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B601
Mona Bismarck Papers, 1916-1994. 7.33 cu. ft.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Mona Bismarck span the years 1916 to 1994. The majority of the correspondence is comprised of letters written between 1938 to 1982. Many of her correspondents were people prominent in business, politics, the arts and society.

Letters written during World War II by Derek Hill, Cecil Beaton and Randolph Churchill, include descriptions of life as a conscientious objector (Hill), and the life and attitudes of the English towards the war and its outcome.

Jean Schlumberger writes poignantly about life on the front lines, while the letters of Prince Faucigny-Lucinge reflect the view of a Frenchman in Occupied France.

The letters written by Bettina Bergery, from the 50's ^{through} to the 70's, cover a wide variety of subjects. She worked for a number of fashion designers and commented on their clients and speculated on the reasons for their successes and failures. Bergery also commented on the political scene with an anti-Gaullist slant. She may have reflected her husband's views as he had been the Vichy government's ambassador to Russia and Turkey.

Bismarck corresponded with the artists Dali, Sert and Alajalov (many of his sketches are included in the collection).

Overall the letters convey an impression of the life of an extraordinarily rich woman who, at various times, had five husbands and houses on Long Island and Capri as well as in New York, Rome and Paris.

Also included in the collection are newspaper and magazine articles that were of interest to Bismarck, poems to and from her, copies of her awards, photos, school and legal records (divorce decree and will), a biography written by her foundation, books of fashion photography and her letters to Jean Howard.

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B621

Bismarck, Mona 1897-1983
Papers, 1916-1994. 7 cu.ft.

Box 1; folder 1, correspondence, Nov. 1916-May 1938.
folder 2, correspondence, 1939.
folder 3, correspondence, no date 1930's.
folder 4, memoir Guatemala 1940.
folder 5, correspondence, 1940.
folder 6, correspondence, 1941.
folder 7, correspondence, 1942.
folder 8, correspondence, 1943.

Box 2; folder 9, correspondence, 1944.
folder 10, correspondence, 1945.
folder 11, correspondence, 1946.
folder 12, correspondence, 1947.
folder 13, correspondence, 1948.
folder 14, correspondence, 1949.
folder 15, correspondence, no date 1940's.
folder 16, correspondence, 1950-1952.
folder 17, correspondence, Jan. 1953-Nov. 14, 1953.

Box 3; folder 18, correspondence, Nov. 15, 1953-Dec. 1953
folder 19, correspondence, no date 1953.
folder 20, correspondence, 1954-1955.
folder 21, correspondence, 1956-1957.
folder 22, correspondence, 1958-1959.
folder 23, correspondence, no date 1950's no.1.
folder 24, correspondence, no date 1950's no.2.

Box 4; folder 25, correspondence, 1960-1961.
folder 26, correspondence, 1962.
folder 27, correspondence, 1963-1964.
folder 28, correspondence, 1965.
folder 29, correspondence, 1966.
folder 30, correspondence, 1967.
folder 31, correspondence, 1968.

Box 5; folder 32, correspondence, 1969.
folder 33, correspondence, no date 1960's.
folder 34, correspondence, Jan.-Oct. 1970.
folder 35, correspondence, Nov. 1970-Oct. 1971.
folder 36, correspondence, Nov.-Dec. 1971.
folder 37, correspondence, 1972.

Box 6; folder 38, correspondence, Jan. 1973-July 1973.
folder 39, correspondence, Aug.-Dec. 1973.
folder 40, correspondence, Jan.-June 1974.
folder 41, correspondence, July-Dec. 1974.

Box 7; folder 42, correspondence, Jan.-Apr., 1975.
folder 43, correspondence, May-Sept., 1975.
folder 44, correspondence, Oct.-Dec., 1975.
folder 45, correspondence, Jan.-April, 1976.

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Bismarck, Mona 1897-1983
Papers, 1916-1994. 7 cu.ft.

Box 8; folder 46, correspondence, May-Aug., 1976.
folder 47, correspondence, Sept.-Dec., 1976.
folder 48, correspondence, Jan.-May, 1977.

Box 9; folder 49, correspondence, June-Aug., 1977.
folder 50, correspondence, Sept.-Nov., 1977.
folder 51, correspondence, Dec. 1977-Jan., 1978.
folder 52, correspondence, Jan., 1978.

Box 10; folder 53, correspondence, Feb.-Apr., 1978.
folder 54, correspondence, May-June, 1978.
folder 55, correspondence, July-Nov., 1978.
folder 56, correspondence, Dec., 1978.

Box 11; folder 57, correspondence, no date, 1978.
folder 58, correspondence, Jan.-May, 1979.
folder 59, correspondence, June-July, 8, 1979.
folder 60, correspondence, July 9-no date July, 1979.

Box 12; folder 61, correspondence, Aug.-Sept., 1979.
folder 62, correspondence, Oct.-Dec., 1979.
folder 63, correspondence, no date, 1970's no.1.
folder 64, correspondence, no date, 1970's no.2.

Box 13; folder 65, correspondence, Jan.-March, 1980.
folder 66, correspondence, Apr.-June, 1980.
folder 67, correspondence, July-Sept., 1980.
folder 68, correspondence, Oct.-Dec., 1980.

Box 14; folder 69, correspondence, Jan.-March, 1981.
folder 70, correspondence, Apr.-May, 1981.
folder 71, correspondence, June-July, 1981.
folder 72, correspondence, Aug.-Sept., 1981.

Box 15; folder 73, correspondence, 1982.
folder 74, correspondence, no date 1980's.
folder 75, correspondence, Bismarck to Jean Howard, 1969-1982.
folder 76, correspondence, Constantin Alajalov with drawings.
folder 77, correspondence concerning Bismarck donation to Filson Club.
folder 78, copies of school records, newspaper obits, Jean Howard speech to Filson Club.
folder 79, condolence cards.

Box 16; folder 80, correspondence, no date.
folder 81, correspondence, no date.
folder 82, correspondence, no date .
folder 83, divorce decree, will.
folder 84, poems by Harrison Williams. Mona Bismarck essay.
folder 85, poems to and by Mona Bismarck. essay on garden.

Mss.

A Bismarck, Mona 1897-1983
B621 Papers, 1916-1994. 7 cu.ft.

Box 17; folder 86, miscellany,
folder 87, miscellany,
folder 88, miscellany.
folder 89, miscellany.
folder 90, miscellany.

Box 18; folder 91, miscellany
folder 92, newspaper clippings.
folder 93, newspaper clippings.
folder 94, newspaper clippings.
folder 95, empty envelopes.
folder 96, empty envelopes.

Box 19 (record center box); miscellany, copies of Mona Bismarck biography, Balenciaga and Cecil Beaton fashion books, mementoes, brochures from Mona Bismarck Foundation.

*Mona Bismarck Papers - Partial list of correspondents
Ms A B21*

Folder 1

Constantin Alajalov: 28 August 1934
Elsie Mendl: 1937

Folder 2

Edward Daladier: 9 November 1939
Gaston Henry-Haye: 20 October 1939, 28 October 1939, 18 December 1939
Jean Schlumberger: ca 1939, 4 September 1939, 25 September 1939, 30 September 1939, 11&12 October 1939, 30 November 1939, 25 December 1939, ca 1939

Folder 3

Constantin Alajalov: no date ca. 1930's
Cristobal Balenciaga: No date ca. 1930's
Cecil Beaton: 4 letters - no date ca 1930's
Marlene Dietrich: No date ca 1930's
Glenway Wescott: 20 January ca 1930's

*→ Cristobal Balenciaga
yellow lined paper*

Folder 5

Cecil Beaton: 8 August 1940, 20 November 1940, 2 no date 1940
Gaston Henry-Haye: 29 January 1940, 31 May 1940
Elsie Mendl: 4 March 1940
Jean Schlumberger: 18 February 1940, 12 March 1940, 25 August ca 1940?(could be 40's)

Folder 6

Cecil Beaton: 5 April ca 1941, 2 April 1941, 22 September ca 1941, 30 August ca 1941, 20 March ca 1941, ca 1941, ca 1940-41
Glenway Wescott: 31 July 1941, 1 December 1941

Folder 7

Cecil Beaton: 11 January 1942, 4 February 1942, 30 April 1942, 30 April ca 1942, 16 May ca 1942, 2 letters ca. 1942
Jean Schlumberger: 30 November 1942

Folder 8

Jean Schlumberger: 9 September 1943
Glenway Wescott: 16 December 1943

Folder 9

Cecil Beaton: 24 December 1944
Henry Ringling North: 21 January 1944

Folder 10

Jean Schlumberger: 1 December 1945
Glenway Wescott: 3 January 1945

Folder 11

Salvador Dali: 1946

Diana Vreeland: No date ca 1946

Folder 12

Salvador Dali: No Date

Folder 13

Cecil Beaton: 14 July 1948, 2 June ca 1948

Salvador Dali: 14 February 1948, 2 letters ca 1948

Herbert Hoover: 21 September 1948

Emilio Pucci: 16 January 1948

Folder 14

Rose Kennedy: 15 January 1949

Folder 15

Bernard Baruch: No date ca. 1940's

Cecil Beaton: No date ca 1940's

Glenway Wescott: 9 June ca 1940's, 15 May ca 1940's, 18 December ca. 1940's, No Date ca 1940's

Folder 16

Salvador Dali: 17 April 1950

John Foster Dulles: 26 November 1952

Dwight D. Eisenhower: 9 November 1952

Gaston Henry-Haye: 26 November 1950

Wallis, Duchess of Windsor: 17 January 1950

Folder 18

John Foster Dulles: 20 November 1953, 19 December 1953

James A. Farley: 16 November 1953

Gaston Henry-Haye: 18 December 1953

Horst P. Horst: 2 December 1953

Edwina Mountbatten: 15 November 1953

Folder 19

Cecil Beaton: No date ca 1953 (?)

Carmel Snow: No date ca 1953

Folder 20

David Bruce: 17 July ca 1955

John Foster Dulles: 26 February 1954, 31 March 1954, 27 December 1954, 17 December 1955

Gian Carlo Menotti: 24 September 1955

Cole Porter: 1 December 1955

Folder 21

Cecil Beaton: 14 August 1956, November ca 1956

Ingrid (Rossellini) Bergman: 22 November 1956

John Foster Dulles: 29 March 1956

Cole Porter: 17 August 1957 (copy of letter to Jean Howard)

Wallis, Duchess of Windsor: No date 1956

Folder 22

Cecil Beaton: 15 June 1959

Aristotle Onassis: 9 December 1959

Folder 23

Cecil Beaton: 22 April ca. 1950's, no date ca 1950's

A. J. Cronin: 15 December ca 1950's

Diana Vreeland: No date ca 1950's

Folder 24

Cecil Beaton: 14 April ca. 1950's, 3 letters No date

Folder 25

Joseph P. Kennedy: 19 December 1960

Folder 27

Cecil Beaton: 27 January 1963, No date ca 1963

Gracie Fields: 9 July 1963

Rose Kennedy: November or December 1963

Diana Mitford Mosley: 26 December 1963

Diana Vreeland: No date ca 1964

Wallis, Duchess of Windsor: 29 March 1963

Folder 28

Cecil Beaton: 11 November 1965

Diana Mitford Mosley: 26 December 1965

Jean Schlumberger: 14 October 1965

Folder 29

Cecil Beaton: 15 January 1966

Serge Obolensky: 23 June ca 1966

Folder 30

Constantin Alajalov: 21 August 1967, 25 August 1967, 27 August 1967, 6 September 1967, 26 September 1967

Cristobal Balenciaga: 9 February 1967

Cecil Beaton: 5 August 1967

Serge Obolensky: 31 July ca 1967 (x2?)

Jean Schlumberger: 2 May 1967

Stuart Symington: September 1967, 30 October 1967

Gore Vidal: 11 September 1967

Diana Vreeland: April ca 1967, 30 May ca 1967

Wallis, Duchess of Wndsor: 2 February 1967

Folder 31

Alexander, King of Yugoslavia: 8 March 1968

Cecil Beaton: No date ca 1968

Serge Obolensky: 17 July 1968

S. Dillon Ripley: 10 April 1968, 22 July 1968

Diana Vreeland: June 1968

Folder 32

Constantin Alajalov: 14 June 1969

Hubert de Givenchy: 10 December 1969, 16 December 1969

Diana Mitford Mosley: 10 May 1969

Gore Vidal: 11 July 1969

Jacquiline Onassis: 26 June 1969

Folder 33

Constantin Alajalov: 29 September ca 1960's

Bernard Baruch: No Date ca. 1960's

Cecil Beaton: 31 March ca 1960's, 7 June ca 1960's, 20 July ca 1960's, 4 letters No date 1960's, 15 February ca 1960's, 20 July ca 1960's

Aristotle Onassis: ca 1960's

Diana Vreeland: 12 December ca 1960's, No date ca 1960's

Wallis, Duchess of Wndsor: 16 March ca 1960's, No date ca 1960's

Folder 34

Constantin Alajalov: 11 March 1970, 13 April 1970

Cecil Beaton: 6 April 1970, 9 October 1970

Serge Obolensky: 9 April 1970

Aristotle Onassis: 25 August 1970

Jean Schlumberger: 2 September 1970

Folder 35

Constantin Alajalov: 22 November 1970, 27 October 1971

David Bruce: 11 December 1970

Gracie Fields: 19 November 1970

Serge Obolensky: 28 December 1970, 26 January 1971

Stuart Symington: 24 April 1971 (on back of Cooper letter)

Gore Vidal: 11 December 1970, 12 June 1971

Diana Vreeland: 24 January 1971

Jacquiline Onassis: 2 letters no date 1970

Folder 36

Constantin Alajalov: December 1971

Diana Vreeland: 1 November 1971

Folder 37

Cecil Beaton: 8 June 1972

Hubert de Givenchy: 7 December 1972

Diana Mitford Mosley: 6 June 1972

Jacquiline Onassis: 3 May 1972

Folder 38

Constantin Alajalov: 9 April 1973, 10 May 1973, 30 May 1973

Cecil Beaton: 15 February 1973

Diana Mitford Mosley: 6 June 1973, 16 July 1973, 23 June 1973

Hubert de Givenchy: 5 May 1973, 20 July 1973, 23 July 1973

Gore Vidal: 17 July 1973

Diana Vreeland: 28 April 1973

Folder 39

Constantin Alajalov: 27 September 1973, 30 September 1973, 19 December 1973

Folder 41

Cecil Beaton: 28 November 1974

Hubert de Givenchy: December 1974

Umberto, King of Italy: 15 September 1974

Folder 42

Cecil Beaton: 7 March 1975, 14 March 1975

Hubert de Givenchy: 16 January 1975

Diana Mitford Mosley: 2 January 1975, 16 February 1975

Jacquiline Onassis: 19 February 1975

Folder 43

Hubert de Givenchy: 23 May 1975, 5 June 1975, 22 August 1975

Gore Vidal: 31 July 1975

Folder 44

Constantin Alajalov: 10 October 1975

Cecil Beaton: 9 December 1975

Hubert de Givenchy: 2 letters December 1975

Diana Mitford Mosley: 23 November 1975, 27 December 1975

Folder 45

Cecil Beaton: 8 April 1976

Hubert de Givenchy: 2 February 1976

Serge Obolensky: 9 March 1976

S Dillon Ripley: 27 May 1976

Umberto, King of Italy: 1 January 1976, January 1976

Folder 46

Gore Vidal: 30 May 1976

Folder 47

Constantin Alajalov: 10 December 1976

Cecil Beaton: November 1976, 20 December 1976

Folder 48

Constantin Alajalov: 25 January 1977

Clarence Douglas Dillon: 22 February 1977

Hubert de Givenchy: 10 January 1977, 15 April 1977, 3 May 1977

Diana Mitford Mosley: 5 January 1977

Jean Schlumberger: 29 May 1977

Folder 49

Hubert de Givenchy: 7 July 1977, 2 June 1977

Folder 50

Hubert de Givenchy: 22 September 1977, 5 October 1977

S. Dillon Ripley: 19 October 1977

Cecil Beaton: 25 October 1977

Serge Obolensky: 31 October 1977

Constantin Alajalov: 19 November 1977

Folder 51

Constantin Alajalov: 16 December 1977

Cecil Beaton: 8 December 1977

Hubert de Givenchy: December 1977

Diana Mitford Mosley: 4 December 1977, 29 December 1977

Jean Schlumberger: 26 December 1977

Shirley Hazzard Steegmueller: 20 December 1977

Folder 52

Constantin Alajalov: 16 January 1978
Diana Mitford Mosley: 26 January 1978

Folder 53

Constantin Alajalov: 5 February 1978
Cecil Beaton: 26 April 1978
Hubert de Givenchy: 6 February 1978, 7 February 1978, 30 March 1978
Diana Mitford Mosley: 2 February 1978
Diana Vreeland: February 1978

Folder 54

Diana Mitford Mosley: 18 May 1978

Folder 55

Cecil Beaton: 12 October 1978
Diana Mitford Mosley: 10 August 1978
Gore Vidal: 27 July 1978, 6 October 1978

Folder 56

Constantin Alajalov: 13 December 1978
Cecil Beaton: 27 December 1978
Diana Mitford Mosley: December 1978

→ Folder 57 Aileen Brancea c 1978
Quinilla Oswald c 1978
Marjorie c. 1978
Valintinez Abby(?) c 1978

Folder 58

Constantin Alajalov: 5 February 1979
Cecil Beaton: 19 February 1979
Clarence Douglas Dillon: 8 March 1979, 8 May 1979
Hubert de Givenchy: 10 April 1979
Diana Mitford Mosley: 5 January 1979, 2 February 1978 or 79?, 6 February 1979
Shirley Hazzard Steegmueller: 30 May 1979
Diana Vreeland: February 1979, 24 February 1979

Folder 59

Diana Vreeland: 7 July 1979
Gore Vidal: 4 July 1979
Shirley Hazzard Steegmueller: 2 June 1979, 6 June 1979, 5 July 1979
Diana Mitford Mosley: 2 July 1979

Folder 60

Cecil Beaton: 12 July 1979
Jean Schlumberger: 10 July 1979

Folder 61

Constantin Alajalov: 3 September 1979

Diana Mitford Mosley: 13 September 1979

Diana Vreeland: 16 September 1979

Folder 62

Constantin Alajalov: 12 October 1979

Hubert de Givenchy: 9 October 1979

Diana Mitford Mosley: 7 November 1979

Umberto, King of Italy: December 1979

Folders 63

Cecil Beaton: 1 undated letters ca. 1970's

Hubert de Givenchy: 3 letters ca 1970's

Jacquiline Onassis: 2 letters ca 1970's

Folder 64

Cecil Beaton: 1 undated letters ca. 1970's

Hubert de Givenchy: 1 letters ca 1970's

Folder 65

Constantin Alajalov: 27 January 1980

Diana Mitford Mosley: 29 January 1980, 13 March 1980

Yves Saint Laurent: 19 March 1980

Folder 66

Constantin Alajalov: 24 June 1980

George Bush: 17 April 1980

S Dillon Ripley: 7 May 1980

Folder 67

Umberto, King of Italy: July 1980

Gore Vidal: 27 August 1980

Diana Vreeland: 28 July 1980

Folder 68

Constantin Alajalov: 18 December 1980

Cecil Beaton: December 1980

Diana Mitford Mosley: 9 December 1980, 18 December 1980, December 1980

Folder 69

Diana Mitford Mosley: 23 January 1981, February 1981, 11 February 1981, 3 March 1981, 6 March 1981, 31 March 1981, 17 January 1981, 14 February 1981

S Dillon Ripley: 2 February 1981

Diana Vreeland: 24 March 1981

Folder 70

Constantin Alajalov: 24 May 1981
Hubert de Givenchy: 15 May 1981
Diana Mitford Mosley: 1 May 1981
S Dillon Ripley: 7 April 1981

Folder 71

Constantin Alajalov: 24 June 1981
Hubert de Givenchy: 16 June 1981
Diana Mitford Mosley: 12 June 1981

Folder 72

Constantin Alajalov: 22 September 1981, ca. Xmas 1981
Horst P. Horst: Xmas 1981
Diana Mitford Mosley: 19 August 1981, 3 October 1981

Folder 73

Diana Mitford Mosley: 5 January 1982, 23 January 1982
S Dillon Ripley: 1 June 1982

Folder 74

Constantin Alajalov: 1 Undated letter
Folder 75 →

Folder 76

Constantin Alajalov: 26 Items undated

Folder 80

Cecil Beaton: No date
Hubert de Givenchy: No date
S Dillon Ripley: No Date
Yves Saint Laurent: No date
Gore Vidal: No date
Diana Vreeland: No date

Folder 81

Constantin Alajalov: No year 5 April
Cristobal Balenciaga: No date
Hubert de Givenchy: 2 letters No date
S Dillon Ripley: No date

Folder 82

Cecil Beaton: 4 letters no date
Jean Schlumberger: No date
Gore Vidal: No date
Wallis, Duchess of Windsor: No date
Hubert de Givenchy: 5 letters no date

Jean Howard. 3 Apr 1985
Mona Bismarck 11 Jan 1969
18 Feb 1970
cc 17 Dec 1970
12 Dec 1971
1 Oct 1971
6 Feb 1972
24 March 1972
23 May 1972
26 Oct 1972
19 Dec 1972
7 Feb 1973
10 June 1973
30 July 1973
12 Feb 1974
13 Sept 1974
27 Jan 1976
26 Feb 1976
9 June 1976
22 Oct 1976
c Dec 1977
22 Feb 1977
2 March 1977
7 Jan 1978
8 Sept 1978
18 Dec 1980
1 Oct 1981
2 Feb 1981
n.d.