

Silver Shirt Legion of America, Washington State Division records, 1931-1997

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Silver Shirt Legion of America. Washington State Division
Title	Silver Shirt Legion of America, Washington State Division records
Dates	1931-1997 (inclusive) 1931 1997
Quantity	0.73 cubic feet (1 box and 4 microfilm reels)
Collection Number	3242
Summary	Documents and materials related to the right-wing political organization, The Silver Shirt Legion of America.
Repository	University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 speccoll@uw.edu
Access Restrictions	Access restricted on some materials: For terms of access, contact Special Collections.
Languages	English

Historical Note

The Silver Shirt Legion of America was a white supremacist organization founded by William Dudley Pelley (1890-1965) in 1933. The Silver Shirts operated in Oregon, California, and Washington during the 1930s. The parent organization began as Silver Shirts of America, was later renamed Silver Legion of America and, in 1934, became Silver Shirt Legion of America. State liaison office was Orville W. Roundtree. The organization portrayed themselves as a Protestant Christian Movement created to restore a new Christian led society and government. Their primary aim was to suppress the Jewish population and destroy Sovietism/Communism, which they claimed was being brought about by the Jewish people. - Information adapted from the American Jewish Committee Archives: http://www.ajcarchives.org/AJC_DATA/Files/THR-SS1.PDF

Content Description

Correspondence, notes, and other records of a liaison office for this right-wing political organization and of liaison officer Orville W. Roundtree. Silver Shirts flag, newsletters, news-clippings, correspondence, research notes, and microfilm with all issues of the Silver Shirt Weekly. Also includes two manuscript/thesis drafts.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

Creator's literary rights not transferred to the University of Washington Libraries on some materials.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Organized into 2 accessions.

Accession No. 3242-004, Silver Shirt Legion of America, Washington State Division records, 1933-1940

Accession No. 3242-005, Silver Shirt Legion of America, Washington State Division records, 1931-1997

Acquisition Information

Filmed from originals loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Orville Roundtree, 5/1/1965.

Donated by Ronald S. Green Jr.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Accession No. 3242-004: Silver Shirt Legion of America, Washington State Division records, 1933-1940

.37 cu. ft. (1 reel positive microfilm, 1 reel negative microfilm, duplicate positive reel)

Scope and Content: Correspondence, notes, and other records, relating to the division, its parent organization (founded 1933 as Silver Shirts of America; later renamed Silver Legion of America, and in 1934, Silver Shirt Legion of America), and founder, William Dudley Pelley (1890-1965). Includes copies of the organization's newsletter, Liberation, papers of state liaison officer, Orville W. Roundtree, and material relating to American Gentile Protective Association, Christian Party, and Liberty Party. Persons represented include Isaac R. Crow, Ruth Coffee Hillis, Jesse B. Kling, Alfred H.E. Talpey, Elwood A. Towner, and Thompson Roy Zachary.

Restrictions on Access: No restrictions on access. Microfilm can be used onsite or loaned through interlibrary borrowing.

Restrictions on Use: Creator's literary rights not transferred to the University of Washington Libraries.

Acquisition Info: Filmed from originals loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Orville Roundtree: 5/1965

Accession No. 3242-005: Silver Shirt Legion of America, Washington State Division records, 1931-1997

0.36 Cubic Feet (2 boxes) plus 1 microfilm reel

Scope and Content: Additions to the Silver Shirt Legion - Washington State Division records: Materials collected by Ronald S. Green Jr. pertaining to the Silver Shirt Legion and William Dudley Pelley including Silver Shirts flag, newsletters, news-clippings, correspondence, research notes, and microfilm with all issues of the Silver Shirt Weekly. Also includes two manuscript/thesis drafts: "The Aftermath of Seven Minutes in Eternity: William Dudley Pelley and the Silver Shirts" by Ronald S. Green and "Piety and Patriotism: The Silver Shirt Legion of America in Washington State, 1935-1940" by Karen E. Hoppes.

Restrictions on Access: No restrictions on access. Microfilm can be used onsite or loaned through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions on Use: Creator's copyrights transferred to the University of Washington Libraries Special Collections.

Acquisition Info: Donated by Ronald S. Green Jr. , 2016-04-15 ; 2016-07-26

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Accession	
1	3242-005 News clippings and Microfilm Printouts	1932-1965
1	3242-005 Newsletter: Silver Ranger	1934
1	3242-005 Newsletter: The New Liberation	1937-1938
1	3242-005 Newsletter: News Research Service	1939-1940
1	3242-005 Newsletter: Community Relations Committee	1964
1	3242-005 Correspondence (Ron Green)	1963
1	3242-005 Thesis Notes	undated
1	3242-005 Thesis Correspondence	1965-1966
1	3242-005 Thesis: "The Aftermath of Seven Minutes in Eternity: William Dudley Pelley and the Silver Shirts" by Ronald S. Green Jr.	1965
1	3242-005 Thesis: "Piety and Patriotism: The Silver Shirt Legion of America in Washington State, 1935-1940" by Karen E. Hoppes	1997

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1	3242-005 Silver Shirts Flag	undated
1	3242-005 Microfilm of all issues of the "Silver Shirt Weekly"	1934-1936
Box:Oversize		
2	3242-005 Silver Shirt Legion of America flag	

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Antisemitism--United States
 Antisemitism--Washington (State)
 Fascism--United States
 Fascism--Washington (State)
 Personal Papers/Corporate Records (University of Washington)
 Political parties--United States
 Political parties--Washington (State)
 Socialist parties--United States

Personal Names :

Bauer, Ruth
 Clark, Frank W
 Crow, Isaac R
 Hillis, Ruth Coffee
 Husby, Peter
 Kling, Jesse B
 Talpey, Alfred H. E
 Towner, Elwood A
 Zachary, Thompson Roy

Corporate Names :

American Gentile Protective Association
 American Monetary Reform Association
 Christian Party (U.S.)
 Christian Party (Wash.)
 Liberty Party (Wash. : 1932-1933)
 Pelley Publishers

Geographical Names :

United States--Politics and government--20th century
 Washington (State)--Politics and government--1889-1950

Other Creators :

Personal Names :

Pelley, William Dudley, 1890-1965
 (creator)
 Roundtree, Orville W
 (creator)

Corporate Names :

Silver Legion of America. Washington State Division

(creator)

Silver Shirts of America (Organization). Washington State Division

(creator)

2007 (Last modified: 4/2/2020)



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