

Guide to the Jefferson Franklin Ray, Jr. Papers

MS 1607



July 2008

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1607

CREATOR: Ray, J. Franklin (Jefferson Franklin), 1905-

TITLE: Jefferson Franklin Ray, Jr. papers

DATES: 1837-1990

BULK DATES: 1920-1955

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 7.5 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Jefferson Franklin Ray, Jr. Papers consist of correspondence, professional papers, personal papers and photographs that document Ray's private life, family and career. The bulk of the collection chronicles Ray's education at Yale University and professional career as a diplomat and administrator in East Asia from 1920 to 1953. There is also documentation on other family members, including Ray's father, Jefferson Franklin Ray, Sr., who served as a missionary in Japan.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1607>

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Anne C. Ray, Gerda W. Ray, Jefferson F. Ray, III, Lester A. Ray, and Louis H. Ray, 1991.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Jefferson Franklin Ray, Jr. Papers (MS 1607). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Jefferson Franklin Ray, Jr. was born in 1905 to Daisy Winston Pettus and Jefferson Franklin Ray, Sr., Baptist missionaries in Kobe, Japan. Ray was raised in Japan, but returned to the United States and attended Vanderbilt University from 1922 to 1923, before transferring to Yale University. He completed his B.A. at Yale in 1926 (Phi Beta Kappa) and studied philosophy and psychology at the Yale University School of Graduate Studies from 1926 to 1929. He worked as an investment counselor in New Haven and New York before becoming the assistant director of the Surplus Division of the Federal Commodities Association in 1934. Ray joined the staff of the New York City Employment and Resources for Emergency Relief Bureau in 1935 and was employed there for the next two years. After four more years working as an investment counselor and with the onset of World War II, Ray served as a special assistant to the American ambassador to China from 1942 to 1945, and as special staff officer to commanding generals in the United States Army in the Chinese, Burmese and Indian theaters from 1941 to 1945. In 1945, Ray became assistant lend-lease administrator and chief of the China division of the Foreign Economic Administration.

From 1945 to 1947, Ray served as director of the Far Eastern office of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) and as acting director of the China office in 1946. He supervised allocations of relief supplies and assistance to China, reorganized and directed the program, and supervised personnel during a period of Chinese social upheaval and tense United Nations policy debate. UNRRA supplies were regularly denied to Communist-controlled areas and diverted to Nationalist-governed regions. Ray and hundreds of other UNRRA employees protested this strategy and sought to deliver relief supplies and support to all Chinese, despite international objections and frequent Chinese Nationalist blockades. Ray published his authorized history, *The UNRRA in China*, in 1947, detailing UNRRA's ambitions and evaluating its performance. In 1948, the Communist Chinese government awarded Ray the Special Cravat of the Brilliant Star for his humanitarian service as an UNRRA director.

Over the next few years, Ray worked in various advisory and administrative capacities in Korea and other East Asian countries. He was employed by the Department of State, the Committee for the Marshall Plan, the United Nations, the U.S. Educational and Informational Survey Mission to Korea, the United States Far Eastern Commission and the Economic Cooperation Administration's Mission to Korea. Because of his associations with the Institute for Pacific Relations and Alger Hiss, his popularity with Chinese Communists and support for distributing UNRRA supplies to Communist-controlled regions of China, Ray was brought before the Economic Cooperation Administration's Review Board in 1949. Ray was found to be a loyal United States employee, but his reputation was severely damaged. From 1951 to 1953, Ray served as the chief of the Geneva Liaison Office of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency. After failing to secure government work commensurate with his diplomatic skills and experience, Ray found work in the United States as an investment counselor at Bache & Company, and then as a vice-president of Bayrock, an investment firm, before retiring in 1971.

Ray married three times. Ray and Mary Sharretts Haamman were wed in 1934 and divorced in 1945. In 1946, Ray married Hilda Austern, a fellow UNRRA employee, who died in 1971. Later that year, Ray married Martha Henrietta Weinert, who died in 1976. J. Franklin Ray, Jr. died on February 22, 1991, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he had just begun a new career teaching Japanese to elementary school students. He was survived by his children: Jefferson F. Ray, III, Louis H. Ray, Lester A. Ray, Gerda W. Ray, and Anne C. Ray.

Scope and Contents

The Jefferson Franklin Ray, Jr. Papers consist of correspondence, professional papers, personal papers and photographs that document Ray's private life, family and career. The bulk of the collection chronicles Ray's education at Yale University and professional career as a diplomat and administrator in East Asia from 1920 to 1953. There is also documentation on other family members, including Ray's father, Jefferson Franklin Ray, Sr., who served as a missionary in Japan.

Arrangement

Arranged in four series: I. Correspondence, 1905-1990, n.d. II. Professional Papers, 1933-1973, n.d. III. Personal and Family Papers, 1837-1981, n.d. IV. Photographs, 1879-1961, n.d.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1905-1990, undated

This series includes correspondence between Ray and his family, friends, and professional associates, arranged alphabetically. The most substantive correspondence relates to Ray's service with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in China and the Economic Cooperation Administration, from 1945 to 1949. Ray's exchanges with fellow administrators and diplomats document UNRRA's efforts to distribute supplies and aid to war-damaged areas of China, where starvation and poverty were rampant and needed supplies were often blocked by Chiang Kai-Shek's American-backed Nationalist government. Correspondence with Colonel Fred D. Harris and UNRRA Director Generals Fiorello LaGuardia, Herbert Lehman and Lowell Rooks documents UNRRA activities in China. Although most of the correspondence between Ray and his second wife, Hilda Austern Ray, is personal, she also worked with the UNRRA in China, so the two frequently discussed the organization's activities.

Ray regularly reviewed Chinese culture and politics with his uncle, William B. Pettus, who headed the California College in China and the Peking Museum. Ray's extensive correspondence with friend Randall Gould, editor of the Shanghai Evening Post, includes thorough, candid discussions of China and UNRRA, and a January 1948 exchange concerns Ray's friendship with Alger Hiss. Correspondence with Mary H. Ray, his first wife, also refers to this friendship. Ray rarely discussed professional matters with family members. Ray's correspondence with his brother Hermon S. Ray primarily concerns his brother's long career as a minister in Hawaii.

b. 1, f. 1	A	1941-1950, undated
b. 1, f. 2	B	1939-1987, undated
b. 1, f. 3	Bruce, Elizabeth	1942-1948
b. 1, f. 4	C	1941-1954
b. 1, f. 5	Currie, Lauchlin	1942-1943
b. 1, f. 6	D-F	1939-1952, 1976- 1977, undated
b. 1, f. 7	Edgerton, Glen [major-general, director, UNRRA China office]	1946-1949
b. 1, f. 8	Eisenhower, Dwight D. [approval of Ray's appointment to UNRRA China office]	1942
b. 1, f. 9	G	1942-1952, undated
b. 1, f. 10	Gould, Randall [editor, Shanghai Evening Post]	1947-1949, undated
b. 1, f. 11	H	1937-1952, undated
b. 1, f. 12	Harris, Fred D. [acting chief, UNRRA Far Eastern affairs]	1946-1948, undated
b. 2, f. 13-14	Hazell, Charles and Emily Ray	1926-1979
b. 2, f. 15	Holland, William. [secretary general, Institute of Pacific Relations]	1946-1949

b. 2, f. 16	Hoose, Saidee	1937-1948, undated
b. 2, f. 17	I-K	1942-1952, undated
b. 2, f. 18	Kingsley, Donald [agent general, United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency] 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.	1951-1952
b. 2, f. 19	L	1939-1952, undated
b. 2, f. 20	LaGuardia, Fiorello H. [director general, UNRRA]	1946-1947
b. 2, f. 21	Lehman, Herbert [director general, UNRRA]	1949-1952
b. 2, f. 22	M	1942-1949
b. 2, f. 23	Mayer, Laura	1946-1969
b. 2, f. 24	N	1940-1977, undated
b. 2, f. 25	O-P	1941-1990, undated
b. 3, f. 26-27	Pettus, William B	1941-1963, undated
b. 3, f. 28	R	1939-1967, undated
b. 3, f. 29	Ray, Celeste Balfour	1947
b. 3, f. 30	Ray, Daisy Pettus	1905-1943, undated
b. 3, f. 31-33	Ray, Jefferson Franklin, Sr. [includes letters to/from family members]	1907-1965, undated
b. 4, f. 34-36	Ray, Hermon S.	1922-1990
b. 4, f. 37-38	Ray, Hilda Austern	1946-1952, undated
b. 4, f. 39	Ray, Mary Elisabeth	1923-1965, undated
b. 5, f. 40	Ray, Mary H.	1942-1950
b. 5, f. 41	Rooks, Lowell [director general, UNRRA]	1946-1948
b. 5, f. 42	Rusk, Dean [brief letters regarding United Nations Secretariat and employment]	1947, undated
b. 5, f. 43-44	S	1941-1952, undated

b. 5, f. 45	Shor, Franc [executive officer, UNRRA]	1946-1947
b. 5, f. 46	Stettinus, E. R. [administrator, Lend-Lease Administration; under-secretary of state]	1941-1946
b. 5, f. 47	T	1941-1952, undated
b. 5, f. 48	U-Z	1943-1973
b. 5, f. 49	First name only	1944-1977, undated
b. 5, f. 50	Letter fragments	undated

Series II: Professional Papers, 1933-1973, undated

This series is comprised of professional papers, arranged alphabetically by subject, which primarily document J. Franklin Ray, Jr.'s service in China and Korea from 1942 to 1951. Ray selected UNRRA correspondence of historical value for Jean Herriot's paper, "The UNRRA China Program." These important memos and letters circulated between Ray and other central figures of UNRRA in China. The "Critique" folder contains a draft of an undelivered, angry letter Ray drafted to UNRRA Director General Fiorello LaGuardia, that indicates the extremity of Ray's frustration with the organization, the American government, and the Chinese Nationalists. The remainder of the UNRRA documents includes correspondence, publications, research, notes, press clippings, memos, correspondence, and weekly reports.

"Hearing, Economic Cooperation Administration Review Board" contains legal documents and correspondence from Ray's 1949 hearing, at which Ray successfully defended himself against charges of disloyalty and Communist sympathy. "Employment" contains resumes, recommendations, reports and samples of work. The latter were compiled by Ray to evidence his professional experience prior to 1953 and span the breadth of his career.

b. 6, f. 1	Emergency Relief Bureau, New York Division of Work Referral	1934-1937
	Employment	
b. 6, f. 2	Recommendations	1942-1951
b. 6, f. 3	Resumes and reports	1948-1952, undated
b. 6, f. 4-5	Samples of work	1935-1953
b. 6, f. 6-7	Federal Surplus Relief Corporation	1933-1935
b. 6, f. 8	Foreign Affairs Committee, United States House of Representatives. [Ray's staff consultant appointment and related press releases]	1949
	Korea	
	Economic Cooperation Administration	
b. 7, f. 9	"Draft Summary Paper: Counterpart Program for Korean Fiscal Year 1950-1951" English	1950
b. 7, f. 10	Finances	1950-1951
b. 7, f. 11	General	1941-1945, 1949-1950
	Hearing, Economic Cooperation Administration Review Board	
b. 7, f. 12	Affidavits and letters	1949-1951
b. 7, f. 13	Exhibits	1943-1949
b. 7, f. 14	Selected materials	1948-1952
b. 7, f. 15	"Revision of the ECA Program in Korea" [memo by Ray] English	1950

Korea (continued)

b. 7, f. 16	General	1950-1951
b. 7, f. 17	Memos	1950-1951, undated
b. 7, f. 18	Notes and journals	1947, undated
b. 7, f. 19	"Unfinished Business in Korea" [article by Ray] English	1947-1948, undated
b. 7, f. 20	Lend-Lease Administration and Foreign Economic Administration	1942-1945
	UNRRA in China	
b. 7, f. 21	Chinese Special Cravat of the Brilliant Star	1948
	Correspondence	
b. 7, f. 22	General	1946-1948
b. 8, f. 23-24	Herriot, Jean ["The UNRRA China Program" by Herriot, and Ray's selected UNRRA correspondence]	1946-1966
b. 8, f. 25	Critique [unsent letter, addressed to UNRRA Director General Fiorello LaGuardia]	undated
b. 8, f. 26	General	1946-1948, undated
b. 8, f. 27-28	"Hunger Fighters" [UNRRA-China publication] English	1952, 1971-1973
b. 8, f. 29	Mao speech	1948
b. 8, f. 30-32	Press clippings	1946, undated
b. 9, f. 33	Reports [weekly progress]	1946
b. 9, f. 34	"The Story of UNRRA" [UNRRA publication] English	1948
	"UNRRA in China" [by Ray]	
	Paper	
b. 9, f. 35	Final version	1947
b. 9, f. 36	Drafts and notes	1947, undated
b. 9, f. 37	Correspondence	1947-1948
b. 9, f. 38	United Nations Secretariat [memos and letter of resignation]	1947
	Writings	
b. 9, f. 39	"Postwar American Aid to China" English	1947-1948, undated
b. 9, f. 40	"Some Effects of the War on Economic Thought in the USA" English	1941

Writings (continued)

b. 9, f. 41

Speeches, notes and drafts

1940-1948,
undated

Series III: Personal and Family Papers, 1837-1981, undated

This series consists of family records, memorabilia, and Ray's educational materials, arranged alphabetically by subject. Ray's diaries document his personal life and experiences as a Yale undergraduate. Class folders contain class notes, papers, and related materials. Family papers consist of memorabilia and thorough biographical papers documenting the Ray family history. The papers of Jefferson Franklin Ray, Sr. document his life and work as a Baptist missionary in Japan and elsewhere, and include sermons, autobiographical sketches and many writings.

b. 10, f. 1	Awards	1922-1947, undated
b. 10, f. 39855	Diaries	1924-1976, undated
Education		
b. 11, f. 12	High school essays and report cards	1922, undated
b. 11	College	
b. 11, f. 13	Awards	1926-1927
b. 11, f. 14	Bibliography	undated
Classes		
b. 11, f. 15	Astronomy	undated
b. 11, f. 16	Chemistry	undated
b. 11, f. 17	Chinese culture and institutions	1924-1925, undated
b. 11, f. 18	English	1924, undated
b. 11, f. 19	Ethics	1924, undated
b. 12, f. 20	Geology	1925, undated
b. 12, f. 21	History, Old Testament	undated
b. 12, f. 22	History, renaissance	1924-1925, undated
b. 12, f. 23	Latin	1924, undated
b. 12, f. 24	Philosophy of science and religion	undated
b. 12, f. 25	Philosophy of the state	1924-1925, undated
b. 12, f. 26	Political science	1924-1925, undated
b. 12, f. 27	Psychology	1924, undated
b. 12, f. 28	Essays	undated

Education > College (continued)

b. 12, f. 29	"A Fox Story" [fiction by Ray] English	undated
b. 12, f. 30	Notes	1925-1926, undated
b. 12, f. 31	Poetry	1923-1926, undated
b. 12, f. 32	Scholastic record	1923-1926
b. 12, f. 33	Yearbook	1922
Family		
b. 13, f. 34	Biographical [information on Pettus and Ray families]	1919-1967, undated
b. 13, f. 35	Clippings	1941-1946, undated
b. 13, f. 36	Higgins, Mary Elisabeth Ray [estate of]	1960-1981, undated
b. 13, f. 37	Ray, Hermon S. [songs by]	1952-1969
Ray, Jefferson Franklin Sr.		
b. 13, f. 38	Awards	1922-1953
b. 13, f. 39	Estate	1967-1968
b. 13, f. 40	Memorial service	1967
b. 13, f. 41	"Missionary Album" [Foreign Mission Board publication] English	1959
b. 13, f. 42	Passports and related materials	1919-1947
b. 13, f. 43	Sermons [in Japanese]	undated
Writings		
b. 13, f. 44	Autobiographical	1895-1908, undated
b. 13, f. 45	General	1893-1929, undated
b. 13, f. 46	"Tippah County Death Notices," 1837-1936 English	1976, 1978
b. 14, f. 47-48	Yearbooks, Judson College and Jackson High School	1904, 1952
b. 14, f. 49	Finances	1939-1940, undated
b. 14, f. 50	Insurance	1919-1964

b. 14, f. 51	Medical records	1935-1950
b. 14, f. 52	Miscellaneous	undated
b. 14, f. 53	Passports and related materials	1921-1952, undated

Series IV: Photographs, 1879-1961, undated

This series is arranged in three sections: albums, identified images, and unidentified images. "Albums" contains photographs that have been removed from albums created by the Ray family. Though some photographs document missionary activity in Asia, almost all of the photographs from the albums are family snapshots. Identified photographs are arranged by individual and region. Unidentified photographs are arranged by subject. Almost all photographs are black and white, undated, and generally range in size from 2" x 4" to 8" x 10".

b. 15, f. 1-8	Albums	1902-1956, undated
	Identified images	
b. 15, f. 9	Austern, Tommy	undated
	Bache & Company [convention] See also: Oversize, Box 19	1956
b. 15, f. 10	Family	1923-1939, undated
b. 15, f. 11	Lend-Lease Administration	1940
b. 15, f. 12	Missionary work [Jefferson Franklin Ray, Sr., Daisy Winston Pettus Ray, et al]	undated
b. 15, f. 13	Pettus, Edmund Winston	undated
b. 15, f. 14	Pettus, Henry J.	undated
b. 15, f. 15	Ray, Celeste Balfour	undated
b. 15, f. 16	Ray, Daisy Winston Pettus	1879-1939, undated
	Ray, Emma Pettus See: Oversize, Box 19	1922
b. 15, f. 17	Ray, Jefferson Franklin	1923-1939, undated
b. 15, f. 18	Ray, Mary Elisabeth	1951-1961, undated
b. 15, f. 19	Rodevitch, Maya	1942, undated
b. 16, f. 20	China	undated
b. 17, f. 21	South Asia, Middle East	undated
	Unidentified images	
b. 18, f. 22	Children	undated
b. 18, f. 23	Individuals See also: Oversize, Box 19	undated
b. 18, f. 24-26	Groups	undated

Unidentified images (continued)

b. 18, f. 27	Asia	undated
b. 18, f. 28-29	Miscellaneous [positives and negatives]	undated

Oversize

b. 19	Images	1922, 1956, undated
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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

China -- Foreign relations -- United States
Korea -- Foreign relations -- United States
United States -- Foreign relations -- China
United States -- Foreign relations -- Korea

Subjects

Missionaries -- Japan

Names

Gould, Randall Chase, 1898-1979
Holland, W. L. (William Lancelot), 1907-
Pettus, William B. (William Bacon), 1880-1959
Ray, J. Franklin (Jefferson Franklin), 1905-
Ray, Jefferson Franklin

Corporate Bodies

United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation
Administration
United States. Economic Cooperation
Administration
Yale University -- Students