

**The United States  
Government Manual  
2002/2003**

**Office of the Federal Register  
National Archives and Records Administration**

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*On the cover:* Photograph by Ansel Adams of an unnamed peak in Kings River Canyon, California, circa 1936. From the collection of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Ansel Adams (1902-1984) was one of America's greatest landscape photographers. He is best known for his vistas of the American west and its national parks. His black-and-white photos capture the beauty and vastness of this Nation's wilderness, as well as its stark simplicity. This year marks the 100th anniversary of his birth.

# Preface

As the official handbook of the Federal Government, *The United States Government Manual* provides comprehensive information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. The *Manual* also includes information on quasi-official agencies; international organizations in which the United States participates; and boards, commissions, and committees.

A typical agency description includes a list of principal officials, a summary statement of the agency's purpose and role in the Federal Government, a brief history of the agency, including its legislative or executive authority, a description of its programs and activities, and a "Sources of Information" section. This last section provides information on consumer activities, contracts and grants, employment, publications, and many other areas of public interest.

The 2002/2003 *Manual* was prepared by the Presidential and Legislative Publications Unit, Office of the Federal Register. Maxine L. Hill was Lead Editor, Karen L. Ashlin was Managing Editor, and Karen A. Thornton was Chief Editor, assisted by Stephen J. Frattini, Loretta C. Jones, and Thomas Wright.

## THE FEDERAL REGISTER AND ITS SPECIAL EDITIONS

The *Manual* is published as a special edition of the *Federal Register* (see 1 CFR 9.1). Its focus is on programs and activities. Persons interested in detailed organizational structure, the regulatory documents of an agency, or Presidential documents should refer to the *Federal Register* or one of its other special editions, described below.

Issued each Federal working day, the *Federal Register* provides a uniform system for publishing Presidential documents, regulatory documents with general applicability and legal effect, proposed rules, notices, and documents required to be published by statute.

The *Code of Federal Regulations* is an annual codification of the general and permanent rules published in the *Federal Register*. The *Code* is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. The *Code* is kept up to date by the individual issues of the *Federal Register*.

The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* serves as a timely, up-to-date reference source for the public policies and activities of the President. It contains remarks, news conferences, messages, statements, and other Presidential material of a public nature issued by the White House during the week reported.

A companion publication to the *Weekly Compilation* is the *Public Papers of the Presidents*, which contains public Presidential documents and speeches in convenient book form. Volumes of the *Public Papers* have been published for every President since Herbert Hoover, with the exception of Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose papers were published privately.

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#### FURTHER INFORMATION

Information on *The United States Government Manual* and other publications of the Office of the Federal Register may be obtained by writing to the following address:

Office of the Federal Register  
National Archives and Records Administration  
Washington, DC 20408

Inquiries should be directed by phone to 202-523-5227, faxed to 202-523-6866, or E-mailed to [info@fedreg.nara.gov](mailto:info@fedreg.nara.gov).

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