

Finding Aid for the Alexander Langsdorf, Jr. Papers

Descriptive Summary

Repository: University Archives, Department of Special Collections, Washington University Libraries, One Brookings Drive, Campus Box 1061, St. Louis, MO 63130, Telephone: (314) 935-5444 or (314) 935-9730, Fax (314) 935-8320, e-mail: spec@wumail.wustl.edu, website: <http://library.wustl.edu/units/spec/archives>

Creator: Alexander Langsdorf, Jr.

Title: Alexander Langsdorf, Jr. Papers.

Dates: 1934 – 1983.

Quantity: 3.0 linear feet.

Language: English.

Biographical Note

Alexander Langsdorf, Jr. was born in St. Louis. His father, Alexander Langsdorf, Sr., was dean of the Schools of Engineering and Architecture at Washington University for forty years. His mother, Elsie Langsdorf, was the first St. Louis area woman elected to the Missouri Legislature.

Langsdorf earned an undergraduate degree from Washington University in 1932. He earned a doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1937. In 1942, he married the artist Marty Schweig.

During World War II, Langsdorf and Fellow scientist Robert Thornton built a cyclotron at Washington University's Mallinckrodt Institute for medical use in the rapidly developing field of nuclear physics. Langsdorf joined scientist Enrico Fermi in Chicago for research in neutron physics. He remained in Chicago when the Argonne National Laboratory was formed and was on staff until his retirement in 1977. Langsdorf died May 24, 1996.

Scope and Content Notes

This collection consists of two boxes that chronicle Langsdorf's research in experimental nuclear physics, the birth of the atomic age, and the legacy of McCarthyism. The material is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Administrative Information

Source of Collection

This material was donated to the University Archives by Alexander Langsdorf, Jr. on December 5, 1989.

Accruals

There are no accruals.

Processing Information

Updated by Sarah Pabarcus in September 2005.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions to access.

Use Restrictions

Users of the collection must read and abide by the Rules for the Use of University Archives Materials.

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Collection Contents

Box No.	Folder
01	Argonne National Laboratory - Photographs (Elephant at site A), 1951
	Argonne National Laboratory - Photographs (Staff, late 1970's)
	Atomic Bomb - American Physical Society - Resolution, 1945
	Atomic Bomb - Atomic Scientists of Chicago - Constitution, c.1945
	Atomic Bomb - Atomic Scientists of Chicago - Resolution, 1945
	Atomic Bomb - Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions - Resolution, 1945
	Atomic Bomb - Test at Alamogordo, New Mexico - Photograph, July 1945
	Atomic Energy - Conference on Problems of the Atomic Age - Program, Minutes, 1946
	Atomic Energy - Federation of Atomic Scientists - Constitution, 1945

Atomic Energy - Federation of Atomic Scientists - Proposed Changes in Senate Resolution 255, 1946

Atomic Energy - Legislation, 1945

Atomic Energy - Report of United Nations Atomic Energy Commission to the Security Council, December 1946

Atomic Energy - Speakers' Bureau, Adult Education Council of Chicago - List of Speakers, 1946

Atomic Energy - Statement on International Control, 1945

Atomic Energy - World Federalist Conference - Report, List of Attendees, 1945

Atomic Energy - Publications - Various, 1945-1946, n.d.

Atomic Energy - Unpublished material - various authors, 1945-1946, n.d.

Atomic Energy Act - Draft, Tentative, 1945

Atomic Energy Commission - David Lilienthal Confirmation Hearings - Reprint from Washington Post, 1947

Cloud Chamber - Accelerator Tube

Cloud Chamber - Magnetic Amplifier

Cloud Chamber - Photos and Description

02 Cloud Chamber - S-Test

Corona (Autoionization)

Corona (Bibliographic Materials)

Corona (Child's Law)

Corona (Correspondence Regarding)

Corona (Definition)

Corona (Drafts)

- Corona (Electrostatics)
- Corona (High Tension Power Lines)
- Corona (Liquid Tips)
- Corona (Ozone)
- Corona (Reports in Na₂ & Co₂)
- Corona (Thesis)
- Corona (Van Graff Accelerator)
- Corona (Wehrle Photos of)
- Corona (Yarger's Analysis of Wasserman's Data)
- 02A Dymanitron Tests (MIT, 1967-70)
- Langsdorf, Alexander, Jr. – Dissertation on Cloud Chambers, 1937.
- 03 Langsdorf, Alexander, Jr. - Reprints of Articles, General Correspondence, 1934-1965
- Langsdorf, Alexander, Jr. - Reprints of Articles, General Correspondence, 1972-1983, n.d.
- McCarthy Era – Transcript of Langsdorf Hearing, 1956
- Un-American Activities - Jeremiah Stamler Legal Aid Fund - General Correspondence, 1965-1976
- Un-American Activities - Reports to Senate Committee on the Judiciary, 1956
- United Nations - Charter, 1945
- Washington University Cyclotron - Photographs, 1941
- Washington University Cyclotron – Remembered
- 04 Scrapbook (Atomic Bombs and the Early Nuclear Age)
- Film Negatives (Washington University Cyclotron)