

Guide to the John Hall Paxton Papers

MS 629



compiled by Peter J. Bollier

April 1976

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
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CALL NUMBER: MS 629

CREATOR: Paxton, John Hall, 1899-1952

TITLE: John Hall Paxton papers

DATES: 1920-1961

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 9 linear feet (22 boxes, 1 folio)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, writings, photographs and printed materials of John Hall Paxton, American foreign service officer. The papers reflect primarily Paxton's service in China from 1925 to 1949, broken only by a year in Teheran in 1943. He made a dramatic escape from China (1949) and returned to the United States. He broadcast for the Voice of America, and returned as Consul to Isfahan, Iran in 1951, where he died in 1953. His papers include reports on Chinese economic and political conditions, memoranda on Nanking and the Nationalist takeover in 1927; an account of the U.S.S. Panay incident in 1937, to which he was an eyewitness; a record of his internment in Nanking by the Japanese in 1942, and articles and letters on his escape from China in 1949. An unpublished manuscript, Consul to Sinkiang, is among the papers, as are extensive collections of photographs of China and Iran. Correspondents include Everett Drumright, Margaret Mackiernan, wife of Douglass Mackiernan, and Willyes Peck.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0629>

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.0629>.

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 Mrs. Vincoe Paxton, 1972.

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

John Hall Paxton Papers (MS 629). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

John Hall Paxton spent the first twenty-three years of his life living alternately in the United States and China. Born July 28, 1899, in Galesburg, Illinois, Paxton was the eldest son of Presbyterian missionaries to China home on leave after the Boxer Rebellion. In 1901 Paxton left with his parents for China but returned to America in 1912 to attend Pittsburgh's Brookline Public School. One year later he returned to China, entered the Shanghai American School, and graduated with a high school diploma in 1917. Paxton came back to the United States once more in 1917 to attend Phillips Academy and then Yale College. He graduated from Yale with a B.A. in 1922.

In the fall of 1922 Paxton matriculated at Magdalene College, Cambridge, but soon moved to France where he gained admission to L'Ecole libre des Sciences Politiques in 1924. Along with V.C.C. Collum, he spent his time translating Jacques de Morgan's *Prehistoric Man* and other French scientific works.

The young graduate student did not remain long in France, for in late 1924 he sailed for New York to take the Foreign Service examination. After passing the test in 1925, he spent several months in training and then received an assignment to Nanking, China. Although never destined to be a major policy maker, John Hall Paxton did become a skilled reporter for the State Department during the next twenty-five turbulent years of Chinese history.

From 1925 to 1929 Paxton served as Vice-Consul to Nanking, watching four Chinese governments rise and fall within two years. Nanking finally returned to a semblance of political stability in 1927 after the bloody "Nanking Incident" when Nationalists looted foreign property and took over the city. Paxton helped evacuate foreigners during the crisis and afterwards worked to restore American property and prestige.

From 1930 to 1942 Paxton held a variety of posts in China, including Language Attaché at Peiping (1929-1931), Consul at Canton (1932-1934), Consul at Chefoo (1934-1936), Second Secretary of the Embassy at Nanking (1937), and Consul at Shanghai on assignment to Nanking (1938-1942). In each of these positions he watched Sino-Japanese tensions escalate into open warfare.

On several occasions Paxton was more than just an observer. He directed the evacuation of foreigners from the Chinese city of Sian in 1936 and then found himself caught in the cross-fire between Chinese and

Japanese forces in 1937 while aboard the U.S.S. *Panay*. Japanese bombers accidentally sank the American gunboat, an act which only worsened an already poor American-Japanese relationship. Paxton continued to monitor events in China until the bombing of Pearl Harbor, when Japanese troops interned the entire American Consulate at Nanking. Six months later he and his co-workers were repatriated by a Japanese exchange ship.

After a brief assignment to Tehran, Iran (1943), Paxton returned to China as a Cultural Attache (1944-1946) and later became the American Consul to Sinkiang, China's northwest province (1946-1949). From his frontier post he recorded the efforts of various Communist factions—Chinese and Russian—to win military and political control of the area. And in 1949 he gained national attention by fleeing over the Himalayas to escape advancing Communist troops.

Returning to the United States, Paxton made radio broadcasts to Asia for the Voice of America until being reassigned as Consul to Isfahan, Iran, in 1951. During this time he corresponded with many refugees from China and helped with their resettlement.

Paxton died suddenly of a heart attack on June 23, 1952 at the age of 53.

Scope and Contents

The Paxton Papers focus on John Hall Paxton's diplomatic career, 1925 to 1952. Except for several folders of Yale College manuscripts and essays from the years 1920 to 1922, the Papers contain no item dated before 1925.

The Paxton Papers are divided into four series. The first three series group materials around the three major phases of Paxton's diplomatic career. The fourth encompasses all personal material, miscellaneous material, and the papers of Paxton's second wife, Vincoe.

I. 1925 to 1929 (primarily from 1927 to 1929): The Nanking Incident and its Aftermath

The documents on this period focus on the Nationalist take-over of the American Consulate and Paxton's efforts to recover American property. These include thirty-three official reports, eleven memoranda, and several rough drafts or fragments of memoranda. Most are political or military analyses of the Nationalist regime after the Nanking Incident. Paxton's general correspondence (approximately 95 incoming and 60 outgoing) also focuses on the 1927-1929 period.

Although Paxton saved little family correspondence during this period, he did keep three letters (1927-1928) that reveal his deep dissatisfaction with the State Department's reaction to the Nanking Incident. He also saved approximately fifteen newspaper accounts of the crisis.

II. 1930 to 1943: Sino-Japanese War and American-Japanese Relations in China

Although this series concentrates on the years 1937 through 1942, it does contain some pre-1937 material. There are twenty-five memoranda on routine consulate procedures and financial records of the Nanking Consulate up to 1938. The series also contains five reports and memoranda on China's economy (1933-1934) as well as a letter from J.W. Ballantine on the banking crisis in Canton (1934). Paxton's correspondence includes a 1935 letter to Ambassador Nelson Johnson on "Sino-Japanese Relations in the Chefoo Consular District." But for the most part, few of the 560 (210 outgoing, 350 incoming) pieces of correspondence in this series concern the 1930-1936 period.

In contrast, most of the correspondence in this series and all of the thirty-four newspaper clippings deal with the Panay Incident and the internment of Americans at Nanking. There are also sixteen memoranda on the two events as well as Paxton's published account of internment in the *Yale Alumni Magazine* (October, 1942). Paxton's Papers also contain an anonymous diary of an American who shared Paxton's confinement. It now appears that the author was a secretary named Hilda Anderson.

Few papers survive from Paxton's brief stay in Tehran; most are letters (approximately 125) written to and from his mother about family matters. There is also one letter from his first wife, Ann, and another from his second wife, Vincoe.

III. 1944 to 1952: American Relations in Post-War China and Iran

For the years 1944 through 1946 there are seven memoranda and approximately eighty pieces of correspondence (35 outgoing, 45 incoming). Much of this material concerns U.S. foreign policy in chaotic post-war China. Three letters between Paxton and Everett Drumright (1946) and two letters between Paxton and Willys Peck (1946) reflect Paxton's disagreements with the State Department.

However, most of the material in this third series focuses on Paxton's tenure as Consul to Sinkiang and his dramatic escape from China. Memoranda from this period contain little information; most are evaluations of personnel in the Consulate. But Paxton did write an unpublished book entitled *Consul to Sinkiang*, and he did file a lengthy report on his escape. The *Saturday Evening Post* published Paxton's story of his trip out of China in an article entitled "I Escaped Over the Roof of the World" and *U.S. Camera* published a photo-essay of the journey. Paxton also recorded his adventures in fourteen personal letters to family and friends (1949).

Over two-thirds of the 1000 (380 outgoing, 620 incoming) pieces of correspondence in this series is dated after 1949. And much of it concerns the problems of refugees from Communist China—particularly the problems of refugees from the East Turkestan area. Paxton's correspondence also contains fourteen letters to and from Margaret Mackiernan, wife of American diplomat Douglass Mackiernan who died in northwestern China trying to escape to India. The Communist press accused Mackiernan and Paxton of espionage.

In addition to reports, correspondence, memoranda, and journalistic accounts of Paxton's experiences in Sinkiang, the papers include three valuable sets of photographs. The first set—mounted in a photo album entitled "Tihwa Area"—contains 427 black and white and 31 color photographs of the people and geography of Tihwa, Sinkiang. About one-half of the 458 photographs have captions. The second and third set record Paxton's trip over the Himalayas to escape advancing Communist troops. These two sets are virtually identical (93 color and 125 black and white photographs) and are mounted in near-identical photo albums. One album has captions; the other has a key to the photographs. Paxton also had sixty of the photographs blown up to 13 1/2" x 10 1/2" and mounted on cardboard.

There is little material on Paxton's work as Consul to Isfahan, Iran. An official report and a photograph album (122 black and white photographs) record Paxton's trip to Iran via Beirut. This and a smattering of newspaper clippings, notes on Iranian culture and language, and family correspondence are the only items in these papers that cover this phase of Paxton's career.

IV. Personal

This series contains personal material that rarely has any direct bearing on any one phase of Paxton's diplomatic career. There are three folders of Paxton's essays, poetry, short stories, and plays written at Yale (1920 to 1922). Two large folders contain lists and inventories of Paxton's personal belongings at various times in his career, and three folders hold financial correspondence between Paxton and the First National Bank of Danville, Virginia (1940-1943).

Most of the 172 pieces of family correspondence (79 outgoing, 93 incoming) comes from Paxton or his mother, Una, and most of it does not concern Paxton's work. There are, however, several significant exceptions. Three letters by Paxton written after the Nanking Incident (1927-1928) and another letter written after the Panay Incident (1937) deal with Paxton's reaction to crisis. Fourteen more letters written during Paxton's escape from China (1949) are also revealing.

This series contains the writings of others which include radio scripts, articles, pamphlets, and a bibliography. There are also seven maps of various portions of the world.

The sub-series miscellaneous includes a guest book with signatures (1929-1955), Paxton's autograph book from the Brethren of Pearl River Lodge, passports, various autobiographical notes, certificates, fifty "Sound-scriber" recording discs, miscellaneous photographs, and a watercolor painting by Una Paxton.

Vincoe Paxton's writings in these papers include two items—a published article entitled "Among Men of Asia" (1954) and a plan for nursing education in Illinois (1961). The bulk of her 255 pieces of correspondence (1950-1958)-1961) deals with John Hall Paxton. Many letters to Vincoe Paxton are condolences following

her husband's death, and many outgoing letters concern her efforts to publish her husband's book, *Consul to Sinkiang*.

Arrangement

Arranged in four series: I. 1925-1929. II. 1930-1943. III. 1944-1952. IV. Personal.

Collection Contents

Series I: 1925 to 1929: The Nanking Incident and its Aftermath, 1925 - 1929

10" (2 boxes)

Series I includes all material on Paxton's tenure as Vice-Consul to Nanking, China. Writings in this series are divided into reports, memoranda, press releases, and clippings. Each is arranged chronologically. Outgoing correspondence is arranged chronologically, while incoming correspondence is arranged alphabetically by author.

WRITINGS

Reports

b. 1, f. 1	Trade Lists Covering Owners & Importers of Soda Fountains...	1925 December 31
b. 1, f. 2	"Anti-Foreign Outrages at Nanking on March 24, 1927" English	1927 April 2
b. 1, f. 3	Political Situation in Nanking Consular District after March 24, 1927	
b. 1, f. 3	Status of American Interests in Nanking six months after the Outrage	1927 September 24
b. 1, f. 4	Events & Conditions in Nanking for months Sep, Oct, Nov & Dec	1927
b. 1, f. 5	Review of Economic Conditions in Nanking Consular District nine months after the March 25 Outrage	1927 December 24
b. 1, f. 6	Municipal Improvements in Nanking Kuomintang Plenary Conference as a Step Towards a Solution of the Political Dilemma	1928 February 20
b. 1, f. 7	Illegal Taxes Affecting Americans in the Nanking Consular District	1928 March 30
b. 1, f. 8	Military Organization of the Nationalist Regime	1928 April 10
b. 1, f. 9	Events & Conditions in Nanking for months Jan, Feb, Mar & Apr	1928
b. 1, f. 10	Annual Report on Commerce & Industries of Nanking Consular District for 1927	1928 May 25
b. 1, f. 11	Events & Conditions in Nanking for months May & Jun	1928
b. 1, f. 12	Events & Conditions in Nanking for months Jul & Aug	1928
b. 1, f. 13	Events & Conditions in Nanking for months Sep, Oct & Nov	1928
b. 1, f. 14	Developments in the Political Situation as Manifested at & since the 5th Plenary Conference	1928 September 20
b. 1, f. 15	New Educational System of Nationalist China	1928 October 15
b. 2, f. 16	Reorganization of the National Government	1928 October 31
b. 2, f. 17	Highway Construction in the Nanking Consular District	1928 December 1

WRITINGS > Reports (continued)

b. 2, f. 17	Post Report	1928 November 13
b. 2, f. 18	Annual Report on Political Conditions in Nanking Consular District - 1928	1928 March 21
Memoranda		
b. 2, f. 19	"The Character of the Chinese People" English	[pre 1929]
b. 2, f. 19	Concerning the Evacuation of Kuling, Kiangai	1927
b. 2, f. 19	The Nanking Incident	1927
b. 2, f. 20	Immunity from Local Regulations in China	1929
b. 2, f. 20	The Housing Problem at the Nanking Consulate	1929
b. 2, f. 20	Travel Allowance for the Nanking Consulate	1929
b. 2, f. 20	Romanizations of Names of Political & Military Leaders	1929
b. 2, f. 21	Settlement of the Nanking Incident	1927-1929, undated
b. 2, f. 22	Rough Notes	1927, undated
b. 2, f. 23	Rough Drafts & Notes	1927-1929, undated
b. 2, f. 24	"The Big Swords & the Little Swords Clash" (unofficial) English	
b. 2, f. 24	"On What Conditions Should Missionaries Return to Places that are now Evacuated?" (unofficial) English	undated
b. 2, f. 25	"Nanking - Four Months After" (unofficial) English	1927
Other Writings		
b. 2, f. 26	Press Release re: Nanking Incident	1928
b. 2, f. 27	Circular re: Nanking Incident; Misc.	1927-1929
b. 2, f. 28	Newspaper Clippings re: Nanking Incident	1927
b. 2, f. 28	Miscellaneous	1922
CORRESPONDENCE		
Outgoing Correspondence		
b. 2, f. 29	January 1927 - December 1927, undated	January 1927 - December 1927, undated

CORRESPONDENCE > Outgoing Correspondence (continued)

b. 2, f. 30	January 1928 - March 1928	January 1928 - March 1928
b. 2, f. 31	(April 1928 - December 1928) - July - October 1929 English	(April 1928 - December 1928) - July - October 1929
Incoming Correspondence		
b. 2, f. 32	A - C	1927-1929
b. 2, f. 33	D - K	1927-1929
b. 2, f. 34	L - Z	1927-1929, undated
b. 2, f. 35	Unidentified	1927-1928, undated

Series II: 1930 to 1943: Sino-Japanese War and American-Japanese Relations in China, 1930 - 1943

1'3" (3 boxes)

Series II includes all material on Paxton's work as a middle echelon diplomat concerned with Japanese influence in China. Writings in this series are divided into reports, memoranda, press releases, clippings, speech notes, a published article, and a diary. Each is arranged chronologically.

Outgoing correspondence is arranged chronologically, while incoming correspondence is arranged by author.

WRITINGS

Reports

b. 3, f. 36	The Canton Silk Market	1933
b. 3, f. 37	Importance of Native Banks in the Kuomintang Economy	[1934]
b. 3, f. 38	General Economic, Financial & Trade Conditions in the Canton Consular District	1934
b. 3, f. 38	Political Reports for Jul - Aug	1934
b. 3, f. 38	Post Report	1935
b. 3, f. 39	The Chinese Banking System (unofficial)	1934 July

Memoranda

b. 3, f. 40	Valuable Chinese Contacts	undated
b. 3, f. 40	Misc. Procedural Memos	1932,1933, undated
b. 3, f. 41	Journey to Loyang by Mr. Paxton in Connection with Evacuation of Foreigners from Sian	1937 January 26
b. 3, f. 42	Plan for Protection of Americans in Nanking	1937 March 24
b. 3, f. 42	Protection of Foreigners at Nanking	1937 August 25
b. 3, f. 42	Defense of the U.S. Embassy	1927 September 3
b. 3, f. 43	Personal Experiences of Paxton at the Time of the Bombing of the U.S.S. Panay 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.	[1938]
b. 3, f. 44	Visit to Sungkiang, Kiangsu	1939 June 6
b. 3, f. 44	Memo of a Conversation	1941 February 8
b. 3, f. 44	Memo of a Meeting	1941 March 27
b. 3, f. 44	Settlement of the Case of Arrest of Dollar Lumber Co. Representatives	1941 August 13

WRITINGS > Memoranda (continued)

b. 3, f. 45	Record of Events	[1941/1942]
b. 3, f. 46	Misc. Office Procedures, Language Instruction & Questionnaires	(1930-1932)-1942, undated
b. 3, f. 47	Office Procedures	1932-1934
b. 3, f. 48	Rough Drafts:	
b. 3, f. 48	On the Reliability of Political & Military Intelligence	undated
b. 3, f. 48	Recommendations for Improving Chinese Language Classes	undated
b. 3, f. 49	Rough Draft	
b. 3, f. 49	Secret Military Preparations to Defend the U.S. Embassy	1937
b. 3, f. 50	Rough Draft	
b. 3, f. 50	Paxton's Account of the U.S.S. Panay Incident	1938
b. 3, f. 51	Rough Draft	
b. 3, f. 51	Record of Events	1941/1942
b. 3, f. 51	Plans for Escape	[1942?]
Other Writings		
b. 3, f. 53	Press Releases:	
b. 3, f. 53	Panay Incident	1937
b. 3, f. 53	Wang Ching-Wei Speaks on the Anniversary of Nationalist Return to Nanking	[1939?]
b. 3, f. 54	Speech Notes:	
b. 3, f. 54	"The Fear of Fear" English	undated
b. 3, f. 54	Other unidentified speech notes	
b. 3, f. 55	Newspaper clippings on the Panay Incident & Japanese Internment	
b. 3, f. 56	Published article; "Interned by the Japs" in the <i>Yale Alumni Magazine</i>	1942 October
b. 4, f. 57	Diary 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.	1941/1942

CORRESPONDENCE

Outgoing Correspondence

b. 4, f. 58	September 1931 - December 1934	September 1931 - December 1934
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CORRESPONDENCE > Outgoing Correspondence (continued)

b. 4, f. 59	January - December 1935	January - December 1935
b. 4, f. 60	January 1936 - August 1938 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.	January 1936 - August 1938
b. 4, f. 61	November 1938 - December 1940	November 1938 - December 1940
b. 4, f. 62	January - August 1941	January - August 1941
b. 4, f. 63	September 1941 - August 1942	September 1941 - August 1942
b. 4, f. 64	September - October 1942	September - October 1942
b. 4, f. 65	November 1942 - January 1943	November 1942 - January 1943
b. 4, f. 66	May - December 1943	May - December 1943
Incoming Correspondence		
b. 4, f. 67	A - Bd	(1932-1941)-1943
b. 4, f. 68	Be - Bz	1930, 1937-1942
b. 4, f. 69	Ca - Chd	1931-1935, (1937-1938)1939, 1942
b. 4, f. 70	Chefoo Club	1935-1936
b. 4, f. 71	Che - Cz	1933-1938, 1940, [illegible]
b. 4, f. 72	Da - Dd	1938-1942, undated
b. 4, f. 73	De-Em	1937, 1939-1940, [illegible]
b. 4, f. 74	En - G	1932-1938, 1942- 1943, undated
b. 4, f. 75	H - K	1932-1939, 1941- 1942, undated
b. 4, f. 76	L- M	1935-1943, undated
b. 4, f. 77	N - Sn	1931, 1935, (1937 1943), undated

CORRESPONDENCE > Incoming Correspondence (continued)

b. 4, f. 78	Si -Sz	1943, 1937, 1940, (1941-1942)
b. 4, f. 79	T - W	1935, 1937-1940, (1942)
b. 4, f. 80	X - Z	1941-1942
b. 4, f. 81	Unidentified	1931, 1935, 1937- 1938, 1940-1943, undated

FINANCIAL RECORDS

b. 5, f. 81a	Financial-Records of the U.S. Consulate at Nanking	1927- (1930-1938)
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Series III: 1944 to 1952: American Relations in Post-War China and Iran, 1944 - 1952 4'7" (11 boxes)

Series III includes all material on Paxton's involvement in post-war China, first as Cultural Attaché to Shanghai, then as Consul to Tihwa, and finally as advocate and friend of refugees from Communist China. It also contains some overlapping material on Paxton's brief tenure as Consul to Isfahan.

Writings in this series are divided into reports, memoranda, press releases, clippings, published articles, unpublished books, and language notes. Each is arranged chronologically.

Outgoing correspondence is arranged chronologically, while incoming correspondence is arranged alphabetically by author.

This series also contains photographs of Northwestern China and Iran.

WRITINGS

Reports

b. 6, f. 82	Historical Notes on Background of the Turki Language	1949 July 30
b. 6, f. 82	Proposed Romanization for Arabic Alphabet Used in Central Asiatic Languages	1949 August 1
b. 6, f. 83	Travel out of Tihwa 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 March 1
b. 6, f. 84	The Comparative Study of Communication Systems	1951 March 26
b. 6, f. 85	Surface travel from Beirut to Isfahan [Iran]	1951 October 8
b. 6, f. 86	"Eastern Turkistan Behind the Iron Curtain" and "Continuance of Red Terrorism in Turkistan" (unofficial) English 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

Memoranda

b. 6, f. 87	On the Burning of the Chancery on January 20, 1945	
b. 6, f. 87	A Review of the Cultural Program in China	1945
b. 6, f. 87	On Problems with Leasing Additional Office Space	1946
b. 6, f. 87	On the Imprisonment of Henry K. Chan	1946
b. 6, f. 88	Exchange of Professors & Specialists with China	1946
b. 6, f. 88	Political Report on Nationalist-Communist Conflict	1946
b. 6, f. 88	Miscellaneous memoranda	1946

WRITINGS > Memoranda (continued)

b. 6, f. 89	Evaluation of Consulate Personnel in Tihwa 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.	1949
b. 6, f. 90	Rough Drafts on Tihwa, China Not by Paxton:	1947, undated
b. 6, f. 91	On Paxton's Escape from China	
b. 6, f. 91	Editorial Stands of Iranian Newspapers	1950-1952
b. 6, f. 91	Guidelines for Speaking Honoraria	
Other Writings		
b. 6, f. 92	Press Releases & Circulars	1946, 1950-1951, undated
b. 6, f. 93	Speech Notes & Itinerary on Paxton's Escape from China	1949-1950, undated
Newspaper Clippings:		
b. 6, f. 94	Escape from China & its aftermath	1949-1951
b. 6, f. 95	Iran	1951, undated
Articles Published by Paxton:		
b. 6, f. 96	Escape Over the Roof of the World (<i>Saturday Evening Post</i>)	
b. 6, f. 96	Flight from China (<i>U.S. Camera</i>)	
b. 6, f. 97	Manuscript rough draft of <i>Consul to Sinkiang</i>	
b. 6a, f. 97a	Unpublished book: <i>Consul to Sinkiang</i> 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.	
b. 7, f. 98	Cultural & Language Notes on Iran	undated
b. 7, f. 99	Cultural & Language Notes on Turki Russian & Chinese	1946, undated
b. 7, f. 100	Lease between Ma Yi-Guin & the Secretary of State drafted by Paxton	1946

CORRESPONDENCE

Outgoing Correspondence

b. 7, f. 101	February 1944 - November 1946 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.	February 1944 - November 1946
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CORRESPONDENCE > Outgoing Correspondence (continued)

b. 7, f. 102	January 1947 - December 1949 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.	January 1947 - December 1949
b. 7, f. 103	January - March 1950	January - March 1950
b. 7, f. 104	April 1950	April 1950
b. 7, f. 105	May 1950 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.	May 1950
b. 7, f. 106	June 1950 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.	June 1950
b. 7, f. 107	July - August 1950 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.	July - August 1950
b. 7, f. 108	September - December 1950 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.	September - December 1950
b. 7, f. 109	January - February 1951	January - February 1951
b. 7, f. 110	March - April 1951	March - April 1951
b. 7, f. 111	May - June 1951	May - June 1951
b. 7, f. 112	July - October 1951	July - October 1951
b. 8, f. 113	Nov 1951 - Feb 1952	
b. 8, f. 114	Mar - Jun 1952	
Incoming Correspondence		
b. 8, f. 115	A - A1	1949-1952
b. 8, f. 116	Am - Az	1950-1951
b. 8, f. 117	Ba - Bz	1945-1946, (1950-1952), undated
b. 8, f. 118	C-D	1946 (1950- 1952), undated

CORRESPONDENCE > Incoming Correspondence (continued)

b. 8, f. 119	E - H	1945, 1946, 1949, (1950-1952), undated
b. 8, f. 120	I - K	1946, 1950-1952
b. 8, f. 121	L	1944, 1946, 1949 (1950), 1952, undated
b. 8, f. 122	Ma - Mal	1945, (1950- 1951), 1952
b. 8, f. 123	Mam - Mz	1949-1952
b. 8, f. 124	N - O	1949, (1950- 1951)
b. 8, f. 125	P	1945, 1959 (1950), 1951- 1952
b. 8, f. 126	R	1945, 1946, 1949, (1950-1952)
b. 8, f. 127	S - Sat	(1950)-1951-1952
b. 8, f. 128	Sav - Sd	1949-1952
b. 8, f. 129	Se - Sg	1950-1954
b. 8, f. 130	Sh	1949- (1950-1951)-1952
b. 8, f. 131	Si - So	1946, 1950-1952, undated
b. 8, f. 132	Sp - Ss	1951-1952, undated
b. 8, f. 133	St - Sz	1950-1952
b. 8, f. 134	T	1946, 1949, (1950-1951), 1952, undated
b. 8, f. 135	U - V	1944, 1946 (1950-1951), 1952, undated
b. 8, f. 136	Wa - We	1946 (1950- 1952)
b. 9, f. 137	Wf - Wq	1946, 1950-1952, undated
b. 9, f. 138	Wr - Wz	1949- (1950)-1951

CORRESPONDENCE > Incoming Correspondence (continued)

b. 9, f. 139	X - Z	1950-1952, undated
b. 9, f. 140	Unidentified	1948, 1950-1952

PHOTOGRAPHS

b. 10, f. 141	Photographs of Tihwa, Sinkiang (427 b&w; 31 color) 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.	
b. 11, f. 142	Portrait of Paxton	undated
b. 11, f. 142	27 photos of Northwest China 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.	1949
b. 12, f. 143	33 photographs of Northwestern China 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.	1949
b. 13, f. 144	Photo album containing photos of Paxton's escape from China 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.	1949
b. 14, f. 145	Photo album containing photos of Paxton's escape from China 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.	1949
b. 15, f. 146	Photographs of Paxton's Trip to Iran via Beirut	1951

Series IV: Personal*1'8" (7 boxes)*

Series IV contains personal material which has no direct bearing on any one phase of Paxton's diplomatic career. It also contains the correspondence and writings of Vincoe Paxton.

Writings in this series are divided into Yale College essays, poetry, and plays, lists and inventories, writings of others, and maps. There are also several folders of miscellaneous material.

This series also contains Paxton's financial correspondence, which is arranged chronologically. Paxton's outgoing family correspondence is arranged chronologically, and his incoming letters are arranged alphabetically by author. Vincoe Paxton's writings are arranged chronologically, as is her outgoing correspondence. Her incoming correspondence is arranged alphabetically by author.

WRITINGS

b. 16, f. 147	Essays, Poetry, Exams written by Paxton at Yale	1920, 1922, undated
b. 16, f. 148	Essays written by Paxton at Yale	1921, undated
b. 16, f. 149	Short stories written by Paxton at Yale	[1920-1922?]
	Plays written by Paxton at Yale	[1920-1922?]
b. 16, f. 150	The King of the Beggars	
b. 16, f. 150	Yale and Hades	
b. 16, f. 150	Sandalwood	
b. 16, f. 151	Lists & Inventories	1936, 1939, 1941, 1946, 1951, undated
b. 16, f. 152	Lists & Inventories of Paxton's Personal Belongings	1939, 1946, undated
	Radio Scripts	
b. 16, f. 153	Messenger of Peace	1938
b. 16, f. 153	The Foreign Service in China	1946
b. 16, f. 154	Articles & Misc. Writings of Others	1924, 1941, (1950-1951)
b. 16, f. 155	Miscellaneous Pamphlets	
b. 16, f. 156	Bibliography of the American Council of Learned Societies, Committee on Far Eastern Studies	1951
	Maps	
b. 17, f. 157	Middle East - Political Sub-Divisions of India - The World	
b. 17, f. 158	Far East - Northern Africa - China Coast Pacific Ocean - Northern Europe - California	

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

b. 17, f. 159-161	Restricted Correspondence	1935-1941, 1940-1943, 1940
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FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE

Outgoing Correspondence

b. 17, f. 162-168	1927 - 1928, 1937, 1943-December 1943, September 1944, 1949, March - August 1951	1927 - 1928, 1937, 1943-December 1943, September 1944, 1949, March - August 1951
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b. 17, f. 169	Undated	
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Incoming Correspondence

b. 17, f. 170	Una Paxton	1938, September 1941 - October 1942
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b. 17, f. 171	Una Paxton	November 1942 - April 1943
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b. 17, f. 172	Una Paxton	May 1943 - August 1943
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b. 17, f. 173	Una Paxton	September - November 1943
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b. 17, f. 174	Una Paxton	February - June 1951
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b. 17, f. 175	Ann Paxton	1942 December 12
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b. 17, f. 175	Vincoe Paxton	1946 March 25
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b. 17, f. 175	W.T. Paxton	undated
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MISCELLANEOUS

Folio

b. 18, f. 176	Passports	
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b. 18, f. 177	Biographical Information, Medical Reports, Records of Promotions, etc.	
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b. 18, f. 178	Certificates	1928
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b. 18, f. 179	Minutes of Chefoo Harbor Improvement Commission	1935
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b. 18, f. 180	Fifty "Soundscriber" Recording Discs	
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b. 18, f. 181	Watercolor by Una Paxton	1909
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b. 18, f. 182	Miscellaneous Photographs	
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MISCELLANEOUS (continued)

b. 18, f. 183-184	Miscellaneous Material	
b. 19, f. 185	Paxton's Guest Book	1929-1955
b. 19, f. 185	Paxton's Autograph Book from the Brethren of Pearl River Lodge	1934
b. 19A, f. 185	Certificates (3) Awarding the Position of U.S. Consul	(1942, 1951)
b. 19A, f. 185	Masonic Certificates (3)	(1930, 1933)
b. 19A, f. 185	Unidentified Iranian Certificate	undated
b. 19A, f. 185	Membership Certificate in the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Island	(1937)
WRITINGS OF VINCOE PAXTON		
Published Article & Report:		
b. 20, f. 186	Among Men of Asia	1954
b. 20, f. 186	A Plan for Nursing Education in Illinois	1961
CORRESPONDENCE OF VINCOE PAXTON		
Outgoing Correspondence		
b. 20, f. 187	March - December 1950	March - December 1950
b. 20, f. 188	February - June 1951, June - September 1952, January - November 1953	February - June 1951, June - September 1952, January - November 1953
b. 20, f. 189	1954-1958, 1961	1954-1958, 1961
Incoming Correspondence		
b. 20, f. 190	A	1943, 1949, 1950, 1952-1953, 1955
b. 20, f. 191	B	1951, 1952, 1954, undated
b. 20, f. 192	C - F	1943, 1952, 1954- 1957, undated
b. 20, f. 193	G - H	1950, 1952-1954, 1956, undated
b. 20, f. 194	I - M	1950, 1952- 1953, 1957-1958, undated
b. 21, f. 195	N - O	1951 - 1955
b. 21, f. 196	P	1952

CORRESPONDENCE OF VINCOE PAXTON > Incoming Correspondence (continued)

b. 21, f. 197	Q - S	1950-1954, 1957, undated
b. 21, f. 198	T - U	1952-1954, 1956-1957, undated
b. 21, f. 199	W	1950-1953, undated
b. 21, f. 200	X - Z	1952-1953, undated
b. 21, f. 201	Unidentified	

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.

Subjects

Diplomats
Japanese -- China
Sino-Japanese War, 1937-1945

Geographic Names

Asia
China -- History -- 1912-1949
Middle East
Nanjing (Jiangsu Sheng, China)
United States -- Foreign relations -- China
Xinjiang Uygur Zizhiqu (China)

Genres / Formats

Photoprints

Names

Anderson, Hilda
Ballantine, Joseph, 1888-1973
Drumright, Everett
Hlavacek, Pegge
Parker, Pegge
Paxton, John Hall, 1899-1952
Paxton, Una
Paxton, Vincoe
Peck, Willys Ruggles, 1882-1952

Corporate Bodies

Panay (Gunboat)
Yale University -- Students