

Raymond Swing Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2007

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78042119>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008023>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff
Revised and expanded by Donna Ellis with the assistance of Chanté Wilson-Flowers

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2008
Revised 2010 April

Collection Summary

Title: Raymond Swing Papers

Span Dates: 1933-1964

ID No.: MSS42119

Creator: Swing, Raymond, 1887-1968

Extent: 6,500 items

Extent: 40 containers

Extent: 16 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78042119>

Summary: Journalist and radio commentator. Primarily scripts of Swing's radio broadcasts including those presented on the Voice of America. Also includes correspondence, lectures, and writings by Swing.

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

Carlson, Evans Fordyce, 1896-1947--Correspondence.

Conant, James Bryant, 1893-1978--Correspondence.

Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955--Correspondence.

Murrow, Edward R.--Correspondence.

Pearson, Drew, 1897-1969--Correspondence.

Rowan, Carl T. (Carl Thomas), 1925-2000.

Rusk, Dean, 1909-1994--Correspondence.

Schlesinger, Arthur M. (Arthur Meier), 1888-1965--Correspondence.

Stevenson, Adlai E. (Adlai Ewing), 1900-1965--Correspondence.

Swing, Raymond, 1887-1968.

Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972--Correspondence.

Organizations

Blue Network Company.

British Broadcasting Corporation.

Cosmos Club (Washington, D.C.)

Mutual Broadcasting System.

Voice of America (Organization)

WMAL (Radio station : Washington, D.C.)

WOL (Radio station : Washington, D.C.)

WOR (Radio station : New York, N.Y.)

Zhongguo gong chan dang.

Subjects

Antinuclear movement.

Disarmament.

Foreign news.

International organization.

Jews--Palestine.

Radio programs.

Radio scripts.

World War, 1939-1945--Pacific Ocean.

Places

Palestine--History.

Titles

Sunday express, London.

Occupations

Journalists.

Radio journalists.

Provenance

The papers of Raymond Swing, journalist and radio commentator, were given to the Library of Congress by Swing between 1944 and 1964.

Processing History

The collection was processed in 1964 and reorganized and described in 2007.

Additional Guides

A brief description of the original gift and a subsequent addition was published in the *Quarterly Journal of Current Acquisitions* (Feb. 1945), vol. 2, no. 2, p. 91; and (May 1947), vol. 4, no. 3, p. 91. A brief mention is made of an addition in *Report of the Librarian of Congress* (1947), p. 42.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

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

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1887, Mar. 25	Born, Cortland, N.Y.
1906	Began newspaper work, Cleveland, Ohio
1913-1917	Correspondent, Chicago <i>Daily News</i> , Berlin, Germany
1919-1922	Correspondent, New York <i>Herald</i> , Berlin, Germany
1924-1934	Correspondent, Philadelphia <i>Public Ledger</i> , London, England
1935-1945	Commentator on American affairs, British Broadcasting Corp.
1936-1945	Commentator on foreign affairs, Mutual Broadcasting System

1942-1948	Commentator, American Broadcasting Corp.
1951-1953	Political commentator, Voice of America (also 1959-1963)
1968, Dec. 23	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Raymond Gram Swing (1887-1968) span the years 1933-1964. The collection consists primarily of scripts of Swing's [radio broadcasts](#) over the Mutual Broadcasting System, the Blue Network, stations WOR, WOL, WMAL, the British Broadcasting Corporation, and the Voice of America. The scripts reflect Swing's analysis and interpretation of world news during the period between 1935 and 1964.

The collection contains typed and printed copies of lectures, [addresses, and articles](#) written by Swing for the *London Sunday Express* and other publications, as well as his poetry and plays. The correspondence covers anti-atomic bomb efforts, world government, establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine, support for Chinese Communists, disarmament in the 1960s, and the exclusion of Carl T. Rowan from the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. Letters from Evans Fordyce Carlson, creator of the "Gung Ho" unit in the Pacific Theater of World War II, describe his theories of military leadership. Other correspondents include James B. Conant, Albert Einstein, Edward R. Murrow, Drew Pearson, Dean Rusk, Arthur M. Schlesinger (1917-2007), Adlai E. Stevenson (1900-1965), and Harry S. Truman. Newspaper clippings pertain to Carl T. Rowan's exclusion from the Cosmos Club.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in three series:

- [Address and Article File, 1937-1964](#)
- [Radio Broadcasts, 1935-1963](#)
- [Miscellany, 1933-1962](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-3	<u>Address and Article File, 1937-1964</u> Addresses, lectures, and articles. Arranged alphabetically by title, subject, or location.
BOX 3-40	<u>Radio Broadcasts, 1935-1963</u> Scripts of radio broadcasts. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 40	<u>Miscellany, 1933-1962</u> Correspondence, poetry, plays, and newspaper clippings. Arranged by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-3	Address and Article File, 1937-1964 Addresses, lectures, and articles. Arranged alphabetically by title, subject, or location.
BOX 1	“America and the European Situation,” 1937 American newspapers and foreign news, 1938 Brooklyn College, New York, N.Y., commencement address, 1941 “Communications and the Modern World,” 1962 “Communicators and the World Crisis,” 1964 Council of Foreign Relations, 1937 “Diplomacy by Telephone,” 1939 “Dumbarton Oaks in a Power World,” 1945 Eliot House, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., 1942 “Free Speech and Censorship in Wartime,” 1942 Freedom House, 1942 “Freedom of Speech,” 1942 “History on the March,” 1947-1948 “Incitement to Treason,” undated Jewish Forum, 1943 <i>London Sunday Express</i> 1941 1942 Jan.-Oct. (3 folders) Nov.-Dec. 1943, undated (4 folders) National Women's Radio Association, 1943 New York <i>Tribune Herald</i> Forum, 1937
BOX 2	“Old Tools in a New World,” 1938 “Peace, Power, and Education,” 1941 “Perpetual Crisis,” 1939 “The Power of Concentration,” 1950 “Radio as a Present Day Force,” 1937 “Saner Social Security,” 1939 “The Second Door; the True Story of the Stimson Offer to Britain,” undated Statement before the Senate Committee on Atomic Energy, 1946 Women's National Radio Committee, 1941 “The Velocity of Historic Danger,” 1948 “War for What?” 1943 “What of Collective Security,” 1938 “Writing Contemporary History,” 1939
BOX 3	

Address and Article File, 1937-1964

Container

Contents

“Youth, War, and Freedom,” 1940

BOX 3-40

Radio Broadcasts, 1935-1963

Scripts of radio broadcasts.
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 3

1935-1936, Columbia School of the Air
(2 folders)
1936
(2 folders)

BOX 4

1937
(10 folders)

BOX 5

1938
Jan.-Aug.
(8 folders)

BOX 6

Oct.-Dec.
(3 folders)
1939
Jan.-Feb.
(4 folders)

BOX 7

Mar.
(1 folder)
(1 folder)
Apr.-June
(7 folders)

BOX 8

July-Aug.
(7 folders)
Sept.
(1 folder)

BOX 9

(4 folders)
Oct.
(3 folders)

BOX 10

Nov.-Dec.
(7 folders)
1940

BOX 11

Jan.
(1 folder)
(1 folder)
Feb.-Apr.
(6 folders)

BOX 12

May-June
(5 folders)
July

BOX 13

(1 folder)
(1 folder)
Aug.
(3 folders)

Radio Broadcasts, 1935-1963

Container	Contents
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	Sept. (2 folders)
BOX 14	(1 folder)
	Oct.-Dec. (7 folders)
BOX 15	1941 Jan.-Apr. (9 folders)
BOX 16	May-Aug. (7 folders)
	Sept. (1 folder)
BOX 17	(1 folder)
	Oct.-Dec. (6 folders)
	1942 Jan. (1 folder)
BOX 18	(1 folder)
	Feb.-Apr. (7 folders)
BOX 19	May-Aug. (8 folders)
BOX 20	Sept.-Dec. (7 folders)
BOX 21	1943 Jan.-Mar. (6 folders)
	Apr. (1 folder)
BOX 22	(1 folder)
	May-July (5 folders)
	Aug. (1 folder)
BOX 23	(1 folder)
	Sept.-Nov. (6 folders)
BOX 24	Dec. (2 folders)
	1944 Jan.-Feb. (4 folders)
	Mar. (1 folder)
BOX 25	(1 folder)
	Apr.-July (7 folders)

Radio Broadcasts, 1935-1963

Container	Contents
BOX 26	Aug.-Nov. (9 folders)
BOX 27	Dec. (2 folders)
	1945
	Jan.-Feb. (3 folders)
	Mar. (2 folders)
BOX 28	(1 folder)
	Apr.-May (6 folders)
BOX 29	June-July (6 folders)
	Aug. (2 folders)
BOX 30	(1 folder)
	Sept.-Oct. (6 folders)
BOX 31	Nov.-Dec. (6 folders)
	1946
	Jan. (2 folders)
BOX 32	Feb.-Mar. (5 folders)
	Apr. (2 folders)
BOX 33	(1 folder)
	May-Aug. (8 folders)
BOX 34	Sept.-Dec. (8 folders)
BOX 35	1947-1950 (4 folders)
	1951
	Jan.-Aug. (3 folders)
BOX 36	Sept.-Dec. (3 folders)
	1952
	Jan.-July (7 folders)
BOX 37	Aug.-Dec., undated (4 folders)
	1953
	Jan.-Apr. (4 folders)

Radio Broadcasts, 1935-1963

Container	Contents
BOX 38	May-Aug. 1959 (5 folders) 1960 Mar.-Aug. (3 folders)
BOX 39	Sept.-Dec. (2 folders) 1961 (6 folders) 1962 Jan.-July (2 folders)
BOX 40	Aug.-Dec. 1963, undated (4 folders)
BOX 40	Miscellany, 1933-1962 Correspondence, poetry, plays, and newspaper clippings. Arranged by type of material. Correspondence, 1942-1953, 1960-1962 (6 folders) Drama and verse, 1933, 1960, undated (4 folders) Newspaper clippings, 1962