**Title:** Maerose J. Evans papers  
**Date (inclusive):** 1965-1994  
**Date (bulk):** 1969-1975  
**Collection Number:** 95049  
**Contributing Institution:** Hoover Institution Archives  
**Language of Material:** English  
**Physical Description:** 13 manuscript boxes (5.2 linear feet)  
**Abstract:** Correspondence, minutes, reports, financial records, bulletins, newsletters, serial issues, clippings, and photographs relating to efforts to secure the release of American prisoners of war in Vietnam, efforts to secure information on American servicemen reported missing in action, and the families of those servicemen.  
**Physical Location:** Hoover Institution Archives  
**Creator:** Evans, Maerose J.  
**Access**  
Collection is open for research.  
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**Preferred Citation**  
[Identification of item], Maerose J. Evans papers, [Box no.], Hoover Institution Archives.  
**Acquisition Information**  
Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1995.  
**Accruals**  
Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. To determine if this has occurred, find the collection in Stanford University's online catalog at [http://searchworks.stanford.edu/](http://searchworks.stanford.edu/). Materials have been added to the collection if the number of boxes listed in the online catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.  
**Biographical Note**  
Maerose J. Evans, originally from New Jersey, was the wife of Commander James J. Evans, United States Navy. Commander Evans was a naval aviator whose aircraft was lost during a reconnaissance mission over Laos in 1965. In 1974 he was presumed killed in action, and in 1977 his remains were positively identified and returned. At the time of his disappearance, the couple was living in Alameda, California, with their two children, Monica and James.  
Maerose Evans was involved with the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia during its founding and incorporation in 1969 and 1970. She eventually became the Western Regional coordinator, which oversaw chapters in California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, and Hawaii. She was heavily involved in the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action issue in the United States and gave many speeches and talks about the inhumane treatment of prisoners and the need for a full accounting of the missing men. Evans even travelled to Laos in 1972 in an attempt to gain more information about her missing husband. Eventually, she left the position of Regional Coordinator and the National League of Families over a disagreement about the direction of the organization, and she believed that her values no longer aligned with those of the League.  
In 1984, Evans married George Humphreys, whom she remained with until her death in 1995. She was buried in Arlington National Cemetery next to her first husband, Commander Evans.  
**Scope and Content of Collection**  
Correspondence, minutes, reports, financial records, bulletins, and newsletters from the National League of Families, supporting committees, and the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action League of Santa Clara County. The majority of the collection is made up of personal correspondence related to efforts to secure the release of American prisoners of war in Vietnam, efforts to secure information on American servicemen reported missing in action, and the families of those servicemen. A small amount of serial issues, clippings, and photographs related to the POW/MIA issue are also included. Most of the materials focus on the Western Region or California families of servicemen who were prisoners of war or missing in action. There is also some focus on the issue at a national and international level.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Prisoners of war.
United States--Armed Forces.
Navy spouses.

Correspondence, 1965-1989
Scope and Contents note
Correspondence between Maerose Evans and various others, organized alphabetically by
organization or correspondent's last name. When possible, the original order of the creator
was maintained.

Box/Folder 1 : 1  A, 1972-1976
Box/Folder 1 : 2  B, 1972-1977
Box/Folder 1 : 3  C, 1971-1976
Box/Folder 1 : 4  Canaan, G. C., 1971-1974
Box/Folder 1 : 5  Change of Command invitations, 1965-1973
Box/Folder 1 : 6  Christmas cards, 1967-1972
Box/Folder 1 : 7  Clum, Sadie, 1973-1976
Box/Folder 1 : 8  Colgan, Jack, 1975-1976
Box/Folder 1 : 9  Correspondence from bracelet wearers, 1972-1976
  Scope and Contents note
  POW/MIA bracelets were first created in May 1970 by the group Voices in Vital America
  (VIVA). They sold for $2.50 or $3.00 and were engraved with the rank, name, and loss
date of an American serviceman who was captured or went missing during the Vietnam
War.

Box/Folder 2 : 1  Cranston, Alan, 1972-1975
Box/Folder 2 : 2  D, 1972-1978
Box/Folder 2 : 3  E, 1972-1975
Box/Folder 2 : 4  F, 1972-1976
Box/Folder 2 : 5  Families for Immediate Release, 1972
Box/Folder 2 : 6  G, 1972-1976
Box/Folder 2 : 7  Goldsmith, John A., 1976-1978
Box/Folder 2 : 8-9  Gratch, Archie William, 1972-1979
Box/Folder 2 : 10  H, 1971-1977
Box/Folder 2 : 11  Hillman, Jo, 1973-1974
Box/Folder 2 : 12  I, 1974-1975
Box/Folder 3 : 1  J, 1972-1975
Box/Folder 3 : 2  K, 1972-1977
Box/Folder 3 : 3  Ketchum, William M., 1974
Box/Folder 3 : 4  L, 1972-1977
Box/Folder 3 : 5  Lawson, Richard L., 1974-1975
Box/Folder 3 : 6  M, 1971-1989
Box/Folder 3 : 7  Mauldin, Dick, 1971-1976
Box/Folder 3 : 8  McCloskey, Paul, 1976-1978
Box/Folder 3 : 9  Miscellaneous, 1972-1974
  Scope and Contents note
  Correspondence that was written and sent to people other than the creator and not
related to any of the organizations represented in the collection.
Correspondence, 1965-1989

Box/Folder 3 : 10  N, 1972-1976
Box/Folder 3 : 11  United States Department of the Navy, 1968-1973
Box/Folder 3 : 12  O, 1972-1974
Box/Folder 3 : 13  P, 1971-1976
Box/Folder 3 : 14  Percy, Charles H., 1973-1975
Box/Folder 3 : 15  Pursell, Dan, 1969-1973
Box/Folder 4 : 1  Q, 1974
Box/Folder 4 : 2  R, 1971-1977
Box/Folder 4 : 3  S, 1971-1975
Box/Folder 4 : 4  Schlesinger, James, 1974
Box/Folder 4 : 5  Scott, James H., 1971-1974
Box/Folder 4 : 6  Shields, Roger, 1972-1976
Box/Folder 4 : 7  Sieverts, Frank, 1973-1975
Box/Folder 4 : 8  Smith, Bernice, 1974-1977
Box/Folder 4 : 9  Stark, Pete, 1973-1977
Box/Folder 4 : 10  Stratton, Richard A., 1974-1979
Box/Folder 4 : 11  T, 1974-1976
Box/Folder 4 : 12  Tenoso, Ed and Kathy, 1972
Box/Folder 4 : 13  Thorsness, Leo, 1974
Box/Folder 4 : 14  V, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 4 : 15  W, 1972-1975
Box/Folder 4 : 16  Williams, Jerry A., 1972-1974
Box/Folder 4 : 17  Y, 1975
Box/Folder 4 : 18  Z, 1976
Box/Folder 4 : 19  Zacharies, J. M., 1972-1975


Scope and Contents note
Contains correspondence, meeting minutes, mailings and promotional material, printed matter, and organizational documents for the National League of Families of Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (NLF) during its founding and early years. There is more emphasis on the Western Region and California state chapter than any other part of the organization.

The NLF is an organization that was formed in the late 1960s and formally incorporated in 1970. Membership was for family or close relatives of military personnel that were listed as a prisoner of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA). The organization was headed by a National Board of Directors and divided into four regions, each headed by a Regional Coordinator. Each state within the region elected a State Coordinator that worked with the Regional Coordinator and Board of Directors to raise awareness about the POW/MIA issue in America.

The NLF believed that the American government was too complacent in its negotiations for the humane treatment and release of POWs during the Vietnam War. Indochinese countries were accused of violating the Geneva Convention by not issuing a complete list of POWs captured, not providing adequate food or medical treatment, refusing to allow the Red Cross to inspect POW camps, and not allowing mail to reach POWs. The NLF was organized to raise awareness of these issues and pressure both the American government and foreign governments to account for the missing men.

Correspondence, 1970-1974

Scope and Contents note
Correspondence related to the functions of the National League of Families (NLF). Letters sent and received are between or on behalf of members of the governing board of NLF. Coordinator and Regional letters are between the numerous State and Region Coordinators.

Box/Folder 5 : 1  Regional letters, 1971-1973
Box/Folder 5 : 2  Letters sent, 1971-1974
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder 5 : 3</th>
<th>Letters received, 1971-1974</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 4</td>
<td>Coordinator letters, 1970-1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 5</td>
<td>Newsletters, 1973-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 6</td>
<td>Western Coordinator expenses, 1971-1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 7</td>
<td>Member mailings, 1970-1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 8</td>
<td>National conventions, 1971-1973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 9</td>
<td>Special reports and league mailings, 1969-1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 10</td>
<td>Board meetings file, 1971-1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Contents note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting minutes, agendas, and special reports prepared for the Board of Directors meetings of the National League of Families.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 11</td>
<td>1971 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 12</td>
<td>1972 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 13</td>
<td>1972 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 14</td>
<td>1972 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 5 : 15</td>
<td>1973 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 1</td>
<td>1973 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 2</td>
<td>1973 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 3</td>
<td>1973 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 4</td>
<td>1973 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 5</td>
<td>1973 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 6</td>
<td>1973 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 7</td>
<td>1973 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 8</td>
<td>1974 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 9</td>
<td>1974 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 10</td>
<td>1974 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 11</td>
<td>1974 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 12</td>
<td>1974 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 13</td>
<td>Promotional material, 1970-1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 14</td>
<td>House of Representatives Bill 16520, 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder 6 : 15</td>
<td>Support Our Prisoners of War campaign, 1974-1976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Western Region, 1971-1974

State folders file, 1971-1975

Scope and Contents note

Materials related to the various state chapters of the National League of Families.

Box/Folder 6 : 16  Alaska, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 6 : 17  Arizona, 1971-1973
Box/Folder 6 : 18  Colorado, 1973-1975
Box/Folder 7 : 1  Northern California, 1970-1974
Box/Folder 7 : 2  Southern California, 1971-1974
Box/Folder 7 : 3  Connecticut, 1974
Box/Folder 7 : 4  Hawaii, 1973
Box/Folder 7 : 5  Idaho, 1972-1974
Box/Folder 7 : 6  Maryland, 1972-1974
Box/Folder 7 : 7  Mississippi, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 7 : 8  Montana, 1971-1973
Box/Folder 7 : 9  Nevada, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 7 : 10  Ohio, 1970-1975
Box/Folder 7 : 11  Oregon, 1973-1975
Box/Folder 7 : 12  Utah, 1971-1974
Box/Folder 7 : 13  Virginia, 1972
Box/Folder 7 : 14  Washington, 1971-1975
Box/Folder 7 : 15  Wyoming, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 7 : 16  West Virginia, 1973

Box/Folder 7 : 17

Printed matter, 1971-1974

Scope and Contents note

Informational brochures and pamphlets of Freedom Tree dedications and luncheons.

Committees File, 1972-1974

Scope and Contents note

Contains materials from different committees and groups that were involved with the POW/MIA issue and with the National League of Families.

Box/Folder 7 : 18  Forgotten Americans Committee of Kansas, 1972-1974
Box/Folder 7 : 19  Forgotten Americans Committee, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 8 : 1-2  Voices in Vital America, 1972-1974
Box/Folder 8 : 3  Freedom Tree Dedication, 1972-1974
Box/Folder 8 : 4  Concern for Prisoners of War, 1972
Box/Folder 8 : 5  Repatriation, Rehabilitation, and Readjustment Committee, 1972
Box/Folder 8 : 6  Northern California Peace Action Coalition, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 8 : 7  Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, 1973
Box/Folder 8 : 8  Remember the Pueblo Committee, 1973
Box/Folder 8 : 9  Americans Who Care, 1973
Box/Folder 8 : 10  Dallas Cares, 1974
Box/Folder 8 : 11  Help Hospitalized Veterans, 1973
Prisoners of War/Missing in Action League of Santa Clara File, 1970-1975

Scope and Contents note
The Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) League of Santa Clara County is a now defunct organization with similar goals as the National League of Families. They represented the servicemen of Santa Clara County who were POW/MIA. The organization sold POW/MIA bracelets, sponsored a letter writing campaign, hosted talks and support groups, and coordinated with the National League of Families on events. Their two goals were to get all American POWs released and to get a full accounting of all the MIA servicemen. By the time the organization closed in 1974 they believed only the first goal had been completed.

Box/Folder 9 : 1-3 Correspondence, 1971-1974
Box/Folder 9 : 4 Board meeting minutes, 1971-1974
Box/Folder 9 : 5 Newsletters, 1970-1975
Box/Folder 9 : 6 Mailings, 1971-1973
Box/Folder 9 : 7 Presidio Action League, 1973
Box/Folder 9 : 8 Prisoners of War/Missing in Action International, 1972-1973
Box/Folder 9 : 9 Poster, undated

Subject File, 1970-1974

Box/Folder 10 : 1 City proclamations, 1970
Scope and Contents note
Official proclamations from various American cities that call for the accounting of missing men and humane treatment of prisoners of war.

Box/Folder 10 : 2 Congress, 1969-1975
Scope and Contents note
A small number of Congressional publications and reports related to the POW/MIA issue.

Box/Folder 10 : 3 Evans, James J., 1965-1977
Scope and Contents note
Documents related to Commander James J. Evans, who went missing in action in 1965. Includes a copy of the telegram sent to his wife informing her of his status.

Box/Folder 10 : 3 Laos meeting, 1973
Scope and Contents note
Transcript, clippings, and written report on a meeting in Laos with members of the National League of Families and a Laos official.

Box/Folder 10 : 5-6 Military social events, 1969-1972
Scope and Contents note
Invitations and announcements to lunches and other social events at military bases in Northern California.

Box/Folder 10 : 7 Peace movements, 1971
Scope and Contents note
Materials related to American citizen peace efforts in order to stop the war in Vietnam.

Box/Folder 10 : 8-10 Prisoners of War/Missing in Action, 1970-1974
Scope and Contents note
Materials related to the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action movement in the United States but not directly related to the National League of Families or the POW/MIA League of Santa Clara County.
Box/Folder 11 : 1  United States Department of Defense, 1971-1973
Scope and Contents note
Publications and statistic sheets produced by the Department of Defense about American
servicemen that were prisoners of war or missing in action.

Photographs, 1966-1972
Scope and Contents note
Photographs of prisoners of war and the conditions they were kept in, a photo contact sheet
and altered photo from the Navy Times, and photographs from Family Day at the Naval Air
Station in Alameda, California.

Box/Folder 11 : 2  Prisoners of war, 1966-1970
Scope and Contents note
Photographs include Lieutenant Commander H. A. Stafford, Lieutenant Commander John
S. McCain, Lieutenant James J. Connell, Lieutenant D. G. Rehman, D. B. Hegdahl, Captain
M. N. Jones, Lieutenant Robert F. Frishman, and Lieutenant Colonel J. L. Hughes as
prisoners of war. Folder also contains four negatives and two slides.

Box/Folder 11 : 3  General, 1969
Scope and Contents note
Two images of unidentified servicemen, one image of an unidentified group of people, an
image with accompanying letter from an Open House at the California Air Station in 1969,
and a photograph of a political cartoon with accompanying letter from 1974.

Box/Folder 11 : 4  Navy Times, 1972 April 2
Box/Folder 11 : 5  Family Day, undated
Scope and Contents note
Six photographs from a Family day at the Naval Air Station in Alameda, California. The
photographs are undated but most likely between the years of 1968 and 1977.

Printed Matter, 1965-1994
Scope and Contents note
The bulk of the series is comprised of pamphlets related to the Prisoner of War/Missing in
Action issue and the conflict in Southeast Asia from 1960 through 1975. Additionally, there
are a few periodicals and unpublished fact sheets.

Clippings, 1969-1994
Scope and Contents note
Contains newspaper clippings collected by the creator. Original folder titles have been
retained when possible, and loose clippings were put into a general folder. Arranged
alphabetically following the general folder.

Box/Folder 11 : 6-9
Box/Folder 12 : 1
Box/Folder 12 : 2
Box/Folder 12 : 3
Box/Folder 12 : 4
Box/Folder 12 : 5-6
Box/Folder 12 : 7
Box/Folder 12 : 8
Box/Folder 12 : 9-10

General, 1970-1994
1990
1993
Bracelets, 1971-1973
Laos, 1972-1982
Lockhart, 1969-1970
McGovern, 1972
Missing in action, 1973-1982
Prisoners of war, 1971-1982
Printed Matter, 1965-1994
Clippings, 1969-1994

Register of the Maerose J. Evans papers

Box/Folder 12 : 11 United States and Nixon, 1972-1981
Box/Folder 13 : Vietnam, 1972-1982
1-2 Wives and families, 1972-1981
Box/Folder 13 : 4

Air Force and Space Digest, 1969-1970

Box/Folder 13 : 5

Cal-Vet Newsletter, 1972-1973

Box/Folder 13 : 6

Newsweek, 1973 February 26

Box/Folder 13 : 7

In Brief for the P.O.W.: A Catch-Up on News from Missing Years, 1965-1972

Box/Folder 13 : 8

Commanders Digest, 1972-1974

Box/Folder 13 : 9

Navy Wifeline, 1971 Fall

Box/Folder 13 : 10

Ladycom, 1973 February

Box/Folder 13 : 11

The Oak Leaf, 1973 February 23

Box/Folder 13 : 12

Medical Service Digest, 1973 November

Box/Folder 13 : 13

Missing in Action, Prisoner of War: A Primer, 1971

Box/Folder 13 : 14

Hanoi, Release the Prisoners, 1971-1972

Box/Folder 13 : 15

Aerospace Speech Series: Prisoner of War/Missing in Action, 1971 September

Box/Folder 13 : 16


Box/Folder 13 : 17

Prisoner of War/Missing in Action fact sheets, 1970-1972

Box/Folder 13 : 18

Department of Defense Information Pamphlet for Families of United States Servicemen Who Are Prisoners of War or Are Missing in Action in Southeast Asia, 1972 September 22
Box/Folder 13 : 19

**Miscellaneous, 1969-1973**

**Scope and Contents note**

Four pamphlets not related to POWs or MIAs. The titles include the *Fremont Rotary Opinion* from 17 January 1973, *If You Want Air Time: A Handbook for Publicity Chairmen*, *Alameda Meals-On-Wheels*, and *How to Display and Respect the Flag of the United States*.

Box/Folder 13 : 20

**Gist: A Quick Reference Aid on United States Foreign Relations Primarily for Government Use, 1971 September**

Box/Folder 13 : 21

**Citizens Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Assistance Program, 1970 March**

Box/Folder 13 : 22

**In the Name of Humanity...Write On!, 1971 March**

Box/Folder 13 : 23


Box/Folder 13 : 24

**Ten Myths About Vietnam, 1969 December**

Box/Folder 13 : 25

**Legislative Guide for the Military, 1971 January**

Box/Folder 13 : 26

**National Guard Association of the United States: 24th Annual Conference, 1972 September**