



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Coldicutt, Kenneth John
ACCESSION NO	2003.0111
CATEGORY ACTIVITY	Labour, individual, Political and community activity Promotion of alternative film and political rights
DATE RANGE	1934 - 1993
SIZE OF COLLECTION	10 Boxes (1.65m)
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>Ken Coldicutt (1915 – 1993) was born the first of eight children. While a student at Melbourne University in the 1930s Kenneth Coldicutt became interested in the social and political impact of film culture. He published 'Cinema and Capitalism' in the Labor Club magazine, <i>Proletariat</i>. He joined the Communist Party in 1935 but resigned in 1951 over issues of film culture. During the Spanish Civil War he toured several states exhibiting films about the war and raising money for the Spanish Relief Committee. After two years as a senior maths and science teacher he enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force, serving as a gunner. He was a founder of the Realist Film Unit (later Realist Film Association) and produced films on such social issues as house evictions and child deprivation. (See 'The Archive project – The Realist Film Unit in Cold War Australia'.) The Association published newsletters and magazines, distributed and screened films and held forums on film appreciation. While secretary of the Association Coldicutt organised a campaign against film censorship. He was a co-author of <i>Rooted in Secrecy – the clandestine element in Australia politics</i>.</p> <p>He was married twice, the first time to Dorothy and the second to Elizabeth. In later life he had a long term relationship with Anna Muir. With Elizabeth he was involved in the Realist Film Society. He pioneered in the Federation of Victorian Film Societies and the Melbourne Film Festival.</p> <p>In later life Coldicutt collected and distributed rare books. He bequeathed his collection to the Latrobe University Library.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	2003

ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open with the exception of files 4/1- 4/3 (Box 10) comprising private letters – Embargo until 2020.
DESCRIPTION	Personal papers of Ken Coldicutt and his families and friends, Including correspondence, diaries, certificates, newsletters, magazines, notices of film screenings, discussion papers and catalogues. Papers of Realist Film Association; Victorian Federation of Film Societies; Melbourne Film Festival; Friends of the Soviet Union; Spanish Relief films.
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	
NOTE ON LISTING	
LISTED BY	Les Dalton
DATE	February 2009

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	1	Realist Film Association	
1	1/1	Bulletins:: <i>Realist Film News</i> , 1950 – 1953; <i>Close-Up</i> , October, 1949; <i>The Realist Review</i> , March, 1950; <i>New Theatre Review</i> May 1946; <i>Screening the Past – Aspects of Early Australian Film</i> ; <i>Overland Summer 1958</i> .	1949 – 1950
1	1/2	Constitution of the Realist Film Association and amendments; circulars, reports, minutes of meetings and discussion papers concerning the aim of the association to promote film as a force for social change, the exhibiting of film relating to the life and problems of ordinary people; ‘Behind the Front – The Realist Film Unit and Association’	1947 – 1993
1	1/3	Realist Film Association discussion papers on future activities and political aims of the realist film associations.	1946 – 1956
1	1/4	Realist Film Association Realist Film Association circulars with notices of film showings and discussion of the films and their producers.	1944 – 1951
1	1/5	Realist Film Association circulars with notices of film showings and discussion of the films and their producers.	1946 – 1954
2	1/6	Realist Film Association printed flyers and invitation cards for showings of classical European, Russian and Chinese film.	c.1950
2	1/7	Realist Film Association correspondence	1936 – 1952
2	1/8	‘Cinema and capitalism’ by Ken Coldicutt with introduction by Dean Williams. . A draft CV including note on political affiliations.	1935 – 1997
2	1/9	Constitution of Federation of Victorian Film Societies, minutes of meetings, ‘Journal’ October 1950 and ‘Federation News’, November 1956	1950 – 1956
2	1/10	Australian Council of Film Societies notices of meetings, an open letter discussing activities, Newsletter No 3, December 1981 of the Australian Association of Film and Video Libraries.	1950 – 1981
2	1/11	Melbourne Film Festival, minutes of Organising Committee, 1953 Festival; report on the 1955 Festival.	1953 - 1955
2	1/12	Exhibiting classical Soviet films	1947 – 1949
2	1/13	Music for silent film showings	ND
2	1/14	Realist Film Association promotion of film in the trade union movement	1946 – 1951
2	1/15	Realist Film Association and New Theatre posters and banner	ND
	2	Forums, papers, and articles on film appreciation	
2	2/1	Discussion papers on social role of cinema including ‘Origins of Cinema; ‘ The promotion of Soviet Cinema’ and ‘In Defence of Silent Film’.	ND
2	2/2	Forums 1 – 5 a series of discussions on the processes of	1954

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		film making	
3	2/3	Forums 6 – 13 a series of discussions on the processes of film making.	1954 -
3	2/4	Forums 1 – 5 a repeat series of discussions on the processes of film making.	1955
3	2/5	Projection and visual education	ND
3	2/6	Notes on films and film making (mostly hand written); 'In	ND
3	2/7	Notes on the film 'Fall of Berlin'	ND
	3	School studies in film appreciation	
3	3/1	Camberwell Grammar School Film Society.- discussion notes on films shown to classes	1969 – 1971
3	3/2	Camberwell Grammar School Film Society .- discussion notes on films shown to classes	1971
3	3/3	Camberwell Grammar School Film Society .- discussion notes on films shown to classes; a list of 16mm film productions	ND
3	3/4	Camberwell Grammar School Film Society - notices of film showings	ND
3	3/5	Camberwell Grammar School Film Society – accounts of society activity, 'Visual Literacy at Camberwell Grammar School'. Membership Cards; 'Program of visit of UNESCO seminar'.	1967 – 1970
3	3/6	Camberwell Grammar School Film Society 'Film Comment	ND
4	3/7	Film appreciation for Tasmanian Schools	ND
4	3/8	Film appreciation for Tasmanian schools	ND
	4	Correspondence, diaries and personal papers	
10	4/1	Personal correspondence (inwards & outwards) with Dorothy "Dodo" Coldicutt – CLOSED until 2020	1954 – 1963
10	4/2	Personal correspondence (inwards & outwards) with Dorothy "Dodo" Coldicutt – CLOSED until 2020	1943 – 1960
10	4/3	Personal correspondence (inwards & outwards) with Elizabeth "Betty" Coldicutt – CLOSED until 2020	1937 – 1960
4	4/4	Documents relating to the death of Ken Coldicutt: death certificate; instructions re burial; 'Some Memories of Ken Coldicutt', Amirah Inglis.	
4	4/5	War service documents: war record; correspondence; class notes on telegraphy and radar; Special Ration Book; a booklet 'How to Identify Japanese Aircraft; Coldicott's passport.	1942 – 1948
4	4/6	Greetings cards with messages; membership cards	1933 – 1985
5	4/7	Personal diaries and notebooks with lists of expenses	1956 – 1985
5	4/8	Postcards with written messages	1986 – 1987

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
5	4/9	Suburban street, housing development and building	1949 – 1987
	4/10	Home building and the environmental impact of multi-unit dwellings	1985 – 1987
5	411	Home building and the environmental impact of multi-unit dwellings	1985 – 1986
5	4/12	Correspondence concerning mostly the lending and showing of films	1946 – 1958
6	4/13	Correspondence concerning mostly the lending and showing of films	1952 – 1984
	5	The Coldicutt Collection of Scarce Books and First Editions	
6	5/1	Deed of Gift and list of titles in the Coldicutt Collection of books and journals presented to the Borchardt Library, Latrobe University; a paper 'The Coldicutt Collection'; correspondence by Anna Muir concerning the Coldicutt collection of books on film.	1992 – 1994
6	5/2	Catalogues of the Coldicutt Collection of Rare Books; List of Film Books; Frank Daniel [Book] Collection; 'Margin', No 24, a magazine dealing with theatre.	c.1980 – 1990
6	5/3	Lists of books on films.	ND
6	5/4	Accounts and order books.	
	6	Civil liberties, film censorship and security services	
6	6/1	Correspondence, circulars, legislation, and notices on film censorship.	1932 – 1951
6	6/2	Press cuttings on film censorship.	1933 – 1986
6	6/3	Petition to withdraw the Cinematographic Film Bill instituting film censorship.	ND
6	6/4	The book <i>Rooted in Secrecy- the clandestine element in Australia</i> , the controversy surrounding its publication, reviews and correspondence	1982 – 1983
7	6/5	<i>Hard Facts for Hard Times</i> by Joan Coxsedg, Member Legislative Council, a newsletter of political commentary.	1980 – 1985
7	6/6	Press cuttings on ASIO	1979 – 1983
7	6/7	Correspondence and report on access to files on citizens compiled by the Special Branch of the Victorian Police Force.	1983 – 1998
7	6/8	The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Bill and parliamentary proceedings on the Bill; papers: 'ASIO and the ALP' and 'Loud Silence on Draconian ASIO Bill'.	1979 – 1979
7	6/9	National security and human rights: 'The Power Elite, the CIA and the Struggle for minds', Police Offences Act and 'The Technology of Terror'(handwritten).	1938 – 1951
7	6/10	Report of Royal Commission inquiring into the origin,	1950

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		aims and funds of the Communist Party in Victoria and related matters; Notes (handwritten) on the Hope Report on Combe-Ivanov affair.	
7	6/11	Documents on the role and responsibilities of the personnel of the Army Intelligence Centre, booklet 'Intelligence Digest'.	1970
7	6/12	Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890 – 1974	1890 – 1974
	7	Social justice, human rights and peace	
7	7/1	Spanish Relief Committee to aid victims of fascism in Spain: correspondence, account book and booklets including 'Spain – The Elections of 1936'; 'Famine Faces a Million in Spain'; 'For the Independence of Spain'; 'Sain in Revolution'.	1936 – 1940
7	7/2	Spanish Relief Committee : correspondence, posters and reports on the organisation of film showing, in support of the struggle against fascism in Spain; 'Films for Spain' a report on the use of film in Australia to promote the cause of the Republican cause in Spain.	1934 – 1985
7	7/3	Spanish Relief Committee finance statements of the film tour in support of the Republican movement in Spain.	1938
7	7/4	Friends of the Soviet Union: correspondence, Australia Soviet House minutes; <i>Anglo-Soviet Journal</i> ; <i>USSR Society for Cultural Relations wit Foreign Countries</i> ; Friendship with Russia League, reports of State Societies.	1936 – 1952
7	7/5	Assorted publications of the Communist Party of Australia.	1942 – 1952
7	7/6	Melbourne University Labor Club magazine <i>Proletariat</i>	1934 – 1935
	8	Photographs	
	BWP/26148	'Bella Morris' for Wendy Lowenstein	ND
	BWP/26149	Anna Lewensohn (later Muir)	ND
	BWP/26150	Betty Lacey of Realist Film Association shooting the May Day Parade in Melbourne	[1950?]
	BWP/26151	Group at Dromana for long week-end	ND
	BWP/26152	? 30 August 1932	ND
	BWP/26153	[Ken Coldicutt ?]	ND
	BWP/26154	Dromana Bob and Kit (?)	ND
	BWP/26155	Ken Coldicutt	ND
	BWP/26156	Ken Coldicutt	ND
	BWP/26157	Ken Coldicutt	1951
	BWP/26158	School class photo	ND
	BWP/26159	Studio portrait	ND
	CP/2324	Gerry Harrant and grandchild	ND

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
CP/2325		Gerry and Vilma Harrant and grandchild	ND
	9	Audio (Cassette Tapes)	
SI Box	9/1	'ASIO Royal Commissions: Hartley, Coxsedg and Coldicutt' [60 minute Magnetic Cassette]	ND
SI Box	9/2	'First Edition' Reviews of 'Origins of Political Surveillance', 'Rooted in Secrecy' etc [60 minute Magnetic Cassette]	ND
SI Box	9/3	'Doubletake: Aust. Sec. Org. K.J.C. Hawes & Cain' [Side A] 'Doubletake: Aust. Sec. Org. K.J.C. Hawes & Combe' [Side B] [60 minute Magnetic Cassette]	ND
SI Box	9/4	'Last 15 min – Terry Lane & Jean Coxsedg on 'Rooted in Secrecy.' [60 minute Magnetic Cassette]	ND
SI Box	9/5	'Rude Songs' [Side A] Asimov [Side B] [60 minute Magnetic Cassette]	ND
SI Box	9/6	'Segovia Plays Bach' [Side A] 'Judy, Anna & Shirley 3CR 12 noon 20/09/82.' [60 minute Magnetic Cassette]	1982
		Miscellanea	
7		Engraved Pewter cup 'Medallion Spectemur agendo' 16 Years, Common Room Association	
7		Badges: Returned from Active Service, Amnesty International, 25 Aus Communist Party Anniversary	

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