

The New York Public Library
Humanities and Social Sciences Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Maud Russell

Papers, 1914-1990

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Summary

Title: Maud Russell Papers 1914-1990 (bulk dates 1918-1989)

Size: 30 linear feet (72 ABs, 6 1/2 ABs, 3 FBs)

Source: Gift of Ira Gollobin, 1990, 1991, 1992

Access: Unrestricted.

Description: Correspondence, speeches, reports, photographs, printed matter, and other items documenting the life and work of Maud Russell (1893-1989), 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*.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Maud Muriel Russell was born on August 9, 1893, in Hayward, Alameda County, California, near San Francisco. The oldest of four children, she was the daughter of Thomas Bartlett Russell, a fruit grower and civil engineer, and Lelia Smalley Russell. Russell attended Hayward public schools and the University of California at Berkeley, where she was active in the campus chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association. It was through the Berkeley YWCA that she met Mary Ingle Bentley (1878-1940), who later became her closest friend and life companion.

Shortly after graduation in 1915, Russell went to work for the YWCA's Pacific Coast field office in San Francisco. In the spring of 1917, the office received a visit from a recruiter for the YWCA of China. Intrigued, Russell arranged to meet with her. Although a graduate degree in social work was usually a prerequisite for overseas work with the YWCA, Russell was chosen for work in China on the condition that she spend part of her furloughs (roughly every seven years) in graduate study in the U.S. She sailed for Shanghai in August 1917.

As an interdenominational agency, the YWCA differed from other missionary groups in that its primary role was to educate rather than proselytize. (Russell later came to avoid entirely the term "missionary" in describing her work, preferring "social worker.") By 1916, YWCAs in China were offering literacy classes and programs stressing disease prevention and child welfare along with courses in sewing, cooking, and Bible study. The western women who worked for the China YWCA were expected to help their Chinese colleagues establish YWCAs in their communities, then to turn over the leadership of those Ys to an all-Chinese staff. Russell's first posting, after language study in Nanking, was with the newly-formed YWCA in Changsha, Hunan Province. She was there from 1919 until her first furlough in 1924, and again from 1928 to 1930 and 1932-1933.

In late 1926 and 1927, Russell was stationed in Wuhan (the term for the three Yangtze River cities of Wuchang, Hankow, and Hanyang), which was then the seat of the Nationalist government, having been recently liberated from warlord control by the coalition of the Chinese Nationalist Party (the Kuomintang, or KMT) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). In the wake of the warlords' defeat, numerous Communist-inspired labor unions sprang up, directing many of their efforts against foreign-owned businesses. As anti-foreign sentiment began to escalate in early 1927, missionary groups ordered the evacuation of their non-Chinese staffs from the interior of China to the coastal cities. Russell, who for some months had been translating political and labor-related handbills in Wuhan for her American constituency, was among the last to leave, arriving in Shanghai on April 10. Two days later, by order of the KMT, paramilitary groups in Shanghai attacked striking union members and their supporters, killing nearly a hundred of them and bringing a violent end to the CCP-KMT alliance.

The spring of 1927 was a turning point for Russell. She began to question more closely the various roles played by foreigners in China; at the same time, she began to read Marxist theory and to learn more about the 1917 Russian Revolution and the founding of the Soviet Union, with its implications for China. While on furlough in 1932, she spent some months in

Leningrad and Moscow observing Soviet society before returning to China via Siberia and Manchuria.

For most of the 1930s, Russell's time in China was spent at the China YWCA's national headquarters in Shanghai and in various cities in the interior, where she helped to establish regional Ys. While in Shanghai in the early 1930s, she participated in a Marxist study group comprised of westerners and Chinese. Among them were the New Zealander Rewi Alley, later a founder of Indusco (Chinese Industrial Cooperatives), and YWCA colleagues Lily K. Haass, Talitha Gerlach, and Cora Deng (Deng Yu-shih). All four remained lifelong friends of Russell.

When Russell returned to China in 1938 after her second furlough, Japan had been occupying much of China, chiefly the coastal cities, for a year. The China YWCA began to direct most of its efforts in the central areas, eventually relocating its national headquarters from Shanghai to Chengtu in western China. From 1938 to 1943, Russell was stationed at various Ys in the interior, chiefly in Chengtu, Sian, and Kweiyang.

Russell was in Kweiyang in November 1940 when she received unexpected bad news: a telegram arrived from California, informing her of Mary Bentley's sudden death following a short illness. Theirs had been an unusual relationship, flourishing mainly through their correspondence, as their work had for the most part kept them on opposite sides of the world. The stress generated by shock and a continuing sense of loss may have contributed to Russell's developing a mild case of tuberculosis early in 1942.

By the early 1940s, there were fewer than twenty foreign women still working for the YWCA of China. Russell had gradually arrived at the awareness that she herself would be of more use in her native country than in China. In 1943, she was well enough to travel, and took advantage of an opportunity, not easy to come by in wartime, to return to the U.S. She left China a few months after her fiftieth birthday, arriving in California in November.

In the spring of 1944, Russell came east to New York, where she worked for the YWCA of Passaic, New Jersey while completing her master's degree in social work at Columbia University Teachers College, and often spoke about China before such civic groups as the League of Women Voters. By early 1946, she had become an active member of the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy (CDFEP), a progressive organization whose goals included opposition to American intervention in China, in particular the Truman administration's backing of the Nationalist government headed by Chiang Kai-shek.

Russell assumed the executive directorship of the CDFEP in June 1946, a position she held until the Committee's dissolution six years later. She moved from Passaic to New York in 1947, where she found an apartment on West 93rd Street with a China acquaintance, Ida Pruitt, the field director for the American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives. (Russell and Pruitt continued to share quarters until June 1961, when their building was slated for demolition. Pruitt moved to Philadelphia and Russell took an apartment on Riverside Drive, where she lived until her death in 1989.)

Russell's responsibilities as CDFEP director included frequently writing and speaking on current events in China. Continuing as a member of the CDFEP's Information Committee, she also helped with the reading and clipping of daily newspapers and the compiling of other materials for the Committee's resource files. These activities reflected the role she would later play as an independent editor and lecturer on contemporary Chinese affairs.

After 1949, the CDFEP's support for diplomatic recognition and trade with the People's Republic of China and its objections to America's role in the Korean War brought its members under increasing scrutiny by the House Un-American Activities Committee and the Attorney General's Subversive Activities Control Board. Membership and contributions fell off rapidly, forcing the CDFEP to disband in August 1952. Undaunted, Russell resolved to continue to lecture and write about China, feeling that Americans wanted to hear points of view other than the almost uniformly negative ones being provided by the mainstream press. With the help of her CDFEP colleague Ira Gollobin and others, she began publication of a newsletter, the *Far East Reporter*, a sort of successor to the CDFEP's *Far East Spotlight*. At the same time, she spent much of each year on the road, driving across the country to speak on China before school, church, and civic groups. To save expenses, she stayed whenever possible with former China colleagues and CDFEP supporters, who also often arranged and publicized her appearances.

For source material on China, Russell relied on a wide variety of newspapers and magazines ranging from the *New York Times* to the *Far East Economic Review* and *China Reconstructs*. She also received literature, slides, and films from friends in China, most notably Rewi Alley and Talitha Gerlach, and traveled to China herself in 1959, an action that resulted in the cancellation of her passport.

With the easing of Sino-American hostilities in the early 1970s, Russell found herself in growing demand as a speaker. She was particularly delighted by the intense interest in China shown by younger people, who comprised an increasingly large part of her audience. In 1971, she was among the first members of the United States-China People's Friendship Association (USCPFA), and went to China again in 1972.

Russell's last visit to China was in 1978, the same year in which failing eyesight caused her to abandon her annual cross-country car trips. A hearing loss and increasing mobility problems created by arthritis also limited her active participation in the USCPFA and other organizations. Nevertheless, she was able to tour Nicaragua in 1980, and went to Ireland with her sister in 1981, when she was eighty-eight. She also maintained a prolific correspondence with friends in the U.S. as well as China, and continued to publish the *Far East Reporter* several times a year.

In the early summer of 1989, Russell was diagnosed as having lung cancer. She died at home on November 8, at ninety-six.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The eighty-one boxes comprising the Maud Russell Papers contain correspondence, writings, speeches, notebooks, clippings and other printed matter, photographs, and sound recordings; they also include minutes, newsletters, and subject files of the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy (CDFEP), and *Far East Reporter* files. These materials document Maud Russell's life and work for the Young Women's Christian Association in China from 1917 to 1943, her tenure as the executive director of the CDFEP in the 1940s and early 1950s, the speaking tours that took her on annual cross-country trips from 1953 to 1978, and her newsletter, the *Far East Reporter*, which she edited and published from 1953 until shortly before her death in 1989.

The great majority of this material reflects Russell's life-long interest in China and the role she saw for herself in bringing information to Americans on China's politics and people, at first in her employment with the YWCA and the CDFEP and later through her lectures and publications. Much of the correspondence from her years in China consists of Russell's copies of her outgoing letters to the American YWCA's New York headquarters and various regional Ys, describing her work and living conditions; most of the surviving incoming letters from ca. 1951 to 1980 are from friends who remained or returned to live in China after 1949 and regularly sent descriptions of and material about life in "new China," which Russell used for her talks and for the *Far East Reporter*. Her files of clippings and other printed matter also nearly all pertain to political events in China and aspects of Chinese society and culture.

Russell apparently weeded her files from time to time, possibly for lack of storage space; the volume of correspondence and printed matter increases noticeably after 1980.

Large runs of periodicals that arrived at the New York Public Library with Russell's papers, including the *Peking Review* and *China Reconstructs*, have been transferred to the Library's Periodicals Division.

PROVENANCE NOTE

Maud Russell's papers came to the New York Public Library in 1990 from her friend Ira Gollobin, her attorney and the executor of her estate. Subsequent additions, consisting mostly of sound recordings and Gollobin's own files of material from and about Russell, arrived in 1991, 1992, and 1993.

ARRANGEMENT NOTE

The collection is arranged in the following ten series:

- Series 1: Correspondence, Speeches, and Writings (17 boxes)
- Series 2: Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy Records (11 boxes)
- Series 3: *Far East Reporter* Files (16 boxes)
- Series 4: Income Tax Records (2 boxes)
- Series 5: Notebooks, Daybooks, Calendars, etc. (8 boxes)
- Series 6: Various Materials (4 boxes)
- Series 7: Printed Matter (8 boxes)
- Series 8: Photographs (11 boxes)
- Series 9: Sound Recordings (8 phonodiscs, 4 tapes)
- Series 10: Files of Ira Gollobin and Ida Pruitt (4 boxes)

Whenever possible, items have been left in their original order. For example, the typed copies of her speeches and writings and the translations of handbills that Russell kept chronologically with her correspondence remain interfiled in Series 1, whereas her rough handwritten notes for talks, mostly in small looseleaf notebooks, are among her other notebooks in Series 5. Similarly, the files of the CDFEP and the *Far East Reporter* have mostly retained their original order and folder titles, with a few occasional modifications. Items such as photographs, however, arrived at The New York Public Library mostly unsorted, and arrangement was imposed during processing.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1: Correspondence, Speeches, and Writings 1914-1989. Boxes 1-17.

Roughly nine-tenths of Series 1 consists of correspondence, mostly Russell's copies of her outgoing letters. (As mentioned in the Scope and Content Note, Russell seems to have weeded her letter files periodically.) From 1918 to the early 1930s, most of these letters were to her family and to the "Asilomar group," the aggregate of college YWCAs in California, Arizona, and Nevada that raised funds to support her work in China. These letters include lively descriptions of the communities in which she lived and worked, the activities she shared with her friends, and her travels in different parts of China and Asia. Of particular note as well are Russell's letters to Mary Bentley and the Asilomar group that were written during her visit to the U.S.S.R. in 1932. (Very little else of the correspondence between Russell and Bentley is among these papers; the whereabouts of those letters, if they have survived, is unknown.)

Correspondence from the late 1930s and early 1940s documents the challenges of living and working in central China during wartime. Most of the letters from this period are to YWCA colleagues in the U.S. and in other parts of China.

There is almost no incoming correspondence from 1918-1943, except for a number of letters of condolence Russell received after Bentley's death in November 1940. There are also scattered letters from relatives, and a few from such friends and acquaintances as Rewi Alley, Cora Deng, and Soong Ching-ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen).

Letters from the middle and late 1940s mainly concern Russell's work for the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy. Along with the chronological files in Box 5 are separate files of correspondence between Russell and Evans Carlson, Agnes Smedley, Edgar Snow, and Anna Louise Strong, all concerning a mixture of personal and CDFEP-related matters.

The volume of incoming correspondence increases markedly in the 1950s. From 1951 to about 1980, virtually all of these letters are from Russell's friends in China, chiefly Talitha Gerlach in Shanghai and Rewi Alley, Anna Louise Strong, Israel Epstein, Elsie Fairfax-Cholmeley, and David and Isabel Crook in Peking. Most of these letters contain accounts of life and work in the People's Republic of China, frequently including information that Russell used in compiling the *Far East Reporter*. Letters written during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976) are often as notable for what they omit as for what they relate.

Correspondence files from the last eight years of Russell's life show no sign of having been weeded. There are letters to and from her sister and nieces, old friends from her cross-country lecture tours, and U.S.-China People's Friendship Association members, as well as the "China hands."

Researchers should note that there are also two boxes of Russell's correspondence, 1949-1982, in Series 10, consisting mostly of letters from Russell to Ira Gollobin that she wrote during her travels across the country and her trips to China.

Interfiled among the correspondence are the texts of trans-Pacific radio broadcasts made by Russell from China in the 1930s and early 1940s, and talks she gave in the New York area about China in the mid-1940s. The writings in Series 1 consist mostly of Russell's translations of political handbills in Wuhan and her term papers for her courses in social work at Columbia; of note also is an article from 1939, "Notes From a Summer Vacation in Yen-an," describing her visit to the Chinese Communist Party headquarters there.

Speeches and writings by Russell that pertain specifically to the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy and the *Far East Reporter* are found in Series 2 and Series 3.

Series 2: Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy
1945-1955, 1982. Boxes 18-28.

Initially called the Committee for a Democratic Policy Toward China, the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy (CDFEP) was founded in 1945. Its stated goals were to inform Americans about Far Eastern issues, to oppose American intervention in East Asian countries, and to seek peaceful solutions to political conflicts through such international organizations as the United Nations. The CDFEP's diverse membership included journalists, former missionaries, and East Asian scholars. (Ronald Reagan's name also appears on early CDFEP stationery as a sponsor.)

Through frequent conferences and a wide variety of publications, the CDFEP sought to provide politicians and the general public with an alternative perspective to that of the pro-Chiang Kai-shek China Lobby. After 1949, the Committee vigorously promoted American diplomatic recognition of the newly created People's Republic of China. In the Cold War climate of the early 1950s, however, organizations such as the CDFEP were increasingly regarded as subversive, Communist Party-controlled agencies that had conspired to bring about the "loss" of China to Communism. In 1952, as support and membership dwindled in the face of continuing FBI harassment, the CDFEP disbanded.

A more detailed overview of the history of the CDFEP is available in a series of articles from the *U.S.-China Review* (1982) by Karen Kerpen, based on her doctoral dissertation, in Box 28.

Evidently, many CDFEP records have been lost over time. Karen Kerpen notes in her dissertation and in Part III of her article that the McCarthy era was for the CDFEP "a time to protect supporters and sponsors from allegations or subpoena; files were hidden or destroyed and financial records were burned." (There is no citation for the source of this information.) In a June 30, 1961 letter to former CDFEP colleagues Israel Epstein and Elsie Fairfax-Cholmeley, Russell wrote about the housecleaning she was doing in preparation for moving to her Riverside Drive apartment, adding: "How I hated to throw away much valuable historical material collected

during your days, but I just do not have place or use for them at present and there was no where to put them."

An early member of the CDFEP, Russell succeeded Harold Fletcher as its executive director in June 1946, serving in that capacity until the organization's demise. The materials in this series are evidently a combination of her own files and those of the CDFEP's. Roughly one-third is mimeographed and printed matter: press releases, pamphlets, and newsletters; there are also four boxes of subject files. Box 18 includes an apparently complete set of minutes of meetings, the CDFEP's constitution and by-laws, and a small amount of correspondence.

For fuller information on the contents of the CDFEP files, see the box and folder lists for Series 2.

Series 3: Far East Reporter

1953-1989. Boxes 29-44.

Boxes 29-32 of Series 3 contain a mostly complete set of Russell's publication, the *Far East Reporter*. (Because Russell did not use volume and issue numbers or dates, feeling that they would imply a time limit on the informational value of each issue, it is difficult to ascertain whether the New York Public Library's Manuscripts Section received a full run of the *FER*.) Interfiled among the publications, which are arranged by year, are copies of Russell's form letters to subscribers, itineraries for her speaking tours, clippings and other periodicals that she used as source material, and occasional letters from subscribers and potential contributors.

Boxes 33-43 contain financial records for the *FER*: Russell's ledgers, account books, receipt books, and lists of expenditures, interspersed with a few letters from subscribers. Box 44 contains various files (itemized in the box and folder lists for Series 3), including manuscripts, announcements of Russell's speaking tours and film showings, and her annual holiday letter to her subscribers.

Series 4. Income Tax Records

1956-1986. Boxes 45-46.

Series 4 contains Russell's New York State and federal income tax records from the 1950s until a few years before her death. These files, along with the financial records for the *Far East Reporter*, may be of more than passing interest to researchers because of the occasional charges made by Russell's detractors that her newsletters and lecture tours were funded by suspicious sources, presumably the American Communist Party or the "red" Chinese government. Russell's painstaking itemization of business expenses seems to provide scant evidence for such accusations.

Series 5: Notebooks, Daybooks, Calendars, etc.
1919-1988. Boxes 47-54.

This series consists mostly of items in notebook form, among them a guestbook Russell kept during her first years in China, her daybooks--three- or four-line descriptions of daily activities from the 1930s through the 1980s--Christmas card and gift lists, and notes for speeches and from her three return visits to China. A more complete listing of these items appears in the box list for Series 5.

Series 6: Various Materials
1920s-1980s, and undated. Boxes 55-58.

Series 6 contains a diverse assortment of materials: notes, catalogs, and correspondence concerning Russell's collection of Chinese pottery; newspaper and magazine articles from the 1920s through the 1980s about her life and work; documents from and about the YWCAs of the U.S. and China, mostly from the 1930s and 1940s; an obituary for Mary Bentley and a few items concerning her nephew, the Berkeley artist and printer Wilder Bentley. Among the more unusual items in this series is a 1936 typescript (apparently never published) by an unidentified author, *The Spirit of Yamato*, evidently the memoirs of a western diplomat in Japan.

Series 7: Printed Matter
1917-1989, and undated. Boxes 59-66.

Most of Series 7 consists of clippings from magazines and articles about China, compiled by Russell from the mid-1920s through 1989. Earlier clippings are from the English-language Shanghai paper, the *China Weekly Review*; later ones are from the *New York Times*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, the *Manchester Guardian*, and other newspapers. Box 65 contains clippings about Russell's friends and colleagues, arranged alphabetically.

Series 7 also includes an assortment of China-related newsletters, including many from the 1940s from such organizations as Indusco and the China Aid Council. There is as well a nearly complete run of Anna Louise Strong's *Letter From China* (1962-1970).

Box 66 includes several books belonging to Russell and heavily underlined and annotated by her, including a 1924 New Testament in modern speech, and a long poem by the British poet laureate Robert Bridges, *The Testament of Beauty* (1930).

Series 8: Photographs

1885-1988, and undated. Boxes 67-77.

About a third of the pictures in Series 8 (Boxes 67-70) are snapshots taken in China by and of Russell between 1917 and 1936. The pictures, in albums and filed loosely in envelopes, mostly depict Russell and her friends and co-workers at the YWCAs where they worked and on holidays in various parts of China, and formal group portraits of YWCA staffs posing in front of their buildings. There are also pictures of Russell and her friends in other countries, including Japan, the Philippines, and India, taken during vacations and furloughs. Box 71 mostly contains pictures of Russell's friends from college days, pictures of Mary Bentley, and a number of pictures of Russell's China YWCA colleague Anne G. Seescholtz.

Later pictures include Russell's snapshots from her visits to China in 1959, 1972, and 1978 (Boxes 72-73); CDFEP photos, and friends in the U.S. and China (Box 74). Box 75 includes formal portraits of Russell's parents, her childhood home in Hayward, and pictures of her nieces and nephew as children, as well as more recent snapshots of them and their families.

The photographs in Boxes 76 and 77 are of China in the late 1940s and early 1950s, possibly originally acquired by the CDFEP. They depict such subjects as the People's Liberation Army, the celebratory parades of 1950 in Peking commemorating the first anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, and developing industries in a number of cities.

Series 9: Sound Recordings

1946-1963.

Series 9 consists of cassette tapes made from three phonograph records* and four reel-to-reel tapes. [The Russell Papers contain a total of eight phonograph records, five of which are duplicates]. The phonograph records pertain to the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy, featuring addresses by Evans Carlson and Soong Ching-ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen) from 1946, and a question-and-answer session with Maud Russell about the CDFEP for radio station KPOJ in Portland, Oregon, 1950.

The tapes contain two separate interviews with Russell for radio station KRAB in Seattle, Washington, conducted in December 1962 and September 1963. For further information, see the audio tape list on page 23 of this inventory.

Series 10: Files of Ira Gollobin and Ida Pruitt

1938-1990, and undated. Boxes 78-81.

In 1991, the attorney Ira Gollobin, a close friend of Russell and the executor of her estate, gave to the New York Public Library a number of his files of material pertaining to Maud Russell and to the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy. Box 78 contains his CDFEP files, including legal material concerning its supposed "subversive" status (see also Box 28).

In Boxes 79 and 80 are Gollobin's letters from Russell, 1949-1982, mostly written during her many cross-country speaking tours. They provide an upbeat, lively picture of the busy schedule to which she held herself, her encounters with hecklers, and her optimism and faith in the majority of people who attended her talks and bought her pamphlets. Box 80 also includes Gollobin's remarks at Russell's 90th birthday celebration in 1983 and her memorial service in 1989, and legal correspondence concerning the donations of her pottery collection to museums.

Box 81 contains four folders of correspondence, 1938-1952 and undated, belonging to Ida Pruitt, which she apparently left behind when she moved to Philadelphia in 1961. These include letters of introduction that Pruitt brought with her to the U.S. when she left Peking in 1938, Indusco-related correspondence, and letters from her mother, Anna Seward Pruitt.

**MAUD RUSSELL PAPERS
CONTAINER LIST**

BOX CONTENTS

Series 1: Correspondence, Speeches, and Writings

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Paper, 1914; correspondence, 1918-1926;
Statements of Hankow Foreign Servants Union, Wuhan Foreigners' Servants
Union, Wuhan Christian Union, Nov.-Dec. 1926
"Anti-Christian, Anti-British Imperialism Handbills," Dec. 1926
"Three Months of Handbills in Wuchang, Hupeh. . ." trans. by MR, Dec. 18, 1926 |
| 2 | Correspondence, 1927;
"The Labor Situation in Wuhan:" excerpts from <i>Hankow Herald</i> and <i>People's
Tribune</i> , Nov. 1926-Dec. 1927
Clippings, articles, and handbills re political unrest, 1927 |
| 3 | Correspondence, 1928-1940 |
| 4 | Correspondence, 1941-1944;
Term papers from Columbia classes, 1944 |
| 5 | Correspondence (general) 1945-1949;
Evans Carlson correspondence, 1946-1948
Agnes Smedley correspondence, 1946-1949
Edgar Snow correspondence, 1948-1949
Anna Louise Strong correspondence, 1946-1949

Correspondence: |
| 6 | 1951-1962 |
| 7 | 1963-1966 |
| 8 | 1967-1969 |
| 9 | 1970-1973 |
| 10 | 1974-1978 |
| 11 | 1979-1981 |
| 12 | 1982 |

13	1983
14	1984
15	1985
16	1986-1987
17	1988-1989

Series 2: Committee For a Democratic Far Eastern Policy

Folders

- | | |
|----|---|
| 18 | <p>Constitution and by-laws
 Statements re aims and purposes
 Correspondence, 1945-1947
 Correspondence, 1948-1952, and undated
 Correspondence with office workers' union, 1947
 Correspondence re "subversive" status, 1949
 Resignations, 1947-1949
 Form letters to officers, 1946-1947
 Form letters to subscribers, 1946-1952
 Minutes of meetings:
 November 1945-December 1946
 1947
 1948-1949
 1950-1951
 Operating Committee members (1945?); list of speakers (1946?)</p> |
| 19 | <p>Executive director's report, May 29, 1946
 Reports, May 1946-July 1947
 Eight months' report, August 1947-March 1948
 Financial reports, 1947-1950
 Press releases:
 1945
 January-June 1946
 July-December 1946
 1947
 1948
 1949
 "Anna Louise Strong and the Committee," Dec. 22, 1949
 1951
 1952</p> |

- 20 Pamphlets, leaflets, ephemera:
 1945-1946
 1947
 January-June 1948
 July-December and undated, 1948
 1949
 1950-1952
 Undated
Letters From China, Nos. 1-5, February 1948-July 1949
 Handbills and form letter re U.S.'s China policy,
 March 1950
 Conferences and rallies:
 "Win the Peace" conference, April 1946
 China and the Far East, San Francisco, October 1946
 China and the Far East, New York, November 1946
 Action Conference on Indonesia, December 1947
 National Conference on American Policy in China and the Far East,
 January 1948
 "Get Out of China" rally, April 1948
 Action Conference on the China Policy Issue, January 1949
 "Hail New China" rally, June 1949
 Emergency Conference on China and Saving the Peace, New York, 1950
 (?)
- 21 CDFEP newsletters:
Information Bulletin (entire copies), vol. I, 1945-1946
Information Bulletin/Spotlight on the Far East (mostly excerpts, arranged
 topically), 1945-1948 (two folders)
 Clippings from *Far East Spotlight* (arranged topically), 1948-1949
 CDFEP Los Angeles chapter, *Information Bulletin*, March 15, 1946
Spotlight on the Far East: correspondence, drafts of articles, etc.
- 22 *Spotlight on the Far East*, vols. II & III, 1947-May 1948
Far East Spotlight, vol. IV, June-November 1948
Far East Spotlight, vol. V, December 1948-March 1950
Far East Spotlight, 1950-1952, and undated (numbered issues cease after
 vol. VI, no. 2, June-August 1950)
- 23 Typed copies of letters and articles on China, 1945-1947, and undated
 New China News Agency bulletins, 1951
 MR's lecture notes from Susan Warren's class, "New China," 1951-1952 (ten
 folders)
 Articles on China by Chinese officials, 1950-1952
 "Important Questions in the Chinese Agrarian Reform," by Jen Pi-Shih, 1948
 Articles and speeches by MR, 1945-1952
 Writings on China by MR and others, 1946-1950

Progressive Citizens of America
Publications (other organizations)
Publications (CDFEP):

Facts and Documents Concerning the Far East, 1947
Letters from a China Missionary, 1950
The Prospects of the Revolution in China, by Joseph Stalin, 1926
(reprinted ca. 1949)
The Chinese Revolution and the Communist Party of China, by
Mao Tse-Tung, 1939
Notes for a Speech on Mr. Truman and the New Asia, 1950
Internationalism and Nationalism, by Liu Shao-chi, 1948
"Top Secret" Document: *Chiang Kai-shek Army Appraises its
Enemy*
The Dictatorship of the People's Democracy, by Mao Tse-tung,
1949
Constitution of the All-China Federation of Labor, 1948
Letters From Home: How New China Looks. . . 1950

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Radio broadcasts, 1946-1948
Religious groups
Soong Ching-ling: cable re death of Evans Carlson, 1947
Soong Ching-ling: "A Message From New China," 1950
Soong Ching-ling: statements, 1946
Speech by Agnes Smedley, Albany, NY, Sept. 5, 1946
Spotlight on the Far East dinner, NY, April 1946
Statements re China by Michael Lindsay, Herbert K. Abrams, General
Wedemyer
Statements on U.S.-China policy, from various sources
Strong, Anna Louise: galley proofs
Student and Youth Committee: report, March 1948
Sues, Ilona Ralf: *China Magic*, 1948
Sun Yat-sen memorial meeting, Oct. 1946
Trade union material, 1946-1948
U: Miscellaneous
United Nations mailings, 1946-1948
Wallace, Henry: material re his presidential campaign, 1948
York, Pa. *Gazette* editorials, 1948 (by Israel Epstein and Owen Lattimore)

28

Later materials (post-1952):
Legal files concerning CDFEP's "subversive" status, ca. 1953-1955
Articles from *US-China Review* by Karen Kerpen, May-June 1982

Series 3: Far East Reporter

Copies of the *Far East Reporter*, interfiled with form letters to subscribers, MR's itineraries for her speaking tours, other periodicals used as source materials, and scattered correspondence from subscribers:

29	1953-1959
30	1960-1967
31	1968-1978
32	1979-1989

Financial records:

33	Ledgers, 1952-1989
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Account books, receipt books, lists of expenditures, a few letters from subscribers:

34	1953-1957
35	1958-1960
36	1961-1963
37	1964-1965
38	1966-1968
39	1969-1970
40	1971-1973
41	1974-1976
42	1977-1980
43	1981-1988

44 Various files:

FER flyers, notes on expenditures, miscellany, ca. 1960s-1980s
Slides and film showings, 1956-1968

Manuscripts from various people, ca. 1961-1967
Accounts, 1961-1970
Accounts, 1971-1978
Official business correspondence, 1979-1985
Financial reports, 1952-1979
Speaking tours, 1973-1974
Holiday letters to subscribers, 1978-1988
Notes and talks, ca. late 1970s-early 1980s

Series 4: Income Tax Records

45 1956-1972

46 1973-1986

Series 5: Notebooks, Daybooks, Calendars, etc.

- 47 Register of visitors, Nanking and Changsha, 1919-1924
Poetry by MR, 1919-1932, 1956, 1963-1968
Poetry and other writings by various authors, compiled by MR, 1915-1932, 1941-1942
Daybooks, 1932-1936, 1937-1950
- 48 Daybooks, 1951-1972
- 49 Daybooks, 1973-1989
- 50 Appointment calendars, 1966-1973
- 51 Account books and address books, 1928-1986
- 52 Lists of Christmas gifts and cards sent and received, 1930-1988
Lists of letters sent and books read, 1940-1943
Notes for talks on China, YWCA, etc., 1931-1945
- 53 Notes from visits to China, 1959, 1972, 1978
Notes from trip to Nicaragua, 1980
Notes for talks on China, 1970s-1980s
- 54 Notes for talks on China, 1970s-1980s

Series 6: Various Materials

- 55 Notes and catalogs re Chinese pottery, 1934-1940
Correspondence re donations of pottery and other artifacts, 1945-1988
- 56 Clippings and articles about Maud Russell:
1920s
1940s-1950s
Appearance before U.S. Senate Internal Security Committee, 1956
1960s
1970s
1980s
Interim transcript of oral history interview with MR, 1976, by Midwest China Study Resource Center; related correspondence; guide to the oral history collection
Passports, I.D. cards, etc., 1920s-1970s
Radio permit, Kweiyang, 1940 (?)
Health & medical information, 1940s-1980s
Russell family genealogy
- 57 YWCA materials:
Writings on the China YWCA and women's rights, 1933
Statement on Social Services Employees Union (by MR?), 1938
China Fund fliers, 1938 and undated
Articles, newsletters, etc., 1943-1951
The YWCA of China, 1933-1947
"The Role of the YWCA in the Development of the Chinese Women's Movement, 1890-1927:" reprint from *Social Science Review*, Sept. 1979
Items re Mary Bentley and Wilder Bentley, 1920s-1940s
Document in Chinese, ca. 1930s
Miscellaneous items, mostly undated
- 58 Typescript: *The Spirit of Yamato* (author unknown), 1936

Series 7: Printed Matter

- 59 Clippings and articles about China, 1926-1927
- 60 Clippings and articles about China, 1930s-1940s
Newsletters:
Christian Aid in Asia, 1945
Chinese Christian Student, 1945
Chinese Public Opinion, 1945

Reports from China Aid Council of United China Relief, 1944-1946 (3 folders)
China Aid Council *Newsletter*, 1944-1946
News of China (pub. by United China Relief), 1944-1946
INDUSCO Bulletin, 1944-1947
INDUSCO material, 1943-1946
"Important Rules of 'Bandit' Conduct," Thought Control," "The Case of a Missing Professor," 1945

- 61 Clippings, articles, and newsletters about China, 1950s-1970s
- 62 Clippings, articles, and newsletters about China, 1970s-1989, and undated
- 63 *Letter From China*, ed. by Anna Louise Strong, 1962-1970
- 64 Newsletters:
China and Ourselves, 1977-1980
Lutheran World Federation Marxism and China Study *Information Newsletter*, 1980-1983

65 Biographical clippings files

- 66 Books:
New Testament in Modern Speech, 1924
New Testament in Mandarin Chinese, 1931
Chinese-English Dictionary, 1917
The Testament of Beauty by Robert Bridges, 1930

Series 8: Photographs

- 67 China photos, 1917-1923
Including Nanking Language School, Kuling, Peking and northern China, Changsha
- 68 China photos, 1918-1924
Including Changsha YWCA, 1922 World Student Christian Federation conference in Peking, India, Sweden, and the Baltic Sea (from 1924 furlough)
- 69 China photos, 1925-1930
Including Changsha, Wuchang, Philippines
- 70 Photos, 1927-1936
Including South America, Manchuria, Shanghai, various group portraits (China YWCA staffs)

- 71 Photos, ca. 1913-1938
 Including Asilomar, California YWCA friends, Anne G. Seescholtz, Mary Bentley
- 72 Photos, ca. 1940s-1980s
 Including pictures of Maud Russell, ca. 1944-1983; MR's visits to China, 1959, 1972, and 1978
- 73 Photos, 1959
 Album: MR's tour of YWCAs in China, 1959
- 74 Photos, 1940s-1980s
 Including CDFEP publicity photos; various friends, among them Talitha Gerlach, Israel Epstein, and Cora Deng
- 75 Photos, 1885-1980s
 Including pictures of MR's parents and family home; nieces, great-nieces and nephews, and other relatives
- 76 Photos, 1940s-early 1950s
 China: Civil War, People's Liberation Army, first anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China
- 77 Photos, early 1950s
 China: chiefly views of industrial activity in various cities.

Series 9: Sound Recordings

Tape

01202 Interview with Maud Russell, Seattle, December 18, 1962

In this interview, conducted by an unidentified host for radio station KRAB in Seattle, Russell discusses her three-month visit to China in 1959, commenting on the changes that had taken place since 1943: wider access to medical care, an increase in the number of schools and colleges, and a generally higher standard of living. Other topics addressed include the impact on China of the Great Leap Forward, family planning policies, and the implications of the Sino-Soviet split. The interview continues on Tape No. 01201.

Time: 32:00

01201 Part II of the above interview.

This section of the interview focuses on the difficulty in the west of acquiring accurate information about China, and the interest on the part of many American businessmen in resuming trade with China. Russell also discusses the State Department's cancellation of her passport after her return from China.

Time: 21:00

01203 Interview with Maud Russell, Seattle, September 4, 1963

In this interview, conducted by Nancy Keith and J. Lansman, Russell summarizes China's efforts at modernization and reform from the end of the 19th century through the present. She also describes the recently established commune system in China, migration between Hong Kong and mainland China, China's development of an atom bomb, and border disputes with India.

Time: 32:00

01204 Continuation of the above interview.

This segment deals mainly with the status of Tibet, the extent of political freedom in China, the various Chinese people's movements, discussion groups and study sessions, and American press coverage of events in China.

Time: 30:50

01829 Speech by Soong Ching-ling, March 1946

Soong Ching-ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen) made this recording in Shanghai for a "Spotlight on the Far East" dinner held in New York in April, 1946, under the auspices of the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy. Soong characterizes the relationship between the United States and China as having been strengthened by the fight against fascism in World War II, identifies China's immediate goals as the attainment of political and economic democracy, and stresses that these goals must be obtained in an atmosphere of world peace and freedom.

Time: 8:04

01825 Speech by Evans Carlson, October 1946

In November 1946, the National Committee to Win the Peace and the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy jointly sponsored a conference on China and the Far East. Prevented by illness from attending, co-chairman Evans Carlson of the CDFEP made this recording in October to be played at the conference. In it, he applauds the stance of the CDFEP on non-intervention in Asian affairs, and questions the motives of the CDFEP's critics, likening them to European fascists.

Time: 9:35

01828 Question-and-answer session with Maud Russell, 1950

In 1950, Russell appeared on radio station KPOJ in Portland, Oregon, in her capacity as the executive director of the CDFEP, to address the topic, "Should America get out of the Far East?". Interviewed by a panel of six journalists, politicians, and academicians, Russell responds to questions about the CDFEP's "subversive" status and the political affiliations of CDFEP members, including herself, and comments on such issues as the relationship between the United States and Far Eastern countries, the influence of the U.S.S.R. on China, and the Korean War.

Time: 24:30

01824 and
01826 Duplicate of O1829.

Series 10: Files of Ira Gollobin and Ida Pruitt

- Ira Gollobin's files:
- 78 CDFEP files: financial reports, "subversive" status, etc.; IG's notes on China
- 79 Letters from MR to IG, 1949-1964
- 80 Letters from MR to IG, 1965-1982;
IG's talks at MR's 90th birthday celebration and at her memorial service;
Correspondence re her pottery donations
- 81 Ida Pruitt's files:
Letters of introduction for IP, to and from various people, 1938-1940
Correspondence, 1940, 1946-1947
Correspondence, 1948-1952, and undated