

THE ANNA MELISSA GRAVES COLLECTION

Papers, 1921 - 1948
(Predominantly, 1924-1934)

5½ linear feet

Accession Number 708
L. C. Number

The papers of Anna Mellisa Graves were placed in the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs on March 14, 1975, by Sophie Graves, her cousin. They were opened for research in June, 1976.

Miss Graves was an American citizen who taught English in China, Russia, Latin America, and Africa during the 1920s and 1930s. It is believed that she was born in 1880; she died in 1964 at the age of 84.

This collection consists exclusively of material relating to Victor Raul Haya de La Torre, a Peruvian political leader of the 1930s. He was born in Trujillo, Peru on February 22, 1898; it is not known if he is still living. A founder of the APRA Party, American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, de La Torre was its unsuccessful presidential candidate in Peru in 1931. In July, 1932, he was imprisoned without trial in Lima as a political prisoner. He was released in August, 1933.

The bulk of the papers in this collection deal with de La Torre's imprisonment and efforts led by Miss Graves for his freedom. Letters about his education and international travels are included.

Miss Graves' correspondence with many South Americans provides valuable insight into the political, economic, and cultural conditions of that continent from 1920 - 1940. These letters are typed translations. The originals were deposited in the Peace Collection, Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

English and Spanish newspapers, clippings, and leaflets add further documentation of the political events in Peru during this period.

Important subjects covered in this collection:

De La Torre's education at Oxford
Peruvian presidential election of 1931
De La Torre's imprisonment and release
Latin American political and social conditions
(1920-1940)

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Contents

11 manuscript boxes
10 oversize folders

Series I, Box 1

Correspondence from Victor Haya de La Torre covering the period 1923 to 1948, predominantly 1926 to 1930.

Series II, Box 2

Correspondence relating to petitions to Peruvian legations and ambassadors in Washington, D.C., Paris, France, and London, England covering the period May, 1932 to August, 1933. Includes copies of petitions and signers.

Series III, Box 3

Correspondence and miscellaneous documents about de La Torre during the period 1923 to 1938. Includes undated leaflets and clippings.

Series IV, Boxes 4-9

Typed copies, frequently translations, of correspondence to Miss Graves from Latin Americans. These boxes contain material from approximately 1921 to 1948.

Series V, Box 10

Newspaper clippings, many unidentified and undated, from the Spanish and English press of several countries. They report the political activities, imprisonment, and release of de La Torre in the 1920s and 1930s.

Series VI, Box 11

Three books and one pamphlet, all written in Spanish, about de La Torre's political career.

Series VII, Box 12

Oversize materials, primarily Spanish newspapers from the 1930s.

Non-manuscript material

38 photographs of de La Torre and unidentified persons have been placed in the Archives' Audio-Visual Collection.

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Series I
Box 1

Correspondence from de La Torre covering the period 1923 to 1948, predominantly 1926 to 1930. These letters reflected de La Torre's life at Oxford in Ruskin College and his studies at the London School of Economics. It also includes information about his world travels and political activity with the APRA Party. His relationship with Miss Graves, who financed his education in England, is delineated as well.

Box 1	Folders 1-11	October, 1923 - June, 1928
	12	August, 1930 - March, 1935
	13	1948
	14	Undated

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Series II
Box 2

Correspondence relating to petitions to Peruvian legations and ambassadors in Washington, D.C., Paris, and London to obtain the release of de La Torre in Peru as a political prisoner. Includes copies of petitions and signers.

Box 2 Folders 1 - 6 Dec, 1932 - Feb., 1933, Washington, D.C.

7. Copy of petition presented January 31, 1933
8. March 21, 1933 - April 6, 1933
9. Multiple copies of petition to Peruvian
Ambassador of May 8, 1933
10. June 8, 1933 - July 31, 1933
11. Petition to El Senor Calderon and related correspondence.
June, 1933 - November, 1933
12. Spanish letters re: imprisonment, 1932 - 1933
13. French letters " "
14. British letters "
15. South American letters " "
16. North American letters " "
17. Miscellaneous correspondence about imprisonment
and release. December, 1932 - November, 1933

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Series III
Box 3

Correspondence and miscellaneous documents about de La Torre during the period 1923 - 1938. Includes character references, accounts of the progress and cost of his education, and personal letters to Miss Graves reporting on de La Torre's life.

Box 3

1. Undated material - c. 1920s
- 2-12. 1923 - 1938
13. Handwritten biographical manuscript of de La Torre - anonymous and undated
14. Typescript of the previous item

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Series IV
Boxes 4 - 9

Typed copies of correspondence to Miss Graves from Latin Americans, frequently translations from French, Spanish, Brazilian dialect, and Portuguese. Primarily, the letters concern the activities of de La Torre, but also provide information about conditions in Latin America. The period covered is approximately 1921 - 1948. This series contains an index to correspondents compiled by Graves according to "countries of the writers," listing in which volume each correspondent's letters can be located. This index is found in Box 4, folder 1. Also, the first page of each volume contains an alphabetical list of correspondents in that volume, number, and type of item (letter, postcard, etc.) and ethnic background of author.

All correspondence is arranged in alphabetical order according to the name of the writer and chronologically within each correspondent's section.

It appears that Miss Graves' intention was to indicate in each volume index the location of the original letters (e.g. Jane Addams Peace Collection). This was only accomplished for the volume numbered by her as I1/2 although space was left to insert locations for the index to Vol. I. Many copies in each volume are marked with a Roman numeral and/or Arabic number suggesting some previous filing system.

Box 4	Folders 1-11	Volume I	Includes index to all volumes
Box 5	Folders 1-13	Volume I½	
Box 6	Folders 1-12	Volume II	
Box 7	Folders 1-10	Volume II½	
Box 8	Folders 1-12	Volume III	
Box 9	Folders 1-12	Volume IV	

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Series V
Box 10

Newspaper clippings, many unidentified and undated, from the Spanish and English press of several countries about the political activities, imprisonment, and release of de La Torre from 1926 - 1936.

Box 10

Folders 1 - 8

Clippings

9. Printed matter on Puerto Rico

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Series VI
Box 11

Three books and one pamphlet written in Spanish about de La Torre's political career.

Box 11 El Proceso Haya de La Torre
 Haya de La Torre
 Raul Haya de La Torre o el Politico
 Current History

Series VII
Box 12

Oversize material: Spanish newspapers and English periodical articles ranging from 1926 - 1950 and copies of political speeches of de La Torre and APRA Party members.

1. Articles from Reportorio Americano in Spanish - undated
2. Spanish articles - 1920s
3. English articles - 1926 - 1927
4. APRA literature - 1931, 1934 - 1935
5. Spanish newspaper clippings - 1926 - 1950
6. Political flyers - undated
7. La Tribuna in Spanish - July and August, 1931
- 8-10. " " August, 1931