

# Guide to the Henry Ashby Turner, Jr. Papers

MS 1691



compiled by Richard Szary and William Landis

May 1995

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1691

**CREATOR:** Turner, Henry Ashby

**TITLE:** Henry Ashby Turner, Jr. papers

**DATES:** 1982-circa 2000

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 187 Megabytes

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of Henry Ashby Turner's correspondence with other historians about the controversy surrounding David Abraham's book, *The Collapse of the Weimar Republic*. A later accession comprises two databases, one containing information concerning foreign workers in the Adam Opel AG plant in Rüsselsheim, Germany, during the World War II era, and the other containing evaluative records concerning documents and articles relating to General Motors' acquisition, ownership, management, loss of effective control, write-off, and reacquisition of Adam Opel AG during the period from 1929 through the early 1950s.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1691>

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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.1691>.

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 Henry Ashby Turner, Jr., 1995 and 2008.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

Henry Ashby Turner, Jr. Papers (MS 1691). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Henry Ashby Turner, Jr., born in 1932, received his B.A. degree from Washington and Lee University in 1954, and his M.A. (1957) and Ph.D. (1960) from Princeton. He held the following positions at Yale University: instructor in history, 1958-1961; assistant professor, 1962-1964; associate professor, 1964-1970; professor, 1971-1989; Charles Seymour Professor of History, 1990-1991; and Bass Professor of History, 1991-. Turner was master of Davenport College from 1981-1991. He was a noted scholar of modern Europe, particularly Germany. Turner died on December 17, 2008, in New Haven, Connecticut.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers consist of Henry Ashby Turner's correspondence with other historians about the controversy surrounding David Abraham's book, *The Collapse of the Weimar Republic*. A later accession comprises two databases, one containing information concerning foreign workers in the Adam Opel AG plant in Rüsselsheim, Germany, during the World War II era, and the other containing evaluative records concerning documents and articles relating to General Motors' acquisition, ownership, management, loss of effective control, write-off, and reacquisition of Adam Opel AG during the period from 1929 through the early 1950s.

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## Arrangement

Materials are arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

## Collection Contents

### Original accession

b. 1, f. 1	Abraham, David, general correspondence	1982 - 1987
b. 1, f. 2	Christmas exchange [copies of documents cited in Abraham's work]	
b. 1, f. 3	Reusch-Schacht correspondence [copies of documents cited in Abraham's work]	
b. 1, f. 4	Allen, William Sheridan	1983, 1985
b. 1, f. 5	American Historical Association, general correspondence	1984-1986
b. 1, f. 6	<i>Perspectives</i> ad	1985
b. 1, f. 7	<i>Perspectives</i> letter	1985
b. 1, f. 8	<i>American Historical Review</i> letters English	1983 - 1984
b. 1, f. 9	Bennett, Edward W.	1983 - 1985
b. 1, f. 10	Berghahn, Volker	1987 - 1988
b. 1, f. 11	Borchardt, Knut	1983, 1985
b. 1, f. 12	Borg, Daniel	1986
b. 1, f. 13	Brands, Maarten	1984
b. 1, f. 14	Catholic University	1984
b. 1, f. 15	Clifton, James A.	1984 - 1985
b. 1, f. 16	Craig, Gordon A.	1983 - 1985
b. 1, f. 17	<i>European History Quarterly</i>	1987 - 1988
b. 1, f. 18	Feldman, Gerald D.	1983 - 1986, 1990
b. 1, f. 19	Geiss, Imanuel	1985
b. 1, f. 20	Hamilton, Richard F.	1982 - 1985
b. 1, f. 21	Herzog, Bodo	1982 - 1984
b. 1, f. 22	Himmelfarb, Gertrude	1988
b. 1, f. 23	James, Harold	1983
b. 1, f. 24	Junker, Detlef	1983
b. 1, f. 25	Köhler, Henning	1983
b. 1, f. 26	Kruger, Peter	1985
b. 1, f. 27	Lang, Serge - "The Nation-Wiener File"	undated

b. 1, f. 28	Lelyveld, Joseph	1985
b. 2, f. 29	Maier, Charles S.	1983 - 1984
b. 2, f. 30	Mason, Timothy W.	1983 - 1985, 1990
b. 2, f. 31	Mathews, William	1985 - 1986
b. 2, f. 32	Mayer, Arno J.	1983
b. 2, f. 33	Mitchell, Allan	1984 - 1985
b. 2, f. 34	Mommsen, Hans	1983, 1985
b. 2, f. 35	Mommsen, Wolfgang J.	1983
b. 2, f. 36	<i>The Nation</i>	1986
b. 2, f. 37	Neebe, Reinhard	1983 - 1984
b. 2, f. 38	<i>The New York Review of Books</i>	1985
b. 2, f. 39	Nocken, Ulrich	1983 - 1985
b. 2, f. 40	Pflanze, Otto	1983 - 1985
b. 2, f. 41	<i>Pravda</i>	1985
b. 2, f. 42	Princeton University, History Department	1983
b. 2, f. 43	Princeton University Press	1983, 1985
b. 2, f. 44	Ransel, David L.	1985
b. 2, f. 45	Schoenbaum, David	1982 - 1985
b. 2, f. 46	Schuker, Stephen A.	1983 - 1985
b. 2, f. 47	Schulz, Gerhard	1983
b. 2, f. 48	Stern, Fritz	1985
b. 2, f. 49	Trexler, Richard C.	1983 - 1984
b. 2, f. 50	Unfug, Douglas	1984
b. 2, f. 51	Vierteljahrshefte für Zeitgeschichte	1989
b. 2, f. 52	Wehler, Hans-Ulrich	1983 - 1985
b. 2, f. 53	Weinberg, Gerhard L.	1983 - 1985, 1988
b. 2, f. 54	Winkler, Heinrich A.	1983
b. 2, f. 55	Woodward, C. Vann	1984 - 1985
b. 2, f. 56	Miscellaneous letters	1983 - 1985
b. 2, f. 57	References to publications - "Published Commentaries on the Abraham Affair"	undated

**Accession 2010-M-040: Additional material, Circa 1998-circa 2000**

This accession comprises two databases, one containing information concerning foreign workers in the Adam Opel AG plant in Rüsselsheim, Germany during the World War II era, and the other containing evaluative records concerning documents and articles relating to General Motors' acquisition, ownership, management, loss of effective control, write-off, and reacquisition of Adam Opel AG during the period from 1929 through the early 1950s. These databases were created sometime between 1998 and 2000 by a team of researchers directed by Professor Henry A. Turner of Yale University.

See also: [General Motors Documents Relating to World War II Corporate Activities in Europe \(MS 1799\)](#). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

*Related Publication Note:* The databases were created during the course of research that resulted in the following publication: Turner, Henry Ashby, Jr. *General Motors and the Nazis: The Struggle for Control of Opel, Europe's Biggest Carmaker*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005.

Arbeiter database  
1 Computer File (Microsoft Access)

Circa 1998-circa 2000

This database contains information on foreign workers at the Adam Opel AG plant in Rüsselsheim, Germany, during the early 1930s through World War II. This information was extracted from Ostarbeiter (Eastern worker) savings books and personnel records maintained by Opel.

The computer files are unprocessed and are in a physical state that requires staff intervention before use. Researchers wishing to request access should email [beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu). The staff intervention may take up to 10 business days.

Historical documentation database  
1 Computer File (FileMaker)

Circa 1998-circa 2000

This database contains evaluative information regarding significant documents and publications relating to General Motors' acquisition, ownership, management, loss of effective control, write-off, and reacquisition of Adam Opel AG from 1929 through the early 1950s.

The computer files are unprocessed and are in a physical state that requires staff intervention before use. Researchers wishing to request access should email [beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu). The staff intervention may take up to 10 business days.

## **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**

Automobile industry and trade -- Germany --  
History  
Historians -- United States

### **Geographic Names**

Germany -- History -- 1918-1933  
Rüsselsheim (Germany)

### **Names**

Turner, Henry Ashby

### **Corporate Bodies**

General Motors Corporation  
Opel AG