THE MORRIS RIGER COLLECTION

Papers 1936-1986
(Predominantly, 1946-1977)
4 linear feet

Accession Number 1484
OCLC No.

The papers of Morris Riger were placed in the Walter P. Reuther Library in 1991 and 1992 the collection was open for research in 1994.

Morris Riger was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on March 21, 1914. He was educated in the Philadelphia public schools system. He then graduated from Temple University in 1937 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce. Upon graduation he was employed in the clothing and doll industry as a government statistician. He was a staff representative of the Congress of Industrial Organizations from 1932-1942. After serving in the army during World War II, he was employed as the Assistant Regional Director, and then later as the Regional Director of the Textile Workers Union of America from 1946 to 1961. In 1961 and 1962 he served as Director of Political Education for the Ohio, American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations. In 1963 Mr. Riger was employed by the Office of Manpower in the Department of Labor for the United States government. He held several different positions within the Department of Labor until his retirement in 1977.

Mr. Riger was also very active in community groups. He was chairperson of the Civil Rights Committee for the Federation of Labor in Cleveland, Ohio. From 1957 to 1962 he served as secretary and later chairperson for the Ohio Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights. From 1956 to 1961 he was a member of the Ohio Committee for Fair Employment Practices. Mr. Riger was on the the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Citizens League and near the end of his life he was President of the Montgomery County, Maryland, Tenants Association.

The Morris Riger Collection includes his efforts with the organization of unions for textile and doll workers, his activity in the American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations, and his work in the U.S. Department of Labor. The greater part of the collection deals with materials he used in teaching courses on Japanese economy and the future of trade unions.
Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Employment Survey 1966  West Virginia Road Commission Strike, 1969
Office of Manpower    Ford Foundation Grant Paper, 1979

Among the important correspondents are:

    Hubert H. Humphrey      W. William Wirtz
    Sol Stetin              Carl Stokes

An index to subjects and correspondence is located on page 8.
Contents

8 manuscript boxes

Series I, Employment, 1933-1977, Boxes 1-2:
Correspondence, newspaper dippings, published articles, and other items relating to Morris Riger's employment and community activities from 1933-1977. Early work with the Textile Workers Union of America and the American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations and later his work for the U.S. government in the Department of Labor.

Series II, Retirement Activities, 1977-1984, Boxes 2-8:
Writings, correspondence, newspaper clippings and reference materials dealing with Mr. Riger's interest in the study of and teachings on Japanese economy, life and culture. Additional information on the future of unions and health care

Non-manuscript Material:
Forty-eight photos of early union activity with Textile Workers Union of America and the American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations 1933-1961); nineteen photographic-slides of a job bank site in 1973, while working with the Department of Labor. These items have been placed in the Archives AudioVisual Collection.
Correspondence; newspaper dippings, published articles, and other items relating to Morris Riger's employment and community activities from 1933-1977. A large part of the information is from the years 1963-1977, while he was employed for the U.S. Department of Labor primarily in the Office of Manpower. Early materials (prior to 1963) dealt with his work in the union movement of the Textile Workers Union of America and the American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within the files.

Box 1

1. Americans for Democratic Action
2. Articles, 1963-1977
3. Awards, 1969-1974
4-5. Correspondence, 1958-1973
6. Correspondence, 1976-1977
7-10. Employment Survey, 1966
15. Manpower, job appeal, 1977
19. Newspaper dippings, 1963
22. Political and community activities, 1956-1964

Box 2

1. Resume, Morris Riger
2. Summary paper Manpower, 1977
3. West Virginia Road Commission Strike, 1969
Series II
Retirement Activities 1977-1986
Boxes 2-8

Writings, correspondence, reports, published articles and reference materials relating to Mr. Riger's retirement activities as a teacher and community leader. Primarily concerned with his interest in the study and teachings of Japanese economy, life and culture Mr. Riger taught two courses at Florida Atlantic University, Understanding Japan and Facing the Future Files are arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within the files.

Box 2
4. Address book, Japan
9. Correspondence, 1980-1987
11-13. Faring the Future, unions' collective bargaining

Box 3
1-3. Faring the Future, 20th century labor(conf'd.' from Box 2)
4. Faring the Future, auto industry
5-7. Faring the Future, unions loss of numbers
8. Faring the Future, worker ownership
9. Faring the Future, Japanese success
10. Faring the Future, great society in the U.S.
11. Facing the Future, air controllers strike
12-14. Faring the Future, reference

Box 4
1-6. Ford Grant Paper, 1979
7. Ford Grant Paper, drafts
Box 5
1-5. Ford Grant Paper, reference (cont'd.' from Box 4)
   7. Health Care, annals of law
   8. Health Care, brain
   9. Health Care, reference

Box 6
1-4. Health Care, reference (cont'd.' from Box 5)
   5. Maps
   6. Tenant bill, correspondence, 1987
   7-8. Tenant bill, drafts
   9. Tenant bill, policies in Montgomery County
  10. Tenant bill, reference

Box 7
   5-6. Understanding Japan, background
   7. Understanding Japan, religion
   8. Understanding Japan, language
   9. Understanding Japan, education
  10. Understanding Japan, economy
  11. Understanding Japan, planning and managing the system
  12. Understanding Japan, management
  13. Understanding Japan, technology
  14. Understanding Japan, automation and labor
  15. Understanding Japan, employment system

Box 8
1-2. Understanding Japan, productivity
   3. Understanding Japan, industrial policy
   4. Understanding Japan, American companies in Japan
   5. Understanding Japan, labor markets
   6. Understanding Japan, population and aging
   7. Understanding Japan, Japanese politics
8. Understanding Japan, status of women
9. Understanding Japan, women in the laborforce
10. Understanding Japan, human resource development
11. Understanding Japan, Japanese trade union movement
12. Understanding Japan, Japanese trade
13. Understanding Japan, case history of a plant migration
14-15. Understanding Japan, summing up
16. Understanding Japan, bibliography
Index to Subjects and Correspondence
(correspondence is indicated by an asterisk)

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Awards, 1969-1974, 1:3
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Employment Survey, 1966, 1:7-10
Facing the Future, 1:11-14, Box 3
Ford Foundation Grant, paper, 4:1-6
*Fitzmaurice, David, 1:4
Health care, 5:7-9, 6:1-4
*Humphrey, Hubert H., 1:4
Maps, 6:5
Office of Manpower, 1:11-14, 2:2
Political and community activities, 1963-1977, 1:2
Published articles, 1:2
*Shultz, George P., 1:5
*Stetin, Sol, 1:6, 2:9
*Stokes, Carl B., 1:4-5
Tenant Bill, 6:6-10
Understanding Japan, Box 7-8
*Urban, George J., 1:4
*Watson Jack H., 1:6, 2:9
West Virginia Road Commission Strike, 1969, 2:3
*Wirtz, W. William, 1:4-5
Items to be restricted or closed: ____________________________

YOU MAY USE THIS FORM AS A RECORD OF ACTIONS TAKEN
Arrangement:
Original order maintained ___; established X ____________
Comments: Arrangement is alphabetical by subject and ______ Chronological by file.
New Order __________________________________________

Series Titles:
   I - Employment ____________________________
   II - Retirement Activity ______________________

Mechanics: (Initial and Date)
Fumigated _______ Folders Numbered 4/94
Cleaned _______ Boxes Labeled 4/94

Prelim. Sorting _______ Finding Aid Written 5/94
1/94
Staples Removed _______ MARC/AMC Form
1/94
Clips Removed _______ FOR OFFICE ASSISTANT:
Arrangement Est. _______ Finding Aid Typed ______
Folders Labeled _______ Box Labels Typed ______
New Folders _______ Acc. & Rolodex Updated
4/94

Special Notes: (Initial and Date)
Items needing preservation: ________________________________
Appendix E - Archival Worksheet

Wayne State University
Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs
University Archives
Detroit, Michigan

PROCESSING WORKSHEET

Collection Title  The Morris Riger Collection

Donor  Gertude Riger  Acquisition Date 12/11/91

Accession Number  # 1484  Location (unprocessed) __________

Amount of Material  3 Storage boxes and 1 Manuscript box

Restrictions and Arrangements with Donor  None  __________

Materials Present in the Collection:

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<th>Amount</th>
<th>Final Disposition</th>
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