
Register of the Alexander H. Buchman papers

Finding aid prepared by Sally DeBauche

Hoover Institution Archives

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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

Creator: Buchman, Alexander H., 1911-2003.

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 <http://searchworks.stanford.edu/> . 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)

Sino-Japanese War, 1937-1945.

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 **Glotzer, Albert, 1990-1998**
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 **Isaacs, Harold and Viola, 1975, 1984-1986, 1990-1993**
Box/Folder 1 : 17 **Jan Frankel search correspondence, 1937, 1986-1997**
Box/Folder 1 : 18,
2 : 1 **Knodel, Arthur, 1993-1996**

MacKinnon, Stephen [see: Subject File/Agnes Smedley], 1988
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,
3 : 1-2 **Hirson, Baruch, 1973-1988**
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
Box/Folder 4 : 2	"Trotsky in Cardenas' Mexico: 1937-1987" colloquium, 1986-1987
	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
	"Esteban Volkov San Francisco Speech, Aug. 6 1988. Intro by Paul Siegel," sound cassette, 1988
	"Memorial Service for Milt Genecin San Francisco February 5, 1989," sound cassette, 1989
	"Memorial Service for Frank Glass Los Angeles California 4/23/88," sound cassette, 1988
	"L. Trotsky Speech 10-18-39 on 10th Anniv. of U.S. Left Opposition," sound cassette, undated
	"Portraits of USSR - KPFK Los Angeles Interview with Sieva Volkov 02/18/88," sound cassette, 1988
	Videorecordings, 1937-1940
Film shelf	Film reels, 1937-1940

Reels 1-2	<p>Leon Trotsky and members of his entourage in Coyoacan, Mexico, 16 mm print, silent, circa 1939-1940</p> <p>Access</p> <p>Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0007971.</p>
Reel 3	<p>Street scenes in Shanghai, China, 16 mm print, silent, circa 1938-1939</p> <p>Access</p> <p>Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0010513.</p> <p>Scope and Contents note</p> <p>Depicts the foreign presence in Shanghai. Opening shots show U.S.S. <i>Augusta</i> leaving Shanghai. Other scenes show French, British, American (4th Marines), and Shanghai Municipal Police.</p>
Reel 4	<p>Bombing of Shanghai during the Sino-Japanese War, 16 mm print, black & white, silent, 1937</p> <p>Access</p> <p>Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0010530.</p> <p>Scope and Contents note</p> <p>Primarily scenes on or near the Shanghai Bund on "Bloody Saturday," August 14, 1939, when Chinese aircraft tried to bomb the Japanese cruiser <i>Idzumo</i> but instead bombed Nanking Road and the Bund, and Nanking Road at the New World Entertainment Centre.</p>
Reel 5	<p>Foreign warships and troops in Shanghai, China, 16 mm print, black & white, silent, circa 1937-1939</p> <p>Access</p> <p>Use copy available on-site for immediate use. Use copy reference number: 84075_f_0010531.</p> <p>Scope and Contents note</p> <p>Scenes of poverty, life on the streets, the dispossessed, refugees. Shanghai, 1938-1939.</p>

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	<i>Against the Current</i>, 2001
Box/Folder 4 : 9	<i>The Catholic Worker</i>, 2003
Box/Folder 4 : 10	<i>The China Connection</i>, 2001
Box/Folder 4 : 11	<i>Christianity's Social Record</i>, 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	<i>Heritage</i>, 2003
Box/Folder 4 : 16	<i>Living Age</i>, 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
