



Guide to the Bob Sheldon Papers, 1968-1991

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Summary

Collection Title:

Bob Sheldon papers, 1968-1991

Creator:

Sheldon, Bob

Abstract:

Political activist; nurse; owner of Internationalist Book Store in Chapel Hill, N.C. Sheldon was murdered in the store on February 21, 1991. Drafts of Sheldon's speeches, articles, diary and notes; news clippings; printed materials; and transcripts of trials and FBI files. Materials relate chiefly to his political activism as a draft resister in 1968; a visit to China in the 1970s, including slides; work with the Communist Workers Party in the 1970s and the Green Party in the 1980s; union organizing at Cone Mills Textile plant in the 1970s; and various Palestine issues in the 1980s.

Extent:

2.1 Linear Feet
500 Items

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.01174

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1ns9h>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Bob Sheldon Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Drafts of Sheldon's speeches, articles, diary and notes; news clippings; printed materials; and transcripts of trials and FBI files. Materials relate chiefly to

his political activism as a draft resister in 1968; a visit to China in the 1970s, including slides; work with the Communist Workers Party in the 1970s and the Green Party in the 1980s; union organizing at Cone Mills Textile plant in the 1970s; and various Palestine issues in the 1980s.

Biographical/Historical

Political activist; nurse; owner of Internationalist Book Store in Chapel Hill, N.C. Sheldon was originally from Colorado, and moved to Chapel Hill in the late 1970s. He opened the Internationalist Book Store as a reading room in 1981, and moved it to a storefront in 1984. The store provided a space for activists as well as a dissemination point for Marxist and other political literature. With the launch of the Gulf War in 1991, Sheldon was interviewed on local television stations as Internationalist Book Store volunteers organized opposition to the war. Shortly afterward, Sheldon was murdered in the store on February 21, 1991. His murder remains unsolved.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Bob Sheldon Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 1993 and 2011.

Processing Information

Processed by Meghan Lyon, March 2011

Encoded by Meghan Lyon, March 2011

Accession(s) described in this finding aid: 2011-0027

Materials may not have been ordered and described beyond their original condition.

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Names and Subjects

- Chapel Hill (N.C.)
- Industries -- North Carolina
- China -- Politics and government -- 1949-
- North Carolina -- Politics and government
- Green Party
- Social change -- United States
- Textile workers -- Labor unions
- Textile industry -- North Carolina
- Booksellers and bookselling
- Radicalism -- United States
- Draft resisters -- United States
- Slides (photographs)
- Palestine -- Politics and government -- 1948-
- Diaries
- Cone Mills Corporation
- Internationalist Book Store (Chapel Hill, N.C.)
- Sheldon, Bob
- Communist Workers Party (U.S.)

Collection Inventory

Bob Sheldon Papers, 1968-1991

Physical Description: 2 boxes

Political Activism in the U.S.

Internationalist Books Resource Center: articles and management, 1982-1984	Box 1
Annotations on articles and events of political activism, undated	Box 1
Publications and correspondence about the Green Party and political issues, 1986-1988	Box 1
FBI files, 1969-1986	Box 1
Anti-war protest/arrest, 1969	Box 1
Cone Mills Union organizing, 1978	Box 1
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Civil Suit: RCA Plant Strike, 1974	Box 1
Warren County Public Health, undated	Box 1
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Mayday arrest and status reports, 1982-1985	Box 1
American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit, 1989-1990	Box 1

Middle East

Iranian Revolution: "The Need for Revolutionary Support of Iranian People's Struggle," undated	Box 1
Miscellaneous articles on Middle Eastern conflict, 1987-1990	Box 1

Resource articles and manuscripts on Palestine, 1987-1989	Box 1
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Physical Description: 3 folders

Clippings on the Middle East, 1988	Box 1
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Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) clippings and notes, 1982 and undated	Box 1
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China

Revolutionary Communist Party notes and China diary, undated	Box 1
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Notes on Chinese history, 1979	Box 1
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China trip, 1975-1976	Box 1
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Public Health in China talk, 1976	Box 1
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Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous writings, undated	Box 1
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Miscellaneous speeches and writings, 1988 and undated	Box 1
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Bob Sheldon's bar mitzvah, and miscellaneous notes and photographs, undated	Box 1
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Newspaper and magazine articles about Bob Sheldon's death, 1991	Box 1
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Answering machine cassette, undated	Box Separated DVD and CS Box 1 > Audio-cassette RL01174-CS-0001
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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Geoffrey Neal.

Scope and Contents

One answering machine audiocassette with a 10-second recording of the voice of Bob Sheldon.

Slides

Public Health in China talk (March 1976 trip
to China)

Box 2

Scope and Contents note

Subjects include industry, medicine, people, education, museums, history, parks, scenery, Old China, and miscellaneous.

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