

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION: RALPH AND DOROTHY GIBSON

ACCESSION NO: 81/153; 83/85; 84/127

CATEGORY: Community and Political, Organisations
ACTIVITY: Political Activists; Conscientious Objectors; Communists

DATE RANGE: 1933-1983

SIZE OF COLLECTION: 0.6m (3 x 17 cm archive boxes; one 8.5 cm; photographs)

DATES OF TRANSFER: June 1981; June 1983; January 1984

ACCESS CONDITIONS: Open

HISTORICAL NOTE: Ralph Gibson was born in London in 1906 and came to Australia six years later. He graduated in history and political science from Melbourne University, where his father and brother were both Professors of Philosophy. He returned to England and in 1930 gained an M.A. in economics from Manchester University. He joined the Australian Communist Party in 1932 and was soon elected to its Central Committee. He and Dorothy Gibson married in 1937, an association which lasted more than forty years until her death in January 1978. Dorothy's contribution was strongest in the Australian peace movements of the 1950s to 1970s. Her story was told by Ralph in *One woman's life: a memoir of Dorothy Gibson* Hale & Iremonger, 1980. Ralph Gibson died in 1989.
Source: Sedy, John. *Ralph Gibson: an extraordinary communist*. Ralph Gibson Biography Committee, 1988.

**NOTE ON
COLLECTIONS:**

81/153: Papers regarding campaign against the Vietnam War including publicity and publications; minutes, papers, correspondence, handbills, posters and photographs relating to the campaigns and organisations, including the A.L.P., the C.P.A., anti-conscription and conscientious objection, Save Our Sons, Medical Aid for Vietnam, the Moratorium campaigns.

83/85: Subject files relating to the peace movement in Australia, including notes, handbills, pamphlets regarding C.I.C.D. 1959, anti-Vietnam War movement, Peking Peace Congress, opposition to Japanese rearmament.

84/127: Papers regarding the 1971 National Anti War Congress, Sydney; photograph of Gibson and other delegates at the Brussels Peace Congress, 1936.

**NOTE ON
LISTING:**

This list combines the three Gibson accessions above, which have also been physically amalgamated. The Ralph Gibson news clippings collection (**Acc. no. 89/112**) has been separately listed:

**LISTED BY:
DATE:**

Les Dalton
July - August 2004

	1	Gibson Papers: Australian Peace Movement	
1	1/1	Flyers for meetings addressed by Japanese visitors and screening of film "Voice of Hiroshima"; broadsheets in campaign against the rearmament of Japan.	1951-1957
	1/2	Press clippings on Peking Peace Conference and the Australian delegation.	1952
	1/3	Campaign leaflets, articles including "Invasion & invaders" by Wilfred Burchett; a Liberal Party pamphlet "Facts about South Vietnam" and "Thieu's Political Prisoners"; press clippings on campaign against Vietnam War.	1962-1975
	1/4	Leaflets, circulars and press clippings on trade union actions against Vietnam War; Labor Party policy on Vietnam War; Seamen's Union ban on shipment of supplies to Vietnam.	1962-1972
	1/5	Leaflets, circulars and press clippings on church campaigns for peace in Vietnam and against conscription, and war profits; a report: "Catholics for Peace Conference"; meetings addressed by overseas speakers including Dr Spock; Report on 13th World Conference Against A and H Bombs.	1964-1969
	1/6	Leaflets, circulars and press clippings on Moratorium Campaign and anti-conscription campaigns and demonstrations; minutes of campaign meetings; articles including "Revolutionaries and the moratorium" by Albert Langer, and "Tax Resistance" flyers and bulletins press clippings on Vietnam.	1970
	1/7	Campaign flyers, circulars, broadsheets, stickers and press clippings on Vietnam Moratorium Campaign and anti-conscription campaigns, and demonstrations.	1972
	1/8	Booklets and articles on 1916 - 1917 anti-conscription campaigns: "Australian Victory over Conscription in 1917" by E J Holloway, "The Conscription Plebiscites in Australia 1916-17" and "A Story of the 1916 and 1917 Campaigns in Victoria" by Bertha Walker; a flyer on Support Anti-War Conference (1933); "The truth about ANZAC" by L P Fox.	1933- c.1930s
	1/9	Broadsheets, circulars & press clippings on July 4 Anti-Vietnam War demonstrations at US Consulate.	1966-1970
2	1/10	Press clippings on protests against conscription,	1966-1970

Vietnam War and the use of napalm produced by Dow Chemical Co.

	1/11	Press clippings and booklet on US President Johnson's visit: "Facts About the Anti LBJ Demonstration".	1966
	1/12	Booklets, leaflets and press clippings on conscientious objection and resistance to conscription; demonstration against by-law restricting leaflet hand-out.	1969-72
	1/13	Leaflets, notices of meetings and press clippings on conscription; Youth Campaign Against Conscription leaflets and newsletters.	1968-1972
	1/14	Leaflets, notices and press clippings on court proceedings and campaigns to free jailed draft resisters; government releases on draft resisters.	1968-73
	1/15	Save Our Sons bulletins, leaflets and press clippings; 'The Fairlie Five' episode. [Note: Photograph of family members outside Fairlie prison relocated to photographic storage. Item No BWP 2322, Series No. 2/10].	1966-1972
	1/16	Leaflets, notices of meetings and press clippings on conscription protest; pamphlets: "Why Register for National Service" and "We Resist Because"; Draft Resisters' Union leaflets & bulletins.	1966-1972
	1/17	Signed press advertisements calling to stop the war in Vietnam.	1966-1967
	1/18	Bertrand Russell appeal for peace in Vietnam; International Tribunal on war in Vietnam.	1964-1967
	1/19	Anti-Vietnam War campaign bulletins, pamphlets and newsletters: "Viet Protest News", "Vietnam Action", "Sanity", "Inscape", "Vietnam" by J F Cairns", "Fifteen Years of Peace Fronts" by J P Forrester and "Hoa Bihn – The Third Force and the Struggle for Peace in Vietnam".	1966-1973
3	1/20	Anti-Vietnam War campaign bulletins and newsletters including: 'Viet Report', South East ASIAN affairs", "Union of Australian Women Newsletter", "Documents on the War in Vietnam", issued by World Peace Council.	1964-73
	1/21	Leaflets & notices of films and theatre performances on Vietnam War	1966

	1/22	Visits by Vietnamese delegations.	1972-1975
	1/23	Medical Aid Fund for the Vietnamese.	1967-1970
	1/24	Notices and circulars on peace conferences including "Conference on resources for peace & social change" (1974), Australian Peace Congresses (1950, 1959 and 1959); Melbourne University Peace Club; Petitions for "Pact of Peace between the Five Great Powers" (1951) and "Appeal Against the Preparations for Nuclear War" (1955).	1951-1983
	1/25	Papers delivered at the National Anti-War Congress, Sydney, 1971, Australian Congress for International Cooperation & disarmament" (1964)	1971
	1/26	Vietnamese publications on resistance against invasion; the social and environmental impacts of the war.	1953-1972
4	1/27	Vietnamese publications on resistance against invasion; the social and environmental impacts of the war.	1945-1972
	1/28	Photographs copied from the Saigon and foreign press (incomplete set of 58). Title list (included): A: US-Diem schemes to increase military forces and prepare war in Vietnam. B; Policy of terror and massacre in South Vietnam. C: Life of the Vietnam people. D: The South Vietnam people's struggle against the US-Diem regime. E: Some photographs on the US-Diem plane shot down on July 2 1961.	1961- c.1972
Storage No	2	Photographs	
BWP 2313	2/1	Peace Movement, Anti-Vietnam War Campaign Four of the Australian delegates to the Brussels Peace Congress – L to R: Mr & Mrs Watt, NSW Branch, League of Nations Union, Mrs Ife of the Student Christian Movement and Ralph Gibson of the Victorian Campaign Against War and Fascism. Rev. Palmer Phillips was the International Peace Committee delegate.	1936
BWP 2314	2/2	Friends of the Soviet Union (FOSU) Conference, February 1936 (with negatives): Upper: W J Thomas, Editor of "Soviets Today" addressing the conference.	1936

Lower: Portion of delegates and visitors.
 Left: "Soviets Today" and companion papers from other countries.
 Right: "Soviets Today", illegal organ of the underground German F.O.S.U.
 [includes negatives].

BWP 2315	2/3	Children on a lorry with balloons and peace flags at a demonstration in Melbourne during the Vietnam War.	c. 1970
BWP 2316	2/4	Professor Joliot Curie, President of the World Peace Council [postcard].	c. 1950s
BWP 2317	2/5	Vietnam delegation; delegate addressing reception.	1975
BWP 2318	2/6	Reception for Vietnam delegation.	1975
BWP 2319	2/7	Anti-Vietnam War rally in Treasury Gardens Melbourne.	8 May 1970
BWP 2320	2/8	Plenary session of the conference founding of the Congress for International Cooperation and Disarmament (CICD) at South Melbourne Town Hall.	1959
BWP 2321	2/9	A street march [possibly Melbourne Vietnam Moratorium; marchers include Jim Cairns, Joan Coxedge]	c. 1970
BWP 2322	2/10	Family members outside Fairlie prison. [Note: Photograph relocated from 1/15 above]	c. 1971

Vietnam and Vietnam War

[Note: **Warning.** Please be aware that the photographs listed below include some graphic images of injured and deceased persons].

BWP 2323	2/11	Vietnam battle scene.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2324	2/12	Vietnamese victims of war.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2325	2/13	War damage scene in Vietnam.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2326	2/14	A village razed to ground in Vietnam War.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2327	2/15	An inscription on a B52 grounded by the No 1 army and people on Dec.19.	c. 1970-1972

BWP 2328	2/16	Mothers and children killed by B52s at the entrance to the Bach Mai hospital Dec 22.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2329	2/17	Civilians killed in the B52 raid on Kham Thieu Street.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2330	2/18	Woman being rescued from war torn houses.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2331	2/19	Crashed warplane in field.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2332	2/20	People inspecting crashed warplane.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2333	2/21	People inspecting crashed war plane.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2334	2/22	Section of crashed plane.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2335	2/23	People inspecting crashed warplane.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2336	2/24	Unidentified visitors inspecting Vietnamese engineering plant.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2337	2/25	Unidentified visitors farewelling Vietnamese at airport.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2338	2/26	US General Margare of the MAAG received by Nguyen Dihn Thuan at Saigon.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2339	2/27	Tan Phu villagers in mourning dress march on district administrative board calling for cessation of murders and punishing criminals.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2340	2/28	General Le Van Ty, South Vietnam Army Staff, meets General Lyn Lemmutser (?) in Saigon to discuss intensifying military action.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2341	2/29	May Day, South Vietnamese march under banner "early achievement of peaceful national reunification".	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2342	2/30	Vietnamese demonstrate for democratic freedoms.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2343	2/31	Vietnamese demonstrate for implementation of Article 14 C of the Geneva Convention.	c. 1970-1972
BWP 2344	2/32	Mrs Than Thi Tang crying over her son killed by a B52	1972

bomber 25 December 1972.

LIST ENDS

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