
Guide to the Records of the Carnegie Program, 1960-1966

Collection number: Consult repository

Archives

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Records of the Carnegie Program,

Date (inclusive): 1960-1966

Collection number: Consult repository

Creator: Carnegie Program in Science and Government

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Pasadena, California 91125

Abstract: Records of the Science and Government Program of the Caltech Humanities Division, sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation, 1960-1966. The program consisted of a series of seminars on arms control. Speakers from government (domestic and foreign), the military, and from the sciences and humanities were brought together. UCLA participated in the program beginning in the second year.

Language: English

Access

The collection is open for research. Researchers must apply in writing for access.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item, box and file number], Records of the Carnegie Program. Archives, California Institute of Technology.

Acquisition Information

The Records of the Carnegie Program in Science and Government were donated to the Archives by Professor David Elliot of Caltech's Division of Humanities and Social Sciences in 1970.

Biography

In 1960 the Carnegie Corporation gave a substantial grant to Caltech's Humanities Division to support a program on "Science and Government." The decision was made to focus the program on arms control, and by the summer of 1960, the first session of "preliminary" seminars was underway. The program lasted five to six years.

The program modeled itself to some degree on an existing joint faculty seminar at Harvard and MIT led by Henry Kissinger. At Caltech, the two original organizers were Professors David C. Elliot (history) and Matthew Sands (physics), with consistent support from Charles C. Lauritsen (physics). The purpose was to bring scientists, historians and political scientists together to try to answer some of the most pressing questions of security and arms control. Approximately fifty Caltech faculty members agreed to commit themselves to weekly meetings, to which a distinguished speaker, typically from the outside but not always, was invited. In the first year, some of the visitors were: a number of representatives from the Rand Corporation, including Albert Wohlstetter (the Rand visitors provided the "preliminary" or orientation phase of the seminar); US military leaders, such as Gen. Maxwell Taylor; representatives from academic institutions, including Kissinger and Thomas Schelling from Harvard, James R. Killian and Jerome B. Wiesner from MIT and I. I. Rabi from Columbia; and an array of foreign visitors, among them John Strachey, liberal MP from the UK, Sir Solly Zuckerman from the University of Birmingham (UK), and A. Topchiev from the USSR. Talks were not recorded or published at Caltech; however, after the first year, UCLA began to host the speakers following their Caltech presentations, and the talks were then published under UCLA's aegis.

Scope and Content of Collection

During the preliminary and subsequent arms control seminars, the talks were summarized and the summaries were distributed to interested parties. David Elliot was responsible for most of the summaries, with Al Hibbs contributing significantly in later years. These summations now form the basis of the papers in the Carnegie Program collection, dating from June 21, 1960 through May 18, 1966. For the first three years, from 1960-1963, the meetings were titled "Arms Control Seminars." Beginning in the fall of 1963, they were titled "Seminar on National Security." At this time the program merged with a class of the same name given at Caltech by David Elliot as History 125.

The papers are arranged as four bound volumes of summaries and one unbound. In some cases, semester schedules are bound in.

Researchers should also refer to the oral history with David Elliot by Carol Bugé (1986), pp. 85-99; and to the article, "Scorpions in a Bottle" by Cushing Strout in *Engineering and Science* (April 1961), pp. 9-13.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection.

Subjects

California Institute of Technology

Carnegie Program in Science and Government

Arms Control

- David Elliot Oral History with Carol Bugé (1986)
- Robert Huttenback Oral History with Shirley Cohen (1998)
- Robert Oliver Oral History with Loma Karklins (1990)
- Rodman Paul Oral History with Carol Bugé (1982)
- Hallett Smith Oral History with Carol Bugé (1981)

Volume I

Preliminary Seminar on Arms Control, Summer 1960

Volume I, **6/16 Sweezy, A. R., Caltech**
Preliminary Seminar
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Volume I, **6/21 Rush, M., Rand Corporation**
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Session II

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Seminar On Arms Control, Fall 1960

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| Volume I, Seminar On Arms Control Fall 1960, Session V | 11/2 Kissinger, H., Harvard Univ.; Lauritsen, C. C., and Robertson, H. P., Caltech |
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