

Preliminary Inventory of the Charles Beach Boothe papers

Finding aid prepared by Rebecca J. Mead

Hoover Institution Library and Archives

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Title: Charles Beach Boothe papers

Date (inclusive): 1850-1976

Collection Number: 65006

Contributing Institution: Hoover Institution Library and Archives

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 3 manuscript boxes(1.2 Linear Feet)

Abstract: Correspondence, memoranda, and clippings relating to the involvement of C. B. Boothe, Homer Lea, and other Americans, with Sun Yat-sen and other Chinese, in schemes to overthrow the Chinese Imperial Government, 1908-1911, and to Laurence Boothe, son of C. B. Boothe, 1905-1976. Includes a mounted photograph of Sun Yat-sen, 1910; printed copies of two books by Homer Lea, *The Vermilion Pencil*, and *The Valor of Ignorance*; and photocopies of mortality registers of Sacramento, California, 1850-1851.

Creator: Boothe, Charles Beach, 1851-1913

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Access

Box 1 closed; use copies available in Box 2. The remainder of the collection is open for research; materials must be requested at least two business days in advance of intended use.

Publication Rights

For copyright status, please contact the Hoover Institution Library & Archives.

Acquisition Information

Materials were acquired by the Hoover Institution Library & Archives in 1965.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Charles Beach Boothe papers, [Box no., Folder no. or title], Hoover Institution Library & Archives.

Biographical Note

American businessman.

Scope and Contents of Collection

Correspondence, memoranda, and clippings relating to the involvement of C. B. Boothe, Homer Lea, and other Americans, with Sun Yat-sen and other Chinese, in schemes to overthrow the Chinese Imperial Government, 1908-1911, and to Laurence Boothe, son of C. B. Boothe, 1905-1976. Includes a mounted photograph of Sun Yat-sen, 1910; printed copies of two books by Homer Lea, *The Vermilion Pencil*, and *The Valor of Ignorance*; and photocopies of mortality registers of Sacramento, California, 1850-1851.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Americans -- China

United States -- Foreign relations

China -- History -- Xuantong, 1908-1912

Sun, Yat-sen, 1866-1925

Lea, Homer, 1876-1912

Correspondence 1908-1911

Scope and Contents note

Holograph and typescript correspondence and telegrams, including some carbon copies, relating to a plot to overthrow the Imperial Chinese Government. The originals, located in Box 1, are closed; photocopies in Box 2 are available for research use.

Between C. B. Boothe and Dr. Yung Wing

box 2, folder 1

box 2, folder 1

box 2, folder 1

1. Wing to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1908 October 9 





















2. Wing to Boothe (3 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1908 October 21 

3. Wing to Boothe and Homer Lea (4 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1908 December 5 











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|-----------------|--|
| box 2, folder 1 | 4. Wing to Boothe (4 pp., manuscript, two small double sheets) 1908 December 6 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 5. Wing to Boothe (3 pp., typed, on three sheets of stationery of the Rotary File and Machine Co., Brooklyn, NY) 1908 December 14 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 6. Boothe to Wing (3 pp., typed, carbon copy, three sheets) 1908 December 28 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 7. Wing to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, large double sheet) 1909 January 4 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 8. Wing to Boothe and Homer Lea (6 pp., manuscript, three small double sheets) 1909 January 16 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 9. Boothe to Wing (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, one large sheet) 1909 January 16 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 10. Wing to Boothe (4 pp., manuscript, four large sheets) 1909 January 25 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 11. Boothe to Wing (1 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1909 February 2 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 12. Boothe to Wing (1 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1909 February 13 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 13. Wing to Boothe (5 pp., manuscript, five large sheets) 1909 February 19 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 14. Wing to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, two large sheets; and 1 p. postscript, manuscript, small double sheet) 1909 February 22 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 15. Boothe to Wing (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet; and 1 p. postscript, manuscript, small double sheet) 1909 March 6 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 16. Wing to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, large double sheet) 1909 June 5 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 17. Boothe to Wing (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, one sheet) 1909 June 11 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 18. Wing to Boothe (4 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1909 September 14 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 19. Boothe to Wing (3 pp., typed, carbon copy, two large sheets) 1909 October 2 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 20. Wing to Boothe (4 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1909 October 20 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 21. Boothe to Wing (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1909 December 23 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 22. Wing to Boothe and Homer Lea (2 pp., manuscript, large double sheet), with enclosure: copy of letter from Wing to Sun Yat Sen dated February 16, 1910 (2 pp., manuscript, copy, on two very flimsy sheets of paper, damaged) 1910 March 4 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 23. Wing to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, large double sheet) 1910 March 16 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 24. Wing to Boothe (1 p., manuscript, large sheet), with enclosure: "A plan to negotiate a loan" (4 pp., manuscript, four large sheets) 1910 March 28 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 25. Wing to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1910 May 26 |
| box 2, folder 1 | 26. Wing to Mr. and Mrs. Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, large double sheet) 1910 November 10 |
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Between C. B. Boothe and W. W. Allen

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| box 2, folder 2 | 27. Boothe to Allen (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, two large sheets) 1908 November 18 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 28. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets), with enclosure: Century Code Co. circular letter to C. B. Boothe and Co. (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1908 November 19 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 29. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1908 November 25 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 30. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1908 December 7 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 31. Boothe to Allen (1 p., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1908 December 23 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 32. Boothe to Allen (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, two large sheets) 1908 December 28 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 33. Boothe to Allen (1 p., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1909 January 2 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 34. Allen to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1909 January 4 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 35. Allen to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1909 January 6 |
| | Scope and Contents note |
| | Letter incorrectly headed Jan. 6, 1908 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 36. Allen to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1909 January 11 |
| box 2, folder 2 | 37. Allen to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1909 January 12 |
| | Scope and Contents note |
| | Enclosure mentioned in letter not present in file |
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- box 2, folder 2 **38. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1909 January 21** 
- box 2, folder 2 **39. Boothe to Allen (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1909 January 25** 
- box 2, folder 2 **40. Allen to Boothe (3 pp., typed, three large sheets) 1909 January 29** 
- Scope and Contents note**
Newspaper column glued to first sheet
- box 2, folder 2 **41. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1909 February 1** 
- box 2, folder 2 **42. Boothe to Allen (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet), with enclosures: "Officials in Sequence" and "Principal Reform Societies" (2 pp., typed, carbon copies, two large sheets) 1909 February 3** 
- box 2, folder 2 **43. Boothe to Allen (3 pp., typed, carbon copy, two large sheets) 1909 February 3** 
- box 2, folder 2 **44. Allen to Boothe (5 pp., manuscript, five long sheets) 1909 February 6** 
- box 2, folder 2 **45. Allen to Boothe (1 p., manuscript, large sheet) 1909 February 6** 
- box 2, folder 2 **46. Allen to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1909 February 10** 
- Scope and Contents note**
Enclosure mentioned in letter not present
- box 2, folder 2 **47. Allen to Boothe (1 p., manuscript, small double sheet) 1909 February 11** 
- box 2, folder 2 **48. Boothe to Allen (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1909 February 12** 
- box 2, folder 2 **49. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1909 February 13** 
- box 2, folder 2 **50. Allen to Boothe (1 p., typed, one large sheet) 1909 March 1** 
- Scope and Contents note**
Clippings mentioned not present
- box 2, folder 2 **51. Allen to Boothe (1 p., typed, one large sheet) 1909 March 19** 
- Scope and Contents note**
Enclosed clippings mentioned in letter not present
- box 2, folder 2 **52. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1910 March 14** 
- box 2, folder 2 **53. Allen to Boothe (3 pp., typed, three large sheets) 1910 March 31** 
- box 2, folder 2 **54. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1910 April 4** 
- box 2, folder 2 **55. Allen to Boothe (1 p., night letter, typed, small sheet) 1910 July 12** 
- box 2, folder 2 **56. Boothe to Allen (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1910 July 19** 
- box 2, folder 2 **57. Allen to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, single small sheet) 1910 July 23** 

Between C. B. Boothe and Sun Yat-sen



- box 2, folder 3 **58. Sun Yat-sen statement concerning appointment of Boothe as foreign financial agent for Fed. Assc. of China (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1910 March 14** 
- box 2, folder 3 **59. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1910 March 21** 
- box 2, folder 3 **60. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (1 p., manuscript, large sheet, *Liberty News* letterhead) 1910 April 5** 
- box 2, folder 3 **61. Boothe to Sun Yat-sen (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1910 May 12** 
- box 2, folder 3 **62. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (1 p., manuscript, large sheet, *Liberty News* letterhead) 1910 May 24** 
- box 2, folder 3 **63. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, two large sheets) 1910 June 22** 
- box 2, folder 3 **64. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (1 p., typed, carbon copy, large sheet, typed copy of preceding letter) 1910 June 22** 
- box 2, folder 3 **65. Boothe to Sun Yat-sen (1 p., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1910 June 25** 
- box 2, folder 3 **66. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, two small sheets; and 1p. postscript, manuscript, one small sheet) 1910 July 15** 
- box 2, folder 3 **67. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (3 pp., manuscript, three large sheets; and 1/2 p. post-script, manuscript, 1/2 large sheet) 1910 September 4** 

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| box 2, folder 3 | 68. Boothe to Sun Yat-sen (1 p., manuscript, telegram, small sheet) 1910 September 26  |
| box 2, folder 3 | 69. Boothe to Sun Yat-sen (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1910 September 26  |
| box 2, folder 3 | 70. Boothe to Sun Yat-sen (1 p., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1910 October 21  |
| box 2, folder 3 | 71. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (3 pp., manuscript, three small sheets) 1910 November 8  |
| box 2, folder 3 | 72. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (3 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1910 December 16  |
| box 2, folder 3 | 73. Sun Yat-sen to Boothe (2 pp., manuscript, two small sheets) 1911 March 6  |
| box 2, folder 3 | 74. Boothe to Sun Yat-sen (1 p., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1911 April 13  |
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Between C. B. Boothe and Homer Lea

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| box 2, folder 4 | 75. Lea to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1908 April 7  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 76. Lea to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1908 August 26  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 77. Boothe to Lea (1 p., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1908 September 11  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 78. Lea to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1908 September 21  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 79. Lea to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1908 October 5  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 80. Lea to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1908 November 17  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 81. Lea to Boothe (1 p., typed night letter, small sheet) 1910 June 21  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 82. Lea to Boothe (3 pp., manuscript, small double sheet) 1910 June 26  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 83. Lea to Boothe (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1910 September 25  |
| box 2, folder 4 | 83.a. Code undated  |
| | Scope and Contents |
| | Alphanumerical "code" written on note paper from the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company of London and Edinburgh. It is not known if this code relates to a specific letter. |
| box 2, folder 4 | 83.b. Promissory note for one hundred dollars issued by the Chinese Revolutionary Government 1906 January 1  |
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Between C. B. Boothe and Charles B. Hill

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| box 2, folder 5 | 84. Boothe to Hill (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1911 January 12  |
| box 2, folder 5 | 85. Hill to Boothe (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) 1911 March 3  |
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Of C. B. Boothe with various persons

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| box 2, folder 6 | 86. Boothe to Kang Yu Wei (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, large sheet) 1909 June 14  |
| box 2, folder 6 | 87. T. Schneider to Boothe (1 p., typed, telegram, small sheet) 1910 June 21  |
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Letters of Yung Wing to Homer Lea

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| box 2, folder 7 | 88. Wing to Homer Lea (2 pp., manuscript, two large sheets) 1908 December 4  |
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Letters of Sun Yat-sen to Homer Lea

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| box 2, folder 8 | 89. Sun Yat-sen to Lea (1 p., manuscript, small sheet) 1910 February 24  |
| box 2, folder 8 | 90. Sun Yat-sen to Lea (3 pp., typed copy, two large sheets) 1910 April  |
| box 2, folder 8 | 91. Sun Yat-sen to Lea (3 pp., manuscript, three large sheets; and 1 p. postscript, manuscript, one large sheet) 1910 September 5  |
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Homer Lea's estimate of a revolution in China and letter to W. W. Allen

- box 2, folder 9 **92. Homer Lea's estimate (4 pp., manuscript, three small sheets, torn) 1909 Summer** 📄
- box 2, folder 9 **93. Lea to Allen (1 p., typed, large sheet) 1910 June 13** 📄
- Non-printed documents 1905-1910**
- Scope and Contents note**
- Miscellaneous documents, including plans, lists, memoranda, financial proposals, letters, and an invitation and a declaration signed by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, relating to a plot to overthrow the Imperial Chinese Government.
- box 2, folder 10 **94. Yung Wing to heads of 4 Chinese political associations (2 pp., manuscript, large double sheet) and copy (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, two large sheets) undated** 📄
- box 2, folder 10 **95. List of influential personalities in China (2 pp., typed, two large sheets) undated** 📄
- box 2, folder 10 **96. A plan for the financing of the revolution in China (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, two large sheets) and memorandum of proposal (1 p., typed, one large sheets) 1909 January 21** 📄
- box 2, folder 10 **97. Revision no. 1 of the plan (2 pp., typed, carbon copy, two legal sheets) and Wants of China (1 p., typed, carbon copy, one legal sheet) 1909 January 27** 📄
- box 2, folder 10 **98. List of important Chinese, secret societies, foreign representatives in the U. S., U. S. representatives abroad, governmental organization, provinces, seaports (8 pp., typed, carbon copy, eight legal sheets) 1909 February 1** 📄
- box 2, folder 10 **99. Detailed plan on revolutionary forces within China, proposals for financial support of the revolution (3 pp., typed, carbon copy, three large sheets) 1910 March 12** 📄
- box 2, folder 10 **100. Memoranda on payments to carry out revolution in China (4 pp., typed, carbon copy, four large sheets) 1910 March 14** 📄
- box 2, folder 13 **Declaration of Boothe's appointment as Foreign Financial Agent for the Council of the Federal Association of China, signed by Sun Yat Sen 1910 March 14** 📄
- Printed matter 1908-1966**
- Scope and Contents note**
- Clippings and printed articles relating to the plot to overthrow the Imperial Chinese Government.

Newspaper clippings

- box 2, folder 11 **101. New York *Daily Herald* article concerning negotiations between Tang Shao Yi and J. P. Morgan, others (8 1/2 column) 1909 January 24** 📄
- box 2, folder 11 **102. *Times Literary Supplement* article, "The Mastery of the Pacific" (1/2 page) 1909 December 17** 📄
- box 2, folder 11 **103. Article, "'General' Homer Lea" (8 clipping, 2 columns wide) undated** 📄
- box 2, folder 11 **104. Article, "S.S.S.? Cruiser Cincinnati leaves Vallejo for China" (10 1/2, 2 columns wide) November 16** 📄

Miscellaneous materials on Sun Yat-sen, Yung Wing, and on the Boothe papers

- box 2, folder 12 **105. Article, "American Christian, President of China" (photostat reproduction of one full page of *Times-Democrat*) 1912 January 28** 📄
- box 2, folder 12 **106. Article, "Yung Wing in America," reprint from *Pacific Historical Review*, Vol. XXXIV, No. 3, p. 265-87 (twelve sheets) 1965 August** 📄
- box 2, folder 12 **107. Article, "Americans' plot for Chinese revolt revealed," *Los Angeles Times* reprint (6 pp., large double sheet, one insert) 1966 October 13** 📄

Books by Homer Lea

box 4, folder 1

***The Vermilion Pencil* 1908** 

box 4, folder 1

The Valor of Ignorance* 1909** **Miscellany 1850-1973*Scope and Contents note**

Printed article, clipping, envelopes, notes, and a duplicate copy of the letters previously described; correspondence and two photocopies of a mortality register kept by Earl S. Youman, an undertaker in Sacramento, California (grandfather of the donor, Mr. Laurence Boothe); and correspondence and miscellany relating to a trip to Taiwan by Mr. Laurence Boothe (includes correspondence with Sun Fo, son of Dr. Sun Yat-sen).

box 3, folder 1

Photocopies of original Boothe correspondence **Scope and Contents**

Photocopies of original correspondence produced by Mr. Laurence Boothe.

box 3, folder 2

Boothe, Laurence and Sun, Fo correspondence 1966-1973 **Scope and Contents note**

Primarily correspondence and miscellany relating to a trip to Taiwan by Mr. Laurence Boothe.

box 3, folder 3

E. S. Youman's Mortality Register, Sacramento 1850-1852 **Scope and Contents**

Photocopied pages from mortality register, accompanied by correspondence between Lawrence Boothe and the California Historical Society regarding the donation made by Lawrence Booth of the mortality register (a volume of records kept at Sacramento, 1850-1852), correspondence with Stanford Libraries, and The Pacific Union Club. Also includes copy of The American Legion magazine (Volume 101, No. 6), December 1976, containing an article on Homer Lea.

box 3, folder 4

Envelopes and newspaper clipping 1910-1965 **Scope and Contents**

Includes a page from the newspaper Wah Kiu Yat Po, 1965 April 5, miscellaneous notes, and ten empty envelopes addressed to Charles B. Boothe and Homer Lea, dated 1910-1911.

box 3, folder 5

Newspaper clipping and notes undated **Scope and Contents note**

Clipping in Chinese, accompanied by two place cards with annotations.

box 3, folder 6

Monograph on Homer Lea in Chinese undated 

envelope A

Photograph of Sun Yat-sen and his son, Sun Fo, taken in Honolulu, and inscribed 1910 