown location, Cross burnings, no date (4 photos)
- 2 24 Unknown location, Klan in cars (with KKKK signs) along a road, no date (2 photos)
- 2 25 Unknown location, Klan march with Confederate flag and signs, no date (1 photo)
- 2 26 Unknown location, Klan meeting with official on stage, no date (2 photos) [negatives only]
- 2 27 Unknown location, Klan rally at night, no date (1 photo)
- 2 28 Unknown location, Klan rally [includes Calvin Craig, Robert Creel, Matt Murphy, Raymond Anderson], no date (5 photos)
- 2 29 Unknown location, Klan rally [includes Grand Dragons from Florida, Tennessee, and Alabama], June 1966 (2 photos)
- 2 30 Unknown location, Voter registration (?) (two women at table with African American policeman looking on), no date (1 photos)
- 2 31 Wallace, George C. and Lurleen Wallace (2 photos)

Printed material - Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and affiliates

- 2 32 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Broadsides for meetings/rallies

- 2 33 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Brochures/Flyers
- 2 34 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Cards and stickers
- 2 35 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Constitution and Laws, 1955
- 2 36 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Constitution and Laws, 1964
- 2 37 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Constitution and Laws, no date
- 2 38 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Forms, letterhead, etc.
- 2 39 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Funeral Service, no date (3)
- 2 40 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Kleagle's Credentials, no date
- 2 41 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Kloran (2)
- 2 42 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Manual, "The Klan in Action, A Manual of Leadership for Officers of Local Klans," no date
- 2 43 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Membership cards and forms, no date
- 2 44 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Passports, no date (3)
- OP2 1 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, poster, "Souvenir portrait commemorating the anniversary celebration of the third reign of our re-incarnation of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Held at Richmond, Virginia, May 6-7, 1967"
- 2 45 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Principles, 1953
- 2 46 Ladies Ku Klux Klan, flyer and receipt for membership
- OP1 2 United Klans of America, broadside, Almond Park and Stone Mountain rally, July 4 and 7, [1962] [mentions Ralph McGill]
- 2 47 United Klans of America, flyers, brochures, etc.
- OP2 1 United Klans of America, rally poster, August 9 [1961 or 1967]
- 2 48 Youths of the Ku Klux Klan, membership applications

Printed material-General

- 3 1 CCAC (Christian Anti-Communism Crusade?), "This is transcription of a speech made by Roosevelt Williams, a Negro high in the Councils of the NAACP, at a secret meeting in Mississippi in December of 1954 (2)
- 3 2 Congressional Record, "March on Washington - The Untold Story," March 30, 1965
- 3 3 Congressional Record, "Who are the Enemies of the House Committee on Un-American Activities," May 1, 1962
- 3 4 Flyers, Civil Rights marches/rallies
- 3 5 Flyers, other organizations
- 3 6 House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report citing Calvin Craig, October 28, 1965
- 3 7 House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report citing George Franklin Dorsett, October 26, 1965
- 3 8 House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report citing Robert Hudgins, October 25, 1965

- 3 9 House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report citing James R. Jones, October 19, 1965
- 3 10 House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report citing Marshall Kornegay, October 19, 1965
- 3 11 House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report citing Robert E. Scoggin, October 28, 1965
- 3 12 House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report citing Robert M. Shelton, October 19, 1965`
- 3 13 Program, Inaugural program, Lester Maddox, State of Georgia, 1967
- 3 14 Program, Inaugural program, Lurleen B. Wallace, State of Alabama, 1967
- 3 15 Speech, Brady, Tom P., "The Red Death," 1957
- 3 16 Speech, Simmons, William J., Citizens' Council of America, to the Organizational meeting of the Atlanta Citizens' Council, May 14, 1962
- 3 17 Union League of America, Ritual Constitution and By Laws, 1867

Printed material: Periodicals

- 3 18 *American Opinion*, March 1967
- OP1 3 *Armed Citizen News* (Medford, Oregon), No. 81 (December 1974)
- OP1 4 *Austell Enterprise* (Georgia), Vol. XXII, No 33 (August 25, 1972)
- OP1 5 *The California Statesman* (Los Angeles, California), Vol. V, No 7 (October-November 1969)
- OP1 6 *Christian Crusade Weekly* (Tulsa, Oklahoma), Vol. 12, Nos. 3 and 11; Vol. 13, Nos. 28 and 48; and Vol. 14, No. 1 (1971-1973)
- OP1 7 *The Free American* (Reading, Pennsylvania), No. 8 (February-March 1966) (2 copies)
- 3 19 *The Fiery Cross Newsletter* (Tuscaloosa, Alabama), 1975
- 3 20 *Georgia Klansman*, Vol. 1, No. 2
- 3 21 *Imperial Office Newsletter*, October 1 and October 15, 1976
- 3 22 *Keyes Report*, No. 52 (May 1, 1965)
- OP1 8 *Look*, April 25, 1961
- 3 23 *New South*, Vol. 24, No. 3 (Summer 1969)
- OP1 9 *Shasta County Chronicle* (Burney, California), Vol. 13, No. 28 (August 13, 1964)
- OP1 10 *South Today*, Vol. 1, No 5 (November 1969)

Audiovisual material

- AV1 - Craig, Calvin, speech outside Cordele, Georgia (Taliferro County, Georgia) re membership lists of Klan, searches without warrants [tape 1 of 2]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bshkt]
- AV1 - Craig, Calvin, speech outside Cordele, Georgia (Taliferro County, Georgia) (continued) [tape 2 of 2]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bshp7]

- AV1 - McGill, Ralph and integrated forum of high school students, May 21, 1966 (side A); unknown woman singing gospel songs (continued) (side A and B)
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bsgx3][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bsgwz]
- CLP1 - Venable, James R., "Ku Klux Klan Stops Atlanta Race War," "United Nations Riots Jewish-Led," "Police Protected by Mayor Ivan Allen," and "Ku Klux Klan Will Save America and Caucasian Race-Join It!," National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, undated [original: phonograph]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id b7w8m][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bspdn]
- CLP1 - Welch, Robert, "More Truth about Vietnam," John Birch Society, [1967]
[original: phonograph]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id b7w6b][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id b7w7g]
- CLP1 - Welch, Robert, "The Truth about Vietnam," John Birch Society, [1967] [original: phonograph]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id b7w42][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id b7w56]
- AV1 - Weltner, Charles, interview on WQXI and *Open Line* Program, June 26, 1966
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bshn3][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bshnz]

Ephemera

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| 3 | 24 | Button, "George Wallace, Out Kind of Man," (6) |
| 3 | 25 | Cuff links, AKIA (2) |
| 3 | 26 | Lapel pins, AKIA and KKKK (4) |
| 3 | 27 | Metal ornament, AKIA [A Klansman I Am] |
| 3 | 28 | Plaque, "C.F. Craig, Grand Dragon by Ladies AKIA Club, No 1, Lithonia, Georgia, 1966" |
| 3 | 29 | Stickers (round), United Klans of America (15) |
| 4 | 1 | Textiles, Robe with hood, white |
| 4 | 2 | Textiles, Robe with hood, green silk |
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