

Maurice Rosenblatt

A Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress

**Prepared by Laura J. Kells with the assistance of Sherralyn
McCoy**



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Latest revision: 2005 August

Collection Summary

Title: Papers of Maurice Rosenblatt

Span Dates: 1932-2000

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1942-2000)

ID No.: MSS84828

Creator: Rosenblatt, Maurice, 1915-2005

Extent: 28,000 items; 80 containers; 32 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Lobbyist and consultant. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, newsletters, and other papers related primarily to Rosenblatt's work with the National Committee for an Effective Congress and files on Joseph McCarthy and the issue of McCarthyism.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Names:

Rosenblatt, Maurice
Agree, George E.
Anderson, Jack, 1922-
Benton, William, 1900-1973
Birkhead, Kenneth Milton, 1914-
Flanders, Ralph E. (Ralph Edward), 1880-1970
Howe, John
Kook, Hillel, 1915-
May, Ronald W.
McCarthy, Joseph, 1908-1957
Nathan, Robert R. (Robert Roy), 1908-
Olshine, Lucille Lang
Pearson, Drew, 1897-1969
Selden, Harry Louis
Stevenson, Adlai E. (Adlai Ewing), 1900-1965
Van Arkel, Gerhard P.
United States. Congress--Elections
American League for a Free Palestine
Coordinating Committee for Democratic Action
Democratic Study Group
Foreign Policy Clearing House
McCarthy Clearing House
National Committee for an Effective Congress
National Counsel Associates

Subjects:

Communism--United States
Elections--United States
Presidents--United States--Election--1960
Israel--History--1948-1967
United States--Politics and government--20th century

Occupations:

Consultants
Lobbyists

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Maurice Rosenblatt, lobbyist and consultant, were given to the Library of Congress by Rosenblatt in 2001.

Transfers:

Sound recordings have been transferred to the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status:

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Maurice Rosenblatt in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for further information.

Preferred Citation:

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

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1915, Aug. 8	Born, New York, N.Y.
1936	B.A., University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.
1938	Publicist, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America
1939	Founded Coordinating Committee for Democratic Action, New York, N.Y.
1944-1945	Investigator, Criminal Investigation Detachment, United States Army, New Guinea
1946	Public relations specialist, American League for a Free Palestine
1948	Founded National Committee for an Effective Congress (NCEC); served as Washington director and advisory board chairman
ca. 1954	Married Laura Barone
1956-ca. 1993	Founded National Counsel Associates; worked as lobbyist and consultant
2005, Aug. 11	Died, Rockville, Md.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Maurice Rosenblatt (1915-2005) span the years 1932-2000, with the bulk of the material dating from 1942 to 2000. They relate to his life as a lobbyist and focus on his work with the National Committee for an Effective Congress (NCEC). A large portion of the collection consists of material assembled by the NCEC to curb the power and influence of Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin in his opposition to communism. These efforts culminated in McCarthy's censure in the United States Senate in 1954. The Rosenblatt Papers are organized in two series: the [National Committee for an Effective Congress](#) and [Miscellany](#).

The [National Committee for an Effective Congress](#) (NCEC) files were compiled while Maurice Rosenblatt was the Washington director of the political interest group. A nonpartisan organization, NCEC was founded to raise funds and support the campaigns of liberal and internationalist candidates for the United States Congress. The NCEC series is arranged in three subseries: an [Administrative File](#), [McCarthy Clearing House](#) files, and a [Projects and Subjects](#) file. The [Administrative File](#) contains correspondence, interoffice communications mostly between Rosenblatt and executive director George E. Agree, files documenting meetings, events, and fund-raising activities, newsletters and reports issued by the organization, and press coverage. The [Project and Subjects](#) file documents political elections and the financial support given to congressional candidates and includes papers relating to the involvement of Rosenblatt and the NCEC in the establishment of the Democratic Study Group and the Foreign Policy Clearing House.

In 1953 Rosenblatt and the NCEC helped form the [McCarthy Clearing House](#) to oppose McCarthy and his tactics. A main goal of the group was to make information about McCarthy available to the press, senators, and others working against him. This effort was funded by the NCEC. Participants included William Benton, Kenneth Birkhead, John Howe, Robert Nathan, and Gerhard P. Van Arkel. Contained in the [McCarthy Clearing House](#) files are notes and research material collected by Jack Anderson and Ronald W. May for their book *McCarthy: The Man, the Senator, the "Ism"* (1952), files created by Benton's attorney in support of Benton's lawsuit against Joseph McCarthy, items gathered by columnist Drew Pearson's attorney as part of Pearson's lawsuit against McCarthy, and material collected by Lucille Lang Olshine, a researcher employed by the clearing house. In 1954 the group spearheaded the efforts of Senator Ralph E. Flanders of Vermont who put forth a resolution in the Senate calling for McCarthy's censure. Files on the clearing house's activities document the goals, strategy, and actions of this committee, and information on the censure resolution is extensive. Included in material related to Flanders are numerous letters sent to the senator in 1954 in response to his criticism of McCarthy. Most of the letters oppose Flanders's actions and express support for McCarthy and his methods of fighting communism.

In addition to material documenting actions of those opposing McCarthy, the [McCarthy Clearing House](#) subseries also contains subject files providing information relating to McCarthy's efforts, "McCarthyism," and events of the period. Because material was originally filed using different methods when it was gathered from various sources and then intermingled through use by researchers, items relating to any one topic may be found in more than one place in the collection. For example, a separate subject file on McCarthy compiled for *McCarthy v. Benton* is filed under William Benton's name and contains additional material on topics listed elsewhere.

The [Miscellany](#) series relates to Rosenblatt's life, activities, and interests outside of the National Committee for an Effective Congress. National Counsel Associates files of the lobbying and consulting firm Rosenblatt established in the 1950s principally relate to projects from the late 1980s and early 1990s. Included in a personal file is material relating to Rosenblatt's work as publicity director for the Draft Stevenson movement in the 1960 presidential campaign and to his work prior to the establishment of NCEC with organizations such as the Coordinating Committee for Democratic Action in New York and the American League for a Free Palestine, for which he lobbied Congress to gain American support for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. Other material relating to the American Committee for a Free Palestine and the establishment of Israel located in the resource material for Rosenblatt's memoirs includes recollections from Peter Bergson and Harry Louis Selden with regard to their activities in the 1940s. Although Rosenblatt worked on his memoirs for over twenty years, he never completed the project. Other writings by Rosenblatt are included in a miscellaneous writings file. Material he wrote for NCEC is filed in that series.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in two series:

- [National Committee for an Effective Congress, 1936-1981, n.d.](#)
- [Miscellany, 1932-2000, n.d.](#)

Description of Series

Container

Series

BOX 1-71

National Committee for an Effective Congress, 1936-1981, n.d.

BOX 1-10

Administrative File, 1948-1981, n.d.

Correspondence, memoranda, newsletters, reports, press releases, financial data, notes, minutes, press clippings, and printed matter.

Arranged alphabetically by type of material and therein chronologically.

BOX 11-59

McCarthy Clearing House, 1936-1957, n.d.

Correspondence, memoranda, reports, transcripts, notes and writings, press clippings, speeches, press releases, and printed matter related to the life and activities of Joseph McCarthy and the issue of McCarthyism.

Arranged alphabetically by topic and therein chronologically.

BOX 59-71

Projects and Subjects, 1947-1975, n.d.

Correspondence, memoranda, notes, press clippings, transcripts, and printed matter.

Arranged alphabetically by topic and therein chronologically.

BOX 71-80

Miscellany, 1932-2000, n.d.

Correspondence, memoranda, reports, press clippings, book drafts, drafts and research material for memoirs, articles, notes, and printed matter.

Arranged alphabetically by type of material or topic and therein chronologically.

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BOX 11-59

McCarthy Clearing House, 1936-1957, n.d.

Correspondence, memoranda, reports, transcripts, notes and writings, press clippings, speeches, press releases, and printed matter related to the life and activities of Joseph McCarthy and the issue of McCarthyism.

Arranged alphabetically by topic and therein chronologically.

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