The George Shenkar Collection
Papers, 1947-1981
(Predominantly 1947-1968)
2 MS Boxes

Accession Number 1430
L.C. Number MS

The papers of George Shenkar were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in April of 1990 and November of 1991 by Mr. Shenkar and were opened for research in July of 1992.

George Shenkar was born in Flint, Michigan on November 19, 1924. He graduated from Cass Technical High School, Detroit, Michigan and subsequently enrolled with the College of Engineering, Wayne State University, in 1941. He served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1945. He returned to Wayne State University in 1946 and graduated with a degree in engineering in June of 1947, and was employed as a junior engineer with the Detroit Water Board. Controversy over his alleged political affiliations eventually led to Mr. Shenkar's dismissal from his post in January 1950, on the formed charge of insubordination. The "Shenkar case" triggered the passing of an amendment to the city charter in September of 1949 that would require all city employees to take a loyalty oath to the United States.

After a brief residence in Los Angeles and St. Louis in 1952 and 1953, George Shenkar returned to Detroit, where he was employed by various private engineering firms and became active in various socialist organizations.

The papers of Mr. Shenkar consist of clippings and correspondence bearing upon his controversial dismissal by the Detroit Water Board, documents relating to his interest in socialism, and papers relating to the security files that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Michigan State Police, and the Detroit Police Department maintained on Mr. Shenkar.

Contents
2 MS Boxes

Series I, City of Detroit v. George Shenkar, 1947-1950. Box 1: Correspondence and clippings relating to Mr. Shenkar's dismissal as an employee of Detroit Water Board and the issue of requiring loyalty oaths to the United States by all City employees.


Series III, Security Files, 1947-1981. Box 1-2: Correspondence relating to and copies of security files released to Mr. Shenkar by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Detroit Police Department, and the Michigan State Police.
Clippings and correspondence relating to Mr. Shenkar's dismissal as an employee of Detroit Water Board and the issue of requiring loyalty oaths to the United States by all City employees.

BOX 1

1-2. Clippings, Feb-Aug 1949
3-5. Correspondence, Sept 1948-Mar 1950; Jan-Feb 1980
6-7. Sulik, Alan J. "The George Shenkar case and the development of the loyalty oath amendment for the City of Detroit", manuscript

Series II
Socialism, 1957-1969
Box 1

Manuscripts and pamphlets relating to Mr. Shenkar's interest in socialism.

BOX 1 (cont'd.)

8. Correspondence, Oct 1968
10. Pamphlets, 1969

Series III
Security Files, 1947-1981
Boxes 1-2

Correspondence relating to and copies of security files released to Mr. Shenkar by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Detroit Police Department, and the Michigan State Police.

BOX 1 (cont'd.)

15. Correspondence, Mar 1976-Nov 1981

BOX 2

1-3. Detroit Police Department, "Red File" on George Shenkar, 1948-1973