

# Guide to the Guy Serge Metraux Papers

MS 23



compiled by John Mikalavicius and Francis Radvonovsky

September 1969

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P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441

[beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu)

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 23

**CREATOR:** Metraux, Guy Serge, 1917-

**TITLE:** Guy Serge Metraux papers

**DATES:** 1831-1947

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist chiefly of correspondence, reports and printed matter related to Metraux's activities during World War II as a representative of the International Red Cross inspecting prisoner of war camps in the United States. Also included is a small amount of correspondence on his proposed Ph.D. dissertation at Yale University on James G. Huneker. An important correspondent is H. L. Mencken with 17 letters (1943-1944).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0023>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0023>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Guy S. Metraux, 1946-1947; 1988.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Guy Serge Metraux Papers (MS 23). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Delegation to the United States of America, 1944-1946; Yale Ph.D. 1949; Secretary General of the International Commission for a Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind, UNESCO, Paris (1969).

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of Guy Serge Metraux relate primarily to his service as a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Delegation to the United States of America, 1944-1946. During this time Metraux visited 190 prisoner of war camps in the Mid-West, South and West and reported on conditions for the Red Cross. A general report of his activities and observations is found in folder 14, "Rapport General et Observations sur les Camps de Prisonniers de Guerre et sur la Delegation aux Etats-Unis, Septembre 1944-Juin 1946," Washington, D.C., June 12, 1946. Series II of the papers includes instructions and memos of the Red Cross, minutes of meetings and Metraux's correspondence and reports. Series III, the largest part of the papers, consists of materials prepared and collected at individual camps arranged alphabetically by the name of the camp.

In addition to the papers relating to American prisoner of war camps, there is a group of papers in Series I relating to Mr. Metraux's proposed doctoral dissertation of James G. Huneker. Of the seventy-two letters to and from Metraux covering the period 1943 January through 1944 May, there are seventeen letters from H.L. Mencken. Some other correspondents include Edward Ziegler, Guy Pene de Bois, Diana Huneker Lagen, Clayton Hamilton and Benjamin de Casseres. After working for the Red Cross, Mr. Metraux selected another subject for his dissertation in American Studies at Yale University. In 1949, he submitted a dissertation entitled, "Social Aspects of Swiss Immigration into the United States in the 19th Century," and received the Ph.D. degree from Yale. Before entering the Yale graduate school, Mr. Metraux received B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Michigan. At present, he is working for UNESCO in Paris as Secretary General of the International Commission for a Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind.

Mr. Metraux donated these four boxes of his papers to the Yale University Library in 1946 and 1947.

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## Arrangement

Arranged in five series: I. Personal Papers. II. Official Papers. III. Prisoner of War Camps. IV. Printed Materials. V. Miscellaneous.

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**Collection Contents**
**Series I: PERSONAL PAPERS**

b. 1, f. 1	Ledger of the Company Koephfi & Suppiger and Act of Incorporation, photostat copies of German Original with English translation	1831
b. 1, f. 2	Constitution and Colony Plan of Swiss Colonization Society, Cincinnati, Ohio	1857
b. 1, f. 3	"La Coronella," a ballet by Silvestre Revueltas, Typescript of Episodes in Spanish and program of it, Ann Arbor, Michigan English	1941
b. 1, f. 4	Correspondence concerning his proposed topic for Ph.D. thesis, on James G. Huneker, at Yale University	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 4a	Barrymore, Lionel	1943
b. 1, f. 4a	Damrosch, Walter	1943
b. 1, f. 4a	DeBois, Guy Pene	1943
b. 1, f. 4b	DeCasseres, Benjamin	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 4c	Hamilton, Clayton	1943
b. 1, f. 4c	Huneker, Mrs. James G.	1943
b. 1, f. 4c	Kuhn, Walt	1944
b. 1, f. 4c	Lagen, Diana Huneker	1944
b. 1, f. 4c	Mellquist, Jerome	1943
b. 1, f. 4	Mencken, H.L.	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 4e	Miriam, Sister	1944
b. 1, f. 4e	Morehouse, Ward	1943
b. 1, f. 4e	New York Public Library	1943
b. 1, f. 4e	Perkins, Maxwell E.	1943
b. 1, f. 4e	Phelps, William Lyon	1943
b. 1, f. 4e	Scribner and Sons	1943
b. 1, f. 4	Ziegler, Edward	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 4g	Correspondence from MacIntyre, C.F.	1941-1944

**Series II: OFFICIAL PAPERS**

b. 1, f. 5	Lists of papers donated to Yale University Removed to the donor files, 4-2-51	1945-1946
b. 1, f. 6	Outline of visits of the members of American Delegation of the International Red Cross to the P.O.W. camps in the United States	1945
b. 1, f. 7	List of Branch Camps for the P.O.W.'s established before 1 Jan. 1945, but as of 1 Sept. 1945 not visited yet	1945
b. 1, f. 8	Record book of visits to the P.O.W. Camps	1944-1945
b. 1, f. 9	U.S. War Department circulars and technical manual concerning German and Italian P.O.W.'s	1944-1945
b. 1, f. 10	U.S. Army Service Forces circulars concerning the German and Italian P.O.W.'s	1945
b. 1, f. 11	Instructions of the International Red Cross to the members of the American Delegation with samples of report forms	1945-1947
b. 1, f. 12	Memorandum concerning the repatriation of the sick and wounded German P.O.W.'s to countries where they lived before	1945
b. 1, f. 12a	Material concerning dispersed families: notes of and address, reprint of an article, instructions and newspaper clippings	1945-1946
b. 1, f. 13	Basic food rations of P.O.W.'s based on the norm of Dr. Rossell	undated
b. 1, f. 14	Report concerning the P.O.W. camps and activities of the American Delegation of the International Red Cross	1944-1946
b. 1, f. 15	Report on the activities of the members of the American Delegation	1946
b. 1, f. 16	Minutes of meetings of members of the American Delegation	1945
b. 1, f. 17	Correspondence concerning the P.O.W.'s	1945-1946
b. 1, f. 18	Samples of International Red Cross forms, stationary, labels, Christmas greetings	1943-1945
b. 1, f. 19	Confidential report concerning the situation of German and Austrian prisoners of war and war-disabled in the Autumn of 1946	1946
b. 1, f. 20	Food rations for the German Service groups in the British Occupational Zone of Germany	1947
b. 1, f. 21	Examples of Nazi propaganda; a calendar and a typescript concerning the onslaught of Bolshevism against Europe	1945-1946

**Series III: P.O.W. CAMPS**German Prisoners

	Camp Atterbury, Ind.	
b. 1, f. 22	Special edition of the newspaper <i>Lagerstimme</i>	1946
	Camp Billings, Mont.	
b. 1, f. 23	Example of Menu, List of food on hand	1945
	Camp Fort Bliss, Texas	
b. 1, f. 24	Statistics of Prisoners, correspondence concerning the requests of the prisoners, English language study forms, copies of the newspaper <i>Der Ruf</i>	1945-1946
	Camp Bowie, Texas	
b. 1, f. 25	Status of Personnel at the camp	undated
	Camp Breckinridge, Ky.	
b. 1, f. 26	Library catalogue and a complaint of a German P.O.W.	1945
	Camp Butner, N.C.	
b. 1, f. 27	Postcard view of J.S. General Hospital, memorandum, examples of camp newspapers, <i>Lager Fackel</i> and <i>The Eurpoean</i>	1946
	Camp Carson, Col.	
b. 1, f. 28	Two memoranda: from Metraux to the commanding officer, diagram of barracks, memo of food ration issue, order forms for food, clothing and equipment, blank questionnaire forms, itemized lists of things sold at canteen, various notices about camp activities, and an example of the newspaper <i>Lager Rundschau</i>	1945-1946
	Camp Clewiston, Fla.	
b. 1, f. 29	Memo from Metraux, diagram of the barracks	1945
	Camp Fort Crockett, Tex.	
b. 1, f. 30	Blank certificate of achievement	undated
	Camp Crowder, Mo.	
b. 2, f. 31	List of doctors, information about various P.O.W.'s, daily labor report, P.O.W. break-down, measurement and furnishings of barrack, inventory of food available, menu, entertainment program, photographs, newspaper, <i>Der Aufbruch</i>	1945
	Camp Custer, Mich.	
b. 2, f. 32	Summary report on the camp, copy of camp newspaper, <i>Deutsche Lagerzeitung</i>	1939
	Camp Fort Devens, USA	

## German Prisoners &gt; Camp Fort Devens, USA (continued)

b. 2, f. 33	Example of camp newspaper, <i>Halbmonatsblatt-Deutscher-Kriegsgefangener</i>	1945
	Camp Ellis	
b. 2, f. 34	Examples of Catholic and Protestant Publications <i>Der Katholik and Die Evgl. Kirche</i> , camp newspaper, <i>Die Lager Stimme</i> ,	1945
	Excursion Inlet, Alaska	
b. 2, f. 34A	Report on the camp by Metraux; plan of living quarters; sample menus; clothing issue; work schedules; report of Disposition Board, 20 and 21, June 1945; 2 photographs	1945
	Camp Fannin, Texas	
b. 2, f. 35	Synopsis of the play, <i>Blue Mask</i> and camp newspaper, <i>Der Aufbruch</i>	1945
	Camp Farragut, Idaho	
b. 2, f. 36	Memorandum from Metraux to C.O., list of items sold by canteen, report on camp activities by German spokesman, menu, list of approved clothing, articles, sample of birthday card, photographs, camp newspaper, <i>Die Lupe</i>	1945
	Camp Florence, Ariz.	
b. 2, f. 37	Memo on church services for prisoners, example of staff newspaper, <i>The Sand Storm</i>	1945
	Camp Grant, Ill.	
b. 2, f. 38	Report on German soldier killed in action, camp newspaper, <i>Deutsche Soldatenzeitung</i>	1944
	Camp Hampton Roads, Va.	
b. 2, f. 39	Organizational breakdown of the camp	undated
	Camp Hearn, Texas	
b. 2, f. 40	Memo to C.O., complaint by P.O.W. spokesman, response to memo of July 18, 1945, property to be retained by P.O.W., school schedule, menu, wages for work details, disposition of Co. 3, price list for the canteen, breakdown of P.O.W. personnel, daily disposition of P.O.W., breakdown of languages spoken by P.O.W.'s, list of inquiries left by P.O.W.'s for the delegate of the International Red Cross	1945
	Camp Hood, Texas	
b. 2, f. 41	P.O.W. clothing allowances	undated
	Camp Howe, Texas	
b. 2, f. 42	Statistics of P.O.W.'s, sample of menu, lists of career handbooks in camp library, inventory of sport equipment, itemized price list of articles in canteen, menu for 20-21	1944
	Fort Lawton, Wash.	



## German Prisoners &gt; Fort Lawton, Wash. (continued)

b. 2, f. 43	Examples of camp newspaper, <i>Lager Bote</i>	1945
	Camp Fort Leveanworth, Kan.	
b. 2, f. 44	Speech by Commandant Eley, report on visit by Metraux, roster of P.O.W.'s	1945
	Camp Lee, Va.	
b. 2, f. 45	Examples of camp newspapers, <i>Amerikas Demokratie</i> , <i>Amerika Volkswirtschaft</i> and <i>Wirtschaftsleben</i> , <i>Amerika Formit Sich</i>	undated
	Camp Leonard Wood, Mo.	
b. 2, f. 46	Schedule for radio programs, camp newspapers, <i>Der Aufbau</i> and <i>Bildung und Wissen</i>	undated
	Camp Fort Lewis, Wash.	
b. 2, f. 47	Memo to C.O., report on physical training and recreational activities, report on camp library, mental education and study aides for instruction, list of incoming mail, statistics of main stockade, sample form for the listing of all P.O.W.'s interned, list of deaths that occurred since last visit of the delegate, list of articles bought by P.O.W. Fund, amount of money spent by canteen, request for more adequate care of sick P.O.W.'s, samples of menus, camp newspaper, <i>Neue Deutsche Woche</i>	1945
	Camp Livingston, La.	
b. 2, f. 48	Memo to C.O., report on camp sports and theater statistics of P.W., outline of pay incentives for P.W.	undated
	Camp Mascez, Tex.	
b. 2, f. 49	Example of newspaper, <i>Texas Bord Post</i>	1944
	Camp Ogden, Utah	
b. 2, f. 50	Report on the visit of Guy S. Metraux	1944
	Camp Papago Park, Ariz.	
b. 2, f. 51	Report on visit by Metraux and memo, report concerning the studies of P.O.W.'s, request for the return of personal belongings, list of stock on hand in the canteen, list of books in camp library	1944-1945
	Camp Philips, Kansas	
b. 2, f. 52	Example of camp newspaper, <i>Der Deutsche</i>	1944
	Camp Rupert, Idaho	
b. 2, f. 53	Report on visit of Metraux, memo to C.O., report on work detachments, special report Alfred L. Cardinaux, catalogue of books, music program, list of clothing and furnishings, outline of trade and study courses, photographs, camp newspaper, <i>Der Neuweg</i>	undated
	Camp Seagonville, Texas	

## German Prisoners &gt; Camp Seagonville, Texas (continued)

b. 2, f. 54	Example of camp newspaper, <i>Deutsches Echo</i>	1944
	Camp Fort Sheridan	
b. 2, f. 55	Example of camp newspaper, <i>Die Post</i>	1945
	Camp Fort Stanton, N.M.	
b. 2, f. 56	Price lists for prisoners, list of food allowance per man, photos	1945
	Unidentified Camp	
b. 2, f. 57	Example of camp newspaper, <i>Der Herr spricht zumir</i> (a Christmas paper)	undated
	Unidentified Camp	
b. 2, f. 58	Example of camp newspaper, <i>Die Brücke</i>	1945
	<u>Italian Prisoners</u>	
	Camp Haan	
b. 3, f. 59	Regulations for courses of study at the camp	1945
	Camp Hillfield, Utah	
b. 3, f. 60	Photographs, camp newspaper, <i>Minestrone</i>	1944
	Camp Tooele, Utah	
b. 3, f. 61	Examples of camp newspaper, <i>Grandi Magazzini</i> , reading and writing manual	1944
	Camp Weingarten, Mo.	
b. 3, f. 62	Example of camp newspaper, <i>L'Ortica</i> and a pledge to obey orders	1944, 1945
	<u>Japanese Internees</u>	
	Camp Santa Fe, N.M.	
b. 3, f. 63	Reports on the visits of Metraux 1945, 1947, list of internees from Peru who want their families brought to U.S., examples of newspapers, <i>The Santa Fe Times</i>	1945, 1947

**Series IV: PRINTED MATERIALS**

## International Red Cross:

b. 3, f. 64	The history of its founding and purpose	undated
b. 3, f. 65	Principles, tasks and problems	1939-1946
b. 3, f. 66	Financial reports	1945-1946
b. 3, f. 67	Concerning the Geneva Convention of 1929	undated
b. 3, f. 68	Publications on the work of the committee for the P.O.W.'s	1939-1945
b. 3, f. 69	Miscellaneous Bulletins	1945-1947
b. 3, f. 70	Miscellaneous American publications for the German P.O.W.'s	1944-1945
b. 3, f. 71	Miscellaneous German Publications	1944
b. 3, f. 72	Sheet music for song, <i>Lill Marlene</i> by Mark David	undated
b. 4, f. 73	Miscellaneous brochures concerning the P.O.W.'s, civilian internees and detainees	1940-1947
b. 4, f. 74	YMCA, publications for American P.O.W.'s	1944, undated
b. 4, f. 75	American P.O.W. publications	1943-1944

**Series V: MISCELLANEOUS**

b. 4, f. 76	"Venice" oil painting by German P.O.W. Erich Gierzevski, Camp Fannin, Texas English	1945
b. 4, f. 77	"Rural Dwelling", oil painting by German P.O.W. G.J. Schramm, Camp Howe, Tex. English	1944
b. 4, f. 78	"Maxim Gorki Bunker of Sevastopol Coastal Fortifications," water color by German P.O.W. K. Ehlers, Camp Ashby, Va. English	1944
b. 4, f. 79	"Wendell L. Willkie," woodcut by Russian P.O.W. Gamov English	undated
b. 4, f. 80	Woodcuts of Adolph Hitler and a P.O.W. Christmas scene by unknown prisoners	undated
b. 4, f. 81	Sketches of a girl and a boy playing a Balalaika by unknown Russian prisoners	1944, undated
b. 4, f. 83	Memorabilia: Armband of the International Red Cross, Austrian Flag and coat of arms, Polish coat of arms, Italian rank insignia	undated
b. 4, f. 83	Miscellaneous cards	undated
b. 4, f. 84	Tents and messhall, POW Branch Camp, Texas. Watercolor	1945 July 21

**ADDITION 1980**

b. 4, f. 85	Questionnaire... pour les visites de camps des prisonniers de guerre par les délégués du C.I.C.R.	1941
b. 4, f. 86	Correspondence re: Japanese from Peru interned in the U.S.	1949 April 1 - May 24, undated
b. 4, f. 87	Alvarez, Alfred	1971 March 14 - April 30
b. 4, f. 87	Berwick y de Alba, El Duque de	1952 December
b. 4, f. 87	Calvino, Italo	1977, 1978 November 5
b. 4, f. 88	Hawkes, Jacquetta (Hopkins)	1956 February 1 -1968 December 15
b. 4, f. 89	Huxley, Julian. Sketches and notes	1958/1959
b. 4, f. 89	Mumford, Lewis	1965 June 27
b. 4, f. 89	Panikkar, Kavalem Madhava	undated
b. 4, f. 90	Ritchie-Calder, Peter Ritchie, Baron Ritchie-Calder	1966 August 24
b. 4, f. 90	Wilder, Thornton	1955 February 11, March 4
b. 4, f. 90	Woolley, Leonard [i.e. Woolley, Sir Charles Leonard]	1957 May 22

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Prisoners of War  
World War, 1939-1945  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Prisoners and prisons

### **Names**

Huneker, James, 1857-1921  
Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis), 1880-1956  
Metraux, Guy Serge, 1917-

### **Corporate Body**

Yale College (1887- ). Class of 1949