

Harrar (J. George) papers

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Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue Sleepy Hollow 10591

archive@rockarch.org

URL: http://www.rockarch.org

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical/Historical note	4
Scope and Contents note	5
Arrangement note	5
File Plan note	6
Administrative Information	6
Controlled Access Headings	7
Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements	8
Collection Inventory	. 8
Correspondence	. 8
Correspondence - Outgoing	8
Correspondence - Confidential	10
Correspondence - General	11
Correspondence - Collateral Interests	12
Correspondence - Relating to Written Materials	21
Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications	22
Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Book Manuscripts	22
Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Interviews	23
Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Publications (and Reprints)	23
Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Speeches	24
Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Miscellaneous Papers	24
Miscellany	25
J. George Harrar photographs	25

Summary Information

Repository: Rockefeller Archive Center

Creator: Foundation Center

Creator: Foundation Executives Group

Creator: Council on Foundations

Creator: Cotton Research & Development Corporation (Australia)

Creator: Nutrition Foundation

Creator: The Dreyfus Third Century Fund,. Inc.

Creator: Population Resource Center

Creator: National Academy of Sciences (U.S.)

Creator: Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia

Creator: Agribusiness Council

Creator: Columbia University. Institute of Human Nutrition

Creator - aut: Harrar, J. George (Jacob George)

Title: J. George Harrar papers

ID: FA046

Date [inclusive]: 1926-1982, bulk 1958-1982

Date [bulk]: bulk

Physical Description: 15 Cubic Feet 45 document cases

Language of the English

Material:

Preferred Citation

Information regarding the Rockefeller Archive Center's preferred elements and forms of citation can be found at http://www.rockarch.org/research/citations.php

[^] Return to Table of Contents

Biographical/Historical note

Jacob George Harrar was born in Painesville, Ohio, on December 2, 1906, to Ellwood Harrar, an engineer, and Lucetta Sternes Harrar. He attended Oberlin College from 1924 to 1928 where he majored in biology and excelled in athletics. After receiving the A.B. degree from Oberlin, Harrar continued his education at the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts. He was awarded the M.S. degree in 1929 and immediately embarked on a career in teaching and agricultural research as an assistant professor at the College of Agriculture, University of Puerto Rico. Within a year Harrar became head of the department of biology. He left that position in 1934 to pursue a Ph.D. in plant pathology at the University of Minnesota. It was here he began a close personal and professional relationship with E. C. Stakman, under whom he studied. Later, in 1958, they collaborated on the book, "Principles of Plant Pathology."

In 1935, Harrar, having achieved a doctorate degree in plant pathology, once again resumed teaching, accepting an assistant professorship at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Rising to full professor in 1937, Harrar remained at the Institute until 1941. From 1941 to 1942 he headed the Division of Plant Pathology and the Agricultural Experiment Station at Washington State College.

In 1942, Harrar left academics to create and administer in Mexico the Rockefeller Foundation's first cooperative assistance program in agricultural science. With his team of American specialists, Harrar implemented a Foundation program of soil and hybrid experimentation to improve wheat and corn yields. Within a few years the Mexican program proved enormously successful and the Foundation was invited to implement the same program in Colombia, Chile, and India. Harrar is generally regarded as the father of what soon became known as "The Green Revolution."

Harrar, in 1952, became Deputy Director for Agriculture, Division of Natural Sciences and Agriculture, of the Rockefeller Foundation. In 1955, he became Director for Agriculture organizing further projects in agricultural assistance and cooperation in all the Central American countries. He was appointed Vice President of the Foundation in 1959, and in 1961 succeeded Dean Rusk as its President. Under Harrar, the Rockefeller Foundation during the 1960s reoriented its programs to concentrate in five areas: the conquest of hunger, by improving the quantity and quality of food supplies; the solution of population problems; the strengthening of emerging centers of learning in developing nations; the provision of better educational opportunities for the disadvantaged groups in the U. S.; and the enhancement of the cultural lives of Americans.

Retiring in 1972, Harrar was the first man ever to be appointed a Life Fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation. During the 1970s he continued his involvement as a member of such professional and scientific organizations as the National Academy of Sciences and the Nutrition Foundation. In 1980 he was awarded the Aztec Eagle Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Mexican government for service to their country by a foreign citizen. He also, during his lifetime, received numerous honors, degrees, and citations from many other foreign governments and from both American and foreign universities.

In addition to "Strategy for the Conquest of Hunger, Selected Papers of J. George Harrar," he was the author of numerous scientific research papers in the fields of phytopathology and mycology, and

many articles of general interest on world food problems, population, private philanthropy, economic development overseas, and environmental quality.

J. George Harrar died on April 18, 1982.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Scope and Contents note

The J. George Harrar Papers mainly consist of material relating to Harrar's various activities outside The Rockefeller Foundation between 1958 and 1982. The bulk of the collection is made up of correspondence, but it also contains publications, speeches, clippings, awards, interviews, photographs, and books.

The collection strongly reflects Harrar's pre-eminence as a world agricultural expert. This is illustrated in his correspondence with organizations such as the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Agribusiness Council, the International Development Service, the Institute of Nutrition Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, the Nutrition Foundation, and the Cotton Research and Development Program. A related interest in population is represented in correspondence with the Dreyfus Third Century Fund, Projects for Population Action, and in letters to and from William Draper.

Harrar's views on foundations and private philanthropy are illustrated in his correspondence with the Council on Foundations, the Foundation Center, the Foundation Executives Group, and in material relating to the Patman Investigation and other House or Senate Committees before which Harrar appeared. Correspondence of a more personal nature can be found within the first three subseries: Outgoing, Confidential, and General.

Very few of Harrar's scientific writings are represented in the collection. Most of the written material relates to subjects that concerned him later in his career, such as world hunger, food production, and private philanthropy.

Material illustrating Harrar's thirty years (1942-1972) with the Rockefeller Foundation is contained within the Rockefeller Foundation Archives.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Arrangement note

The J. George Harrar Papers are divided into four series:

Series 1 - Correspondence Series 2 - Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications Series 3 - MiscellanySeries 1019 - Photographs

^ Return to Table of Contents

File Plan note

Former Classification: IV 2A 26

^ Return to Table of Contents

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue Sleepy Hollow 10591 archive@rockarch.org

URL: http://www.rockarch.org

Revision Description

Migrated from Re:discovery to the Archivists' Toolkit by Becky Robbins 2 October 2009

Conditions Governing Access

Open for scholarly research without restriction.

Conditions Governing Use

RAC users must abide by all applicable provisions of United States copyright law. Reproduction/duplication of archival items is routinely provided in accordance with "fair use." If the RAC does not hold copyright for an archival collection, or items within a collection, it is the user's responsibility to contact the copyright holder, or make a fair effort to do so, prior to publication.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Mrs. Georgetta Harrar donated the papers of J. George Harrar to the Rockefeller Archive Center in 1982.

Controlled Access Headings

- Agriculture -- Research
- Population
- Agriculture
- Food production and natural resources
- Philanthropy
- Hunger
- Foundation Center
- Foundation Executives Group
- Council on Foundations
- Cotton Research & Development Corporation (Australia)
- Nutrition Foundation
- The Dreyfus Third Century Fund,. Inc.
- Population Resource Center
- National Academy of Sciences (U.S.)
- Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia
- Agribusiness Council
- Columbia University. Institute of Human Nutrition
- Harrar, J. George (Jacob George)
- Foundation Center
- Foundation Executives Group
- Council on Foundations
- Cotton Research & Development Corporation (Australia)
- Nutrition Foundation
- The Dreyfus Third Century Fund,. Inc.
- Population Resource Center
- Oberlin College
- National Academy of Sciences (U.S.)
- Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia
- Agribusiness Council
- Columbia University. Institute of Human Nutrition
- Harrar, J. George (Jacob George)

[^] Return to Table of Contents

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Materials requiring specialized equipment for access (film, audio, video, slides) may be closed to research dependent on availability of the applicable equipment

Brittle or damaged items, or materials otherwise in need of preservation care, may be closed to researchers at the discretion of the RAC Head of Archival Services/Head of Reference.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Collection Inventory

Correspondence, 1946-1982

Physical Description: 12.1 Cubic Feet

Arrangement

This series is divided into five subseries:

Subseries 1 - OutgoingSubseries 2 - ConfidentialSubseries 3 - GeneralSubseries 4 - Collateral InterestsSubseries 5 - Correspondence Relating to Written Material (in Series 2)

Correspondence - Outgoing, 1968-1982

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged chronologically, and thereunder alphabetically.

Scope and Contents note

This subseries consists of Harrar's chronological file of outgoing correspondence. Correspondents for each year appear in alphabetical order. These letters are dispersed among a great number of correspondents that include Ralph Bunch, Howard Baker, Jr., John K. Galbraith, Norman Borlaug, Bill Moyers, David Rockefeller, John D. Rockefeller 3rd, Nelson Rockefeller, Dean Rusk, E. J. Wellhausen, as well as letters to several Latin American and Asian leaders.

Title/Description	Instances	Instances	
A-C, 1968	box 1	folder 1	
D-G, 1968	box 1	folder 2	
H-L, 1968	box 1	folder 3	
M-P, 1968	box 1	folder 4	
R-S, 1968	box 1	folder 5	

T-Z, 1968	box 1	folder 6
A-B, 1969	box 2	folder 7
C-F, 1969	box 2	folder 8
G-I, 1969	box 2	folder 9
J-M, 1969	box 2	folder 10
N-R, 1969	box 2	folder 11
S-T, 1969	box 2	folder 12
U-Z, 1969	box 2	folder 13
A-C, 1970	box 3	folder 14
D-H, 1970	box 3	folder 15
I-M, 1970	box 3	folder 16
N-R, 1970	box 3	folder 17
S-Z, 1970	box 3	folder 18
A-E, 1971	box 3	folder 19
F-M, 1971	box 4	folder 20
N-Y, 1971	box 4	folder 21
A-Z, 1972	box 4	folder 22
A-Z, 1973	box 4	folder 23
A-J, 1974	box 4	folder 24
K-R, 1974	box 4	folder 25
S-Z, 1974	box 4	folder 26
A-K, 1975	box 4	folder 27
L-Z, 1975	box 5	folder 28
A-L, 1976	box 5	folder 29
M-Z, 1976	box 5	folder 30
A-Z, 1977	box 5	folder 31
A-Z, 1978	box 5	folder 32
A-Z, 1979	box 5	folder 33
A-E, 1980	box 5	folder 34
F-O, 1980	box 6	folder 35
P-Z, 1980	box 6	folder 36
А-Н, 1981-1982	box 6	folder 37

I-Q, 1981-1982	box 6	folder 38	
R-Z, 1981-1982	box 6	folder 39	

Correspondence - Confidential, 1954-1982

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents note

This subseries consists of correspondence that was originally contained within files designated as "Confidential" or "Personal." The letters concern a number of topics.

Title/Description	Instances	
1954-1960, 1954-1960	box 6	folder 40
1961, 1961	box 6	folder 41
1962, 1962	box 7	folder 42
1963, 1963	box 7	folder 43
1964 (January-June), 1964	box 7	folder 44
1964 (July-December), 1964	box 7	folder 45
1965, 1965	box 7	folder 46
1966, 1966	box 7	folder 47
1967, 1967	box 7	folder 48
1968 (January-June), 1968	box 7	folder 49
1968 (July-December), 1968	box 7	folder 50
1969, 1969	box 8	folder 51
1970, 1970	box 8	folder 52
1971 (January-May), 1971	box 8	folder 53
1971 (June-December), 1971	box 8	folder 54
1972 (January-June), 1972	box 8	folder 55
1972 (July-December), 1972	box 8	folder 56
1973, 1973	box 8	folder 57
1974, 1974	box 8	folder 58
1976, 1978 (January-June), 1976-1978	box 9	folder 59
1978 (July-December), 1978	box 9	folder 60
1979, 1979	box 9	folder 61

1980-1982, 1980-1982

box 9

folder 62

Correspondence - General, 1961-1982

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents note

This subseries consists of correspondence originally contained within files designated as "General." Included are letters of congratulations concerning Harrar's appointment as President of The Rockefeller Foundation, letters observing his retirement in 1972, and letters relating to his trip to China in 1973. Other, miscellaneous correspondence, is also included.

Title/Description	Instances	
Letters of Congratulation, 1961	box 9	folder 63
Letters of Congratulation, 1961	box 9	folder 64
Telegrams, 1961	box 9	folder 65
Responses, 1961	box 10	folder 66
Responses, 1961	box 10	folder 67
1946-1971, 1946-1971	box 10	folder 68
1972 (January-August), 1972	box 10	folder 69
1972 (September-December), 1972	box 10	folder 70
Retirement Letters, 1972	box 10	folder 71
1973 (January-May), 1973	box 10	folder 72
1973 (June-August), 1973	box 11	folder 73
1973 (September-December), 1973	box 11	folder 74
1974 (January-April), 1974	box 11	folder 75
1974 (May-July), 1974	box 11	folder 76
1974 (August-September), 1974	box 11	folder 77
1974 (October-December), 1974	box 11	folder 78
1975 (January-February), 1975	box 11	folder 79
1975 (March-July), 1975	box 11	folder 80
1975 (August-December), 1975	box 12	folder 81
1976 - 1978 (May), 1976-1978	box 12	folder 82
May 1978 - February 1979, 1978-1979	box 12	folder 83
1979 (March-December), 1979	box 12	folder 84

1980 (January-August), 1980

	box 12	folder 85	
1980 (September-December), 1980	box 12	folder 86	
1981, 1981	box 12	folder 87	
1982, 1982	box 12	folder 88	

Correspondence - Collateral Interests, 1960-1982

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged alphabetically by subject (e.g. Academy of Natural Sciences, Academia Nazionale di Agricoltura, Advisory Committee on ...).

Scope and Contents note

This subseries, the largest, preserves Harrar's subject files pertaining to the corporations, clubs, professional associations, scientific societies, government committees, and other organizations Harrar was involved with either as a member, trustee, or advisor.

Title/Description	Instances	
The Academy of Natural Sciences, 1974-1976, 1980	box 13	folder 89
Academia Nazionale di Agricultura, 1964-1965	box 13	folder 90
Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology, 1971-1972	box 13	folder 91
Advisory Committee on Private Enterprise in Foreign Aid, 1965	box 13	folder 92
Africa (National Academy of Sciences (NAS)), 1960	box 13	folder 93
Africa (National Academy of Sciences (NAS)), 1960	box 13	folder 94
Africa (National Academy of Sciences (NAS)), 1960	box 13	folder 95
Africa (National Academy of Sciences (NAS)), 1961-1962	box 13	folder 96
The Agribusiness Council, Inc., 1974	box 13	folder 97
The Agribusiness Council, Inc., 1974	box 14	folder 98
American Institute of Biological Sciences, 1958-1960	box 14	folder 99
American Institute of Biological Sciences, 1960-1962	box 14	folder 100
American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1974-1976	box 14	folder 101
The Americas Foundation, 1972	box 14	folder 102
American Phytopathological Society - Award, 1967	box 14	folder 103
American Philosophical Society, 1962-1982	box 14	folder 104
The Atlantic Council, 1972-1975	box 14	folder 105
Aztec Eagle Award, 1979-1980	box 14	folder 106
Boyce Thompson Institute, 1974-1976	box 14	folder 107

Boys Club of America, 1964-1972	box 14	folder 108
Campbell Soup, 1962-1982	box 15	folder 109
Century Association, 1961-1973	box 15	folder 110
Century Association, 1974-1976	box 15	folder 111
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), 1972-1977	box 15	folder 112
Citizen's Commission for International Development, 1961	box 15	folder 113
Citizen's Commission of Science, Law and Food Supply, 1973	box 15	folder 114
The City Prize of New York, 1974-1975	box 16	folder 115
Columbia University - Presbyterian Hospital, 1969	box 16	folder 116
Columbia University - Presbyterian Hospital, 1969	box 16	folder 117
Commission on Critical Choices, 1973-1974	box 16	folder 118
Commission on Critical Choices, 1974-1975	box 16	folder 119
Commission on U.SLatin American Relations, 1974-1975	box 16	folder 120
Commission on U.SLatin American Relations, 1976-1977	box 16	folder 121
Compania Financiera Dominicana, 1973	box 16	folder 122
Committee on International Centers, 1963	box 16	folder 123
Conference on Human Environment - Stockholm, 1972	box 16	folder 124
Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, 1971-1972	box 17	folder 125
Cornell University - A. D. White Professorship, 1972	box 17	folder 126
Cosmos Club, 1955-1972	box 17	folder 127
Council on Foreign Relations, 1961-1977	box 17	folder 128
Council on Foundations, 1966-1970	box 17	folder 129
Cotton Development International, 1975-1977	box 17	folder 130
Cotton Research and Development, 1974-1975	box 17	folder 131
Cotton Research and Development, 1975-1976	box 17	folder 132
Development and Resource Corporation, 1972-1973	UUX 17	101de1 132
r , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	box 18	folder 133
Dreyfus Third Century Fund, 1980-1982		
•	box 18	folder 133
Dreyfus Third Century Fund, 1980-1982	box 18	folder 133 folder 134
Dreyfus Third Century Fund, 1980-1982 Eliot Committee, 1963-1964	box 18 box 18 box 18	folder 133 folder 134 folder 135

Escuela Agricola Pan Americana, 1972-1973	box 18	folder 139	
The Foundation Center, 1969-1970	box 18	folder 140	
The Foundation Center, 1972-1975	box 18	folder 141	
Foundation Executives Group, 1964-1965	box 19	folder 142	
Foundation Executives Group, May-August 1965	box 19	folder 143	
Foundation Executives Group, September-December 1965	box 19	folder 144	
Foundation Executives Group, January-April 1966	box 19	folder 145	
Foundation Executives Group, April-June 1966	box 19	folder 146	
Foundation Executives Group, July-December 1966	box 19	folder 147	
Foundation Executives Group, 1967	box 19	folder 148	
Foundation Executives Group, 1968	box 20	folder 149	
Foundation Executives Group, 1969	box 20	folder 150	
Foundation Executives Group, 1970-1971	box 20	folder 151	
General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, April-May 1965	box 20	folder 152	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 32-33, Folders 239-250).			
General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, June-October 1965	box 20	folder 153	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 32-33, Folders 239-250).			
General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, February-July 1966	box 20	folder 154	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 32-33,			
Folders 239-250).			
	box 21	folder 155	

Related Materials

See also the files for President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 32-33, Folders 239-250).

General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, November-December 1966	box 21	folder 156	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 32-33, Folders 239-250).			
Harvard University - Visiting Committee on the Harvard Medical School and School of Dental Medicine, 1967-1972	box 21	folder 157	
Harvard University - Visiting Committee to Department of Biology, 1957-1963	box 21	folder 158	
Hearings Before House Committee on Agriculture, 1966	box 21	folder 159	
House Ways and Means Committee, 1969	box 21	folder 160	
House Ways and Means Committee, 1969	box 21	folder 161	
House Ways and Means Committee, 1969	box 21	folder 162	
International Agricultural Development Service, 1976-1978	box 22	folder 163	
International Agricultural Development Service, 1979	box 22	folder 164	
International Agricultural Development Service, April-September 1980	box 22	folder 165	
International Agricultural Development Service, October- December 1980	box 22	folder 166	
International Agricultural Development Service, January-May 1981	box 22	folder 167	
International Agricultural Development Service, June- September 1981	box 22	folder 168	
International Agricultural Development Service, October 1981- April 1982	box 22	folder 169	
International Council for Educational Development, 1974-1975	box 22	folder 170	
Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agricolas, 1957	box 23	folder 171	
International Finance Sub-Committee, August 29, 1966	box 23	folder 172	
International Flavors and Fragrances, 1968-1972	box 23	folder 173	
International Flavors and Fragrances, 1973-1975	box 23	folder 175	
International Flavors and Fragrances, 1976-1980	box 23	folder 176	

International Flavors and Fragrances, 1981	box 23	folder 177
International Flavors and Fragrances, 1982	box 23	folder 178
Institute of Nutrition Sciences, 1964-1970	box 24	folder 179
The International Rice Research Institute, 1979-1980	box 24	folder 180
Lefkowitz Hearings - New York State, 1965	box 24	folder 181
Mayor's Science and Technology Advisory Council, 1965-1966	box 24	folder 182
Mayor's Science and Technology Advisory Council, 1966-1969	box 24	folder 183
Merck, 1976-1982	box 24	folder 184
Mexican Agricultural Program - Proposed Book, 1980-1981	box 24	folder 185
Massachusetts Institute of Technology - Visiting Committee, 1974-1977	box 24	folder 186
Monell Chemical Senses Fund, 1968-1975	box 24	folder 187
Monell Chemical Senses Fund, 1976	box 25	folder 188
Monell Chemical Senses Fund, 1977-1978	box 25	folder 189
Monell Chemical Senses Fund, 1979	box 25	folder 190
Monell Chemical Senses Fund, 1980	box 25	folder 191
Monell Chemical Senses Fund, 1981-1982	box 25	folder 192
National Academy of Sciences (NAS), 1966-1972	box 25	folder 193
National Academy of Sciences (NAS), 1973-1980	box 26	folder 194
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - Committee on Creation of a Tropical Research Foundation, 1965	box 26	folder 195
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - Committee on Creation of a Tropical Research Foundation, 1966	box 26	folder 196
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - Committee on Inter- American Scientific Cooperation, 1962	box 26	folder 197
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - Committee on Inter- American Scientific Cooperation, 1962	box 26	folder 198
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - Committee on Inter- American Scientific Cooperation, 1962	box 26	folder 199
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - Latin American Committee, 1961	box 27	folder 200
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - U. S. Committee of the International Union of Biological Sciences, 1960-1961	box 27	folder 201
National Academy of Sciences (NAS) - University of the West Indies, 1960	box 27	folder 202
National Institute of Health - International Centers, 1960-1961	box 27	folder 203

National Institute of Health - International Centers, 1961-1962	box 27	folder 204
Natural Resources Conference (National Acadmey of Sciences (NAS)), 1961-1962	box 27	folder 205
Natural Resources Conference (National Acadmey of Sciences (NAS)), 1962	box 27	folder 206
National Urban League, 1972-1973	box 28	folder 207
National Science Foundation, 1960-1961	box 28	folder 208
National Science Foundation, 1962	box 28	folder 209
Near East Foundation, 1973-1980	box 28	folder 210
Nebraska Symposium - "The Physiological Aspects of Crop Yield", 1969	box 28	folder 211
New Perspective Fund, 1977-1978	box 28	folder 212
Nutrition Foundation, 1964-1965	box 28	folder 213
Nutrition Foundation, 1966	box 28	folder 214
Nutrition Foundation, 1967	box 28	folder 215
Nutrition Foundation, 1968	box 29	folder 216
Nutrition Foundation, January-September 1969	box 29	folder 217
Nutrition Foundation, October-December 1969	box 29	folder 218
Nutrition Foundation, 1970	box 29	folder 219
Nutrition Foundation, 1971-1975	box 29	folder 220
Nutrition Foundation, 1976-1980	box 29	folder 221
Nutrition Foundation, 1981-1982	box 29	folder 222
Nutrition Foundation - Citizen Case, 1975-1976	box 30	folder 223
U. S. Senate - Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, 1974	box 30	folder 224
Overseas Development Council, 1973-1977	box 30	folder 225
Oberlin College, 1961-1968	box 30	folder 226
Oberlin College, January-February 1970	box 30	folder 227
Oberlin College, 1970-1972	box 30	folder 228
Patman Investigation, January-June 1962	box 30	folder 229
Patman Investigation, July-November 1962	box 30	folder 230
Patman Investigation, 1963	box 30	folder 231
Patman Investigation, 1963 Patman Investigation, 1964	box 30	folder 231 folder 232

Pilgrims of the United States, 1963	box 31	folder 234	
Population Crisis Committee, 1972	box 31	folder 235	
Population Crisis Committee, 1973	box 31	folder 236	
Population Crisis Committee, 1974-1975	box 31	folder 237	
Population Crisis Committee, 1975-1982	box 31	folder 238	
President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, 1960-1966	box 32	folder 239	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).			
President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, August 1966	box 32	folder 240	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).			
President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, September 1966	box 32	folder 241	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).			
President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, October-November 1966	box 32	folder 242	
Related Materials: Related Materials			
See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).			
President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, December 1966	box 32	folder 243	

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, January-February 1967 box 32

folder 244

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, March-April 1967 box 33

folder 245

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (The World Food Program) box 33

folder 246

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, May-August 1967 box 33

folder 247

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, September 1967 box 33

folder 248

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, October 1967-September 1968 box 33

folder 249

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

President's General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs, October 1968-June 1969 box 33

folder 250

Related Materials:

Related Materials

See also the files for the General Advisory Committee on Foreign Assistance Programs (Boxes 20-21, Folders 152-156).

Projects for Population Action, 1976-1977	box 34	folder 251	
Public Welfare Medal, 1963	box 34	folder 252	
Puerto Rico Academy of Sciences, 1961	box 34	folder 253	
Rockefeller Archive Center, 1973	box 34	folder 254	
Rockefeller Archive Center, January-March 1974	box 34	folder 255	
Rockefeller Archive Center, April-August 1974	box 34	folder 256	
Rockefeller Archive Center, January-June 1975	box 34	folder 257	
Rockefeller Archive Center, July-December 1975	box 34	folder 258	
Rockefeller Archive Center, 1976	box 35	folder 259	
Rockefeller Archive Center, 1978-1981	box 35	folder 260	
Rockefeller Foundation, 1955-1963	box 35	folder 261	
Rockefeller Foundation, 1968-1973	box 35	folder 262	
Rockefeller Foundation, 1974-1977	box 35	folder 263	
Rockefeller Foundation, 1978-1979	box 35	folder 264	
Rockefeller Foundation, 1980-1982	box 36	folder 265	
Rockefeller University Council, 1973-1974	box 36	folder 266	
Rockefeller University Council, 1974	box 36	folder 267	
Rockefeller University Council, 1975-1977	box 36	folder 268	

box 36	folder 269
box 36	folder 270
box 36	folder 271
box 37	folder 272
box 37	folder 273
box 37	folder 274
box 37	folder 275
box 37	folder 276
box 37	folder 277
box 37	folder 278
box 37	folder 279
box 38	folder 280
box 38	folder 281
box 38	folder 282
box 38	folder 283
	box 36 box 36 box 37 box 38 box 38 box 38

Correspondence - Relating to Written Materials, 1958-1975

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents note

This subseries complements the material in Series 2. Included are acknowledgements from many scientists concerning the Harrar and Stakman book, "Principles of Plant Pathology."

Title/Description	Instances	
"Principles of Plant Pathology", 1957-1958	box 38	folder 284
"Principles of Plant Pathology", 1957-1958	box 38	folder 285
"Principles of Plant Pathology", 1957-1958	box 38	folder 286
"Principles of Plant Pathology", 1957-1958	box 39	folder 287
"Principles of Plant Pathology", 1957-1958	box 39	folder 288
"Principles of Plant Pathology", 1957-1958	box 39	folder 0288A
"Principles of Plant Pathology", 1958-1967	box 39	folder 289
Miscellaneous, 1960-1962	box 39	folder 290
Miscellaneous, 1963-1966	box 39	folder 291

Miscellaneous, 1967

	box 39	folder 292
Miscellaneous, 1968	box 40	folder 293
Miscellaneous, 1969-1974	box 40	folder 294
Miscellaneous, 1974	box 40	folder 295
Miscellaneous, 1975	box 40	folder 0295A
Miscellaneous, 1976-1981	box 40	folder 296

[^] Return to Table of Contents

Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications, 1930-1979

Arrangement note

This series is divided into five subseries:

Subseries 1 - Book Manuscripts Subseries 2 - InterviewsSubseries 3 - Publications (and Reprints) Subseries 4 - Speeches Subseries 5 - Miscellaneous Papers

Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Book Manuscripts, 1958-1979

Arrangement note

The subseries is arranged chronologically.

of The Rockefeller Foundation, with F. Fowle, 1967

Scope and Contents note

Subseries 1 contains drafts and outlines of both published and proposed books, including the F. Fowle manuscript entitled "Recollections of J. George Harrar on the Agricultural Program of The Rockefeller Foundation," 1967. Also included are various reviews of "The Principles of Plant Pathology."

Title/Description	Instances	
"Principles of Plant Pathology" - Reviews, 1958	box 41	folder 297
"Principles of Plant Pathology" - Reviews, 1958	box 41	folder 298
Blueprint for Hungry Nations: The Mexican Agricultural Program of the Rockefeller Foundation, 1961	box 41	folder 298A
Book Manuscripts	box 41	folder 299
Scope and Contents		
Principles and Problems of Technical Assistance and		
Their Application to the Rockefeller Foundation's		
Program of Technical Collaboration in Mexico, 1964.		
Recollections of J. George Harrar On The Agricultural Program	box 41	folder 300

Recollections of J. George Harrar On The Agricultural Program of The Rockefeller Foundation, with F. Fowle - Drafts, 1967	box 41	folder 301	
Recollections of J. George Harrar On The Agricultural Program of The Rockefeller Foundation, with F. Fowle - Drafts, 1967	box 41	folder 302	
Recollections of J. George Harrar On The Agricultural Program of The Rockefeller Foundation, with F. Fowle - Drafts, 1967	box 41	folder 303	
Recollections of J. George Harrar On The Agricultural Program of The Rockefeller Foundation, with F. Fowle - J. Allen Revision, 1969	box 41	folder 304	
The Years with the Rockefeller Foundation, 1979	box 42	folder 305	

Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Interviews, 1949-1978

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents note

Subseries 2 contains transcripts of radio and TV interviews relating to agriculture, world hunger, and Harrar's role as President of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Title/Description	Instances	
Miscellaneous, 1949-1969	box 42	folder 306
Miscellaneous, 1969-1970	box 42	folder 307
Oral History - Rockefeller Foundation Program in Agriculture, 1961	box 42	folder 308
Excerpts - Interview Concerning Mexican Agricultural Program, 1978	box 42	folder 309

Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Publications (and Reprints), 1930-1979

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents note

This subseries includes a few of Harrar's earliest published scientific articles.

Title/Description	Instances	
Miscellaneous, 1930-1953	box 42	folder 310
Miscellaneous, 1953-1958	box 42	folder 311
Miscellaneous, 1959-1963	box 42	folder 312

Scope and Contents

Includes list of technical publications, 1930-1962.

Miscellaneous, 1964-1966	box 43	folder 313
Miscellaneous, 1967-1968	box 43	folder 314
Miscellaneous, 1968	box 43	folder 315
Miscellaneous, 1968-1979	box 43	folder 316

Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Speeches, 1953-1979

Arrangement note

This subseries is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains texts of commencement addresses, awards acceptance speeches, eulogies, and other speeches addressing a variety of subjects.

itte/Description	Instances		
Miscellaneous, 1954-1959	box 43	folder 317	
Scope and Contents			
Includes list of speeches, 1953-1976.			
Miscellaneous, 1960-1962	box 43	folder 318	
Miscellaneous, 1963	box 43	folder 319	
Miscellaneous, 1964	box 43	folder 320	
Miscellaneous, 1965-1966	box 44	folder 321	
Miscellaneous, 1967-1968	box 44	folder 322	
Miscellaneous, 1969	box 44	folder 323	
Miscellaneous, 1972	box 44	folder 324	
Miscellaneous, 1973-1979	box 44	folder 325	

Speeches, Manuscripts and Publications - Miscellaneous Papers, 1954-1975 Title/Description Instances 1954-1967, 1954-1967 box 44 folder 326 1968-1971, 1968-1971 box 44 folder 327 1972-1975, 1972-1975 box 44 folder 328 1979, 1979 box 45 folder 329

^ Return to Table of Contents

Miscellany, 1926-1982

Arrangement note

This series is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents note

Series 3 contains biographical information, honors and awards, and clippings. Included among the clippings is material from Harrar's college years at Oberlin. A memorial book to J. George Harrar is also included.

Title/Description	Instances	Instances	
Biographical Information	box 45	folder 330	
Honors and Awards, 1953-1971	box 45	folder 331	
Honors and Awards, 1972-1982	box 45	folder 332	
Scope and Contents			
Includes memorial tributes.			
Miscellaneous Clippings, 1927-1968	box 45	folder 333	
Miscellaneous Clippings, 1968-1975, n.d.	box 45	folder 334	
Miscellaneous Clippings - Mexico, 1969	box 45	folder 335	
J. G. Harrar, 1906-1982	box 45	folder 336	
Calendars, 1975, 1977	box 45	folder 337	

[^] Return to Table of Contents

J. George Harrar photographs

Biographical / Historical

Jacob George Harrar was born in Painesville, Ohio, on December 2, 1906, to Ellwood Harrar, an engineer, and Lucetta Sternes Harrar. He attended Oberlin College from 1924 to 1928 where he majored in biology and excelled in athletics. After receiving the A.B. degree from Oberlin, Harrar continued his education at the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts. He was awarded the M.S. degree in 1929 and immediately embarked on a career in teaching and agricultural research as an assistant professor at the College of Agriculture, University of Puerto Rico. Within a year Harrar became head of the department of biology. He left that position in 1934 to pursue a Ph.D. in plant pathology at the University of Minnesota. It was here he began a close personal and professional relationship with E. C. Stakman, under whom he studied. Later, in 1958, they collaborated on the book, "Principles of Plant Pathology."

In 1935, Harrar, having achieved a doctorate degree in plant pathology, once again resumed teaching, accepting an assistant professorship at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Rising to full professor in 1937, Harrar remained at the

Institute until 1941. From 1941 to 1942 he headed the Division of Plant Pathology and the Agricultural Experiment Station at Washington State College.

In 1942, Harrar left academics to create and administer in Mexico the Rockefeller Foundation's first cooperative assistance program in agricultural science. With his team of American specialists, Harrar implemented a Foundation program of soil and hybrid experimentation to improve wheat and corn yields. Within a few years the Mexican program proved enormously successful and the Foundation was invited to implement the same program in Colombia, Chile, and India. Harrar is generally regarded as the father of what soon became known as "The Green Revolution."

Harrar, in 1952, became Deputy Director for Agriculture, Division of Natural Sciences and Agriculture, of the Rockefeller Foundation. In 1955, he became Director for Agriculture organizing further projects in agricultural assistance and cooperation in all the Central American countries. He was appointed Vice President of the Foundation in 1959, and in 1961 succeeded Dean Rusk as its President. Under Harrar, the Rockefeller Foundation during the 1960s reoriented its programs to concentrate in five areas: the conquest of hunger, by improving the quantity and quality of food supplies; the solution of population problems; the strengthening of emerging centers of learning in developing nations; the provision of better educational opportunities for the disadvantaged groups in the U. S.; and the enhancement of the cultural lives of Americans.

Retiring in 1972, Harrar was the first man ever to be appointed a Life Fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation. During the 1970s he continued his involvement as a member of such professional and scientific organizations as the National Academy of Sciences and the Nutrition Foundation. In 1980 he was awarded the Aztec Eagle Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Mexican government for service to their country by a foreign citizen. He also, during his lifetime, received numerous honors, degrees, and citations from many other foreign governments and from both American and foreign universities.

In addition to "Strategy for the Conquest of Hunger, Selected Papers of J. George Harrar," he was the author of numerous scientific research papers in the fields of phytopathology and mycology, and many articles of general interest on world food problems, population, private philanthropy, economic development overseas, and environmental quality.

J. George Harrar died on April 18, 1982.

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Conditions Governing Access

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Controlled Access Headings:

• Harrar, J. George (Jacob George)

Title/Description Instances

Scope and Contents note	box 4	folder 34	
Schools, students, sports.			
Mexico, 1942-1944	box 4	folder 35	
Scope and Contents note			
Harrar family, volcanos, agriculture, farming, potatoes, granaries, festivals, Chapingo, meetings, field studies, corn, dances.			
Chile, 1962	box 4	folder 36	
Scope and Contents note			
Awards, South America, conferences, ceremonies.			
Colombia, 1964	box 4	folder 37	
Scope and Contents note			
John D. Rockefeller 3rd, conferences, meetings, South America.			
Latin America, c. 1954-1966	box 4	folder 38	
Scope and Contents note			
South America, conferences, meetings, graduations, agriculture.			
Latin America, undated	box 4	folder 39	
Scope and Contents note			
Families, conferences, awards, ceremonies, buildings.			
African Schools, undated	box 4	folder 40	
Scope and Contents note			
Africa, Liberia, Nigeria, Kenya, Rhodesia, Uganda. Schools, buildings, hospitals.			
African Schools, undated	box 5	folder 41	
Scope and Contents note			
Africa, Congo, Ghana, Liberia, Ethiopia. Schools, hospitals, agriculture.			
Asian Visit, 1971	box 5	folder 42	

Scope and Contents note

India, libraries, laboratories, museums, schools.

Asian Visit, 1971	box 5	folder 43	
Scope and Contents note			
India, irrigation, agriculture, wheat.			
Japan / Phillipines (President Lyndon B. Johnson Visit), 1953	box 5	folder 44	
Scope and Contents note			
Agriculture, wheat, conferences.			
America - Award Ceremonies, 1960s	box 5	folder 45	
Scope and Contents note			
Ceremonies, awards, dinners, graduations, Harrar family.			
Chistmas Photos, 1960 / Dinner for Dean Rusk, February 26, 1961, 1960-1961	box 5	folder 46	
Scope and Contents note			
Holidays, dinners, parties.			
Rockefeller Foundation 50th Anniversary Dinner, April 2, 1963	box 5	folder 47	
Scope and Contents note			
Dinners, speeches, parties.			
Rockefeller Foundation 50th Anniversary Dinner, April 2, 1963	box 5	folder 48	
Scope and Contents note			
Dinners, parties, speeches.			
Rockefeller Foundation 50th Anniversary Dinner, April 2, 1963	box 5	folder 49	
Scope and Contents note			
Dinners, parties.			
Rockefeller Foundation 50th Anniversary Dinner, April 2, 1963	box 5	folder 50	
Scope and Contents note			
Dinners, parties.			
Improving Soil Productivity: Mexican Agricultural Program of the Rockefeller Foundation	box MAP		

^ Return to Table of Contents