

## GRACE TULLY ARCHIVE OF FDR MATERIALS—QUICK TIMELINE

- August 3, 1980—in a *New York Times* interview of Grace Tully on the occasion of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Grace makes mention of having several dozen handwritten notes by FDR in her possession.
- August 27, 1980—Roosevelt Library Director William R. Emerson writes to Grace asking her to place the materials at the Library. Grace responds that she does not want to part with them at that time, but that “The Library will undoubtedly get them after my death or possibly before.”
- June 15, 1984—Grace Tully dies. She never married and had no children. The Archive passed into the hands of her surviving sister Paula Larrabee, who also worked in the Roosevelt White House.
- March 11, 1985—Library Director Emerson writes to Mrs. Larrabee and again expresses interest in obtaining Grace’s collection of Roosevelt materials. No further contact between the Library and Grace’s family took place after this.
- At this point, custody of the Archive grows murky. At some point it passed into the hands of two people (perhaps relatives, but his is unclear) who acted as caretakers for Mrs. Larrabee until her death. It is believed that the Archive passed from these individuals to a small auction house in Atlanta.
- April 2000—the Archive was placed up for sale through Guernsey Auction House in New York, New York.
- 2000-2002—it is believed that Glenn Horowitz Bookseller, New York, New York, acquired the Archive for approximately \$3.5 million and began preparing it for resale. It was during an event at the Horowitz showroom in 2000 that current Roosevelt Library Director Cynthia Koch saw portions of the collection on display and suspected the true extent of the materials.
- In 2002, The Archive was purchased from Horowitz by Hollinger International Corporation for \$8 million. Lord Conrad Black was CEO of Hollinger at the time and an avid collector of FDR-related materials. Lord Black is the author of the book, *Franklin Delano Roosevelt: Champion of Freedom* (Public Affairs, 2003).
- August 2004—the Roosevelt Library was notified that Hollinger and its successor Sun Times Media Group had placed the entire Tully Archive for sale at Christie’s in New York, New York. Christie’s planned to break the collection apart and sell it in lots. Christie’s graciously allowed members of the Roosevelt Library and National Archives staff to conduct a survey of the materials.

- Based on this survey, the National Archives determined that portions of it (but only portions) were clearly presidential materials that should have passed to the FDR Library in accordance with President Roosevelt's directions prior to his death.
- Subsequent settlement discussions between the parties led to a joint letter agreement signed in 2005 and extended several times in which Sun Times Media Group/Hollinger International agreed to seek tax relief from Congress to facilitate the donation of the entire Tully Archive to the Roosevelt Library.
- July 2005—by agreement of the parties, the Tully Archives was packed and sealed by Roosevelt Library Supervisory Archivist Bob Clark and transported to the Roosevelt Library for safekeeping during the settlement discussions.
- March 31, 2009—Sun Times Media Group filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.
- October 8, 2009—the United States Bankruptcy Court approved the sale of Sun Times Media Group's remaining assets, including the Tully Archive, to the Chicago Newspaper Liquidation Corp.
- February 1, 2010—President Barack Obama signed into law SB 692, sponsored in the Senate by Charles Schumer (D-NY) and in the House by Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-NY), facilitating the donation of the Tully Archive. The law provided for the waiver of the government's claims to the papers provided that the owner made a gift of the entire collection to the National Archives and Records Administration.
- June 28, 2010—the United States Bankruptcy Court approved the donation of the Tully Archive to the National Archives and Records Administration by Chicago Newspaper Liquidation Corp.
- June 30, 2010—Chicago Newspaper Liquidation Corp. and the Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero executed the Deed of Gift formally transferring ownership of the Tully Archive to the National Archives and Records Administration.