

Guide to the Robert Blum Papers

MS 87



compiled by Miriam Levi

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 87

CREATOR: Blum, Robert, 1911-1965

TITLE: Robert Blum papers

DATES: 1950-1964

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.25 linear feet (6 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of professional papers largely reflecting Robert Blum's activities with organizations working on problems in Asia and international affairs. Almost half of the papers are records of the Asia Foundation (1953-1962). Included are monthly reports, speeches and articles, and notes and photographs from annual trips to Asia (1953-1964). Other organizations represented include the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, UNESCO, the American Assembly, and the National Strategy Seminar.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0087>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0087>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Dr. Isabelle Blum, 1969.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Robert Blum Papers (MS 87). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Robert Blum, a specialist in Asian Affairs, was born in San Francisco on March 12, 1911. He spent his childhood in San Francisco and Japan (Yokohama and Kobe). He earned his undergraduate (A.B., 1930) and his graduate degree (Ph.D. 1936) from the University of California at Berkeley. From 1937 to 1942, he was a research assistant and instructor in international relations at Yale University. He served in the OSS from 1942 to 1946, spending most of those years in London. In the fall of 1944, he was named Chief of the X-2 Branch set up in Paris, one of the Branches of the Counter Espionage division of the OSS. After the war he worked for two years as an assistant to Secretary of Defense James Forrestal. In 1949, Robert Blum returned to Europe, working in Paris with the Marshall Plan. From 1950 to 1951, he was the head of ECA (Economic Cooperation Administration), an agency of the Marshall Plan, in Indochina. He returned to the United States in 1953 to become the President of the Asia Foundation with headquarters in San Francisco. He left the Asia Foundation in 1962 to direct a three-year project for the Council on Foreign Relations financed by the Ford Foundation titled "The United States and China in World Affairs". Robert Blum died suddenly on Long Island (N.Y.) on July 9, 1965 before he could revise his manuscript for publication. His book, *The United States and China in World Affairs*, edited by A. Doak Barnett, was published the following year.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of Blum's professional papers, largely reflecting his activities with organizations working on problems in Asia and international affairs. Almost half of the papers are records of the Asia Foundation (1953-1962) during his presidency. Included are monthly reports, speeches and articles and notes and photographs from annual trips to Asia (1953-1964). Other organizations represented include the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, UNESCO, the American Assembly and the National Strategy Seminar.

General correspondence and expense vouchers are filed at the beginning of the papers. Following are papers arranged alphabetically by organization.

Collection Contents

Inventory, 1950-1964

2.3' (6 boxes)

b. 1, f. 1-4	General correspondence	1955-1956, 1959-1962, undated
b. 1, f. 5	Expense vouchers	1954, 1957-1959
	American Assembly	
b. 1, f. 6	Correspondence	1956-1962
b. 1, f. 7	Reports	1957-1962
	Asia Foundation	
b. 1, f. 8-12	Monthly reports A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1953-1957
b. 2, f. 13-17	Monthly reports A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1958-1962
b. 2, f. 18	Program bulletins	1956-1962
	Trip notes	
b. 2, f. 19	Vietnam A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1953
b. 2, f. 20	Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1954
b. 2, f. 21	Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, India	1955
b. 2, f. 22	Japan, Korea, Singapore, Vietnam A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1956
b. 2, f. 23	Afghanistan, Burma, Malaya/Singapore, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand	1957
b. 2, f. 24	Cambodia, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Laos, Vietnam	1958
b. 2, f. 25	Afghanistan, Hawaii, India, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaya/Singapore, Pakistan, Thailand	1959

Asia Foundation > Trip notes (continued)

b. 2, f. 26	Cambodia, Ceylon, India, Japan, Okinawa, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Vietnam	1960
b. 2, f. 27	Afghanistan, Burma, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Laos, Kuala Lumpur, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand	1961
b. 2, f. 28	India, Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Kuala Lumpur	1963
b. 2, f. 29	Cambodia, Japan, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, France	1964
Trip photographs		
b. 2, f. 30	Laos, Vietnam	1951
b. 2, f. 31	Pakistan	1954
b. 2, f. 32	Ceylon, Philippines	1955
b. 2, f. 33	Japan, Korea	1956
b. 3, f. 34	Burma, Thailand	1957
b. 3, f. 35	Afghanistan	1958
b. 3, f. 36	Vietnam	1958
b. 3, f. 37	Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaya/Singapore, Pakistan, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam	1959
b. 3, f. 38	Taiwan	1960
b. 3, f. 39-41	Speeches and notes	1953-1965
b. 3, f. 42	Articles by Robert Blum	1956-1961, undated
b. 4, f. 43	U.S. newspaper clippings	1954-1956
b. 4, f. 44	Foreign newspaper clippings	1955-1962
Asia Foundation. Working Group on Cultural and Educational Advancement in Asia		
b. 4, f. 45-46	Correspondence	1961 March – December
b. 4, f. 47-48	Reports	1961
Association for Asia Studies		
b. 4, f. 49	Report	1964
Bilderberg Group. Fredenberg Conference, 1956 May 11-13		
b. 4, f. 50	Memoranda, reports	1956
b. 5, f. 51	Reports	1956
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace		

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (continued)

b. 5, f. 52	Correspondence, memoranda, minutes	1960-1962
	Economic Cooperation Administration	
b. 5, f. 53-54	Correspondence A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1950-1951
b. 5, f. 55	Clippings	1950-1952
	Harvard University	
b. 5, f. 56	Correspondence	1957-1960
	International House	
b. 5, f. 57	Correspondence A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1961-1962
	Mutual Security Agency	
b. 5, f. 58-59	Correspondence	1952-1953
	Pacific Coast Conference on the University and World Affairs, 1962 Mar 16-17	
b. 5, f. 60	Correspondence, speech	1962
	UNESCO	
	Conference on Social Change in Southern Asia and the United States, 1956 Apr 23-27	
b. 5, f. 61	Correspondence, memoranda	1956
	Conference on Asian-Western Cultural Relations, 1956 Aug 13-14	
b. 6, f. 62	Correspondence, memoranda, reports	1955-1957
	Third Major Project, 1959	
b. 6, f. 63	Correspondence	1957-1959
	UNESCO. U.S. National Commission	
b. 6, f. 64	Correspondence, reports	1959-1962
	U.S. Department of State. Consultancy on foreign aid	
b. 6, f. 65	Correspondence, reports	1961-1962

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Geographic Names

Asia
Cambodia -- Description and travel
Cambodia -- Foreign relations -- United States
Laos -- Description and travel
Laos -- Foreign relations -- United States
Southeast Asia
United States -- Foreign relations
United States -- Foreign relations -- Cambodia
United States -- Foreign relations -- Laos
United States -- Foreign relations -- Vietnam
Vietnam -- Description and travel
Vietnam -- Foreign relations -- United States

Subjects

Educators

Names

Blum, Robert, 1911-1965

Corporate Bodies

Asia Foundation
United States. Economic Cooperation
Administration
Yale University -- Faculty