

# Guide to the Richard W. Cutler Papers

MS 1881



compiled by William R. Massa, Jr. and Matthew Gorham

September 2006

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1881

**CREATOR:** Cutler, Richard W.

**TITLE:** Richard W. Cutler papers

**DATES:** 1944-2005

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Richard W. Cutler papers, spanning the years 1944-2005, document Cutler's employment with the Office of Strategic Services (forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency) during the Second World War and the immediate postwar period. They include correspondence, photographs, and other papers related to Cutler's espionage career, as well as his published memoirs, *Counterspy: Memoirs of Counterintelligence Officer in World War II and the Cold War* (2004).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1881>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1881>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Richard W. Cutler, 2006.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Richard V. Cutler Papers (MS 1881). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Richard W. Cutler was born in New Rochelle, New York, and later moved with his family to Westport, Connecticut. He received both his B.A. (1938) and law degree (1941) from Yale University, after which he went to work for the law firm of Donovan, Leisure, Newton and Lombard in New York City. One of the firm's founding partners, Major General William "Wild Bill" Donovan, was head of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). After a brief tenure at the firm, Cutler entered the U.S. Army Air Corps as a second lieutenant in 1943. Shortly thereafter, he was recruited by the OSS, and he served as an intelligence agent in London during the latter half of the Second World War. In the years immediately following the war's conclusion, Cutler was transferred to Berlin, where he continued his work for the OSS.

After his tenure with the OSS, Cutler married Elizabeth Fitzgerald and resumed his legal career, at first returning to New York City, and subsequently settling in his wife's hometown of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he launched a successful lifelong career in law, business and government. In 2004, Cutler published, *Counterspy: Memoirs of Counterintelligence Officer in World War II and the Cold War*. Cutler died on August 17, 2014.

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## Scope and Contents

The Richard W. Cutler papers, spanning the years 1944-2005, document Cutler's employment with the Office of Strategic Services (forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency) during the Second World War and the immediate postwar period. They include correspondence, photographs, and other papers related to Cutler's espionage career, as well as his published memoirs, *Counterspy: Memoirs of Counterintelligence Officer in World War II and the Cold War* (2004).

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## Arrangement

The papers are arranged according to format.

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## Collection Contents

	Correspondence <i>1 linear foot</i>	1944-1995
b. 1, f. 1-2	Behr, Elizabeth	1944-1946, undated
	Cutler family	
b. 1, f. 3-8	Cutler, Mrs. Charles [mother]	1945-1946
b. 1, f. 9	Matthews, Betty Cutler [sister]	1944-1945
b. 1, f. 10	Nichols, Janet Cutler [sister]	1944-1946
b. 1, f. 11	Guttler, Barbara	1946-1947
b. 1, f. 12	Juteau, Robertine	1945-1956
b. 1, f. 13	Lennington, Sidney and Wilma A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1944-1946
b. 1, f. 14	"Mass" letters from Berlin [list] English	1945-1946
b. 1, f. 15	Murphy, David	1996
b. 2, f. 1	Naftali, Timothy A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1989-1996
b. 2, f. 2	OSS-SSU Berlin staff	1945-1946
b. 4	Perwin, Hilda (alias "Gabriel")	1946-1947
b. 2, f. 3-4	Polgar, Tom	1994-2005
b. 2, f. 5	Seiberling, Betty	1993-1997
b. 2, f. 6	Sichel, Peter	2002-2003
b. 2, f. 7	Slater, Betty	1993-1995
b. 2, f. 8-9	Strategic Services Unit friends A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1946-1950
b. 2, f. 10	Wiberg, Ingeborg [concerns Karl Johann Wiberg]	1990
b. 2, f. 11	Willard, Anne	1995-1996
b. 3, f. 1	Ephemera	1945-1946

b. 3, f. 2	Photographs and photograph lists	1944-2003
b. 3, f. 3	Speeches	1949-1950
	Subject files	
b. 3, f. 4	Broadcasts to returning soldiers aboard ship	1946
	Geographic descriptions	
b. 3, f. 5	Berlin	1939-1946
b. 3, f. 6	London	1939-1945
b. 3, f. 7	Wiesbaden	1945
b. 3, f. 8	Kermitz, Hans	2003
b. 3, f. 9	Magazine and newspaper articles	1945-2005
b. 3, f. 10	Nazi memorabilia	1938, 1945

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Intelligence service -- United States -- History  
-- 20th Century  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Secret service --  
United States

### **Names**

Cutler, Richard W.

### **Corporate Body**

United States. War Department. Strategic  
Services Unit