

Cord Meyer Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2024

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm91080957>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms006035>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2006
Revised 2024 January

Collection Summary

Title: Cord Meyer Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1865-2000

Bulk Dates: 1982-1989

Creator: Meyer, Cord, 1920-2001

Extent: 2,900 items

Extent: 11 containers plus 1 classified and 3 oversize

Extent: 6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English, with Japanese

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm91080957>

Summary: Internationalist, intelligence officer, and writer. Correspondence, scholarly papers, newspaper columns, articles, books, speeches, lectures, clippings, photographs, legal documents, and scrapbooks pertaining to Meyer's work as an advocate for one-world government, career with the Central Intelligence Agency, and personal life.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Angleton, James, 1917-1987--Correspondence.

Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955--Correspondence.

Meyer, Cord, 1920-2001 Facing reality: from world federalism to the CIA 1980.

Meyer, Cord, 1920-2001.

Meyer, Cord, 1920-2001. Development of the U.S. policy of containment.

Meyer, Katharine Thaw, 1893-1991--Correspondence.

Meyer, Mark, 1950- --Correspondence.

Meyer, William B., 1925-1986--Correspondence.

Pinchot, Ruth P. (Ruth Pickering), 1893-1984--Correspondence.

Organizations

United States. Central Intelligence Agency.

United States. Federal Bureau of Investigation.

United World Federalists (U.S.)

Subjects

Governmental investigations--United States.

Internationalism.

Japanese Americans--Forced removal and internment, 1942-1945.

Journalism--United States.

Nuclear arms control.

World politics--20th century.

Places

United States--Foreign relations--20th century.

Titles

Washington times (Washington, D.C. : 1982)

Occupations

Authors.

Intelligence officers.

Internationalists.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Cord Meyer were given to the Library of Congress by Meyer in 1991. Multiple additions were given by Meyer between 1992 and 2000. An addition was given by Mary Starke Patterson Anderson Meyer in 2003.

Processing History

The papers of Cord Meyer were arranged and described in 1992 by Bradley E. Germand. An addition was processed by John R. Monagle in 1999. Material was incorporated into this addition by Brian McGuire in 2001. An addition was processed and the finding aid revised by Rachel McNellis in 2024.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Cord Meyer is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Cord Meyer are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

National Security Classified Information

Government regulations control the use of national security classified items in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified material.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Cord Meyer Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1920, Nov. 10	Born, Washington, D.C.
1927-1933	Attended Great Neck Preparatory School, Great Neck, N.Y.
1933-1939	Attended St. Paul's School, Concord, N.H.
1942	B.A., English and philosophy, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
1942-1945	Served in United States Marine Corps; awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star
1945	Married Mary Eno Pinchot (divorced circa 1959) Assistant to Harold E. Stassen, United States delegate, San Francisco Conference on International Organization
1946	Awarded O'Henry Prize for "Waves of Darkness," <i>The Atlantic</i>
1946-1947	Society of Fellows, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1947	Published <i>Peace or Anarchy</i> . Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
1947-1949	President, United World Federalists
1949-1951	Society of Fellows, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1951-1977	Intelligence officer, Central Intelligence Agency; assistant to the Deputy Director of Plans, 1967-1973

1958	Michael Meyer (son) killed by car, Washington, D.C.
1964	Mary Pinchot Meyer (former wife) murdered, Washington, D.C.
1966	Married Mary Starke Patterson Anderson
1978-1998	Nationally syndicated newspaper columnist
1980	Published <i>Facing Reality: From World Federalism to the CIA</i> . New York: Harper & Row
1982-1988	Lecturer, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
2001, Mar. 13	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Cord Meyer span the years 1922-2000, with the bulk of the material dating from 1982 to 1989. The collection pertains chiefly to his work as an advocate for a one-world government and writings on international affairs, with a smaller amount related to his twenty-six-year career with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and tenure as one of its highest-ranking officers. His personal life and family matters are also heavily documented. The collection is organized into seven series: [Correspondence](#), [Writings](#), [Miscellany](#), [2001 Addition](#), [2024 Addition](#), [National Security Classified Information](#), and [Oversize](#).

The [Correspondence](#) series includes letters to and from Meyer. Principal correspondents include his mother, Katharine Thaw Meyer, youngest son, Mark Meyer, and brother and business partner, William B. Meyer. Other correspondents include his CIA colleague and friend, James Angleton, and mother-in-law, Ruth P. Pinchot. Newspaper clippings and draft book contracts are attached to several cover letters. Primary subjects include family matters, United World Federalists, and Meyer's book *Facing Reality: From World Federalism to the CIA*.

The [Writings](#) consist of items authored by Meyer, including scholarly papers, articles, a journal, newspaper columns, playscript, short story, speeches, and lectures. The journal includes entries dated 1945-1965 and complements correspondence documenting personal matters.

The [Miscellany](#) consists of newspaper clippings and articles pertaining primarily to Meyer's work with the United World Federalists and the CIA. Many of these items are pasted in scrapbooks in approximate chronological order.

The [2001 Addition](#) includes correspondence regarding issues of foreign affairs and columns Meyer wrote for the *Washington Times*, 1990-1997.

The [2024 Addition](#) contains awards, clippings, correspondence, lectures, legal papers, photographs, writings, and a scrapbook. A substantial amount documents Meyer's defense against accusations of communist activities brought against him by the FBI and his subsequent suspension from the CIA. Notable writings include drafts of an unpublished book titled "Development of the U.S. Policy of Containment" and an essay on the 1946 Japanese American evacuation, with attached responses from Charles E. Wyzanski Jr., a United States district judge, and Dillon S. Myer, president of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs. A signed 1946 letter from Albert Einstein, written in response to one of Meyer's articles and critiquing the Acheson-Lilienthal report on the international control of atomic weapons, is also noteworthy.

The remaining series contain [Oversize](#) and [National Security Classified Information](#).

Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Correspondence, 1934-1989](#)
- [Writings, 1939-1989](#)
- [Miscellany, 1922-1986](#)
- [2001 Addition, 1990-2000](#)
- [2024 Addition, 1865-1997](#)
- [National Security Classified Information, 1965-1969](#)
- [Oversize, 1945-1950](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-4	<p><u>Correspondence, 1934-1989</u></p> <p>Letters to and from family and business associates concerning personal matters and Meyer's interests in world federalism, politics, and current events. Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 5-6	<p><u>Writings, 1939-1989</u></p> <p>Academic papers, personal journal, newspaper columns, playscript, poetry, short story, speeches, and lectures by Meyer. Arranged by material type and therein chronologically.</p>
BOX 6-7	<p><u>Miscellany, 1922-1986</u></p> <p>Newspaper clippings, publications, and scrapbooks containing information about Meyer's career. Arranged by format and therein chronologically. Clippings are unarranged.</p>
BOX 8	<p><u>2001 Addition, 1990-2000</u></p> <p>Correspondence and copies of newspaper columns written for the <i>Washington Times</i>. Arranged by material type and therein chronologically.</p>
BOX 9-11	<p><u>2024 Addition, 1865-1997</u></p> <p>Articles, awards, book draft, clippings, correspondence, lectures, photographs, printed matter, and a scrapbook. Arranged alphabetically by material type or subject.</p>
BOX CL 1	<p><u>National Security Classified Information, 1969</u></p> <p>National security classified material. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and containers from which the items were removed.</p>
BOX OV 1-OV 3	<p><u>Oversize, 1945-1950</u></p> <p>Scrapbooks containing information about Meyer's career and photographs of Meyer. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and containers from which the items were removed.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-4	Correspondence, 1934-1989 Letters to and from family and business associates concerning personal matters and Meyer's interests in world federalism, politics, and current events. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1	1934, May-1970, Dec. <i>See also Container CL 1, Correspondence</i> (12 folders)
BOX 2	1971, June-1982, Dec. (11 folders)
BOX 3	1983, Jan.-1986, Aug. (7 folders)
BOX 4	1986, Sept.-1989, Dec., undated (7 folders)
BOX 5-6	Writings, 1939-1989 Academic papers, personal journal, newspaper columns, playscript, poetry, short story, speeches, and lectures by Meyer. Arranged by material type and therein chronologically.
BOX 5	Academic papers, circa 1940-1942
BOX 5	Articles, 1942-1948 (2 folders)
BOX 5	Journal, 1945-1967
BOX 5	Miscellaneous book reviews and untitled manuscripts, undated
BOX 5	Newspaper columns
BOX 5	1978-1982
BOX 6	1983-1989 (4 folders)
BOX 6	Playscript, "A Question of Innocence," undated
BOX 6	Poems, 1940-1957, undated
BOX 6	Short story, "A Long Night," circa 1948
BOX 6	Speeches and lectures, 1939-1957, undated
BOX 6-7	Miscellany, 1922-1986 Newspaper clippings, publications, and scrapbooks containing information about Meyer's career. Arranged by format and therein chronologically. Clippings are unarranged.
BOX 6	Daily calendars, 1978-1984
BOX 6	Material regarding columns, contracts, and awards, 1943-1986, undated
BOX 7	Newspaper clippings, 1946-1983, undated (3 folders)
BOX 7	Photographs of Meyer and his family, circa 1922-1986 <i>See also Container OV 1</i>

Miscellany, 1922-1986

Container	Contents
BOX 7	Publications by others, 1945-1982, undated (2 folders)
BOX OV 2	Scrapbooks, 1945, Apr.-1950, Aug. <i>See Container OV 1</i>
BOX 8	2001 Addition, 1990-2000 Correspondence and copies of newspaper columns written for the <i>Washington Times</i> . Arranged by material type and therein chronologically.
BOX 8	Correspondence, 1990-2000
BOX 8	Newspaper column, <i>Washington Times</i> , 1990-1997 (3 folders)
BOX 9-11	2024 Addition, 1865-1997 Articles, awards, book draft, clippings, correspondence, lectures, photographs, printed matter, and a scrapbook. Arranged alphabetically by material type or subject.
BOX 9	Announcement of Abraham Lincoln's assassination, <i>Montana Post</i> , 1865
BOX 9	Articles, 1946-1950, 1973, undated (2 folders)
BOX 9	Awards and citations, 1942-1947
BOX 9	CIA 50th Anniversary Trailblazer Awards, 1997
BOX 9	CIA suspension and reinstatement defense, 1953 (5 folders)
BOX 9	Clippings, 1942-1953, undated
BOX 10	Correspondence, 1946-1956, undated
BOX 10	"Development of the U.S. Policy of Containment" (book drafts), 1950 (5 folders)
BOX 10	"A Loaded Weapon," paper for Judge Charles E. Wyzanski Jr. on the 1942 Japanese American evacuation, 1950
BOX 10	Lowell Fellowship lectures, Harvard University, 1951, undated
BOX 11	<i>New York Herald Tribune</i> Forum for High Schools, "Problems of Europe: Confronting the World We Want," 1948
BOX 11	<i>Peace and Anarchy</i> , published Japanese translation, undated
BOX 11	Photographs, 1948, undated
BOX 11	Printed matter, 1948-1949, 1985
BOX 11	Rollins College Conference on World Government, 1946
BOX OV 3	Scrapbook, 1947-1948 <i>See Container OV 3, same heading</i>
BOX 11	<i>Voice of America</i> radio interview, 1981
BOX 11	<i>World Federalist Bicentennial Reader</i> , 1987
BOX CL 1	National Security Classified Information, 1969 National security classified material. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and containers from which the items were removed.
BOX CL 1	Correspondence

National Security Classified Information, 1969

Container

Contents

1969 ([Container 1, 1934, May-1970, Dec.](#))

BOX OV 1-OV 3

Oversize, 1945-1950

Scrapbooks containing information about Meyer's career and photographs of Meyer. Arranged and described according to the series, folders, and containers from which the items were removed.

BOX OV 1

Miscellany

BOX OV 1

Photographs of Meyer and his family, circa 1948 ([Container 7, same heading](#))

BOX OV 2

Scrapbooks

BOX OV 2

1945, Apr.-1947, Oct.

BOX OV 2

1947, Nov.-1948, July

BOX OV 2

1948, May-1950, Oct.

BOX OV 3

2024 Addition

BOX OV 3

Scrapbook, 1947-1948