



Ford Foundation records, International Division, Program Area One

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Rockefeller Archive Center

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator - ctb:	Fox, Melvin J.
Creator - ctb:	Passin, Herbert
Creator:	Ford Foundation
Title:	Ford Foundation records, International Division, Program Area One
ID:	FA572
Date [inclusive]:	1953-1970, bulk 1962-1968
Physical Description:	2.28 Cubic Feet 6 Hollinger boxes
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The collection was created by combining inactive records from various staff members within the International Division. The records span various decades from 1953 to 1970. The collection consists of Field Office Files and portions of the subject files of two Foundation staff members, Herbert Passin and Melvin Fox. The Field Office files hold correspondence, memoranda and reports originating from the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) and South and Southeast Asia (SSEA) regional offices. Melvin Fox's subject files primarily pertain to the Language Development Study (1966-1967). Herbert Passin's subject files document his work as a consultant, focusing on education and cooperation between the United States and Japan, including basic dockets on the Foundation's Japan program (1963-1966) and support for English as a Second Language (1966).

Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

The Ford Foundation has been engaged in overseas work since the early 1950s. The Foundation's aspiration to become a national and international philanthropy for the advancement of human welfare was first formally expressed in the seminal 1949 report of the Gaither Study Committee, which was commissioned by the Board of Trustees to chart the future. In 1951, the Foundation established two of its first grant programs, Overseas Development (OD) and Overseas Training and Research (OTR). The granting goals were to increase agricultural production, improve health and living conditions, and advance education. South and Southeast Asia were the initial focus, with India and Pakistan receiving the majority of grants. A more limited number of grants were issued in Indonesia and Burma. A program for smaller regional and national grants also was initiated for the Near East. In 1957, Overseas Development further expanded to include programs in Latin America.

In 1957, the Foundation established a program in International Training and Research (ITR) the goal of which was to strengthen American competence in foreign affairs and international relations. ITR supported scholarship and teaching in areas where American knowledge and trained personnel were limited. The Foundation offered area studies in Asia, Africa, the Near East, the Soviet Union, and East Europe. In its international training and exchange programs, the Foundation and its grantees coordinated closely with the U.S. State Department, which sponsored exchanges between the United States and other countries as a matter of government policy.

During the first couple decades of the Foundation's existence the differentiation between program areas had yet to be established. According to the 1949 Gaithner Report that laid the groundwork for the Ford Foundation's work as an international philanthropy, the goal of Program Area One was the Establishment of Peace. This program had four parts: the mitigation of world tensions, the development of the understanding and conditions for peace among peoples of the world, the strengthening of the United Nations, and the improvement of both private and public American participation in world affairs. Much of the work of the Overseas Development Program therefore fell under the auspices of Program Area One.

As part of a Foundation reorganization in 1966, the Overseas Development Program, along with other international programs such as International Training and Research (ITR) and Population, became part of a single International Division (ID). A subsequent restructuring of the International Division occurred in 1980-1981 and led to the creation of the Developing Countries Program (DCP). DCP was again restructured in 1989, resulting in the separating of programs in Africa and the Middle East (AME, formerly MEA), Asia (ASIA), Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC/OLAC), Human Rights and Governance (HRG), Education and Culture (EC), Program-Related Investments (PRI), and International Affairs (IA) as independent program areas.

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Biographical / Historical

Melvin J. Fox was born on November 26, 1913 and graduated from American University in 1940 with a B.A. in International Economics. He joined the Ford Foundation in July 1951 as a consultant on international affairs and served as part of its charter staff. In November of the same year he became a staff associate and, in 1953, he advanced to Executive Associate for International Training and Research (ITR). Mr. Fox was promoted to Program Associate in October of 1957 and he served as Associate Director of the International Training and Research Program from 1961 through 1966. In early 1967, he became Program Officer for Planning and Evaluation in the International Division, and later that year was promoted to Deputy Representative for West Africa within the Middle East and Africa (MEA) Program. Mr. Fox subsequently held the positions of Program Officer for the Middle East and Africa (1970) and Program Advisor for MEA (1972) before rising to Representative for West Africa in May 1975. From September 5 to November 2, 1983, he became Acting Representative for the Developing Countries Program in Lagos, Nigeria. During his time at Ford, his work focused on foreign academic exchange, the teaching of the English language abroad, development projects in Africa, and African studies at U.S. Universities. Mr. Fox died in 1998.

Herbert Passin was born in Chicago on December 16, 1916 and graduated from the University of Illinois with a B.A. in Genetics. Later, in 1941, he received a B.A. and a M.A. in Anthropology from Northwestern University.

When World War II broke out, Mr. Passin learned Japanese at an army language school, and in December 1945, served as chief of the Public Opinion and Sociological Research Division in General MacArthur's headquarters in Tokyo. He later held positions at the University of California, the Social Science Research Council in Japan, Ohio State University, the Congress of Cultural Freedom, the University of Washington in Seattle, and Columbia University in New York.

The Ford Foundation hired Mr. Passin as a consultant for his expertise on Japan in 1962. He served as a program advisor during the Foundation's expansion into Japan. In 1967, Mr. Passin helped found the Shimoda Conference and the first U.S.-Japan parliamentary exchange program. He returned to Columbia University, where he chaired the Sociology Department from 1973 to 1977. He died on February 26, 2003 at the age of 86.

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Scope and Contents

The International Division Program Area One Files are an artificially created collection of records from the International Division (ID) and International Training and Research (ITR) spanning from 1953 to 1970. The collection consists of Field Office Files and portions of the subject files of two staff members, Herbert Passin and Melvin Fox.

The Field Office Files contain correspondence, memoranda and reports originating from the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) and South and Southeast Asia (SSEA) regional offices. The correspondence in the field office files relates to then-ongoing programs, such as the Foundation's support for the distribution of inter-uterine devices for birth control in India (1965-1966). Internal memoranda describe policy issues, from cost of living expenses for Foundation staff and local litigation over housing in Pakistan to Foundation policy on travel and study awards. Reports include one on a Foundation mission to Mexico (1964) and an economic and development report on India (1964). The subject files of Melvin Fox contained in this collection primarily pertain to a Language Development Study (1966-1967). The study researched the best method for teaching languages, particularly foreign or second languages. The correspondence associated with the study reveals some of the academic disputes over the findings.

Herbert Passin, an expert on Japan who served as a program advisor for the Foundation's expansion into Asia, is one of the few consultants whose files have been retained. His subject files focus on education and cooperation between the United States and Japan, including basic dockets on the Foundation's Japan program (1963-1966) and support for English as a Second Language (1966).

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Arrangement

Collection is arranged into 3 series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Ford Foundation archive was deposited at RAC in 2011. Ford Foundation records, correspondence, reports, program files and officers papers were transferred to, and accessioned by, RAC beginning in 2011. Accessions continue as necessary.

Processing Information

The collection was created by combining the inactive records of several International Division staff members. The records, spanning from 1953 to 1970, had been in offsite storage.

The original volume of five cubic feet accessioned by the Ford Foundation Archives in 2004 was reduced during processing to 2.4 cubic feet. Duplicates, reference files, grant proposals, and files that addressed purely financial matters were not retained.

Conditions Governing Access

Records more than 10 years old are open for research with select materials restricted as noted. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Appendix A: Reports – Unpublished reports written by Ford Foundation staff and consultants were removed from their original folders, scanned and transferred to the Archives' collection of staff and consultant reports. See Appendix A for a list of these reports and their specific assigned number. The reports are listed in alphabetical order by author. The assigned number may be used to access reports in the online catalog.

Related Materials

[FA548 Ford Foundation records, International Affairs Division, Program Staff Files, 1956-1990](#). This collection documents various periods of the Foundation's overseas programs between 1956 and 1990. It includes additional office files of Melvin Fox.

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Collection Inventory

Field Office Files, 1957-1970

Scope and Contents

This series consists of correspondence, memoranda and reports from the Foundation's overseas field offices in Latin America and the Caribbean and South and Southeast Asia. The Foundation's operations in India are particularly well documented.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Census -- 1970 Round of National Censuses -- Memoranda, Background, 1968	box 1	folder 1
English as a Second Language (ESL) Final Report, 1964 February	box 1	folder 2
Ford Foundation -- Grants in Overseas Agriculture -- Report, Memoranda, 1967	box 1	folder 3
Ford Foundation -- Policy Issues -- Reports on Ford Foundation Activities, 1967-1968	box 1	folder 4
Ford Foundation -- "Responsibility for International Activities" Memorandum, 1957 January 29	box 1	folder 5
Fox, Melvin -- Ford Foundation Foreign or Second Language Activities, 1951-1966, 1967 May	box 1	folder 6
Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) -- Bell, Wilhelm -- Trip Schedule and Background, 1967 February	box 1	folder 7
Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) -- Caribbean Program -- Self Study, 1966 September	box 1	folder 8
Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) -- Cost of Living Tables, 1966-1968	box 1	folder 9
Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) -- Ford Foundation Mission to Mexico Report, 1964 November-December	box 1	folder 10
Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) -- Housing Allowances -- Memoranda, 1966-1967	box 2	folder 1
Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) -- Travel and Study Manual, circa 1969	box 2	folder 2
Manitzas, Nita -- Proposed Grant Information, Paper on Fellowships, Budget Request Information, 1968	box 2	folder 3
South and Southeast Asia (SSEA) -- Bangkok Office -- Correspondence, 1967	box 2	folder 4

SSEA -- Educational Consultants for the Southeast Asia Program -- Memoranda, FAP, 1968	box 2	folder 5
SSEA -- Harvard-Pakistan Planning Commission Study Committee Reports, 1962 March	box 2	folder 6
SSEA -- India -- Economic Aid and Development -- Reports, 1964	box 2	folder 7
SSEA -- India -- Education -- Memoranda regarding Resource Base, Background, 1967-1968	box 2	folder 8
SSEA -- India -- Education Commission -- Members List and Bios, Correspondence, 1964-1966	box 2	folder 9
SSEA -- India -- Ford Foundation Assistance -- John Bresnan Statement Before International Technical Cooperation and Assistance Panel, President's Science Advisory Council, 1966 September 23	box 2	folder 10
SSEA -- India -- Foreign Training Programming -- Memoranda regarding Potential Funding of PhD Study-Related Travel Costs, 1965-1966	box 2	folder 11
SSEA -- India -- History of Foundation Activities Report (separated), 1966 February	box 2	folder 12
SSEA -- India -- Inter-Uterine Devices -- Correspondence regarding Delivery and Distribution, 1965-1966	box 2	folder 13
SSEA -- India -- Travel and Study Awards -- List, Memoranda regarding Commitments, 1965-1967	box 2	folder 14
SSEA -- Indonesia -- English Language Programs -- Report, Correspondence, 1968-1969	box 2	folder 15
SSEA -- Indonesia -- Reference File -- Correspondence regarding Coup and Aftermath, 1965-1966	box 2	folder 16
SSEA -- Indonesia -- Ramparts Magazine Article regarding Berkeley Mafia and Indonesia Massacre and Ford Foundation Response, 1969-1970	box 2	folder 17
SSEA -- Karachi Office -- Correspondence, 1965	box 2	folder 18
SSEA -- Karachi Office -- Correspondence regarding Litigation, etc., 1967	box 2	folder 19
SSEA -- Kuala Lumpur Office -- Correspondence, 1965	box 2	folder 20
SSEA -- Kuala Lumpur Office -- Correspondence, 1967	box 2	folder 21
SSEA -- Manila Office -- Correspondence regarding Bangkok Visit, Clipping, etc., 1967	box 2	folder 22

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Melvin Fox Subject Files, 1953-1967

Scope and Contents

These files document the Language Development Study project of the International Training and Research Program. The files contain a copy of the ITR report by Cleon Swayzee, with related memoranda and comment letters.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
International Training and Research (ITR) Program -- Swayzee, Cleon O. -- Comment Letters, Internal Memoranda (1 of 2), 1953-1967	box 3	folder 1
International Training and Research (ITR) Program -- Swayzee, Cleon O. -- Report (2 of 2), 1967	box 3	folder 2
Language Development -- Background Papers (1 of 2), circa 1967	box 3	folder 3
Language Development -- Background Papers (2 of 2), circa 1967	box 3	folder 4
Language Development -- Correspondence regarding Language Study, etc., 1966-1967	box 3	folder 5
Language Development -- Foreign or Second Language Activities Report, Conference Papers, 1967-1968	box 3	folder 6

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Herbert Passin Subject Files, 1957-1966

Scope and Contents

Mr. Passin's subject files primarily pertain to his work as a consultant and expert on Japan. Other files document the Foundation's grant-making activities in China, Korea or Tibet.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
American Assembly -- U.S.-Japan -- Notes, Correspondence regarding Wada Zentaro, 1966 August-September	box 4	folder 1
Asian Conservation Laboratory, Inc. -- Fellowship Application, Reports, Background, 1960-1963	box 4	folder 2
Bereday Teachers College -- Japanese School -- Reports, Reference (Japanese), 1964	box 4	folder 3
Chuo University -- Correspondence regarding Grant Request, Background, 1963 June-July	box 4	folder 4
Ekvali, Robert B. -- Tibet -- Correspondence, 1963-1964	box 4	folder 5

English as a Second Language -- Meeting Notes, Transcript, Background, 1966 March 30	box 4	folder 6
Glueck, Sheldon -- Correspondence, Background, 1963	box 4	folder 7
History of the Ford Foundation's International Affairs Program, 1965 December 3	box 4	folder 8
Hong Kong -- Chinese University -- Memorandum regarding Ford Foundation Support, 1965 March 18-19	box 4	folder 9
Hong Kong -- Grey, Robert -- Correspondence with Colonial Secretary G.T. Rowe, 1964 January	box 4	folder 10
Institute of International Relations -- Japan-Inoki -- Correspondence regarding Proposal, 1964-1965	box 4	folder 11
International House Meeting -- Japan -- Memoranda regarding Ford Foundation Support, Wealth of Japan, 1964-1965	box 5	folder 1
Japan Center for International Understanding -- Kosaka -- Memorandum, 1965 October 1	box 5	folder 2
Japan Parliamentary Exchange -- Memorandum, Correspondence, Background, 1965	box 5	folder 3
Japan Program -- Basic Dockets, Memoranda, 1963-1966	box 5	folder 4
Japan Program -- Memoranda -- regarding Japan Trip, Philippines and Korea, Illustrative Projects (1 of 2), 1962-1963	box 5	folder 5
Japan Program -- Memoranda -- regarding IA activities, Japan projects, etc. (2 of 2), 1964-1966	box 5	folder 6
Japan Socialist Party -- Correspondence regarding Study, 1963 May-June	box 5	folder 7
Japan Society -- Japanese-American File -- Arts Program, 1965 June	box 5	folder 8
Japan Trip -- Itinerary, Priorities, Memorandum regarding Ford Foundation in Korea, 1966	box 5	folder 9
Kiyosato Educational Experiment -- Rusch, Paul -- Correspondence regarding Farm School, 1965	box 5	folder 10
Korea -- Memoranda, Notes, Background on Assistance to Taiwan and Korea, 1965-1966	box 5	folder 11
Kosaka -- Japan Council for International Understanding (JCIU) -- Correspondence regarding Trip, Organization, 1965	box 5	folder 12
Labor Movement in Japan -- Karsh, Bernard -- Memoranda, Background, 1965	box 5	folder 13
Mancall of Harvard Translation Project regarding Japanese and American Scholarship on Communist China, 1963	box 5	folder 14
McCray, Porter -- John D. Rockefeller 3rd Fund -- Correspondence regarding Arts in Japan, 1963-1964	box 5	folder 15

NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) Educational Television -- Correspondence regarding American Educational TV Exchange with Japan, 1963 March-September	box 5	folder 16
Passin, Herbert -- Japan Trip Notes, 1963-1964	box 5	folder 17
Reischauer, Edwin (Ambassador) -- Correspondence regarding China, 1963 January-April	box 5	folder 18
Rose, Elizabeth -- Correspondence regarding Proposed United Nations University in Asia, 1964	box 5	folder 19
Russian Studies in Japan -- Robert Byrnes Report (separated), 1960-1964	box 5	folder 20
Rutgers University -- Correspondence regarding International Conference on Japanese-American Cultural Relations, 1962-1963	box 5	folder 21
Seki, Yoshihiko -- Study Abroad Candidates, 1962-1963	box 6	folder 1
Slater, Joseph E. -- Notes on Hong Kong Discussions on Proposed Chinese Federal University, etc., 1962 November	box 6	folder 2
Slater, Joseph E. -- Notes on Japan, 1962 October 25	box 6	folder 3
St. Paul 's University -- Rikkyo -- Correspondence regarding Research on Postwar Japanese Economy, 1962-1965	box 6	folder 4
Stone-Passin Japan Trip -- Itinerary, Memoranda on Ford Foundation in Japan, Background, 1962 March	box 6	folder 5
Stone, Shepard -- Travel and Study Awards, Items for Discussion, etc., 1957-1963	box 6	folder 6
Tamagawa Gakuen University -- Correspondence, Background, 1962-1963	box 6	folder 7
Tobata Proposal regarding Japanese Modern Agriculture -- Memorandum regarding Applicability to Asia and Joint IA-ITR Funding, 1963 October 7	box 6	folder 8
Travel and Study Awards -- Eisenstadt, Samuel -- Correspondence, 1964-1965	box 6	folder 9
Travel and Study Awards -- General Lists, 1963-1965	box 6	folder 10
Travel and Study Awards -- Procedures, 1964-1965	box 6	folder 11
TV Exchange -- Louis G. Cowan Summary and Recommendations regarding American Educational TV Exchange with Japan, 1964 February 5	box 6	folder 12
Von Briessen, Fritz -- Correspondence, 1963 March-April	box 6	folder 13
Washington, University of -- Modern China Project Proposal, 1961-1963	box 6	folder 14
Yomiuri -- World Conference on Peace, Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan -- Correspondence, Background, 1963-1964	box 6	folder 15

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