Title: Alexander H. Buchman papers
Date (inclusive): 1920-2003
Collection Number: 84075
Contributing Institution: Hoover Institution Archives
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 4 manuscript boxes, 10 envelopes, 5 motion picture film reels, 2 videocassettes, 14 slides, 6 sound cassettes (2.1 linear feet)
Abstract: Correspondence, writings, police reports, printed matter, motion picture film, still photographs, and slides relating to Leon Trotsky and Trotskyism, especially in China and the United States, to the Trotskyist C. Frank Glass, and to Rayna Prohme, revolutionary American journalist in China.
Physical Location: Hoover Institution Archives
Access
Collection is open for research.
Use copies of all motion picture material in this collection are available for immediate access. To access sound recordings or video recordings, please contact the Archives at least two working days before your arrival. We will then advise you of the accessibility of the material you wish to see or hear. Please note that not all audiovisual material is immediately accessible.
Publication Rights
For copyright status, please contact the Hoover Institution Archives.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Alexander H. Buchman papers, [Box number], Hoover Institution Archives.
Acquisition Information
Materials were acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1984.
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 [link]. Materials have been added to the collection if the number of boxes listed in the catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.
1911 Born, Cleveland, Ohio
1933 Received degree in aeronautical engineering from Case School of Applied Science
1933-1939 Lived in Shanghai, China
1939-1940 Lived in Coyoacan, Mexico; served as Leon Trotsky's bodyguard
2003 Died, Los Angeles, California
Scope and Content of Collection
The Alexander H. Buchman papers document Buchman's activities as an amateur photographer living in Shanghai, China and Coyoacan, Mexico, and his relationship with Leon Trotsky. The collection includes film and photographs of Leon Trotsky and members of his entourage, including his wife, Natalia Sedova, Diego Rivera, and others, in Coyoacan, Mexico between 1939 and 1940. Buchman's photographs of Shanghai and other areas of China include scenes of the bombing of Shanghai in 1937 and executions of leftists in China between 1927 and 1932. The collection also includes a sound recording of a telephone address to followers in the United States made by Trotsky from Mexico in 1938. Also among Buchman's papers is correspondence with friends and colleagues who shared his interest in the history of Trotskyism, including Baruch Hirson, Susan Weissman, and Trotsky's grandson, Esteban Volkov.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Trotsky, Leon, 1879-1940.
Shanghai (China)
Communism--United States.
Communism--China.
Glass, C. Frank (Cecil Frank), 1901-1988.
Fourth International.
China--Pictorial works.
Prohme, Rayna, -1927.
Americans--China.
Audiotapes.
Video tapes.
Motion pictures.
Slides (Photography)

Biographical File, 1920-2002

Box/Folder 1 : 1
Articles about Alexander Buchman, 2001
Box/Folder 1 : 2
Identification documents, photocopies, 1937
Box/Folder 1 : 3
Jokes collected by Alexander Buchman, 2002
Box/Folder 1 : 4
Federal Bureau of Investigation surveillance reports and interview transcripts, with related correspondence, 1920-2000

Correspondence, 1937-2003

Box/Folder 1 : 5
Unidentified, 2001
Box/Folder 1 : 6
The China Leprosy Association/Foundation, 1988
Columbia University Press [see: Wang, Fanxi]
Box/Folder 1 : 7
Crook, David, 1988-1996
Box/Folder 1 : 8
Durdin, Tillman, 1983-1994
Box/Folder 1 : 9
Epstein, Israel, 1998
Box/Folder 1 : 10
Gould, Randall [see: Subject File/Agnes Smedley], 1988
Box/Folder 1 : 11
Grunefeld, A. Tom, 1993
Box/Folder 1 : 12
Hirson, Baruch, 1991-1999
Box/Folder 1 : 13
Hirson, Yael, 1998-2001
Box/Folder 1 : 14
Hoover Institution Library & Archives, 1984-1992
Box/Folder 1 : 15
Hunt, Sam, 1988-1989
Box/Folder 1 : 16
Box/Folder 1 : 17
Jan Frankel search correspondence, 1937, 1986-1997
Box/Folder 1 : 18, 2 : 1
Knodel, Arthur, 1993-1996

Writings by Others, 1973-1994

Box/Folder 2 : 2
Marcopoulos, George, 1990-1993
Box/Folder 2 : 3
Messmer, Matthias, 2003
Box/Folder 2 : 4
Moustakis, Elizabeth, 1987-1994
Box/Folder 2 : 5
Rand, Peter, 1989-1998
Box/Folder 2 : 6
Rosholt, Malcolm, 1994-1998
Box/Folder 2 : 7
Turnbull, Emily (Prometheus Research Library) [see also: Hunt, Sam], 1988-1989, 1996-2001
Box/Folder 2 : 8
Volkov, Esteban, 1982-1989
Box/Folder 2 : 9
Wang, Fanxi, 1999-2000
Box/Folder 2 : 10
Wang, Y. Y., 2000-2001
Box/Folder 2 : 11-13
Weissman, Susan, 1988-2000

Writings by Others, 1973-1994

Box/Folder 2 : 14
Benton, Gregor, 1994
Box/Folder 2 : 15,
Box/Folder 3 : 1-2
Box/Folder 3 : 3
Kessler, Ralph, 1988
Box/Folder 3 : 4-6
Knodel, Arthur and Baruch Hirson, circa 1990
| Box/Folder 3 : 7 | Pantsov, Alexander, 1994 |
| Box/Folder 3 : 8 | Petras, James, circa 1991 |
| Box/Folder 3 : 9 | Wang, Fanxi, 1988-1991 |
| Box/Folder 3 : 10 | Weissman, Susan, 1988-1994 |

Conferences File, 1989-1993

| Box/Folder 4 : 1 | "International Trotsky Symposium," 1989-1993 |

Subject File, 1926-1998

| Box/Folder 4 : 3 | Agnes Smedley, 1927-1988 |
| Box/Folder 4 : 4 | Esteban Volkov, 1940-1990 |
| Box/Folder 4 : 5 | Irving Weissman, 1986-1988 |
| Box/Folder 4 : 6 | Leon Trotsky, 1926-1998 |

Photographs and Slides, 1927-1945

| Envelope A-C | Approximately 750 contact prints of Leon Trotsky and members of his entourage in Coyoacan, Mexico, circa 1939-1940 |
| Envelope D | 12 enlarged prints of Leon Trotsky in Coyoacan, Mexico, circa 1939-1940 |
| Envelope E | 6 enlarged prints of Leon Trotsky with his wife and members of his entourage in Coyoacan, Mexico, circa 1939-1940 |
| Envelope F | 14 enlarged prints of members of the entourage of Leon Trotsky in Coyoacan, Mexico, circa 1939-1940 |
| Envelope G | 3 enlarged prints, including 2 of Diego Rivera in Coyoacan, Mexico, and 1 of a painting by Rivera, circa 1939-1940 |
| Envelope H | 40 prints of executions of leftists in China, circa 1927-1932 |
| Slide cabinet | 14 color slides of Leon Trotsky in Mexico, circa 1939-1940 |
| Envelope I | 2 copies of one print and negative depicting the core members of the provisional central committee of the Communist League of China (Trotskyist opposition), 1936 |
| Envelope J | 19 prints depicting members of the Communist League of China and atrocities in the Wuhan area; 1 print depicting Lunghua Civilian Assembly Center, 1923-1945 |

Scope and Contents note
- Includes a print of Agnes Smedley with others, 1932 or 1933.

Cassette cabinet

Sound Recordings, 1938-1939, 1988-1989

- "Trotsky Speech from Mexico to NYC. Oct. 18 1938. 16 min. With Intro," sound cassette, 1938
- "Portraits of USSR - KPDK Los Angeles Interview with Sieva Volkov 02/18/88," sound cassette, 1988

Videorecordings, 1937-1940

Film shelf

Film reels, 1937-1940
Reels 1-2

**Leon Trotsky and members of his entourage in Coyoacan, Mexico, 16 mm print, silent, circa 1939-1940**

**Access**

Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0007971.

Reel 3

**Street scenes in Shanghai, China, 16 mm print, silent, circa 1938-1939**

**Access**

Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0010513.

**Scope and Contents note**

Depicts the foreign presence in Shanghai. Opening shots show U.S.S. Augusta leaving Shanghai. Other scenes show French, British, American (4th Marines), and Shanghai Municipal Police.

Reel 4

**Bombing of Shanghai during the Sino-Japanese War, 16 mm print, black & white, silent, 1937**

**Access**

Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0010530.

**Scope and Contents note**

Primarily scenes on or near the Shanghai Bund on "Bloody Saturday," August 14, 1939, when Chinese aircraft tried to bomb the Japanese cruiser Idzumo but instead bombed Nanking Road and the Bund, and Nanking Road at the New World Entertainment Centre.

Reel 5

**Foreign warships and troops in Shanghai, China, 16 mm print, black & white, silent, circa 1937-1939**

**Access**

Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0010531.

**Scope and Contents note**

Scenes of poverty, life on the streets, the dispossessed, refugees. Shanghai, 1938-1939.

Tape cabinet

**Videocassettes (U-matic, 3/4"), undated**

"China Footage Part 1" (copy of film reel 3)
"China Footage Part 2" (copy of film reels 4 and 5)

**Printed Matter, 1927-2003**

- Box/Folder 4 : 7  "Against the Current," 1940
- Box/Folder 4 : 8  Against the Current, 2001
- Box/Folder 4 : 9  The Catholic Worker, 2003
- Box/Folder 4 : 10  The China Connection, 2001
- Box/Folder 4 : 11  Christianity's Social Record, undated
- Box/Folder 4 : 12  "Daybreak," 1939
- Box/Folder 4 : 13  "Fifth Conference on Leon Trotsky Highlights the Relevance of His Work," 1999
- Box/Folder 4 : 14  Form letters, 1995
- Box/Folder 4 : 15  Heritage, 2003
- Box/Folder 4 : 16  Living Age, circa 1930-1940
- Box/Folder 4 : 17  Newspaper clippings, 1927, 1989-1992
- Box/Folder 4 : 18  "Photos by Rewi Alley," 1987
- Box/Folder 4 : 19  Publisher newsletters, 1986-2002
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 : 20</td>
<td>Shanghai city guide, incomplete photocopy, 1945</td>
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