Register of the Committee for the Return of Confiscated German and Japanese Property Records, 1954-1962

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Hoover Institution Archives
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305-6010
Phone: (650) 723-3563
Fax: (650) 725-3445
Email: hooverarchives@stanford.edu
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Committee for the Return of Confiscated German and Japanese Property Records,
Date (inclusive): 1954-1962
Collection number: 63002
Creator: Committee for the Return of Confiscated German and Japanese Property
Collection Size: 33 manuscript boxes (13.8 linear feet)
Repository: Hoover Institution Archives
Stanford, California 94305-6010
Abstract: Minutes of meetings, reports, correspondence, press releases, position statements, legal briefs, notes, newspaper clippings, and printed matter.
Language: In English and German.

Access
Collection is open for research.
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Accruals
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Access Points
World War, 1939-1945.
Historical Note
The Committee for the Return of Confiscated German and Japanese Property sought the complete restitution of private German and Japanese property confiscated by the United States Government during and after World War II. Located in Washington, D.C., between April 4, 1954, and December 31, 1962, the Committee distributed information, prepared reports and studies, solicited public support, initiated legislation, and lobbied in Congress for its proposals.

Members of the Committee's executive board were Frederick J. Libby (Chairman), James Finucane (Executive Secretary), Dr. Charles S. Collier, Bishop Wilbur E. Hammaker, Dr. Goetz A. Briefs, Dr. John A. Scherzer, Conrad J. Linke, Mike M. Masaoka, and the Honorable Francis B. Sayre.

Boxes 1-14  CORRESPONDENCE, 1954-1962
Scope and Content Note
Correspondence, biographical data, copies of public statements, and legal briefs. A major portion of the correspondence deals with confiscated German property. Correspondence filed under Mike Masaoka, the Washington representative of the Japanese-American Citizens' League, concerns Japanese property. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.

Box 1
A
Abs, Herman
Adair, E. Ross
Adams, Mr. Dinsmore
Allen, Devere
Ahrens, D. H.
American Bar Association
American Legion
App, Dr. A. J.
Arai, Yoneo
Arnade, Col. Kurt

Box 2
B-Bl
Baade, Dr. Fritz
Barnes, Dr. Harry
Bauer, Karl
Bennett, John B.
Bo-Br
Boyken & DeFrancis
Briefs, Dr. Goetz
Bs-
Burke, Coleman

Box 3
C
Christian Century
Christian Herald
Collier, Dr. Charles
Corcoran, Thomas
D
Daniels, Richard
Davis, Gladys
Decker, Emil
Deutsch Bank
Durholz, Otto
E
Box 4
F
Farben, I. G.
Fischer, Charles
German American Chamber of Commerce
German Embassy
Gerhard, Charles
Ginsburg, David
General Aniline and Film Corporation
Ha
Box 5
Hamburger, Adolf
Hammaker, Bishop Wilbur
Hand, Judge Learned
Harris, Oren
He-Hu
Hruska, Senator Roman
I
Inquiry, letters of
J
Johnston, Senator Olin

Box 6
K
Kade, Max
Kennedy, John F.
Klein, General Julius
Klepinger, Robert F.
Kiinedinst, David M.
Kunster, Mrs. Ingeborg
L
Lange & Springer
Langer
Laun, Rudolph
Leutz, Dr. Gretel
Libby, Frederick J.
Lichtenfels, William
Linke, Conrad
Littauer, Rudolph
M
Box 7
Mack, Peter F.
Masaoka, Mike
Michler, Gordon
Miller, Paul
Mc-Mac
N
National Association of Manufacturers
National Council of Churches
New York Times
O
Oppenheimer, Fritz
Pa-Pe
Pf-Pz
Box 8
Pearson Column
Pearson, Collier
Perry, Mr. Henry
Peter, Bernard
Pfund, Dr. Harry
Phillips, E. Gordon
Public Affairs Committee
Q
R-Re
Rh-
Robert, Jon, Jr.
Roehrich, Gertrude
Roosevelt, Mrs. Franklin D.
Rosden, George
Rubin, Seymour
S
Saint Louis Post
Sayre, Honorable Francis
Scattergood, Mrs. Margaret
Scherzer, Reverend John
Schuchardt, Irmgard
Schutte, Dr. Ehrenfried
Box 11
Shearmen & Sterling
Shore, Chester
Sims, Cecil
Smathers, Senator George
Social Action
Staats, Zietung
Stinnes, Edmund
Stinnes, Otto
Studiengesellschaft fur Privatrechtliche Auslandsinteressen
Box 12
T
Thiesling, Dr. Theo H.
Tittmann, Charles
Token, William
U
U.S. Government
  Budget, Bureau of
  Congressional Library
  Foreign Claims Commission
  Justice, Department of
  State, Department of
  White House
  Miscellaneous
Box 13
V
Von Clemm, Werner
W
Wall Street Journal
Washington Post & Times Herald
Watches
Box 14
Wehrli, Edmund
Wilson, John, Jr.
Wirsing, Hans
Wohthat, Helmuth
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Wright, Professor Quincy
X, Y, Z
Unfiled Correspondence
Boxes 14-22
SUBJECT FILE, 1955-1962
Scope and Content Note
  Reports, memoranda, press releases, correspondence, notes, newspaper clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by subject.
Box 14
Administration bill. Copyrights, Congressional Record excerpts
Administrative proposal. Newspaper clippings (German and English), notes, correspondence and basic documents; includes government documents which were prepared and distributed to subscribers of “Confiscated Property Information Services”, the publication of the Committee for Return, 1955

Administrative proposal. Newspaper clippings, notes, and correspondence; includes an analysis of the War Claims Act Amendments submitted by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission in Behalf of the Executive Branch, 1958 July 8

American Council on Germany. Correspondence, minutes and drafts of charters relating to the establishment of the Council

Bayer vs. Sterling Drug. Legal documents

Bonn Treaty (as amended by Paris Protocol)

Budget. Notes and correspondence

Box 15

Cartels. Printed articles and newspaper clippings; includes material relating to the cases of the Sterling Corporation, and I.G. Farbenindustrie, for which General Aniline and Film Corporation was allegedly a front

China. Printed articles

Constitution. Mimeograph copies of the By-Laws and Constitution of the Committee Conventions, political. Printed article

Corporations. Printed articles and informational studies; includes material relating to German corporations

Cuba. Primarily newspaper articles and press releases relating to business investments and relations with Cuba

DEGO (German Gold Discount Bank)

Denmark. Relates to U.S. compensation to Denmark, 1957-1958

Drug films

Box 16

Egypt. Articles on U.S. interests and aid to Egypt and Egyptian claims that the U.S. Trading with Enemy Act set a precedent for Egyptian confiscation of British and French property

Equivalence. Relates to compensation for confiscated assets

Farben, I. G., Farbenindustrie relationship to G.A.F. (See G.A.F. file below)

Foreign agents. Committee of Foreign Relations report concerned with covert operations such as lobbying; basic documents include bills to amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act

General Aniline and Film Corporation. Articles and basic documents relating to government seizure of the company during World War II under the Trading with Enemy Act, the company’s subsequent operation under the supervision of the Alien Property Office of the U.S. Justice Department (which controls 97% of voting stock), a long ownership dispute between the Justice Department and the Swiss holding company Interhandel, and charges of political patronage under the Kennedy administration

Box 17

General Aniline and Film Corporation. Articles and basic documents relating to government seizure of the company during World War II under the Trading with Enemy Act, the company’s subsequent operation under the supervision of the Alien Property Office of the U.S. Justice Department (which controls 97% of voting stock), a long ownership dispute between the Justice Department and the Swiss holding company Interhandel, and charges of political patronage under the Kennedy administration

Germany. Primarily German newspaper clippings, articles, and German Embassy reports; English documents include an information sheet on the German General Law concerning the consequences of the war and Congressional Record excerpts

Advance payment

Bonds

Bundestag

Compensation loans

Dollar

East Zone

Foreign Aid Program

National debt

Advance payment

Bonds

Bundestag

Compensation loans

Dollar

East Zone

Foreign Aid Program

National debt
Box 18

Reaction
Treaty
Guatemala. Articles, and State Department press releases
Hardship cases. Primarily correspondence; several specific cross-references to correspondence files including Dr. Harry Pfund's, which has a list of hardship cases (primarily charity organizations) by municipality
Hearings. Unpublished materials, 1956 July 18

Hundred Thousand Dollar Program. Material relating to a fund-raising campaign, ca. 1955 March

Indonesia
Investment. Statements, speeches, articles and a few basic documents on foreign economic policy, U.S. and foreign investments, and the Subcommittee on Foreign Economic Policy of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress

Box 19

Investment
Japan. Articles, State Department press releases, and information from the Japanese Consulate General's Office; includes several documents related to the visit of Mamoru Shigemitsu (Foreign Minister), 1955 August 24-September 5

Lastenausgleich (Equalization of Burdens Law)
Lobby. Copies of quarterly lobby reports, statements of receipts, and an article relating to lobbying legislation, ca. 1960-1962

Liebernecht, Karl. Relates to government stock holdings, ca. 1958 February

Mailing lists. Committee members, 1957-1962

Miscellaneous. Articles, clippings and handwritten notes, presumably all by Executive Secretary James Finucane

Money. Articles relating to fund-raising

National Foreign Trade Convention. Report of the proceedings

Philippines. Basic documents

Box 20

Poland. Press releases

Property. Printed articles

Prospectus. Newsletter

Proxy forms. Relates to general meeting of the Committee, 1962 December 11

Reparations. Notes and printed articles

Roehling. Printed articles relating to a reparation case

Schering. Printed articles and a letter relating to proposed legislation

Schuette. Correspondence, including the Studiengesellschaft fur Privatrechtliche Auslandinteressen e.V.

Carl Schurz Foundation (Memorial). Correspondence

Social Action Project. Christian Action and Community Service Committee project, 1958

Solicitations. Letters, and a German mailing list

Spur offering. Material relating to the purchase of government-owned stock in Spur Distributing Company, Inc.

Stinnes Corporation. Printed articles and other material relating to the purchase of the Hugo Stinnes Corporation

Studiengesellschaft fur Privatrechtliche Auslandsinteressen, e.V. Correspondence and publications (primarily in German) relating to confiscated property, and correspondence

Box 21

Studiengesellschaft fur Privatrechtliche Auslandsinteressen, e.V.

Swiss

Tag Case. Relates to a U.S. Court of Appeals case, ca. 1959 May 21

Talk. Speech notes

Testimonials

Trading with enemy. Includes material relating to legislation

U.S. Bond Issue. Notes and other material, 1962 August 21


U.S. government
Foreign Claims Settlement Commission Report
Justice Department
Office of Alien Property
U.S. wills. Includes a statement entitled, "Facts concerning the seizure of Strachwitz Trust by the Alien Property Custodian"
United Nations. Publications on human rights and a letter of protest from Chairman Libby to Secretary of State Dulles

Box 22
War claims
Watches
Wiedergutmachung. Notes and newspaper articles (primarily in German) relating to reparations for war crimes
Windfall. Relates to U.S. custodianship of certain companies
World Court. Articles, and reports from the American Bar Association, and the International Law Association
Yalta. Clippings

Boxes 22-27
OFFICE FILE, 1953-1962

Scope and Content Note
Minutes of meetings, press releases, position statements and reports, form letters, government documents, correspondence, notes, and printed matter. Arranged by subseries, as follows: minutes of meetings, press releases and position statements, government documents file, and pre-1955 file. The pre-1955 file contains the records of the Committee prior to 1955, including unarranged correspondence, notes, and printed matter.

Box 22
Minutes of the annual meeting, 1954-1962
Box 23
Minutes of the executive committee, 1954-1962
Press releases and position statements
Distribution sheets
Offering
Blue Service
Letter of Committee Dissolution, 1962
Release, 1962 April 12
Release, 1962 March 12
Fact sheets
Release, 1961 August 14
Letter to Editor, 1961 August 14
Scherzer testimony, 1961 August 2
Collier letter, 1961 July
Appeal letter and reprints, 1961 May 8
Problem paper release, 1961 February 23
Letter to Editor, 1961 January 13
Problem paper to President Kennedy, 1960

Box 24
Statement by Bishop Hammaker at Republican Platform Committee, 1960
Democratic Platform release, 1960
Scherzer statement, 1960 April
Church documents, 1960
Sheldon reply, 1960 March 11
Masaoka reprints, 1960 February 19
Annual meeting statement, 1960 February 9
Reply to Marquis Childs, 1960 January 20
Gerhard Testimony, 1959
Steuben Society statement, 1959
Statement by Bishop Hammaker, 1959
Notice of hearings, 1959 July
Hammaker testimony, 1959 June
Scherzer testimony, 1959 June
Statement on sale by Attorney General, 1959 March 15
Annual meeting resolutions, 1959 February 20
Libby letter on human rights, 1958 December 8
Letter enclosing booklet, 1958 August 13
Abolition of U.S. Office of Alien Property release, 1958 May 12
State Department release, 1958 March 29
Washington Post, 1958
Christian Herald, 1958
Quincy Wright, 1957
Norman Thomas, 1957
Collier, 1957
Letter to Eisenhower, 1957
Releases, 1954-1957
Releases other than newsletter, Vol. 1-3, 1953 November-1956 December

Government documents
Austrian State Treaty
Basic documents, pre- 1954
Basic documents, 1954
Basic documents, 1955 (H.R. 6730)
Basic documents, 1955
Basic documents, 1956
Basic documents, 1956 (Johnston Bill, S-4 205)
Basic documents, German
Basic documents, 1957-1959
Basic documents, 1960
Basic documents, 1961
Bills, 1953-1956
Bills, 1957-1960
Bills, 1961 (H.R. 9463)
Bills, 1961 (H.R. 8305)
Bills, 1961 (H.R. 7479)
Bills, 1962 (H.R. 7283 and 5028)
Bills, 1962 (S. 2523, 2618, and 495)
Bonn Agreement

Pre- 1955 Files
Pre- 1955 Files

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS AND PRINTED MATTER, 1954-1962

Scope and Content Note
Newspaper clippings concerning confiscated property, reactions to proposed legislation, activities of the Committee, and annotated printed material, consisting mainly of government publications. Arranged chronologically.

Clippings, 1954-1955
Clippings, 1956
Clippings, 1956 (Aufbau)
Clippings, 1957 (Congressional Quarterly)
Clippings, 1957
Clippings, 1958-1959
Clippings, 1958-1959 (foreign language)
Clippings, (German papers)
Clippings, 1959-1960 (Congressional Quarterly)
Clippings, 1960
Clippings, 1960-1962 (foreign language)
Clippings, 1961-1962
Clippings, 1962
Clippings, extra
Clippings, duplicates for distribution
Scrapbook of clippings, testimonies, and literature circulated, 1959
Printed matter, annotated
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Congressional hearings and reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Congressional hearings and reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Congressional hearings and reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miscellaneous reports and monographs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>