

# ACCESSION SHEET

## Maine Folklife Center

<b>Accession Number:</b> 2009
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<b>Accession Date:</b> 1988.01.00	<b>T#</b>	<b>C#</b> 0496, 0498, <b>P</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>CD</b>
<b>Collection</b> MF 036		0500, 0503, <b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>Number:</b>		0564 <b>#</b>	<b>T</b>	
	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>D</b> mfc_na2009_c0496_01,
<b>Collection</b> Maine Leaders Oral <b>#</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>A</b> mfc_na2009_c0496_02,
<b>Name:</b> History Project			<b>#</b>	<b>#</b> mfc_na2009_c0498_01,
				mfc_na2009_c0498_02
<b>Interviewer</b> Brooks W. Hamilton			<b>Narrator:</b> James Russell Wiggins	
<b>/Depositor:</b>				

**Description:** 2009 James Russell Wiggins, interviewed by Brooks W. Hamilton, January 22, 1988 – Feb. 6, 1989, Ellsworth, Maine. Wiggins discusses his career in journalism and the United Nations; Hubert Humphrey's career and reputation; Chief Justice Warren Burger and his rulings on cases involving the press; the corrupting influence of power and its impact Franklin D. Roosevelt; Kennedy's presidency; his career as an editor of the Washington Post; role of newspapers and the power they have; difficulty of reporting on speeches; differences between American and British newspapers; dangers of newspaper chains; AIDS crisis; why the United Nations failed to live up to expectations; serving as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in 1968-1969; interactions with Soviet diplomats; criteria for recognizing countries; his perspective on the CIA; limited individual initiative allowed to diplomats; diplomats he thought were particularly effective; Chinese admission to the UN; diminishing of public debates in the UN; conflict between Israel and the Arab world in the 1960s; his purchase of and involvement with the Ellsworth American; his views on newspaper conglomerates; newspapers in Maine and their operation; continuity in politics; the state of politics and the Democratic Party in the late 1980s; changes in the Soviet Union; and realities of a nuclear world.

Text: 151 pp. transcript

Recording: C 0496, C 0498, C 0500, C 0503, C 0564 5 hours

**Related Collections  
& Accessions  
Restrictions**

# ACCESSION SHEET

## Maine Folklife Center

<b>Accession Number:</b> 2026
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<b>Accession Date:</b> 1988.05.00	<b>T#</b>	<b>C#</b> 0504, 0505, <b>P</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>CD</b>
<b>Collection</b> MF 036/ MF 183		0506, 0514, <b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>Number:</b>		0517, 0576, <b>#</b>	<b>T</b>	
	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>D</b> mfc_na2026_c0504_01,
<b>Collection</b> Maine Leaders Oral #	<b>#</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>A</b> mfc_na2026_c0504_02,
<b>Name:</b> History Project/ Vietnam War			<b>#</b>	<b>#</b> mfc_na2026_c0505_01, mfc_na2026_c0505_02
<b>Interviewer</b> Pamela N. Warford				<b>Narrator:</b> Sen. Margaret Chase Smith
<b>/Depositor:</b>				

**Description:** 2026 Senator Margaret Chase Smith, interviewed by Pamela N. Warford, May 9, 1988 – March 9, 1989, Skowhegan, Maine. Smith discusses her career in Congress; her family and childhood in Skowhegan in the early 1900s; early job experience; her mother’s influence; jobs she held prior to her career in public service and what they taught her; involvement with founding the Skowhegan branch of Business and Professional Women and serving as State President in 1926; marriage to Clyde H. Smith; working on her husband’s staff when he was elected to Congress; taking over her husband’s campaign in 1940 due to his illness and death; her position on inadequate defenses on the eve of World War II; getting on the Naval Affairs Committee; her reasoning process and why she did not always follow Republican Party lines; support for the UN as a discussion forum; the Marshall Plan and touring Europe in 1947; her first run for the Senate; Women’s Armed Services Integration Act; her swearing in as the first elected female senator; her opposition to Sen. Joseph McCarthy and her Declaration of Conscience; attitudes of others toward McCarthy; McCarthy’s retaliation against her; successfully suing the authors of U.S.A. Confidential for libel; winning re-election in 1954 despite McCarthy’s attempts to unseat her in the primary; involvement in the space program; her re-election campaign of 1960; Kennedy as not standing up to the USSR; why she had no desire to be vice president; her candidacy for president in 1964; her policy of not missing Senate votes and refusing campaign contributions; her perspective on the Vietnam War and failure to use reserve troops; the 1964 Civil Rights Act; losing re-election in 1972 and why she was not bitter; traveling as a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship visiting professor and teaching young people about government; why she chose to take a personal, unofficial trip around Europe in 1954; stories from that European trip; her advisor’s arrest in East Berlin; her experiences in Moscow; voting to censure McCarthy; continuing her personal world tour in 1955; her favorable view of Taiwan; meeting U Nu of Burma; visiting India and meeting Nehru; Spain and meeting General Franco; the foreign policy and aid recommendations that came from her world tour; having the support of her constituents’ remarks on colleagues from the Senate’ progress of

### Related Collections & Accessions

**Restrictions** Restrictions: Interviewer retains right to publish, with acknowledgment to NEA; may not be used without permission of the interviewer.