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**Ira Gollobin Papers**  
1945-1990  
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**Donald Mennerich**  
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## Summary

- Main entry:** Gollobin, Ira, 1911-
- Title:** Ira Gollobin Papers, 1945-1990
- Size:** 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes)
- Source:** Donated by Ira Gollobin, JUne 2004
- Abstract:** Ira Gollobin (1911-) is a New York City attorney and author noted for his practice in immigration and civil rights law. His papers consist of client files containing correspondence and related material concerning Maud Russell; Chinese warlord Feng Yu-Hsiang; Epifanio San Juan Jr.; José Diokno; and William Pomeroy, a leader of the Hukbalahap insurrection in the Philippines; as well as research files containing printed matter and notes concerning the Philippines.
- Access:** Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.
- Preferred citation:** Ira Gollobin Papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
- Special formats** Photographs.

**Related materials note**

Maud Russell Papers. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

## Biographical note

Ira Gollobin, a renowned civil rights and immigration lawyer, has practiced law in New York City for over 60 years, acting as attorney in many high profile immigration and extradition cases from the 1950s to the 1980s. During World War II he served in the Pacific and afterward became a regular contributor to the newsletter of the American Veterans of the Philippine Campaign. He joined the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy, where he met China specialist, Maud Russell. He became her advisor and close confidant and acted as her executor upon her passing in 1989. He also served as general counsel to the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born.

Gollobin has written numerous periodical articles on immigration, dialectics, East Asia, and Marxist theory. He is the author of *Dialectical Materialism : its laws, categories, and practice* (1986) and "Winds of change : an immigration lawyer's perspective of fifty years" (1987).

## **Scope and content note**

The Ira Gollobin papers contain client files of correspondence and related documents, and his research files of articles, news clippings, and other publications on the Philippines. The greater portion of the correspondence relates to Gollobin's legal advice to the family of American expatriate William Pomeroy, who was imprisoned in the Philippines after being captured as a leader of the Hukbalahap insurgency, a Communist-led guerrilla movement. The collection also contains files on Maud Russell, Epifanio San Juan, Jr., José Diokno, and Feng Yu-Hsiang.

## **Arrangement note**

The Ira Gollobin Papers are organized in the following series:

Series I. Client Files, 1947-1990

Series II. Philippine Islands research files, 1945-1970

## Series descriptions and container list

### Series I. Client Files, 1947-1990

#### Maud Russell, 1959-1989

Maud Russell (1893-1989), was a social worker with the Young Women's Christian Association in China from 1917 to 1943, the executive director of the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy from 1946 to 1952, and, from 1953 to 1989, a lecturer on contemporary China and the editor of a newsletter on East Asian affairs, the *Far East Reporter*. Gollobin was actively involved in the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	Correspondence, 1959-1983 Contains correspondence between Russell and Gollobin, Rewi Alley, Ida Pruitt, Talitha Gerlack and Elsie Fairfel.
	2	Articles and documents, 1967-1990 Articles by Rewi Alley on China and two articles about Russell's work in China.
	3	Photographs
	4	Obituaries and tributes, 1989

#### Feng Yu-Hsiang, 1947-1948

Feng Yu-Hsiang was a warlord in pre-revolutionary China who went on to become a Field General and leader of the progressive wing of the Kuomintang. While serving on a diplomatic mission in the United States, Feng fell out of favor with Chiang Kai-Shek and defected from China. In 1948, with Gollobin as his advisor, Feng applied for alien status in the United States. However, before his application was complete Feng was killed in a boat fire during a voyage between San Francisco and the Soviet Union.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	5	Correspondence, 1947-1948 Included with the correspondence is a reprint of Feng's article "Why I Broke with Chiang" (reprinted from <i>The Nation</i> - Nov. 15, 1947).
	6	Immigration documents, 1948

**William Pomeroy , 1952-1962**

William Pomeroy was an American serviceman who served in the Philippines during World War II. After the war, Pomeroy returned to the Philippines and became involved in the Hukbalahap insurrection. Pomeroy and his Philippina wife, Celia, were captured by government forces in 1952 and sentenced to life imprisonment. In 1961 Pomeroy was pardoned by the Philippine government and deported to the United States without his wife, for whom he later sought asylum in the U.S. Pomeroy has since written frequently on imperialism in Asia.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1		Correspondence, 1952-1962, n.d. The majority of the correspondence in the is file is between Gollobin and Pomeroy's mother, Bertha, and sister-in-law, Esther.
	7	1952
	8	1953
	9	1954-1962
	10	undated
	11	Legal documents
	12	Notes, undated
	13	Newsclippings
1	14	<b>Epifanio San Juan Jr., 1972</b> Correspondence between Gollobin and San Juan, a Philippino scholar about the publication of an untitled article by San Juan in Maud Russell's <i>Far East Reporter</i> . The file includes San Juan's draft and Gollobin's suggested revisions.
1	15	<b>Jose Diokno, 1947</b> Correspondence between Gollobin and Diokno with regard to setting up a bank account in New York City. Includes newsclippings about the funeral services for Diokno's father, Ramon, a senator in the Philippines.

**Series II. Philippine Islands research files, 1945-1970**

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
2	1-6	Articles and propaganda
3	2	Notes Philippine government publications
	3	Newsclippings