
Register of the Morris Childs Papers, 1938-1995

Processed by Lora Soroka and David Jacobs; machine-readable finding aid created by Xiuzhi Zhou

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Morris Childs Papers,

Date (inclusive): 1938-1995

Collection number: 98069

Creator: Childs, Morris, 1902-1991

Collection Size: 2 manuscript boxes, 35 microfilm reels(6 linear feet)

Repository: Hoover Institution Archives

Stanford, California 94305-6010

Abstract: Correspondence, reports, notes, speeches and writings, and interview transcripts, relating to Federal Bureau of Investigation surveillance of the Communist Party, and the relationship between the Communist Party of the United States and the Soviet communist party and government. Includes some papers of John Barron used as research material for his book *Operation Solo: The FBI's Man in the Kremlin* (Washington, D.C., 1996). Hard-copy material also available on microfilm (2 reels).

Physical Location: Hoover Institution Archives

Language: English.

Access

Collection open for research.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Morris Childs Papers, [Box no.], Hoover Institution Archives.

Alternative Form Available

Hard-copy material also available on microfilm (2 reels).

Related Collectons

For related materials, see also the John Barron Collection.

Location of Originals

In part, originals in: J. Edgar Hoover Foundation.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the repository's online public access catalog.

Communism--United States.

Communist Party of the United States of America.

Internal security--United States.

Kommunisticheskaia partiia Sovetskogo Soiuz.

United States. Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Communism.

United States--Politics and government.

Soviet Union.

Russia (Federation)

Barron, John, 1930-

1902, June 10 Born, Russia

1911 Arrived in the United States

1921 Joined the United Communist Party of America

1929-1932 Received training at the Lenin School in Moscow

1933-1938 Functionary of the Communist Party, member of the Central Committee

1938 Ran for the US Senate

1946-1947 Editor, Daily Worker

1954-1982 Cooperated with FBI agents in Operation SOLO

1987 Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for Intelligence

1991, June 5 Died, USA

Scope and Content Note

The collection includes mainly papers of Morris Childs (1902-1991), a prominent member of the Communist Party USA (CPUSA). In 1954-1982, Morris Childs, along with his brother Jack Childs and wife Eva Childs, participated in an operation which was conducted by the FBI, and later named SOLO. Morris Childs made fifty-seven trips (called by the FBI "missions") to the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist camp. He often accompanied Gus Hall, General Secretary of the CPUSA; sometimes he traveled alone or with his wife. Morris had conferences with party leaders in the countries he visited and was shown confidential and secret documents. He took almost verbatim records of what he had heard or seen, and the notes were later handed over to FBI agents. These notes, both holograph and typescript (slightly edited), are included in the collection. They give a most vivid impression of the position taken by communist leaders on various international issues. The collection also includes Morris Childs's notebooks with brief notes about the places he visited and people he met.

Within Operation SOLO the FBI supported a clandestine communication system designed and built by the Soviet KGB (Committee for State Security). Through this system the FBI regularly received messages from the Kremlin and, in the name of Jack or Morris, sent back information the United States wanted the Soviets to get. The FBI also handled millions of dollars smuggled from the Soviet Union to New York, either by Jack or Morris or by KGB agents, for the CPUSA.

The collection is divided into three series. Of most interest is the Morris Childs File, which includes his notes and his interview transcript prepared by FBI agents.

Microfilm of Morris Childs materials on loan from the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation include correspondence, reports, and notes, relating to Federal Bureau of Investigation surveillance of the Communist Party, and the relationship between the Communist Party of the United States and the Soviet communist party and government. The original papers are held by the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation. A transfer table indicating corresponding folder and microfilm reel numbers is available at the Hoover Institution Archives.

Reels 1-2, Boxes
1-2

Morris Childs File, 1938-1989.

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, interview transcript, memorandum, notes, notebooks, radio and other addresses, essays, and miscellaneous items, arranged alphabetically by physical form, relating to the activities of Morris Childs, in particular to his trips to the Soviet Union and other countries

Correspondence

General

Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 1
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 2
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 3
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 4
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 5
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 6
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 7
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 8
Reel 1,
Box/Folder: 1 : 9
Folder 10

Unidentified, 1965-1989

Brezhnev, Leonid I., n.d. (draft)

Chicago Sun, 1945

Corrick, Donald W., 1947

Dennis, Eugene (Gene), 1945

Hall, Gus, n.d.

Krumbein, Charles, 1945

Lee, Davis C., 1945

Ryle, Joe

**Clandestine - with Soviet counterparts, n.d. Includes decoding tables
Interview transcript by FBI agents Charles Knox and James
Millburn, 1986 November**

Tapes nos. 3-6

Tapes nos. 7-9 and 12

Tape no. 10. Original holograph transcript with name index

Tapes nos. 13-14

Tapes nos. 14 (side 3) and 17

Tapes nos. 19-21

Memorandum, 1965

Notebooks, 1966 and 1969

Undated

1966 August-September

1969

Notes, 1962-1974. Holograph and typescript

Undated

**Meetings with the representatives of communist parties (Canada, Cuba,
Cyprus, Portugal, Vietnam, Soviet Union) and analyses of the situation in
Indonesia, Middle East, Soviet assistance to national liberation movements
Soviet-Chinese relations**

Reel 2,
Box/Folder: 2 : 1

Reel 2,
Box/Folder: 2 : 2

Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 3	1962-1965 (Soviet-Chinese relations)
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 4	1966 January-April (report by Gus Hall, 23rd Congress of the KPSS)
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 5	1966 August-September (trip with Gus Hall to the USSR, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and East Germany)
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 6	1966 October-December (trips to Mongolia, Romania, Czechoslovakia; the National Convention of the CPUSA)
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 7	1967-1968 (meetings with leaders of the communist parties of Venezuela, the Soviet Union, East Germany, Argentina, South Africa, Israel, Canada, and Syria)
	1971 (meetings with leaders of the communist parties of North Vietnam and the Soviet Union)
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 8	1972 and 1974 (meetings with the KPSS leaders)
	Speeches and writings, 1938-1945
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 9	"The Farmer Labor Party United Front USA," n.d.
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 10	"Philosophic Nihilism Serves Reaction," n.d.
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 11	Radio and other addresses, 1938 August-October
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 12	Discussion speech at the Plenary Meeting of the National Committee of the CPUSA, 1945
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 13	Miscellany. Includes business cards, guest passes, concert program, invitation cards, mainly relating to the 1967 and 1976 trips to the Soviet Union (mostly in Russian)
Reel 2, Box 2	Eva Childs File, 1995
	Scope and Content Note
	Memoirs and supplement to last will and testament of Eva Childs, wife of Morris Childs
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 14	Memoirs, n.d. Holograph and typescript
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 15	"Separate writing to last will and testament," 1995. Typescript
Reel 2, Box 2	Jack Childs File, 1964
	Scope and Content Note
	Biographical notes and correspondence of Jack Childs, brother of Morris Childs, arranged alphabetically by physical form
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 16	Biographical notes, n.d.
Reel 2, Box/Folder: 2 : 17	Correspondence, 1964
Reels 1-33	Microfilm of materials on loan from the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation, 1924-1988
	Scope and Content Note
	Correspondence, reports, and notes, relating to Federal Bureau of Investigation surveillance of the Communist Party, and the relationship between the Communist Party of the United States and the Soviet communist party and government. The original papers are held by the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation. A transfer table indicating corresponding folder and microfilm reel numbers is available at the Hoover Institution Archives.

Communist Party of the United States of America file, 1937-1979.

Scope and Content Note

Bulletins, correspondence, course materials, financial records, minutes, pamphlets, reports, serial issues, and other printed matter

	Party meetings file, 1945-1979
Folder 1	16th National Convention, 1957
Folder 2	17th National Convention, 1959
Folder 3-4	18th National Convention, 1966
Folder 5	19th National Convention, 1969
Folder 6	20th National Convention, 1972
Folder 7	21st National Convention, 1975
Folder 8	22nd National Convention, 1979
Folder 9	Meeting of 81 communist parties, 1961
	National Committee meetings
Folder 10	1945
Folder 11	1956
Folder 12	Central Executive Committee meeting, 1970
Folder 13	Central Committee meetings, 1972-1973
Folder 14	Miscellaneous records and publications, 1956-1973
Folder 15-16	Political Committee meetings, 1970-1977
Folder 17	Preparatory Committee meetings, 1968-1971
Folder 18	National Youth Commission meeting, 1946
Folder 19	Negro Commission meeting, 1967
	State parties file, 1937-1966
Folder 20	California, 1947-1966
	Illinois
	General
Folder 21	1945-1959
Folder 22	1960-1964
Folder 23-24	Chicago Workers School, 1937-1950
Folder 25	Labor Committee, 1946-1947
Folder 26	Legislative Bureau, 1939
Folder 27	Kansas, 1965
	New York
Folder 28	1947-1954
Folder 29	1956-1966
Folder 30	Oregon, n.d.
Folder 31-33	Education file, 1944-1967.
	Scope and Content Note
	Course materials and printed matter used in political education classes
Folder 34	Financial records, 1960-1961
Folder 35	Correspondence, 1961-1976.
	Scope and Content Note
	Includes correspondence conducted by Gus Hall with various communist leaders
	Miscellany.
	Scope and Content Note
	Includes handwritten notes made by Morris Childs, reports, serial issues, and other printed matter
Folder 36-41	Unsorted material
Folder 42	1955
Folder 43	1959
Folder 44-45	1960s
Folder 46	1960-1961
Folder 47-48	1965
Folder 49	1973-1974

Country file, 1936-1976.

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, notes, pamphlets, photographs, and serial issues, largely relating to individual communist parties

Folder 50	Austria, 1937
Folder 51	Burma, 1961
	Canada
Folder 52	1950s-1960
Folder 53	1951-1965
Folder 54	Ceylon, 1960
Folder 55	Chile, 1958-1965
	Czechoslovakia
Folder 56	1962
Folder 57	1968-1971
Folder 58	Dominican Republic, 1965
Folder 59	Ecuador, ca. 1962
Folder 60	Finland, 1939
	France
Folder 61	1936-1961
Folder 62	1976
Folder 63	German Democratic Republic, 1974
Folder 64	Ghana, 1965
Folder 65	Guatemala, 1954
Folder 66	Guyana, 1960s
Folder 67	Hong Kong, 1966
Folder 68	Iraq, 1959
Folder 69	Israel, 1946-1966
Folder 70	Italy, 1976
Folder 71	Mexico, 1944-1959
Folder 72	North Vietnam, 1969
Folder 73	Philippines, 1971
Folder 74	Poland, 1973
Folder 75	Puerto Rico, 1976
Folder 76	Romania, 1976
Folder 77	South Vietnam and Laos, 1971
Folder 78	Spain, 1936
Folder 79	Venezuela, 1966
Folder 80-81	Miscellaneous unsorted material

Alphabetical file, 1937-1979.

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, notes, photographs, and printed material, organized by name of individual, organization, or subject

Folder 82	Albertson case, 1956
Folder 83	American Institute for Marxist Studies, 1965-1977
Folder 84	Blair, Fred and Mary, 1950-1964
Folder 85	Browder, Earl, 1938-1946
Folder 86	Burlak, Anne, 1958
Folder 87	Central Intelligence Agency, 1964
Folder 88	Childs, Eva, 1960-1961
Folder 89-91	Childs, Morris, 1944-1968
Folder 92	China, 1962-1966
Folder 93	Citizens Committee for Constitutional Rights, 1961-1966
Folder 94	Civil Rights Congress of Illinois, 1955
Folder 95	Control Commission, 1958-1961

Folder 96	Davis, Angela, 1971
Folder 97	Dennis, Eugene, 1945-1961
Folder 98-99	Dennis, Peggy, 1960s-1975
Folder 100	Development of the working class, n.d.
Folder 101	Educational materials, 1960-1965
Folder 102-103	Flynn, Elizabeth Gurley, 1959-1964
Folder 104-105	Foreign ministers conference, 1957
Folder 106	Foster, William Z., 1947
Folder 107	Gates, John, n.d.
Folder 108	German Democratic Republic, n.d.
Folder 109	Goddard College, 1972
Folder 110	Goldway, Inc., 1966
Folder 111	Green, Gil, 1945
Folder 112	Gromyko, Andrei, n.d.
Folder 113-117	Hall, Gus, 1964-1979
Folder 118	International Publishers, 1963
Folder 119	Johnson, Beatrice, n.d.
Folder 120	Kling, Jack, 1961-1964
Folder 121	Kling, Susan, 1968-1969
Folder 122	Krchmarek, Anthony, 1957
Folder 123	Ku Klux Klan, 1965
Folder 124	Kushner, Sam, n.d.
Folder 125	Lannon, Albert and Elva, 1963
Folder 126-127	Lightfoot, Claude, 1946-1966
Folder 128	Lincoln Brigade, 1937-1952
Folder 129	Lumer, Hyman, 1961
Folder 130	McCarran Internal Security Act, 1965-1966
Folder 131	Maysonet, Jorge W., 1960
Folder 132	Midwest Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, n.d.
Folder 133	Miller, Versta, 1979
Folder 134	Modern Book Store, 1966
Folder 135	Moore, James, n.d.
Folder 136	Muslims, 1964-1965
Folder 137	National Committee to Combat Nazism, 1962-1966
Folder 138	National Executive Committee, 1968
Folder 139	New Century Publishers, 1946-1954
Folder 140	Newspaper clippings, 1960-1961
Folder 141	Nixon, Richard, 1971
Folder 142	Peace and Socialism in Europe, n.d.
Folder 143	Ponomarev, B. N., 1977
Folder 144	Preparatory Committee, 1968
Folder 145	Print shop, n.d.
Folder 146	Privacy laws, 1977
Folder 147	Progressive Labor Party, n.d.
Folder 148	"Reo Able Cox," n.d.
Folder 149	Rosenberg, Julius and Ethel, 1952-1963
Folder 150	Shevliagin, D., 1957-1958
Folder 151	Shoulders, John, 1964
Folder 152	Socialist report, n.d.
Folder 153	Students for a Democratic Society (S.D.S.), 1966
Folder 154	Suslov, Mikhail, 1977
Folder 155	Teachers of the World, 1956
Folder 156	Thompson, Robert, 1947-1965
Folder 157	Thompson, Robert Glen, 1965
Folder 158	Veterans for Peace in Vietnam, 1965-1966
Folder 159	Weinstone, William, n.d.
Folder 160	West, James, n.d.
Folder 161	Williamson, John, 1937-1958

Folder 162	Winston, Henry, 1963
Folder 163	Winters, Carl and Helen, 1963
Folder 164	Women's International Democratic Federation, 1964
Folder 165	Young Workers Liberation League, 1979

Communist Party of the Soviet Union file, 1956-1976.

Scope and Content Note

Articles, directives, notes, reports, resolutions, serial issues, speeches, and printed matter, largely relating to congresses of the CPSU

Folder 166	20th Party Congress, 1956
Folder 167-170	21st Party Congress, 1959
Folder 171	22nd Party Congress, 1961
Folder 172-175	23rd Party Congress, 1966
Folder 176-177	24th Party Congress, 1971
Folder 178	25th Party Congress, 1976

Soviet publications file, 1937-1988

Daily Review.

Scope and Content Note

Translations from the Soviet press published by the Soviet Information Bureau and the Novosti Press Agency

Folder 179-180	1959
Folder 181	1964-1966
Folder 182	1968-1969
Folder 183	1975-1980
	<i>Pravda</i>
Folder 184	1961-1975
Folder 185	1977
Folder 186	Miscellaneous publications, 1937-1977
Folder 187	Miscellaneous articles from the Soviet press, 1960-1988
Folder 188	Miscellaneous concert and conference programs from the Soviet Union, 1960-1972

Folder 189	Articles about Jews in the Soviet Union and elsewhere, 1958-1966
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Folder 190	Serial issues from Panama and the German Democratic Republic, 1974-1975
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Folder 191	Bibliography of works largely relating to the history of the Soviet Union, n.d.
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Hungary file, 1962-1977

	8th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, 1962
Folder 192-194	Reports, resolutions, and speeches
Folder 195	Serial issues
Folder 196-199	Meetings of the Working Group and the Preparatory Committee of the International Conference of Communist and Workers' Parties, Budapest, Hungary, 1968.

Scope and Content Note

Communiqués, reports, resolutions, speeches, and other records

Folder 200

Memorandum and miscellaneous publications, 1968-1977

Photographs, 1940s-1970s

- Folder 201 **10 prints depicting Earl Browder, Gus Hall, and other American communists, n.d.**
- Folder 202 **25 prints depicting Gus Hall, Morris Childs, Leonid Brezhnev, and others in Hungary, Poland, and the Soviet Union, n.d.**
- Folder 203 **5 prints depicting Gus Hall and others, 1977**
- Folder 204 **24 prints depicting Henry Winston, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Nikita Khrushchev, and others, ca. 1960s**
- Folder 205 **28 prints depicting Gus Hall, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Henry Winston meeting with Leonid Brezhnev and other Communist leaders, taken during visits to the Soviet Union, Poland, and the German Democratic Republic, ca. 1960s-1970s**
- Folder 206 **28 miscellaneous prints, largely depicting American Communist leaders, n.d.**
Scope and Content Note
Includes 1 print depicting Vladimir Lenin, 1 print depicting Republican soldiers (possibly from the International Brigades) in the Spanish Civil War, and 4 prints depicting the ruined palace of Catherine the Great
- Folder 207 **61 prints depicting Earl Browder, Gus Hall, Gus Polites, Leonid Brezhnev, and others, 1940s-1970s.**
Scope and Content Note
Includes 2 prints depicting a Soviet supersonic airliner
- Folder 208 **1 album containing 41 prints and 21 negatives depicting Gus Hall, Morris Childs, and others on a trip to Bulgaria, ca. 1970s**
- Folder 209 **1 album containing 76 prints depicting Gus Hall during visits to the Soviet Union, ca. 1970s**
- Folder 210 **1 album containing 19 prints depicting Gus Hall during a visit to Romania, ca. 1970s.**
Scope and Content Note
Includes 3 prints depicting Nicolae Ceausescu

Miscellaneous materials, largely relating to the Communist Party of the United States of America and other communist parties, 1935-1978

Correspondence, notes, and reports

- Folder 211-214 **Unsorted**
- Folder 215 **1959-1961**
- Folder 216 **1960-1961**
- Folder 217 **1961-1962**
- Folder 218 **1963**
- Folder 219 **1963-1971**
- Folder 220 **1964**
- Folder 221 **1964-1965**
- Folder 222 **1965**
- Folder 223 **1965-1967**
- Folder 224 **1966**
- Folder 225 **1971**
- Folder 226 **1972**
- Folder 227 **1973**
- Folder 228 **1974**
- Folder 229 **1975**
- Folder 230 **1976-1977**

Folder 231	1977
Folder 232	1978
	Notes taken by Morris Childs relating to his foreign travels
Folder 233	1972
Folder 234	1972-1974
Folder 235-236	Unsorted notebooks, n.d.
Folder 237-242	Loose material, 1947-1970.
	Scope and Content Note
	Includes clippings, correspondence, directives, notes, and printed matter
Folder 243	Discussion outline concerning decisions of the 7th World Congress of the Communist International, 1935
	Notes.
	Scope and Content Note
	Holograph and typescript notes made by Morris Childs, with some by others. Includes some address books, receipts, and printed matter
Folder 244-246	Undated
Folder 247	1960s
Folder 248	1961-1965
Folder 249	1968
Folder 250	1970-1971
Folder 251	1974
	Covert operations materials, ca. 1968
Folder 252	Catalog of listening devices
Folder 253	Notes and lists
Folder 254	Photographs of documents
Folder 255	Reports and translations from the Soviet press, 1968-1976
Folder 256	Correspondence, notes, programs, and reports, 1964-1972.
	Scope and Content Note
	Includes a photograph of a document by Gus Hall
Folder 257	Clippings, correspondence, mailing addresses, minutes, and notes, 1969-1970
Folder 258	Campaign material, reports, resolutions, speeches, and survey, 1966-1968
Folder 259	Bulletin, note, serial issue, and tickets, 1967
Folder 260	Correspondence and printed matter relating to the firm, Russian Language Specialties, 1963
Folder 261	Souvenir book commemorating the 75th birthday of Ella Reeve Bloor, 1937
Folder 262	Press releases from Panorama, the foreign press service of the German Democratic Republic, 1966-1967

Printed matter, 1924-1988.

Scope and Content Note

Brochures, newsletters, pamphlets, and serial issues, largely relating to the Communist Party of the United States of America, other communist parties internationally, and radical movements in the United States

Folder 263	Brochures and newsletters relating to Africa, 1935-1960
Folder 264-265	Bulletin entitled <i>Ad Hoc Bulletin</i>, 1963-1971
	Serial issues and pamphlets, arranged alphabetically by title, 1924-1988
Folder 266	A
Folder 267	B-C
Folder 268-269	D
Folder 270-271	F
Folder 272	I-L
Folder 273-274	M

Folder 275	N
Folder 276-278	P
Folder 279	R-U
Folder 280-281	W
Folder 282	Y

Pamphlets, monographs, and newsletters, arranged chronologically

Folder 283	1920s-1930s
Folder 284-285	1940s
Folder 286-287	1950s
Folder 288-290	1960s
Folder 291-294	1970s