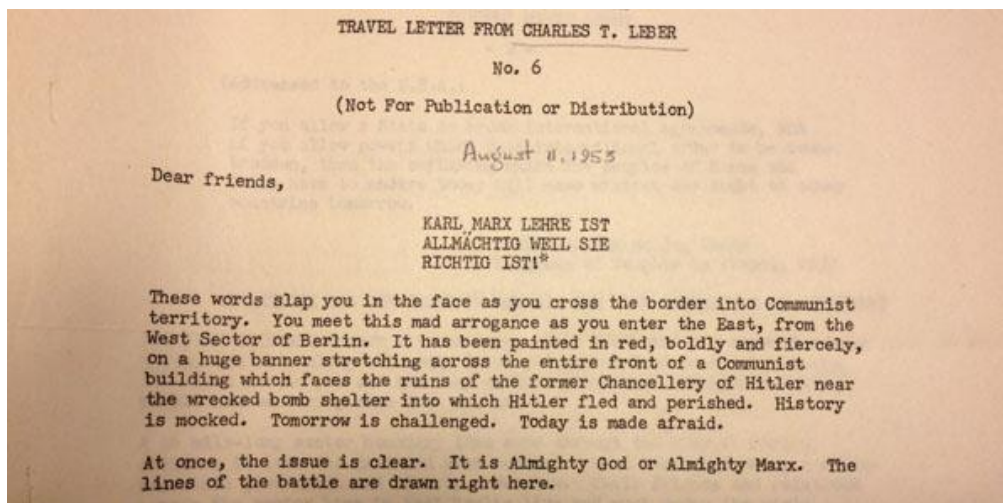


The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,
Union Theological Seminary, New York

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 12

Finding Aid for

Charles Tudor Leber Travel Correspondence, 1944 - 1953



Travel Letter from Charles Tudor Leber, August 11, 1953 written from Berlin, Germany
Credit to MRL 12: Charles Tudor Leber Correspondence, box 1, folder 5
The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Elizabeth Beller, July 2013
With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: Charles Tudor Leber, 1898 - 1959
Title: Charles Tudor Leber Travel Correspondence
Dates: 1944 - 1953
Abstract: Correspondence of Charles Tudor Leber while on tour representing the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church. Tour dates include 1944 – 1945 and 1953. Locations from letters include Japan, Thailand, Spain, Korea, Indonesia, India and Germany.
Size: 1 box, 0.25 linear feet
Storage: Onsite storage
Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: burkearchives@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance:** Originally part of the independent Missionary Research Library, these records were moved with the MRL to the Brown Memorial Tower of Union Theological Seminary in 1929. In 1976 the records were accessioned to the Burke Library archives with the closure of the MRL.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by phone, fax or email burkearchives@library.columbia.edu, as far in advance as possible. [Burke Library staff](#) is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, MRL 12: Charles Tudor Leber Papers, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

Charles Tudor Leber (1898 – 1959) was a native of Baltimore, Maryland. He attended Baltimore City College and later Johns Hopkins University. Leber earned his Doctorate of Divinity at Princeton's Theological Seminary studying under J. Ross Stevens. Leber was ordained as a minister in the Presbyterian Church of Baltimore in 1923 and served first in Trenton, New Jersey. That same year also saw Leber marry his wife nee Eloise Heath. Shortly following his ordination Leber moved back to Baltimore in 1924 and became pastor of the Forest Park Presbyterian Church.

In 1936, Leber was called to serve the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions as secretary for Japan, Korea, the Philippines and Thailand. Following his service to the Board of Foreign Missions in that capacity Leber served as General Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America beginning in 1952. During his tenure with the Board of Foreign Missions Dr. Leber circumnavigated the globe three times paying visits to many of the countries in Europe, Africa, Asia as well as North, Central and South America.

Dr. Leber died of a heart attack in 1959, at the age of 60, while attending the 18th General Council of the World Presbyterian Alliance in Sao Paulo Brazil.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection contains typed correspondence written Charles Tudor Leber describing his travels under the auspices of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in 1944 – 1945 and 1953. Letters were arranged by month and year.

Leber visited Central and South America in 1944-1945 including the following countries: Mexico, Guatemala, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela. His trip

of 1953 took Leber through post-war India, Pakistan, Germany (East and West portions of Berlin), Spain, Thailand, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Singapore. Leber's letters described the countries, people and environments both social and economic he traversed. They illustrate the nature of travel in the mid-20th Century and also illuminate the work of missionaries.

Processing

It should be noted certain place names are described below according to earlier spelling conventions. When applicable, contemporary spellings of place names are provided in [brackets].

Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed. Any items in an advanced state of deterioration were placed in Mylar envelopes.

Further Sources

Charles Tudor Leber met with Toyohiko Kagawa in 1953 at the First All-Japan Conference of the United Church of Christ in Japan. Burke Library offers a collection of Kagawa papers here: http://library.columbia.edu/content/dam/libraryweb/locations/burke/fa/mrl/ldpd_4492626.pdf

Collections with similar time frames and scope at the Burke Library Archives:

John R. Mott Papers at Burke Archives:

http://library.columbia.edu/content/dam/libraryweb/locations/burke/fa/mrl/ldpd_4492668.pdf

Eastern Fellowship of Professors Missions Papers at Burke Archives:

http://library.columbia.edu/content/dam/libraryweb/locations/burke/fa/mrl/ldpd_9503920.pdf

Frank C. Laubach Papers:

http://library.columbia.edu/content/dam/libraryweb/locations/burke/fa/mrl/ldpd_4492566.pdf

United China Relief Records

http://library.columbia.edu/content/dam/libraryweb/locations/burke/fa/mrl/ldpd_4492600.pdf

William Walker Rockwell Papers

http://library.columbia.edu/content/dam/libraryweb/locations/burke/fa/wab/ldpd_4492712.pdf

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church and other records of the Presbyterian Church are available at the Presbyterian Historical Society Archives:

<http://www.history.pcusa.org/collections/>

Contents list

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	MRL List of correspondence written by Leber, 1944 – 1945 tour
1	2	1944 – 1945; Mexico, Guatemala, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela [Venezuela]
1	3	MRL List of correspondence written by Leber July – November 1953 tour
1	4	July 1953; India, Pakistan
1	5	August 1953; Berlin, West Berlin, East Sector of Berlin, Hamburg, Germany, Madrid Spain
1	6	September 1953, Bangkok, Thailand, Tokyo, Japan
1	7	October 1953; Taipeh [Taipei] Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Djakarta Indonesia, Philippines, Hiroshima, Baiko, Nagano Japan
1	8	November 1953; Seoul Korea, Tokyo Japan