

## HUMAN RIGHTS DOCUMENTATION

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Global Resources, a program established in 1996 by the Association of Research Libraries and the Association of American Universities with funding by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, gave rise to a number of projects designed to increase the amount and variety of source materials available to North American scholars for the study of particular regions. It also spawned resource-building partnerships between North American libraries and their counterparts in other world regions. In 2005 the Global Resources steering committee set the goal of broadening the program to support understanding of issues that transcend regions, issues that are global in impact. One such issue is human rights.

The emergence of an international human rights movement has arguably been one of the most important developments in recent history. Adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations General

On page 1: The mimeograph room in the Palace of Justice during the Nuremberg Trials in 1946. From Stadarchiv Nuremberg/United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

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Assembly in 1948 was a momentous event. The ensuing decades saw the emergence of a worldwide movement to protect individual rights and monitor and prosecute genocide, state-sponsored violence, political persecution, and other violations of human rights. The movement gave rise to Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, WITNESS, and many other advocacy organizations.

As part of that development many CRL universities put in place academic and professional programs on human rights, and the study has permeated disciplines as diverse as political science, economics, law, history, medicine, and public health.

- The Artemis Project, a collaboration of *Yale University Library and Law School*, is working with truth commissions to assess their needs for the protection and long-term preservation of commission records. And Yale's Project Diana maintains an online library of documents relating to important human rights cases.
- The Duke Human Rights Center at *Duke University* is an interdisciplinary effort by scholars and students to promote understanding of human rights, terror, and political violence, as well as the politics of forgiveness, accountability, and reconciliation.
- The Center for the Study of Genocide and Human Rights at *Rutgers University* promotes cutting-edge research and scholarship; educational initiatives, workshops, and seminars; outreach and commemorative programs; and international collaborations related to genocide and human rights.
- The Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research at *Columbia University* has been designated the repository of the papers of two major human rights advocacy groups: Amnesty International USA and Human Rights Watch.
- The Human Rights Institute at the *University of Connecticut* coordinates human rights initiatives and supports faculty and students who study human rights. The University's Thomas J. Dodd Center, founded in 1995, holds the Nuremberg archives of former Nuremberg Executive Counsel and Connecticut Senator Thomas J. Dodd.

Active programs in human rights advocacy and documentation also exist at the University of Notre Dame, University of Minnesota, and the Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism at McGill University.

Cooperative action by many CRL universities has saved a number of important archives that would otherwise have been lost or destroyed. Some of these are described in the following pages. The importance of this activity was reaffirmed recently by the use of the Khmer Rouge files by the Extraordinary Chambers of the Courts in Cambodia, a tribunal established in 2006 to prosecute the remaining Khmer Rouge leadership.

The present issue of *FOCUS on Global Resources* reports on recent work under the CRL Global Resources Network to identify and resolve issues and challenges CRL universities will face in the continued documentation of the struggle to enforce the Universal Declaration.

—Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.  
President

# The Survival of Human Rights-Related Documentation and Evidence



The recently uncovered archives of the former Guatemalan National Police. Courtesy British Broadcasting Corporation.

The ability of governments, courts, and civil society to deter and punish genocide, state-sponsored violence, and other violations of human rights depends upon access to evidence in the form of documentation of such crimes, and to the records of investigations and proceedings against perpetrators. Truth commissions also rely upon documentation in many forms to carry out their mission of revealing the human cost of atrocity. A credible record of the past is fundamental to healthy civil societies.

Unfortunately, much of the evidence of human rights violations and the records of many courts, commissions, and tribunals simply disappear. This is due to environmental conditions hostile to paper, film, and other tangible recording media, the inherently fugitive nature of electronic communications, and the instability or discontinuity of civil regimes in the regions of origin. While CRL and its member libraries have done much in the past to preserve such materials, today's challenges require new strategies, approaches, and partnerships.

## Types of Human Rights Documentation and Evidence

Documentation and evidence relating to human rights take a number of forms:

### Primary Evidence

Documentation of human rights violations and the events surrounding violations exist in the form of audio, photographs, video and film recordings, and paper and electronic text. *Examples:* the Guatemalan National Police files and Associated Press news photographs of the chemical massacres of the residents of Halabja in northern Iraq.

### Testimony

Written, film, and audio confessions by perpetrators of human rights violations and statements by witnesses of the violations, victims, and survivors of victims. *Examples:* Western eyewitness accounts of the Japanese massacres of Chinese civilians in Nanking in 1936–1938; photographs of individuals disappeared under the Pinochet regime in Chile and transcripts of statements regarding same made by relatives, maintained by the Vicaría de la Solidaridad; testimonies of Holocaust survivors maintained by the USC Visual History Foundation; audio taped confessions of Khmer Rouge field commanders held by the Documentation Center of Cambodia.

### Records of Investigations

The official files and records of investigations and monitoring efforts conducted by governments, intergovernmental bodies, and human rights advocacy and watchdog groups, which may include any or all of the above types of evidence. *Examples:*



Photographs of the dead at Halabja in 1988 made by the Iranian Red Crescent Society; forensic evidence gathered by the Serious Crimes Unit of the United Nations Mission of Assistance to East Timor; statistical reports of human rights abuses gathered and disseminated by the Philippine Commission on Human Rights monitors.

### Records of Proceedings

The official files and records of courts, tribunals, and truth commissions, which may also include any or all of the above types of evidence. *Examples:* Official records of the proceedings of the 1946–1948 Tokyo War Crimes Trials; transcripts of the Amnesty Hearings of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission; 16,000 testimonies compiled by the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the database created to process those testimonies.

### Collecting and Maintaining Human Rights-Related Documentation

Hundreds of organizations throughout the world collect and preserve evidence and documentation of human rights violations, including North American and UK research libraries and archives. The US National Archives and Records Administration, for example, holds the records of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg and the Tokyo War Crimes trials. The Area Microform Projects at the Center for Research Libraries have preserved numerous collections of historical materials documenting human rights violations and advocacy in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Southeast Asia.

Many organizations that maintain important evidence of human rights violations, however, are not libraries, archives, or other traditional “memory institutions,” but civil society organizations and government agencies. Non-governmental advocacy organizations like the Documentation Center of Cambodia in Phnom Penh, the Vicaría de la Solidaridad in Chile, Memoria Abierta in Argentina, the Fundación de Antropología Forense de Guatemala, and many others also gather and maintain documentation of abuses. Such evidence is collected to support these organizations’ work in monitoring human rights violations and seeking redress for the victims and their families.

Others are official government agencies of various countries, charged with investigating crimes against humanity, prosecuting perpetrators, and administering reparations and reconciliation for victims. These include the Department of Justice in South Africa and the Presidential Committee on Human Rights in the Philippines.

Still others are temporary local or international tribunals, established for finite periods of time and thus are not intended to maintain a continuous presence.

These NGOs and governmental bodies maintain evidence not for purposes of academic research but rather to support litigation on behalf of victims, civil and criminal prosecution of the perpetrators of that violence, and reparations made by governments to victims and survivors. The documentation is used by investigators and forensic specialists, prosecutors and advocates, government agencies, officers of the tribunals and international courts, and human rights organizations and monitors.

Often, considerable time elapses—sometimes decades—between the event documented and the proceedings in which the evidence is used. This interim period, and the conditions under which the evidence is often maintained, can put materials at considerable risk, threatening to deprive the victims and survivors of the means of redress and hampering the work of the courts and tribunals.

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Threats include the destruction or loss of integrity owing to the perishable nature of paper, audio, and film materials, especially in tropical climates. Destruction also occurs through deliberate human intervention, loss of provenance, and technological obsolescence of electronic formats and storage media. Even the organizations that maintain human rights archives are exposed to legal and financial jeopardy caused by inadvertent infringement of copyrights and violation of privacy or confidentiality.

Few of these organizations are actually libraries, since national and even university libraries in many regions cannot be trusted to preserve materials that could potentially incriminate powerful public figures or government officials.

If documentation and evidence is to remain available for future legal proceedings, policy researchers, and historians, measures must be taken to strengthen the ability of these entities to maintain the integrity and usability of these resources and to provide for their appropriate disposition and long-term care. ❖

## John and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Colloquium

**Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.**  
Center for Research Libraries



Partially destroyed documents from the office of the Serious Crimes Unit of the United Nations Mission of Assistance to East Timor. Courtesy of the British Library.

In late 2006 CRL began informal discussions with the John and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation about the increasing loss and destruction of human rights-related documentation and evidence. The purpose of the discussions was to determine whether there was a larger role that libraries could play in protecting and preserving such materials. Our interest was prompted by the October 2004 conference at Duke University—*History, Memory and Democracy: Collaborative Digital Access to Research Resources on the Southern Cone*. The Duke conference highlighted the growing challenges human rights organizations in that turbulent region are encountering in their efforts to maintain the records of violent political oppression they have collected and provide appropriate access to those materials.

In February 2006 the MacArthur Foundation convened a small group of experts for a day, to consider issues involving the collection and preservation of such evidence. The organizers wanted attendees to address three aspects of evidence collection and preservation:

1. How is human rights data collected so that it can be used for a number of purposes such as in truth commissions, civil litigation, or criminal litigation?
2. Once collected, how is the data stored or maintained to ensure reliability and accessibility?
3. Once data has been presented as evidence, how is it preserved and made accessible for research and other purposes?

Attending the MacArthur meeting were representatives of several activist organizations, including Human Rights Watch, International Center for Transitional Justice, and the National Security Archive; technology organizations working with activists, including Benetech and Global Voices; the Berkman Center for Internet and Society (Harvard Law School); and representatives of Yale University and Columbia University libraries. Also in attendance was Trudy Huskamp Peterson, consulting archivist and former Acting Archivist of the United States, and Bernard Reilly of the Center for Research Libraries.

Attendees identified a number of areas where libraries and archivists might in fact be useful. They noted that the organizations engaged in collecting and compiling documentation and evidence of violations do not have adequate access to the standards, best practices, legal advice, and tools necessary to enable them to maintain those materials for purposes of reporting and litigation. Three areas in particular seemed worthy of attention:

**1. Collecting the documentation and evidence:** Tools and standards are needed for NGOs, investigators, and others that collect and compile documentation

and testimonies. The tools and standards must be basic enough to match the situation and resources of those engaged in the collecting activities, and there must be adequate incentives for activists to use them.

*Possible action: Create a best practice manual on how to collect human rights documentation.*

**2. Managing the materials collected:** Those in charge of collected human rights-related materials face threats stemming from the sensitive nature of the information contained in those materials. They must be able to prevent unauthorized disclosure of private information, maintain chains of provenance for the materials, authenticate potential users, and update electronic data as software platforms for reading and presenting electronic documentation evolve. Larger NGOs especially may have a disincentive to keep records because of the legal risks, e.g., libel suits. Such records can also potentially jeopardize witnesses and victims identified in same.

*Possible action: Establish regional human rights data centers to provide resources and best practices to groups around the world possibly with an emergency response capability.*

*Possible action: Create “dead drops” for storage of electronic information that would not allow for access or use of the information until legal issues are resolved.*

*Possible action: Commission a paper identifying the sources of legal risks to donors of information and recommend how to mitigate such risks.*

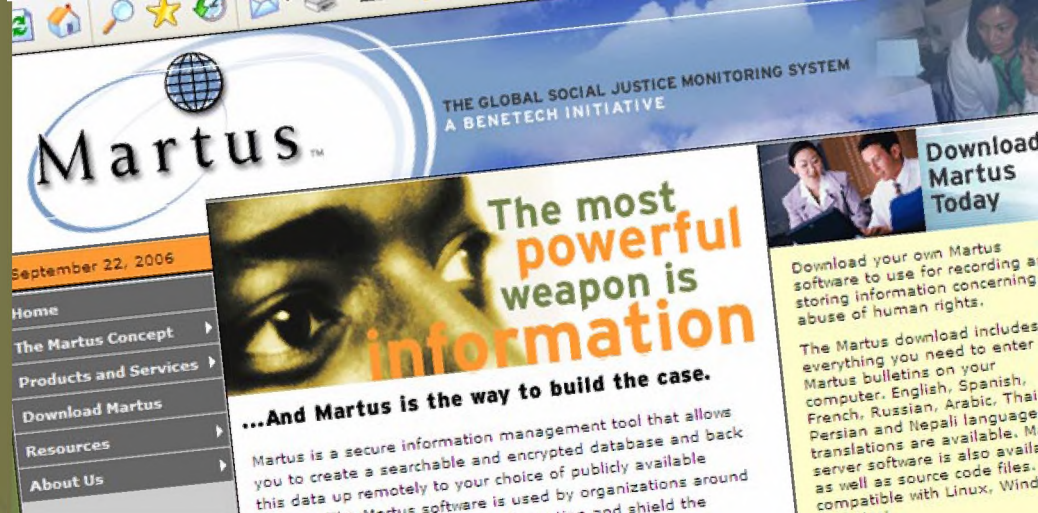
**3. Developing local archive infrastructure:** While some governments have the capacity to establish and maintain human rights archives (or include human rights information in existing national archives), many other governments do not have such capacity or might not themselves be trustworthy guardians of such information. On the other hand, information should be archived in or near the locale where human rights violations took place if at all possible. While this needs to be balanced against the need to maintain copies in other locations to prevent loss from localized natural disasters and politically motivated threats, attendees believed that such “safe” repositories should avoid drawing attention, or resources, away from the originating archive or group.

*Possible action: Promote best practices manual for security of and access to digital human rights information, and other tools and resources that will help local, national, and regional archives build capabilities for protecting and managing sensitive documentation and evidence.*

*Possible action: Promote guides in countries to identify where human rights documentation can be found. ❖*

## Global Resources Forum: “Human Rights Archives and Documentation: Meeting the Needs of Research, Teaching, Advocacy and Justice.”

Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.  
Center for Research Libraries



Web page for Martus software used by human rights organizations to protect sensitive information and shield the identities of victims and witnesses.

To explore these issues further the CRL Global Resources Network, with Columbia's Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research, and the University of Texas Libraries, held a two-day colloquium titled: “Human Rights Archives and Documentation: Meeting the Needs of Research, Teaching, Advocacy and Justice.” The conference was held October 4–6, 2007.

Videos of the presentations and discussions, and the full text of some of the presentations, are available on the conference Web site at <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/humanrights/conferences/2007/>. The videos will also be archived by CRL.

The event—the second in the series of Global Resources Forums—provided a larger venue on the subject for those engaged in archiving, activism, legal training, teaching, and policy and historical research. It brought together representatives from the worlds of human rights advocacy, law, policy research, history, archives, and libraries to consider how human rights-related documentation and evidence have been preserved and maintained in the past, and to determine how best to meet the new challenges identified at the MacArthur meeting.

Presenters described several instances of libraries and archives preserving important human-rights related documentation and evidence. The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration holds the proceedings of the trials of the leadership of Japan and Nazi Germany for war crimes following World War II, and the recorded interviews of Holocaust survivors are preserved by the USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education. Consulting archivists Trudy Peterson and Kate Doyle of the National Security Archives spoke about large collections of recent human rights-related documentation whose fates are uncertain.

Representatives of WITNESS, Amnesty International, and several other advocacy groups then recounted recent developments in human rights monitoring and adjudication. They described new types of documentation and evidence now being created and encountered in the course of their activity and the problems that collecting and maintaining new and traditional forms of documentation can pose for activists and activist organizations.

Presenters from Columbia University School of Law, the American Bar Association Digital Evidence Project, Human Rights Watch, and the International Center for Transitional Justice provided greater detail about how activists, jurists, and the courts use documentation and evidence in their work, to what degree such materials are important to legal proceedings, and how they deal with challenges to the disclosure and admissibility of materials in a legal setting.



*Alice Miller pointed out that teaching human rights is “an endless process of engagement and dialogue,” and that pedagogy must acknowledge that the concept of human rights was constructed, has changed over time, and will continue to change.*

Finally, educators, researchers, and teachers in the fields of law, social science, and history provided perspective on the uses of documentation and evidence in teaching and research. The Cline Center Event Analysis project illustrated how, in the fields of social science and policy research, documentation is being processed and mined by intelligent machines and software. Alice Miller pointed out that teaching human rights is “an endless process of engagement and dialogue,” and that pedagogy must acknowledge that the concept of human rights was constructed, has changed over time, and will continue to change.

### **Varieties of Evidence and Documentation**

Presenters described several major types of documentation and the challenges that these pose for those who collect, use, and maintain them. While technological obsolescence was perceived a problem, more frequently cited were matters of access, privacy, and control.

- **Official records of oppressive regimes**, such as the Guatemalan National Police files; records of the Khmer Rouge Santebal police; the files of the East German Stasi secret police; documents of the Iraqi government genocide of the Kurds at Sulimaniya discovered in Northern Iraq during the first Persian Gulf War. These present special problems of protecting privacy of victims and protecting subjects from potential harm or retribution. They also create awkwardness for current regimes and their allies, often involving matters of national sovereignty.
- **Official records of the proceedings of temporary tribunals and commissions**, such as the 1946–1948 Tokyo War Crimes Trials; records of the International Criminal Tribunal of the Former Yugoslavia; and International Criminal Tribunal on Rwanda and the recordings/transcripts of the testimony given before those courts. These are frequently supplemented by the personal files of judges and other officials attached to those proceedings. Because these courts are usually temporary, the matter of long-term control and accountability for maintaining these materials is often unresolved, leaving victims, survivors, witnesses, and others vulnerable to retribution.
- **Media-generated materials** such as press clippings and tapes and transcripts of broadcasts of news reports of suicides and arrests of sexual minorities collected by Sangama in India; the Cline Center’s database of news reports from FBIS, BBC, *New York Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal*; press materials collected by groups monitoring the media. Here there are restrictions imposed on reuse of proprietary content and undefined requirements for preserving the original context of the reports.
- **“Citizen-generated” documentation** includes cell-phone photographs of recent protests in Myanmar/Burma; postcards to Amnesty International written during a 1980s campaign to recognize wife beating as a violation; video recordings of incidents and violations produced by citizens trained and equipped by WITNESS; and the cell-phone videos of the execution of Saddam Hussein. The usefulness of these forms of evidence often requires collectors to obtain the consent of subjects, and rights to use from producers. The technological obsolescence and compatibility of numerous popular platforms for digital video pose problems as well.
- **Personal testimonies**, such as recorded interviews of Mexican seasonal migrant workers on matters of women’s health, conducted by Centro Mujeres; filmed testimonies of Holocaust survivors maintained by the Visual History Foundation; and audio taped confessions of Khmer Rouge field commanders collected by the Documentation Center of Cambodia. These often must be handled

carefully to balance the need to protect the privacy of victims and subjects with the need to support prosecution, reparations, and the public record.

- **Other kinds of materials created or collected by monitoring groups**, such as forensic evidence and data about human remains gathered by the Serious Crimes Unit of the United Nations Mission of Assistance to East Timor and Web sites generated by human rights groups and archived by the Cline Center and others.
- **The papers and internal records of advocacy and activist organizations themselves**, such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.

## A Multitude of Stakeholder Interests in Preservation

Presentations and discussions also illuminated the needs of the variety of parties that have a stake in how documentation and evidence are handled. In maintaining such materials organizations must address a wide spectrum of needs. They must weigh and reconcile the demands of some stakeholder groups for access to information against those of others for non-disclosure. Because the needs of historians and the courts vary, testimony and evidence might serve the purposes of both truth commissions and civil court prosecutions, but might need to be presented differently for each.

- **Courts, governments**—While the arguments of jurists and the decisions of the courts need to be supported with documentation, the value of paper documents varies from one jurisdiction to the other. Alison DesForges pointed out that in Canadian courts, “Documents are hearsay,” but that in Rwanda a letter provided the basis for conviction of an individual for genocide.
- **Victims and survivors of victims**—Investigators and jurists’ interests are sometimes at odds with victims’ needs for privacy or even in secret. The imperative for individual privacy and confidentiality is often trumped by the psycho-social needs of affected societies for reparations and reconciliation, exposing those in possession of documentation to conflicting demands. Graeme Simpson observed that “forensic truth” differs from “psychological truth,” but that both combine to produce the “meta-narrative” about a society’s history.
- **Advocates**—Ethical problems can arise in the archiving of the internal documents of organizations like Amnesty and Human Rights Watch, which might be under attack by governments or groups. The custodial organization needs to address the matter of eventual disclosure of internal documents and sensitive information early in its collecting activities.
- **Policy researchers, historians, teachers, and others outside the affected societies** are considered secondary stakeholders in the preservation of the archives, but can contribute to the well-being of societies by promoting understanding of data and past events recorded in archives.
- **Archiving organizations**—Custodial organizations must mitigate the threats, arising from their archives, of legal and financial jeopardy and even physical harm not only to external parties, but to their own operations and effectiveness.

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## Broad Goals for Library Action

The conference culminated in a working session during which attendees identified roles that libraries can play in ensuring the integrity and preservation of evidence and documentation. The session identified three fundamental policy considerations that should inform work by libraries that preserve and maintain human rights-related documentation:

1. **Avoiding the “Elgin Marbles Syndrome”**—The prevailing model for preserving cultural materials, exemplified by the acquisition of the Elgin

Marbles by the British Museum, involves Western institutions “harvesting” documentation and evidence from the communities to which those materials pertain. This generally returns few significant benefits to those communities and even results in “asymmetry of access.” Because of this, and because of the special problems associated with human rights-related documentation, it is more appropriate for Western libraries and archives to support archiving within the affected societies wherever possible. Such support would help build capabilities for preserving and protecting memory materials as a component of civil society.

**2. Achieving a High Level of Commitment—**There are potential risks and uncertainties attendant in dealing with human rights-related materials, which are often politically sensitive and can be potential sources of legal, financial, or physical harm to individuals or organizations. Thus collecting and preserving such materials on a meaningful scale by academic libraries, and dealings with organizations and governments with regard to such materials, will have to involve a clear commitment from the university at the highest level.

**3. Preserving Institutional Credibility—**Libraries, particularly Western academic and research libraries, have long been regarded as impartial, disinterested custodians of the historical record. This has been essential to their role in preserving the integrity of documents and their chain of provenance. This credibility stems in part from fact that libraries are embedded in universities, which tend to provide long-term continuity and to be dedicated to fostering free inquiry. The library sector in democratic societies, moreover, is guided by established ethical conventions, such as an emphasis on barrier-free access and the confidentiality of records of materials consulted by patrons. In their interactions with governments, activist organizations, and funders in connection with human rights documentation, libraries will have to be careful to avoid the perception of political bias or orientation, or competing with NGOs for support.

## **What a Global Resources Human Rights Archives and Documentation Effort Might Look Like**

The forum provided a clear blueprint for immediate and long-term library action. Consensus of the attendees was that libraries must support the effective collecting, safekeeping, and appropriate accessibility of archives and documentation regarding violations of human rights and the prevention and prosecution of those abuses in all world regions. The term “human rights” as applied here would refer to those rights specifically described in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Such efforts should encompass the records of official tribunals, courts, truth commissions, and investigations of human rights violations; the records of non-governmental organizations devoted to monitoring and documenting human rights violations; the evidence and documentation collected by those official and non-governmental organizations; and independently gathered documentation of such violations.

Three basic activities should be undertaken:

1. Support the placement of human rights-related archives and documentation in appropriate, qualified repositories that are well positioned to serve the interests of the victims and affected communities, national and international legal regimes, and future historians. The most urgent need in this area is to press the United Nations to provide for the long-term preservation of the records of the international criminal tribunals it established in Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and elsewhere.

2. Support efforts by NGOs and local and regional archives and organizations to identify, gather, and effectively maintain human rights-related documentation and evidence, by assisting them in strengthening their technical, legal, organizational, and administrative capabilities.
3. Facilitate the preservation and accessibility of human rights-related archives and documentation by providing GRN institutions information about the nature and status of such materials, and other information and communications support for their collecting and preservation activities.

As an immediate first step CRL Global Resources Network initiated a campaign to encourage the United Nations to provide for the protection and proper disposition of the records of the international criminal tribunals established by the UN in Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and elsewhere since 1993. The survival of these records is an issue of grave importance and urgency to the academic community and CRL constituents are now urging the U.S. Department of State to take a position in favor of prompt measures by the UN to ensure their permanent retention and protection.

In the coming months CRL Global Resources will endeavor to bring together a community of interest within the CRL membership to implement and support the activities outlined above. This effort must involve cooperation between a variety of actors, including local activist organizations, governments, and international non-governmental organizations, as well as research libraries. CRL has a long history of promoting such collaboration. We will report on this effort as it develops. ❖



## Special Focus: *Aquí* (La Paz, Bolivia)

**David Block**

*Ibero-American Bibliographer*  
*Cornell University Library*



Masthead of *Aquí* newspaper, published in La Paz, Bolivia. CRL Latin America Microform Project collections.

The 1970s and 80s were a dark period for human rights in much of Latin America. During these years, Bolivia, like neighboring Argentina and Chile, endured a period of ferocious military rule. Coups and counter-coups installed a series of regimes, each intent on stifling political dissent, eliminating opposition leaders, and suppressing workers' organizations. As they took power, the military immediately impounded television and radio broadcasting, and, gradually—using force and intimidation—effectively eliminated journalistic criticism, as well. By the end of 1979 only one source, the weekly newspaper, *Aquí*, provided reliable information on Bolivia's rapidly deteriorating human rights climate.

*Aquí* was the creation of Luis Espinal, a Catalan Jesuit who emigrated to Bolivia as a missionary in 1969. Espinal came of age in Franco's Spain and was no stranger to political repression or to the ways of resisting it. In addition to his religious education, he was a trained journalist and film critic, and soon after arriving in Bolivia, he began to write for the La Paz daily, *Presencia*. But unable to tolerate the increasing restraints that military regimes placed on the mainstream press, Espinal and a small group of young journalists—including René Boscopé and Lupe Cajías—launched *Aquí* in March of 1979.

From its beginning, *Aquí* reported the arbitrary arrests and acts of torture conducted by the military; published interviews with Bolivian church officials, highly critical of these actions; and gave details of active opposition to the generals, especially in the tin mines. In addition, *Aquí*'s articles exposed the corruption of top-ranking military officials, most notably their involvement in the burgeoning cocaine trade. The editors added zest to their publication by savagely lampooning the generals with caricatures that spoke clearly to Bolivia's many illiterates.

On February 8, 1980, the newspaper's offices were bombed and heavily damaged, and a month later, Espinal's brutally-disfigured body was discovered on the outskirts of La Paz. Though *Aquí* would go underground later in the year, it continued to publish, under the editorship of René Boscopé. With the fall of General Luis García Meza in August of 1981 and the coming to power of a military junta that pledged itself to enabling democratic elections, *Aquí* resumed normal operations, but it never lost its vision of demanding human rights and human dignity for all of Bolivian society, especially for those citizens unable neither to resist oppression nor to escape it.

The Latin America Microform Project (LAMP) collection of *Aquí* contains 615 issues (March 17, 1979, to December 17, 1993), the periodical's full run, including the "ediciones clandestinas," published underground in 1980. The paper originals are part of the Centro de Investigación y Promoción del Campesinato (CIPCA) Library in La Paz, Bolivia. ♦

## Human Rights Before, During, and After World War II

Mary Wilke

Jacob Marcet

Center for Research Libraries



Hideki Tojo, the former Japanese premier and war minister during World War II, before the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (1946–1948). Courtesy National Archives and Records Administration.

The following are a few selected microform sources held by CRL dealing with human rights violations in Europe before and during World War II. The list also includes resources concerning the aftermath of the war in Europe, Asia, and Israel, such as the Nuremberg and Far East war crimes trials, the formation of the Israeli state, and the arrest and conviction of Adolf Eichmann.



Eichmann, Adolf, 1906–1962, defendant. [The Attorney-General of the Government of Israel v. Adolf, the son of Karl Adolf Eichmann: minutes of session.](#)

Captured in 1960, Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann was brought to Israel to face charges for crimes against humanity. The case of Adolf Eichmann was the first and only time in Israeli history that the country's death penalty was used. This nine volume set includes the minutes of his trial as taken from one of the four simultaneous translations.



[Nazi propaganda literature in the Library of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.](#)

This collection contains over 1,200 titles from the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. It is filled with unique items, such as anti-Semitic writing which served as the foundation for dealing with the "Jewish Question." Included in the set are knapsack books that were given to German soldiers to indoctrinate them with Nazi belief systems, and extremely rare items, such as books that refer to the Holocaust as it was happening.

nate them with Nazi belief systems, and extremely rare items, such as books that refer to the Holocaust as it was happening.



[The Jewish people from Holocaust to nationhood: archives of the Central British Fund for Jewish Relief, 1930–1960.](#)

This three unit set is a collection of documents from the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief. Documents include minutes from meetings that set in place relief efforts for German Jews as early as 1933, reports on the growing pressure to create an independent Jewish state, and post-war documents dealing with resettlement and restitution for those affected by Nazi actions.



[Germany. Reichsministerium für die Besetzten Ostgebiete. Records of the Reichs Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories, 1941–1945.](#)

This set is taken from the Nazi Germany office of the Reichs Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories and contains records of the daily actions of the Nazi regime as it economically, culturally, and militarily subdued the territories east of Germany.




[Germany \(Territory under Allied Occupation, 1945–U.S. Zone\) Military Tribunals. \[Trial of the war criminals before the Nuremberg Military Tribunals under Control Council](#)

[Law no. 10. October 1946–April 1949\] “Subsequent proceedings.”](#)

**Goring, Hermann, 1893–1946, defendant.** [Trial of the major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg, 14 November 1945–1 October 1946.](#)


**International Military Tribunal (Nuremberg, 1945–1949).** [\[Trial of the major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg, 14 November 1945–1 October 1946\].](#)

The Center has near-complete holdings of the transcripts of the Nazi war crimes trials. This includes both the German Military Tribunals and the more famous Nuremberg Military Tribunals. Gathered from the original court documents, the series chronicles the trials of 12 defendants in the earlier war crimes trials, the 24 defendants of the Nuremberg trials, and the complete transcripts of the Hermann Goring trial.

 **Privatbanken in der NS-Zeit. Rundschreiben der Wirtschaftsgruppe Privates Bankgewerbe 1934–1945.**


Established in 1934, the Wirtschaftsgruppe Privates Bankgewerbe played a vital role in the National Socialist oppression of Jews in Germany. The Wirtschaftsgruppe not only con-

tributed decisively to the deprivation of rights of German and European Jews—through seizing and liquidating their bank accounts—but it also gave the Nazi regime’s illegal activities an air of legality. Several times a week until Germany’s surrender in April of 1945, the Wirtschaftsgruppe would issue reports to private banks giving detailed instructions on how to deal with the technical—and quite illegal—aspects of expropriating funds from Jewish citizens. Because they were work documents, the reports were printed in small numbers and are very rare. Gathered together in this microfiche addition, the set is a valuable resource for researching particular victims of the Holocaust, as the records are searchable by name. The actions of individual banks can be examined, as well. Broader study of the economics of the Nazi regime would also be supported by this document.

 **Conditions and politics in occupied Western Europe, 1940–1945: selected from PRO class FO 371.**

Gathered by the British Foreign Office from the western European countries occupied by Nazi forces during World War II, this set includes many primary sources related to life in the countries under occupation. The documents range from attempts by the Germans

to win-over resistance groups and the propaganda used to wage psychological warfare, to reactions to significant events, such as the German invasion of Russia.

 **Court papers, journal, exhibits, and judgments of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East.**

**International Military Tribunal for the Far East.** [\[Proceedings\].](#)

**International Military Tribunal for the Far East.** [Record of proceedings.](#)

**International Military Tribunal for the Far East.** [\[Tokyo war crimes trials\] index of exhibits.](#)

**International Military Tribunal for the Far East.** [The Tokyo war crimes trial: index and guide.](#)

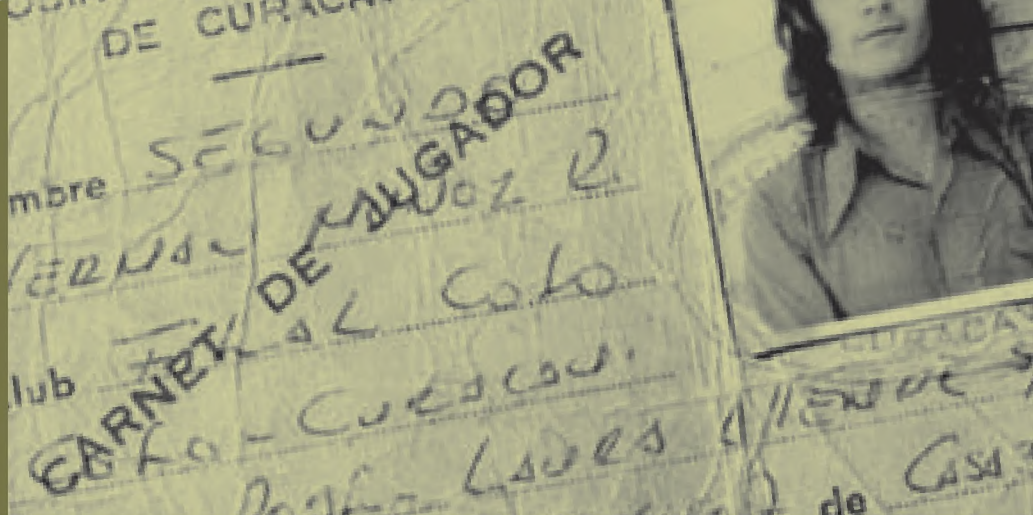
The International Military Tribunal for the Far East was created in the wake of World War II and dealt with the prosecution of more than 5,700 individuals. Crimes ranged from military aggression to crimes against humanity (the Nanking Massacre). All told, more than 500 people were convicted, with 149 executed. These documents range from court transcripts to inventories of exhibits called into record. ❖



## CRL Collections: Late 20th Century

James Simon

Center for Research Libraries



Identification card of a Chilean citizen believed to have been “disappeared” during the Pinochet regime (1973–1990). Courtesy Fundación de Documentación y Archivo de la Vicaría de la Solidaridad.

The Center for Research Libraries holds a wide variety of materials that may be utilized in the study and teaching of the history of the struggle for human rights in the 20th century. From news and broadcast reports to publications of non-commercial and non-governmental organizations, CRL's serial holdings contain valuable source documentation. Examples include holdings of *South Africa Outlook*, which since 1870 has documented racial affairs in Africa; Indonesian political tabloids following the fall of Suharto; and newspapers that documented the tumultuous events of Liberia's two civil wars, even as the press buildings were looted and destroyed.


Considerably more documentation may be found in the print and microfilm sets of archives and collections of ephemera acquired through the CRL's Demand Purchase Program, the Purchase Proposal Program, and the work of the Area Studies Microform projects. The following list highlights major and interesting collections of materials available to CRL members.

### Africa

 **Human Rights Documents.**  
Africa (OCLC# [11202638](#)).


This microfilm set from IDC offers coverage of various NGOs concerned with human rights and social justice in Africa. Contents include publications from organizations in the U.S. (e.g.,

Africa News Service, American Committee on Africa), Europe (Committee on South African War Resistance), and Africa (primarily Southern Africa). An index is available from the Center (OCLC# [16116718](#)).

 **Somalia Newspapers, post-Barre period** (OCLC# [35450242](#), [43791290](#), **Somalia Reports, post-Barre period** (OCLC# [35450243](#), [43791286](#), [43791288](#)).

These collections of newspapers published in Mogadishu, Hargeisa, and other locations following the overthrow of Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991, document the growing instability and violence within the country. The Somalia reports document relief organizations on the ground in Somalia and the increasing risks and challenges they faced. Indexes are available on the first microfiche of each set.

### Latin America

 **Brasil—Nunca Mais Project** (OCLC# [31811010](#)).

The Latin American Microform Project (LAMP) holds 543 rolls of microfilm containing court documents (*procesos*) from Brazil's Military Supreme Court. These proceedings document the cases of over 7,000 persons arrested and/or charged and/or convicted and/or executed by the Court between 1964–1979. The official records, which were copied in secret, document human



rights violations by the military government in Brazil during this period.

This vast collection is described and indexed in the 12-volume publication *Projeto “Brasil, nunca mais”* (OCLC# 47935623), also filmed by LAMP.



**Documenting the Peruvian Insurrection** (OCLC# 77527458).

Documenting the Peruvian Insurrection is a collection of ephemera that includes printed materials authored by the Sendero Luminoso and reports of the Peruvian government institutions trying to contain the insurrection launched by this group. The contents provide illumination on the motivations of all parties and the atrocities inflicted in the conflict documented in Gustavo Gorriti Ellenbogen’s *“The Shining Path: A History of the Millenarian War in Peru”* (1999). This documentation purportedly is second only to the records collected by the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission convened in 2001. A detailed collection guide is available from the Center (OCLC# 77528626), and also [online](#).



**Fundación P.I.D.E.E. archive** (OCLC# 61312328).

The Fundación para la Protección de la Infancia Dañada por los Estados de Emergencia (P.I.D.E.E.) was founded in 1979 during the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile in order to address the needs of children and relatives affected by the brutal repression of the military government.

From 1973–1990, the Pinochet regime repressed civil rights and routinely detained, imprisoned, tortured, or executed thousands of political opponents and ordinary citizens. PIDEE was established to provide medical, psychological, and educational assistance to children and teenagers who suffered, either directly or indirectly, from the repression and violence of the military regime. The case files document the work of PIDEE with these children, as well as services for families reunified after returning from exile.

LAMP worked with the organization, as well as Harvard University’s PLALA program, to organize and preserve the written case files.



**Guatemala News and Information Bureau archive, 1963–2000** (OCLC# 61728183).

Series 5 of the “Latin American history and culture series” (Civil War, society, and political transition in Guatemala) consists of the archive of the Guatemala News and Information Bureau (GNIB), a center based in Berkeley, California devoted to research on human rights and other issues in Guatemala. The collection documents a wide variety of issues, including political organizations, social and cultural issues, foreign policy, and human rights spanning the 1963 to 2000 timeframe.

Of particular note are the collections of ephemera relating to politics and government, human rights, and popular and democratic organizations. Also included in the collection are runs of more than 125 serials, including many NGO and human rights publications received and collected by the GNIB. The collection also offers published pamphlets and reports on human rights and politics as well as news clippings on a variety of subjects. A detailed collection guide is available from the Center (OCLC# 77538628), and also [online](#).



**North American Congress on Latin America Archive of Latin Americana** (OCLC# 39128578).

The North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) was founded in 1966 by a group of individuals and organizations on the political left in reaction to U.S. intervention in Latin American politics and economies. The organization’s archive contains a wide range of primary and secondary source documentation, including serials, reports, fliers, pamphlets, posters, manuscripts, and correspondence. The contents “examine the interrelationships between multiple forms of social exclusion—class, race, gender, ethnicity, sexuality—that are

at the heart of the ongoing militarism, human rights violations, environmental destruction, and poverty that plague the region.”<sup>1</sup>

The NACLA Archive consists of country files with topical subdivisions, including sections on politics, government, socioeconomic conditions, agriculture, solidarity groups, human and civil rights, racial groups, women and gender issues, culture, church and religion, and environment and ecology.

Records exist in CRL’s catalog for each country, with detailed content statements. A detailed collection guide is available in print from the Center (OCLC# 40727190), and also [online](#).



**Princeton University Latin American Pamphlet collection** (OCLC# 55013846).

Princeton University has a strong history of collecting important ephemera (pamphlets, posters, noncommercial serials, working papers, and government publications) from all over Latin America. These materials often represent the only available information on regional and national movements, parties, and organizations on religious, educational, political, social, and economic topics.<sup>2</sup> The extensive collection provides the researcher with important primary source documentation on social, economic, and political changes in Latin America. The set has particular strengths in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, and Nicaragua, but contains documentation from most countries in Central and South America as well as the Caribbean.

The material is organized by country and according to particular topics, including politics; government; socioeconomic conditions; agriculture;

<sup>1</sup> From “About NACLA” <http://www.nacla.org/about.php> (accessed November 28, 2007).

<sup>2</sup> From publisher’s catalog: <http://www.galegroup.com/servlet/ItemDetailServlet?region=9&imprint=745&titleCode=SR426&type=2&id=225126> (accessed November 28, 2007).

constitutions; laws and codes; human and civil rights; racial groups; women and gender issues; culture; and church and religion. Individual records for each country and topic exist in CRL's catalog. A detailed collection guide is available from the Center (OCLC# [28225005](#)).

## South Asia



### South Asia Ephemera Collection: Human Rights Series.

Reports and pamphlets from varying organizations are routinely captured by the Library of Congress field offices in New Delhi and microfiched as part of their "South Asia ephemera collection" series. Materials include documents from such organizations as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Indian Social Institute, Institute of Kashmir Studies, People's Union for Democratic Rights, and the Institute of Human Rights in Sri Lanka.

Items filmed in these series are generally not cataloged by title and are described only by a series record such as "Human Rights in India, Part 2." While the LC field office tracks titles via a local database, this finding aid is restricted by IP authentication. For the purposes of this article, detailed title lists for sets with human rights publications available at the Center can be found at [this link](#) on the SAMP collections page.

## Southeast Asia



### Khmer Rouge top secret San-tebal (S-21) archives (OCLC# [43597719](#)).

This collection of records of the Khmer Rouge state police archives was preserved by the Documentation Center of Cambodia and gained international attention as part of the records being used as evidence by the Khmer Rouge Tribunal in Cambodia. An article on this collection was featured in the [Fall 2005 issue](#) of *FOCUS*.



### Thai National Collection— publications relating to the Karen State.

Collected by the Library of Congress field staff in Jakarta and Bangkok on behalf of the Center, a number of publications published in Thailand are available relating to the forced migration and displacement of the minority Karen people in Myanmar. A sample of publications include:

- The 1997 offensives: suffering and struggle for identity and justice of the ethnic Karen in Burma (OCLC# [39648383](#))
- Conflict and displacement in Karenni: the need for considered approaches (OCLC# [44574917](#))
- Forgotten victims of a hidden war: internally displaced Karen in Burma (OCLC# [41904043](#))
- Karen IDPs report: the plight of internally displaced persons in Mu Traw district of Burma (OCLC# [70663518](#)). ☎

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