



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Trenton Six collection

1949-1956

Sc Micro R-2476

The necessary staff and supplies for this program were made available through a combination of funds and services provided by the Research Libraries, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the State of New York.

Processed by Debra Carter, 1977.

Summary

Creator: Trenton Six

Title: Trenton Six collection

Date: 1949-1956

Size: Destroyed after filming; 1 microfilm reel

Abstract: Newspaper clippings and press releases relating to the death of William Horner in Trenton, N.J., and the arrest and trial of six black men charged with the slaying. Includes some material on civil rights. The clippings come from both American and French newspapers, including "The New York Times," the "New York Post," "The Daily Compass," "The Herald-News," "The Trentonian," "The Trenton Times," the "National Guardian," the "Pittsburgh Courier," the "Daily Worker," and "Droit et Liberté." The majority of the clippings, especially those from the "Daily Worker," were biased in favor of the Trenton Six. These articles stressed the themes of racial discrimination, frame-up and denial of civil rights. Some newsclippings are in French.

Access: Advance notice required.

Alternative Form Available: Collection available on microfilm; New York Public Library; call number Sc Micro R-2476

Preferred citation: Trenton Six collection, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English and French

Processing note: Processed by Debra Carter, 1977; machine-readable finding aid created by Apex Data Services, 1999; revised by Terry Catapano, 2000, and Hillel Arnold, 2009.

Scope and Content Note

The Trenton Six Collection (1949, March-1956, October) consists entirely of newspaper clippings and press releases, organized in two chronological sequences. The first section is comprised of three consecutive scrapbooks, and the second is a single chronological file of clippings.

The clippings come from both American and French newspapers, including *The New York Times*, the *New York Post*, *The Daily Compass*, *The Herald-News*, *The Trentonian*, *The Trenton Times*, the *National Guardian*, the *Pittsburgh Courier*, the *Daily Worker*, and *Droit et Liberté*. The majority of the clippings, especially those from the *Daily Worker*, were biased in favor of the Trenton Six. These articles stressed the themes of racial discrimination, frame-up and denial of civil rights.

It is interesting to note that, although the crime was actually committed in January 1948, press censorship suppressed publicity of the case for some time. Therefore, the earliest article in this collection is dated March 1949.

Key Terms

Subjects

African Americans -- Civil rights
African Americans -- Legal status, laws, etc
African Americans -- New Jersey -- Trenton
Civil rights -- New Jersey -- Trenton
Crime -- New Jersey -- Trenton
Murder -- New Jersey -- Trenton
Trenton Six.
Trials (Murder) -- New Jersey -- Trenton
Trials -- New Jersey -- Trenton

Names

Horner, William

Container List

Scrapbooks

- r. 1 1949, Mar-Jul
- r. 1 1949, Jul-1951, Mar
- r. 1 1951, May-Jul

Chronological File

- r. 1 1949, Mar-Dec
- r. 1 1950
- r. 1 1951
- r. 1 1952
- r. 1 1953, Jan-Aug
- r. 1 1954, Mar 4
- r. 1 1955, Mar 27; 1955, Sep 22
- r. 1 1956, Jan-Oct
- r. 1 undated