Register of the Stanford Listening Post Records, 1940-1945

Hoover Institution Archives
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Contact Information
Hoover Institution Archives
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305-6010
Phone: (650) 723-3563
Fax: (650) 725-3445
Email: hooverarchives@stanford.edu

© 1999 Hoover Institution Archives. All rights reserved.

Descriptive Summary
Title: Stanford Listening Post Records,
Date (inclusive): 1940-1945
Collection number: 40001
Creator: Stanford Listening Post
Collection Size: 32 manuscript boxes, 1 envelope.13.4 linear feet
Repository: Hoover Institution Archives
Stanford, California 94305-6010
Abstract: Correspondence, transcripts of radio broadcasts, study papers, notes, and card indexes, relating to radio broadcasts from east and southeast Asia
Language: English.
Access
Collection open for research.
The Hoover Institution Archives only allows access to copies of audiovisual items. To listen to sound recordings or to view videos or films during your visit, 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], Stanford Listening Post Records, [Box no.], Hoover Institution Archives.
Acquisition Information
Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1940.
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 online catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.
Access Points
United States. Office of War Information
Propaganda
Radio broadcasting--East Asia
World War, 1939-1945
World War, 1939-1945--Propaganda
East Asia
United States
Historical Note

The Stanford Listening Post was established in the Archives Division of the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace in 1940 for the purpose of recording and studying radio broadcasts from the Far East. The Rockefeller Foundation granted $8,250 to cover the costs of equipment, supplies, and salaries for receiving, recording, and transcribing trans-Pacific broadcasts. Recording began in mid-September 1940 and continued to the end of May 1941 when the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) established listening posts throughout the country for round-the-clock monitoring of foreign broadcasts. The Stanford post recorded foreign broadcasts for the FCC from 1941 to 1943 and transmitted American broadcasts of the United States Office of War Information (OWI) to the Far East from 1942 to 1945.

The Stanford Listening Post used two short-wave receivers, an RME 69 and a highly selective HRO. During the last few weeks of the experiment, a Hallicrafter commercial type receiver was used in place of the RME. Two rhombic antennas provided directional reception from east-west and north-south. Two standard office Ediphones recorded the broadcasts. Only transmissions in English were recorded in the beginning, although test recordings of other languages were made. News and news commentator programs in English from three stations were recorded regularly--Tokyo, Japan; Chungking, China; and Saigon, French Indo-China. Occasional recordings were made from Hsinking, Manchukuo; Shanghai, China; and Sydney, Australia.

After broadcasts were recorded on Ediphone wax cylinders, a single typed copy was made of the transcript with text double spaced. There were several checks for accuracy. After the final checking, transcripts were duplicated and sent to a selected list of persons and libraries interested in Pacific affairs.

The staff of the Stanford Listening Post included Inez G. Richardson, who was director, Richard Beckett, Pauline Hamm, Maria Hoge, Rosemary Johansson, Kay Kitagawa, Margaret Lintner, Helene von Damm, and Ann Van Wagenen.


---

Box Box No. 1.-2. Card Indexes.

Scope and Content Note
Three card files consisting of a list of subscribers to the Stanford Listening Post transcripts, a reference file to general information used by Stanford Listening Post staff, and a subject index to the Stanford Listening Post transcripts (citations are to the Tokyo-to-America broadcasts unless otherwise stated). Each file is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box Box No. 3. Correspondence, 1941, 1959.

Scope and Content Note
Correspondence relating to subscription of the Stanford Listening Post transcripts, arranged chronologically.

Box Box No. 3.-14. Transcripts of Broadcasts Received, 1940-1943.

Scope and Content Note
Transcripts of foreign broadcasts received by the Stanford Listening Post, September 1940 to May 1941, and transcripts of foreign broadcasts received by Stanford on behalf of the U.S. Office of War Information (OWI) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), June 1941 to June 1943. Folders include draft translations as well as final transcripts. Arrangement is alphabetical by transmitting city and there-under chronological. The transcripts of the Tokyo broadcasts are divided into three groups--broadcasts intended for the Americas, broadcasts intended for Asia, and broadcasts received by Stanford on behalf of OWI and FCC.

Box Box No. 15.-21. Transcripts of OWI Broadcasts Transmitted, 1942-1945.

Scope and Content Note
Transcripts of broadcasts originating with the Office of War Information (OWI) and transmitted from Stanford by short-wave radio to the Far East. Arranged alphabetically by names of the OWI news services and there-under chronologically. The OWI news services included the Chinese News (sometimes called the Chinese Dialect News or Dialect News), Japan-Formosa News, and Thai News.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box No.</th>
<th>Project to Analyse Foreign Broadcasts Received by the Stanford Listening Post, 1940-1942.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Correspondence, drafts of study papers, outlines and plans, notes, and broadcast transcripts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of a project to study and compare the propaganda methods of China and Japan as revealed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in their radio broadcasts. The final report was not completed, but the records contain drafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of some chapters, notes and copies of Stanford Listening Post broadcast transcripts arranged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>by subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Card Indexes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1.</td>
<td><strong>List of subscribers to transcripts</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subject index to transcripts (citations are to Tokyo-to-America broadcasts unless otherwise stated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2.</td>
<td><strong>Reference file to information on important persons in the news, foreign words and idioms, and foreign newspapers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Correspondence, 1941, 1959.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3.</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence relating to subscriptions to Stanford Listening Post transcripts</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transcripts of Broadcasts Received, 1940-1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4.</td>
<td>Chungking, September 15, 1940-February 28, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5.</td>
<td>Chungking, March 1, 1941-May 15, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chungking, May 16, 1941-May 31, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chungking, March 1941-April 1941 (second copy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chungking, July 1941-August 1941 (OWI-FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hsinking (Manchuko), August 1941 (OWI-FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saigon, September 15, 1940-October 15, 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6.</td>
<td>Saigon, October 16, 1940-February 28, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7.</td>
<td>Saigon, March 1, 1941-May 15, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8.</td>
<td>Saigon, May 16, 1941-May 30, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saigon, August 1941 (OWI-FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sydney, February 1, 1941-May 31, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tokyo-America, September 15, 1940-September 30, 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9.</td>
<td>Tokyo-America, October 1, 1940-December 31, 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10.</td>
<td>Tokyo-America, January 1, 1941-March 31, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11.</td>
<td>Tokyo-America, April 1, 1941-May 30, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tokyo-Asia, September 15, 1940-November 30, 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12.</td>
<td>Tokyo-Asia, December 1, 1940-May 31, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tokyo, June 1941-September 1941 (OWI-FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13.</td>
<td>Tokyo, August 1941-September 1941 (OWI-FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thailand, September 1942-February 1943 (OWI-FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14.</td>
<td>Thailand, March 1943-June 1943 (OWI-FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miscellaneous transcripts (Stanford Listening Post)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 15.</td>
<td>Chinese News, August 1942-March 1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 16.</td>
<td>Chinese News, April 1943-September 1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 17.</td>
<td>Chinese News, October 1943-March 1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 18.</td>
<td>Chinese News, April 1944-September 1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20.</td>
<td>Chinese News, May 1945-August 1945 and miscellaneous broadcasts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Japan-Formosa News, May 1945-August 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 21.</td>
<td>Thai News, May 1942-June 1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project to Analyse Foreign Broadcasts Received by Stanford Listening Post, 1940-1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 22.</td>
<td>Project correspondence, 1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outlines and plans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Register of the Stanford Listening Post Records, 1940-1945

40001
Chapter outlines
Project report--outlines, introduction to Chungking chapter, resume of propaganda content
Project report, drafts
  Comparison of Chungking and Tokyo broadcasts
  Comparisons of press
  Chungking broadcasts
  Quantitative tables comparing broadcast references to subjects
  Tabulated analysis of references to leaders
Subject arrangement of transcripts, 1940-1942
  Burma Road
  China
    Agriculture
    Communism
    Education
    French Indo-China relations
    General
    Government control of economics
    Government development of economics
    Health
    Industrial cooperatives
    Military failures
    Monetary policy
    Morale
    Occupation of
    Overseas Chinese
    Pleas for American aid
    Political developments
    Radio communications
    Relief program
    Shanghai, international settlement
    Transportation and communications
    War (Chungking broadcasts only)
  Box 23.
  European War
  Box 24.
  France
    Collaboration with Axis
    International policy
    Marshal Petain
  French Indo-China and Thailand
    Radio Saigon
    Saigon
  Box 25.
  Germany
  Great Britain
    Pro-British broadcasts
    Anti-British broadcasts
    Anglo-Soviet relations
  Japan
    Balkan relations
    Chungking bombings
    Culture, education, and research
    Dutch East India relations
    Economy
    Economic expansion
    Expansion
    Foreign travellers
    German relations
    Imperial way
    Indo-China penetration
  Box 26.
  Box 27.
Italian relations
Morale
Occupation of China
Peace offensive
Political reorganization
South American relations
Special references
Triparte Pact
U.S. relations
War (Tokyo broadcasts only)

Russia
Chinese relations
Japanese relations

Box 28.
United States
American evacuation
Anti-American propaganda
Pro-American propaganda
Placating American public opinion
War stories
Unindexed transcripts

Box 29.
Unindexed transcripts

Miscellaneous project notes

Box 30-32.
Australia
China
Indo-China
Tokyo-America
Tokyo-Asia