

Concordia University Library, Special Collections

Finding Aid - Gerald Clark fonds (P220)

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Gerald Clark fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Concordia University Library, Special Collections
Title:	Gerald Clark fonds
ID:	P220
Date:	1939-2001 (date of creation)
Physical description:	2.7 m of textual records ca. 900 photographs 65 compact cassettes 5 microcassettes 4 audio reels 2 audio discs 8 videocassettes 1 film reel
Language:	English
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Created by the Records Management and Archives Department 2010-09Input by Concordia University Libraries 2015-06-17Revised custodial history and repository 2016-02-18Revised custodial history 2016-03-16; 2016-04-14; 2016-04-19; 2016-04-21; 2016-04-28; 2016-05-02; 2016-05-05; 2015-05-06; 2016-05-16

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Gerald Clark was born in Montreal in 1918. He died in 2005. He was married and had a daughter, Bette. In 1939 he graduated from McGill University, where he had been editor of the college daily. In 1940 he began his newspaper career working for The Standard of Montreal as a parliamentary correspondent in Ottawa. In 1943 he went overseas as a war correspondent and covered the Allied invasion of Normandy (D-Day) and the entry of Paris by the Free French. He was one of the 15 correspondents representing the world's press at the signing of the German surrender in Reims. Later he covered the Nuremberg and Pétain trials. A series of articles on the Soviet Union, accompanied by his own photographs, won a National Newspaper Award (1953). Gerald Clark took photographs on many of his trips, which served to illustrate his articles. For two years he was The Montreal Star's correspondent in New York, covering the United Nations. As the Star's Chief Foreign Correspondent, 1955-1960, he was based in London and traveled widely in Europe and the Iron Curtain countries. He was a frequent contributor to Weekend magazine. In 1954 he made a lecture tour of Canada under the auspices of Weekend, describing his experiences in Russia. He became the editor of the Montreal Star, retaining the post until 1979 when the paper ceased publication. He contributed many articles to the Reader's Digest. Among many other travels, in 1955 he joined the Hon. Lester B. Pearson, then Minister of External Affairs, on a round-the-world flight which included Asia, Russia, the Middle East, and Europe. In 1956

he covered the NATO Foreign Ministers' Conference in Paris and the Poznan riots in Poland. He also visited Budapest and Prague and wrote a series on Hungary and Czechoslovakia. In 1957 he reported from Brussels, Algiers and Cairo. In 1958 he traveled to Red China; he was one of only two Western correspondents reporting on Communist China from the inside. His dispatches ran in newspapers in Canada and the United States, including The New York Times. Upon his return, he wrote *Impatient Giant: Red China Today*. It was translated into Danish and German. He won an Emmy and a Sylvania award as the co-author of the hour-long CBC documentary *The Face of Red China*.

His other books were *The Coming Explosion in Latin America* (1964); *Canada: The Uneasy Neighbour: A Lucid Account of the Political Manoeuvres and the Social and Economic Pressures Which Shape Canada's Future* (1965); *Montreal: The New Cité* in English and French editions (1982); and *For Good Measure: The Sam Steinberg Story* (1986). His memoir *No Mud on the Back Seat: Memoirs of a Reporter* was published in 1995 by Robert Davies Publishing.

Custodial history

The documents were donated to the Concordia University Archives by Bette Clark and Barbara Clark, in 2007, 2008, and 2009. The fonds was transferred from Concordia University's Records Management and Archives Department to Concordia University Library's Special Collections February 18, 2016, March 16, 2016, April 13-14, 2016, April 19, 2016, April 21, 2016, April 27-28, 2016, May 4-5, 2016, and May 10, 2016.

Scope and content

The Gerald Clark fonds contains documents pertaining to the Gerald Cohen's professional life and documents current events occurring in the period that he was active as a newspaper correspondent. The fonds is composed of research materials, notes, drafts of articles and books, clippings of articles, correspondence, and speeches, among other materials. It also includes recorded interviews with world figures.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the content of the fonds.

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Finding aids

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Other notes

- **Publication status**: Published
 - **Level of detail**: Full
 - **Status description**: Final
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Access points

- Multiple media (documentary form)
- Communications (discipline) (subject)