

THE MAE MALLORY COLLECTION

Papers, 1961-1967
(Predominantly, 1962-1963)

1 linear foot

Accession Number 955
L.C. Number

The papers of Mae Mallory were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in January of 1978 by General Baker and were opened for research in December of 1979.

Mae Mallory (also known as Willie Mae Mallory) was born in Macon, Georgia on June 9, 1927. She later went to live in New York City with her mother in 1939. She became active in the black civil rights movement and was secretary of the organization, Crusaders for Freedom. She was closely associated with the ultra-militant leader of the NAACP chapter in Monroe, North Carolina, Robert F. Williams, who advocated that blacks arm themselves in order to defend their rights.

In 1961 she, Williams and others were charged with kidnap pong a white couple during a racial disturbance in Monroe. She fled to Cleveland, Ohio, to avoid arrest, but was imprisoned from 1962 to 1964 in the Cuyahoga County Jail to await extradition to North Carolina to face trial. Williams, who, like Mallory, protested his innocence of the charges, fled via Canada to Cuba and later China. In 1964 she was returned to Monroe, stood trial, and was convicted. She appealed the sentence, and in the following year the North Carolina Supreme Court dismissed the case because blacks had been excluded from the grand jury.

The material in this collection reflects Mallory's participation in the civil rights movement and documents her period of imprisonment.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Black activism (1960's) Civil
rights movement Monroe Defense
Committee Revolutionary Action
Movement (RAM) Robert F. Williams
Women's prison conditions

Among the correspondents are: (an index to correspondence will be found on p. 6)

Anderson, Charles (Chuck)
Williams, Mabel
Williams, Robert F.

There is some information on Mae Mallory and Robert Williams in the Archives' vertical file under the headings, "Civil Rights" and "Socialist Workers Party."

Contents

2 manuscript boxes

Series I, Mae Mallory's Imprisonment and Trial, Box 1

Correspondence, writings, legal papers, handbills, and other material relating to Mae Mallory's imprisonment and trial.

Series II, Organizational Literature, Box 2

Mainly handbills but also material such as reports, notes, pamphlets, and a small amount of correspondence.

Series I
Box 1

This series contains correspondence written while Mae Mallory was imprisoned and appealing extradition, legal briefs, and material from groups organized to support her cause. It also contains a brief autobiographical account of her childhood and sketches she wrote of her fellow prisoners. There are also copies of the newsletter, Did You Know? published in Monroe from 1964 and 1965.

This series is arranged with the correspondence placed first followed by other papers. All are arranged chronologically.

Box 1 - Mae Mallory's Imprisonment and Trial

- 1 Correspondence, 1961-62
- 2 Correspondence, 1963
- 3 Letters from Prisoners to Mae Mallory, 1962-63
- 4 Correspondence, 1964-67
- 5 Undated correspondence
- 6 Mae Mallory Writings
- 7 Legal Briefs re Extradition of Mae Mallory, 1962-63
- 8 North Carolina vs. Jay van Covington, 1962
- 9 Monroe Defense Committee, 1962-63
- 10 Committee to Aid the Monroe Defendants, N.Y.C., 1963
- 11 Joint Action Committee, L.A., 1963
- 12 Did You Know?, Monroe, N.C., 1964-65
- 13 The Crusader, 1960-65
- 14 Address Lists

Series II
Box 2

This series contains material from a number of black civil rights and other protest organizations in which Mae Mallory was involved or interested. The files have been arranged alphabetically.

Box 2 - Organizational Literature

- 1 Africa - Reports, Handbills, Pamphlets
- 2 African-American Committee in Defense of the Congo
- 3 Afro American Alliance for Action - Pledges
- 4 Afro Americans - N.Y.C., 1961
- 5 Atlanta's Black Voice of Freedom
- 6 Black Issues - Reports, Pamphlets
- 7 Buffalo, N.Y. Organizations, 1963
- 8 Church-Related Organizations
- 9 Committee against War and Fascism - Vietnam
- 10 Crusaders for Freedom, N.Y.C., 1960-61
- 11 Cuba - Pamphlet, Booklist
- 12 Freedom Now Party
- 13 Inter group Committee on New York's Public Schools
- 14 John Brown Commemoration Committee
- 15 Latin American Protests
- 16 Miscellaneous Literature
- 17 Monroe Youth Action Committee, 1963
- 18 New York City Protests
- 19 Northern Negro Grass Roots Leadership Conference, 1963
- 20 Organization of Militant Black Women, 1964
- 21 An Organization of Young Men - N.Y.C., 1961
- 22 Revolutionary Action Movement, 1964
- 23 RAM Publication - R. Williams
- 24 Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee
- 25 Women's Committee of the Harlem Unemployment Center, 1965-66
- 26 Youngstown, Ohio Organizations, 1962-63

Index to Correspondence

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