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SOURCES FOR THE HISTORY OF ANTHROPOLOGY

RECENT ACQUISITIONS AT THE NATIONAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL ARCHIVES

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The National Anthropological Archives has received approximately sixty cubic feet of files of the Program Manager for the Smithsonian's Center for the Study of Man. Working in Washington, D.C. under the Chicago-based Director (Sol Tax), Samuel L. Stanley held this position from the time the Center was created in 1968 until 1976, when he joined the staff of the Director of the National Museum of Natural History. The records reflect rather broadly the Center's concern with cross-cultural studies and their relevance to problems confronting humanity as a whole. Especially well documented are several international Center-sponsored conferences, including a planning meeting in Cairo in 1972, several presession conferences (on cannabis, alcohol, population, and the transmission of culture) at the Ninth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences at Chicago in 1973, and a 1974 meeting at Bucharest on the cultural implications of population change. Other activities relating to the cross-cultural studies include experiments with computers to control and retrieve anthropological data, an abortive attempt to issue a series of monographs based on cross-cultural studies, and the organization of special task forces concerned with questions of human fertility and the environment. Stanley was also involved in the Center's American Indian program, conceived as an action anthropology effort to help Indians reach goals they themselves defined. He became especially concerned with economic development, coordinating studies of specific tribes that were carried out with funds from the Economic Development Administration, and serving as consultant for economic development on reservations for the American Indian Policy Review Commission. To keep abreast of development in both the field of anthropology and Indian affairs, Stanley also maintained information and reference files of printed and processed material.

It should be noted that the records have limitations. With some of the Center's programs, Stanley's relationship was apparently formal. For example, there is little documentation that relates to the Center's National Anthropological Film Center, and even less about the Research Institute on Immigration and Ethnic Studies. Stanley's file concerning the new Handbook of North American Indians has been turned over to the editor; those concerning the urgent anthropology program have gone to the Smithsonian's Department of Anthropology; and those on the establishment of the Center and its relationship to the spectral Museum of Man, have been retained by the Center's administrative officer.

A second group of materials recently accessioned are nine cubic feet of additional records of the American Anthropological Association. Perhaps the most notable and fully documented of these has to do with the Committee on Research Problems and Ethics. Formed in 1965 in response to growing involvement by federal intelligence agencies in anthropological research, the committee appointed Ralph L. Beals to conduct inquiries among anthropologists in order to determine the extent of this and other problems
related primarily to research in foreign countries. The accession includes not only correspondence, reports, minutes of meetings, and other matter originally accumulated by the Executive Director but also the material gathered by Professor Beals. The AAA accession also contains material on the Committee on Ethics that was formed in 1968, including its work on specific cases. Still other material concerns the Program in Anthropology and Education, which was headed by Frederick O. Gearing through much of its existence from 1967 to 1969; the AAA contract to define areas of anthropological specialization and professional qualifications and to collect data for the National Science Foundations' Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel; and conferences and studies on the uses of and employment potential for anthropologists. Also included are administrative files concerning the American Anthropologist, files concerning special workshops and conferences, and files that document the AAA's relations with other organizations.

A further accession is one and a half cubic feet of papers of northern plains archeologist Donald J. Lehmer, which have been donated by W. Raymond Wood. The material covers the period from the late 1930s to the mid 1970s and consists largely of correspondence, applications for employment and for grants, contracts for archeological work, reports, and teaching materials. Technical documents produced in the field are represented only by a small file that relates to the Mesilla Valley Expedition, sponsored by the Museum of New Mexico and the Arizona State Museum during 1940-41. The rest of the material includes discussions of archeological problems of the plains, Lehmer's work with the Missouri Basin Project of the Smithsonian's River Basin Surveys, and administrative problems of the MBP's early years.

The archives has also received additional papers of Sister M. Inez Hilger relating to her studies of child-rearing and acculturation among the Ainu and Plains Indians. William A. Lessa has made an initial deposit of his papers. Those received concern field work on the atoll of Ulithi. The late Robert F. Heizer left to the archives his papers relating to Olmec archeology, including material he received from Philip Drucker and other colleagues and students. The archives has also gained additional papers of William Duncan Strong that concern his work in Latin America.

Researchers who wish to use the archives' holdings are once again urged to contact the staff before making definite plans for a visit. Some of the material is restricted. The AAA records, for example, are closed to researchers for a period of ten years from the date of their creation unless special permission is obtained. Indications have also been found that records relating to the Beals inquiry may also require special permission. That restriction will be honored until the matter is completely cleared up. In addition, the Lessa papers bear certain restrictions that require discussion with potential users.