

SYNAPSES PROJECT BURMA AND PHILIPPINES

INTRODUCTION

On September 28, 2001, Ms. Kryss Chupp of Chicago brought this collection to Northern Illinois University. This collection formerly belonged to Donald Erickson, of Synapses, who passed away in June of 2001.

Any copyrights so stated in the materials will continue in force. The materials in this collection are available for research to qualified scholars as determined by the Northern Illinois University Libraries without restrictions.

Linear feet of shelf space: 4.1

Number of containers: 12

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The materials in this collection provide documentation on the activities of Synapses, as led by Don Erickson on Project Burma and human rights issues and campaigns to eliminate U.S. sponsored military aid and bases in the Philippines. The primary focus is on materials created by and collected by Don Erickson who led Synapses Project Burma. There are also a few materials on how to organize non-violent protest groups. This collection supplements extensive materials on the Philippines collected by Synapses held in a vertical file in the office of the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asian Collection at Founders Memorial Library.

Series I includes flyers produced by Synapses passed out during protests in front of American multinational corporate offices urging divestment from Burma, correspondence between members of various Burma activist groups and between those activists and the corporations, and press releases. There are also various published and unpublished articles on Burma along with issues of journals such as *Dawn*, *Irrawaddy*, *Burma Issues*, and *Burma Review*.

Series II is comprised of two containers of videotapes on Burma and the Philippines, with an emphasis on Burma.

Series III includes various materials on the Philippines including correspondence, newsletters, press releases, materials from several conferences, and articles including many unpublished documents. There are many items on U.S. military aid to and bases in the Philippines.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Synapses, founded in 1980, is an interfaith peace organization and affiliated with the Christian Peacemaker Teams. Christian Peacemaker Teams is an organization which sends peacemakers to trouble spots in the world and is supported by the Church of the Brethren, Mennonite Church of Canada, Mennonite Church USA, and the Friends United Meeting. Based in Chicago, Don Erickson coordinated the Synapses Project Burma and organized campaigns against corporate involvement in Burma. Erickson spearheaded the campaign to convince leaders in Liz Claiborne, OshKosh B'Gosh Inc., Amoco, and ABN AMRO (Dutch parent company to LaSalle Bank) to divest from Burma. Synapses and other similar peace organizations such as the Free Burma Coalition, Project Maje, and the Christian Peacemaker Teams (a Mennonite and Friend organization which sends peacemakers to trouble spots in the world) are involved with promoting peace, working with global awareness projects, and encouraging socially responsible investing. In addition to interest in Burma, Synapses also became involved with human rights issues in the Philippines and campaigning for the United States to stop giving military aid and to pull out of the military bases.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Burma
Synapses
Donald Erickson
Divestment
Amoco
PepsiCo
LaSalle Bank
ABN AMRO
Aung San Suu Kyi
Liz Clairborne
Unlocal
Free Burma Coalition
OshKosh B'Gosh Inc.
Philippines
Socially responsible investing
Christian Peacemaking Teams
Military bases in the Philippines
Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines

INVENTORY OF COLLECTION

SERIES I: Burma

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
1	1	Notes of Don Erickson
	2	Press releases and articles to 1993
	3	Press releases and articles, 1993-1995
BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
2	1	Press releases and articles, 1995
	2	Yadana Project, November, 1995
	3	Press releases and articles, 1996
	4	Press releases and articles, 1996-2000
	5	National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma Press releases
	6	Get Disoriented! 1998-99, UW-Madison Student's Guide to Activism
	7	Get the Word Out! How to run an effective media campaign, Flyers on Burma, undated
	8	"Challenging Conglomerates," 1984 Amoco Proposal 1988, Flyers on Burma, 1988-1993
	9	Flyers on Burma, 1993-1995
	10	Flyers on Burma, 1995-1996
	11	Flyers on Burma, 1996-1998
	12	Flyers on Burma, 1998-2000, Synapses Membership Committee
	13	Flyers on Burma, undated

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
	2	Flyers on Burma, undated
	3	Status of Elected Representatives in Burma
	4	Karen National Union Human Rights Violation Documentation US State Dept. Country Report: Burma 1992 "Yet Another Dating..." by Virginia M. Di Croco Will of Don Erickson
	5	Burma Trip preparation materials

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
3	1	Correspondence, September 1989- December 1989
	2	Correspondence, January 1990- December 1990
	3	Correspondence, February 1991– December 1991
	4	Correspondence, February 1992– December 1992
	5	Correspondence, July 1993- December 1993
	6	Correspondence, Jan 1994- November 1994 Photos of Don Erickson
	7	Correspondence, Jan 1995- May 1995
	8	Correspondence, June 1995- December 1995
	9	Correspondence, January 1996- December 1996
	10	Correspondence, January 1997- December 1997
	11	Correspondence, February 1998- December 1998
	12	Correspondence, January 1999- September 1999
	13	Correspondence, January 2000- May 2000
	14	Correspondence, undated
	15	Articles on Burma, 1979-1988

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	2	Asian Human Rights Commission, 1989
	3	Articles on Burma, 1989
	4	Articles on Burma, 1990
	5	Articles, May 1990- March 1991
	6	Articles, May 1991- November 1991
	7	Articles, December 1991- December 1992
	8	Articles, December 1992
	9	Church Proxy Resolutions January 1993 Funding proposal from the Burma Peace Foundation
	10	God's Gift, Our Responsibility 1993
	11	Articles, March 1993- August 1993
	12	Articles, September 1993- November 1993
	13	"Documents on Forced Relocation in Burma"
	14	Myanmar: Human Rights developments, July to December 1993, Amnesty International
	15	Proxy Resolutions Book, Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility January 1994
	16	Articles, January 1994- June 1994
	17	Articles, July 1994- November 1994

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
4	1	"Forced Labour in Burma" Burma Peace Foundation, August 1994
	2	"Forced Labour in Burma" Burma Peace Foundation, August 1994
	3	Papers for the Burma Studies Group, Northern Illinois, October 7-9, 1994 "Mindon and Mental Culture," Gustaaf Houtman

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
	2	Published Articles, January 1995- June 1995
	3	Published Articles, July 1995- December 1995
	4	Published Articles, December 1995- March 1996
	5	Published Articles, April 1996- August 1996
	6	Burma Press Summary, 1995

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
5	1	Burma Press Summary, March 1996- May 1996
	2	Published Articles, December 1996- Sept 1997
	3	Violations of Human Rights in Burma, November 1997
	4	Published Articles, April 1998- October 1998
	5	<i>Article 19</i> , Publications list, September 1998 “Multinational Business in Burma (Myanmar),” IRRC December 1998 “Asian Tiger Economic Meltdown.” Fall/Winter 1998/1999
	6	Amnesty International “Myanmar Compilation Document” “Questions for INC Caland Shareholders Meeting” June 4, 1999 “Supreme Court Review of the Burma-Law Decision,” “Multinational Business in Burma”, May 2000
	7	Articles on Burma, undated

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
6	1	<i>Burma Issues</i> , September 1993- July 1997
	2	<i>Burma Issues</i> , August 1997- February 1999
	3	<i>Burma Debate</i> , Summer 1999- Spring/Summer 2000, March/April 1991- July/ August 1992
	4	<i>Burma Alert</i> , August 1990-June 1995
	5	<i>Burma Alert</i> , August 1995- July/September 1997

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
	2	<i>B.U.R.M.A. (Burma Rights Movement for Action)</i> , April 1991- August 1993
	3	<i>Freedom Fighter Burma</i> , November/December 1989- July 1993
	4	<i>Committee for the Restoration of Democracy in Burma</i> , April/June 1990- August 1994
	5	<i>Committee for the Restoration of Democracy in Burma</i> , September 1994- March 1995
	6	<i>Dawn</i> , January 1989- January 1990
	7	<i>Dawn</i> , February 1990- December 1990
	12	<i>Dawn</i> , January 1991- June/July 1992
	13	<i>Dawn</i> , August/September 1992- January/February 1994
	14	<i>Dawn</i> , March/April 1992- March 1996
	15	<i>Irrawaddy</i> , 15 September 1994- 30 September 1995
	16	<i>Irrawaddy</i> , 30 October 1995- 31 July 1996
	17	<i>Irrawaddy</i> , 30 September 1996- 15 December 1998
	18	<i>Irrawaddy</i> , 31 January 1999- July 2000 <i>Multinational Monitor</i> , October 1992 <i>Synapses Messages</i> , September/October 1992- Winter 1995
	19	<i>The Burma Review</i> , February 1990- October 1990
	20	<i>The Burma Review</i> , February 1991- April/July 1995
	21	<i>Committee for the Restoration of Democracy in Burma</i> , April 1995- October 1997
	22	<i>Burma Reflections; Myanmar</i> , Amnesty International SceneZine “Center for Highlands Burma Peoples” <i>Burma Report</i> , November 1990 <i>Food First News</i> , Summer 1991

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
		<p>Non Violence International, September 1991 <i>Peace Office Newsletter</i>, September- October 1991 <i>3rd ABSDF Conference</i> <i>Peacefund Canada</i>, December 1991</p>
23		<p><i>Toward Democracy in Burma</i> <i>Franklin's Insight</i>, September 1992 <i>Cultural Survival</i>, Fall 1992 <i>Bulletin de Cedok</i>, 1992 <i>Asia Watch</i>, February 1991, May 1992, September 1992</p>
24		<p><i>Action for Cultural Survival</i>, March 1993 <i>PPSM Newsletter</i>, August 1993 <i>Burma Focus</i>, December 1993 <i>Burmese Relief Centre</i>, April 1991, November 1993, April 1995, March 1996 <i>Southeast Asia Labour Notes</i>, March 1994 <i>Breakthrough</i>, Spring 1994 <i>Burma Monitor</i>, December 1991- March 1992, October 1993</p>
25		<p><i>Friends of Burma at Harvard Newsletter</i>, December 1994, December 1995, July 1995 <i>Mustard Seed</i>, Winter/Spring 1995 <i>Indigenous Voice</i>, January 1995 <i>INEB Reader</i>, March/April 1995 <i>IRRC</i>, November 1993, July/August 1995, July 1996 <i>FDL Quarterly</i>, Winter 1995, Spring 1996</p>
26		<p><i>FABC OHD</i>, January – February 1996 <i>Notebook</i>, January – March 1996 <i>Seeds of Peace</i>, January-April 1996 <i>New International</i>, June 1996 <i>Earth Rights News</i>, January 1997, April 1997 <i>Foreign Policy in Focus</i>, August 1997 <i>CEP Research Report</i>, September 1993, April/May 1996, October-December 1998</p>
27		<p><i>Urgent Action Newsletter</i>, August/September 1995, March-May 1996, July/August 1996 <i>Human Rights Watch</i>, June 1997 <i>Burma Links</i>, November 1995, June/July 1996, May 1997, April/May 1999, October 1999</p>

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
7	1	<i>Commentary</i> and Independent Reports from Karen Human Rights Group, 19 April 1998- 12 June 1998
	2	<i>Continuing Fear and Hunger, Beyond All Endurance</i>
	3	<i>Starving Them Out, Exiled at Home</i>
	4	Independent Reports and <i>Commentary</i> from Karen Human Rights Group, 24 September 1998- April 1999
	5	<i>Commentary</i> and Independent Reports from Karen Human Rights Group, October 2000
	6	Testimony of Dr. Em Marta, Independent Reports and <i>Commentary</i> by the Karen Human Rights Group, 9 May 1994- 30 September 1994
	7	Independent Reports and <i>Commentary</i> from Karen Human Rights Group, 8 April 1995- 1 August 1996
	8	Independent Reports, <i>Commentary</i> and Briefing Notes from Karen Human Rights Group, 18 July 1996- 25 February 1998
	9	<i>SPDC and DKBA Orders to Villages</i>

SERIES II: Videotapes

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
8		ASSK Interview (Nov 21, 1996), US Sanctions Policy, Foreign Investment, Selective Purchasing, Dialogue w/SLORC The MAI in Question, David Orchard (CCAFT) debates Doug Gregory (IBM/ Chamber of Commerce), Toronto, November 18, 1997 Citizens Concerned About Free Trade DASSK's Message to UNCHR, March 1998 Burma- Selective Purchase Laws, NBA Network News, 1-24- 99 Speech by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to UN Commission on Human Rights 3/99, Geneva "We need concrete action."

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
		Akha of Northern Thailand
		Miles from Peace: US Bases in the Philippines
		The Burma Deception, NTSC
		Burma Diary, Jeanne Hallacy

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
9		40 Million Hostages
		Burmese Relief Centre, Why We Are Here (2)

SERIES III: Philippines

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
10	1	Collective Bargaining Agreement Correspondence, June 1976- May 1985 Chicago City Council Resolution, May 1985
	2	Correspondence, May 1985- January 1987
	3	Correspondence, January 1987- September 1995 Handwritten Notes Correspondence, undated
	4	Letters of Concern, 1986
	5	Correspondence and by-laws, Alliance for Philippine Concerns, April 1986- February 1989
	6	Correspondence, Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines, May 5, 1988- April 19, 1989
	7	Press Releases, October 4, 1983 – August 9, 1989 Press Releases, undated
	8	Newsletters, May 1984- February 1987
	9	Newsletters, March 1987- Fall 1989
	10	Newsletters, Fall 1989- October 1999 Philippine International Newsletter and correspondence

BOX FOLDER DESCRIPTION

12 Newsletters, undated

11 Stony Point International Conference on the Philippines, 1983

BOX FOLDER DESCRIPTION

11 1 International Solidarity Conference on the Philippines, September 7-21, 1985
National Consultation of Philippine Support and Anti-Intervention Groups, March 4-5, 1989
PRC Conference March 16-18, 1990

2 The Beyond Containment Project, March 9, 1988

3 National Ecumenical Conference on the Philippines, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992
Conference Reports and Flyers on the Philippines, 1986-1988

4 Continental Campaign Flyers
Medical Neutrality Campaign
December 1989 Coup Papers

5 Campaign Against United States Aid and Military Repression, September 1984-December 1990

6 Debt Crisis International, report, conference, and flyers
The Philippine Debt Crisis: The Impact on Democracy and Sovereignty, draft

7 Cease Fire Agreement, collected papers
GRP Agenda

8 Articles, interviews, taped meetings, and draft on Elsa Masa

9 Articles and booklets on Communism
Articles, flyers, and pamphlets on Women's Rights

10 Failure of Penn State Bank Hearing
Articles and flyer on the film, *A Rustling of Leaves: Inside the Philippine Revolution*

11 Published and Unpublished Articles on the Philippines, 1975- 1985

12 Published and Unpublished Articles on the Philippines, 1986-1990

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
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	12	Published and Unpublished Articles on the Philippines, undated
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	13	Affidavits from United States Air Force, August 1985
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BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
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12	1	Unpublished Papers on the Philippines, 1977- 1989
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	2	Unpublished Papers on the Philippines, undated
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	3	Unpublished Papers on the Philippines, undated
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	4	Unpublished Papers on the Philippines, undated
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	5	Castle and Cooke, Inc. 1986 Annual Report
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	6	<i>Bases and Battleships: An Introduction to Foreign Military Presence</i> Swords into Plowshares: Economic Conversion and the US Bases in the Philippines
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	7	<i>Economic Support and Fund Assistance to the Philippines</i> , GOA, January 27, 1984 <i>The Philippines: Accountability and Control of U.S. Economic Assistance</i> , May 1986
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	8	<i>Primer on Militarization</i> <i>Partido ng Bayan</i> <i>Two Essays on Popular Democracy</i> Beyond the Ceasefire Talks: A Study Guide on Genuine and Lasting Peace
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	9	<i>Instructions on Certain Aspects of the "Theology of Liberation"</i> , Vatican National Essay Contest "What the Philippine Revolution Means to Me as an American" Curriculum Guide In Solidarity for Full Humanity, 1986
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	10	A Guide for Community Volunteers Working with Street Children The Situation of Street Children in Ten Cities, UNICEF, 1988 <i>The Philippine Experience: A Newcomers Introduction</i>
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	11	Alternative Tourism with a Focus on Asia
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BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
12		IBON 1988 1990 IBON "There is Life After the Bases" Calendar
13		Pamphlets and Brochures on the Philippines
14		Maps of the Philippines Photo