

## George Lavan Weissman Collection

Papers, 1935-1985

3 linear feet  
3 storage boxes

Accession #1347  
DALNET #  
OCLC #

George Lavan Weissman was born in Chicago in 1916 and grew up in Boston, where he attended Boston Latin School and Harvard College. While at Harvard during the Great Depression, he became a Marxist, joined the Young People's Socialist League and the Socialist Party and volunteered as an organizer for several labor unions in New England. Weissman followed the Trotskyists out of the SP after their expulsion in 1937 and helped found the Socialist Workers Party and the Fourth International in 1938. He married fellow SWP activist, Constance Fox Harding, in 1943.

As a self-described "party functionary," Weissman was a branch organizer in Boston (1939-41) and Youngstown (1946), director and editor of Pioneer Publishing and Pathfinder Press (1947-81), manager of Mountain Spring Camp (1948-62) and editor and writer for the *Militant* and other party publications, including the first English-language anthology of Che Guevara's writings, *Che Guevara Speaks* and *The War Correspondence of Leon Trotsky: The Balkan Wars, 1912-1913* (He had become United States literary representative of the Trotsky estate after Natalia Sedova Trotsky's death in 1962). After his expulsion from the SWP in the great purge of 1983-1984, Weissman joined with others to form the Fourth Internationalist Tendency and became a member of the *Bulletin in Defense of Marxism* editorial board. He died on March 28, 1985.

The George Lavan Weissman Collection consists of correspondence (both his and Connie Weissman's), the manuscript for volume two of Trotsky's war correspondence, on which Weissman was working at the time of his death, and numerous pamphlets and other publications put out by the SWP and a variety of civil rights and civil libertarian organizations to which he belonged.

Additional Weissman correspondence with Donald L. West may be found in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin collections.

**PLEASE NOTE: Folders are computer-arranged alphabetically in this finding aid, but may actually be dispersed throughout several boxes in the collection. Note carefully the box number for each folder heading.**

**Important subjects in the collection:**

Afro-Americans--Civil rights  
George Breitman  
Communism--Sri Lanka  
Cuba--History--1959-  
Fourth International  
Freedom Now Party  
Ernesto Guevara  
Joseph Hansen  
Marxian economics  
Monroe (N.C.)--Race relations  
George Novack  
Radicalism--United States  
Socialism--United States  
Socialist Workers Party  
Leon Trotsky  
Robert Franklin Williams

**Important correspondents in the collection:**

Tamara Deutscher  
Reba Hansen  
C. L. R. James  
Ernest Mandel  
Evelyn Reed  
Natalia Sedova Trotsky  
Jean Van Heijenoort  
Constance Fox Harding Weissman  
Donald L. West

**Non-manuscript material:**

A few photographs, mostly of Mountain Spring Camp, a number of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century illustrated French publications on the French Revolution, the Soviet Union, the Paris Commune, etc. and cartoon artwork for the *Militant* by Evelyn Reed and others have been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Collection.

<b>Box-Folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
1-1	Africa; pamphlets, 1960s-1970s
2-26 thru 28	"African Revolution, The Problems of the," by I. B. Tabata (manuscript), n.d.
1-2	Alexander Defense Committee (anti-apartheid group), 1966
1-3	American Committee for European Workers Relief, 1949-50
2-11	"Anti-War Cartoons by Eric," 1967
2-36	"Beck, Dave: Labor Merchant" by Eric Hass, 1955
1-52	Bernaut, Elsa; corres., 1976, 1978
2-4	Black liberation and black power; pamphlets, 1960s-1970s
1-57	Camejo family; corres., 1967, 1975-76, 1979
2-24	Cannon, James P.; pamphlets, 1940s-1950s
1-12	Charter Group for a Pledge of Conscience (Harlem 6), c. 1965
2-30	China; SWP pamphlets, 1972
2-7	Civil rights struggle; SWP pamphlets, 1940s-1960s
2-6	Committee to Combat Racial Injustice papers at State Historical Society of Wisconsin; corres., 1969-70
1-61	Coontz, Stephanie; corres., article, 1970s
1-64 thru 66	Correspondence, misc.; A-Y, 1950s-1980s
1-67	Correspondence, misc.; unidentified, 1950s-1980s
1-14	Creel, Warren; "A Course in Marxian Value and the Market," 1945
3-5	"Crises in European History" by Gustav Bang, 1955
1-42 thru 44	<i>Critique Sociale, La</i> , 1931-34
3-14	<i>The Crusader</i> (published in the PRC by Robert F. Williams), 1964, 1967-69
2-22	Cuban revolution; SWP pamphlets, 1960s-1970s
1-47	Dallin, Lola; corres., 1975, 1981
3-3	De Leon, Daniel; "James Madison and Karl Marx," 1932
3-6	"De Leon, Daniel: Pioneer Socialist Editor" by Arnold Petersen, 1937
3-1	De Leon, Daniel; "Socialism versus Anarchism," 1921
3-2	De Leon, Daniel; "Two Pages from Roman History," 1943
3-4	De Leon, Daniel; "Ultramontanism," 1928
1-62	Deutscher, Tamara; corres., 1977, 1980
2-20	Eastern Europe; pamphlets, 1960s-1970s
1-6	Fourth International Founding Conference; Program and Resolutions, 1939
1-7	"Fourth International, War and the" (Communist League of America), n.d.

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<b>Box-Folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
3-12	Freedom Now Party; pamphlets, 1963-64
1-54	Gordon, Sam; corres., 1956-57, 1975
1-10	Guevara, Che; interviews, 1960s
1-11	Guevara, Che; speeches, 1961-64
1-8 thru 9	Guevara, Che; writings, 1960-67
1-56	Hansen, Reba; corres. with Connie Weissman, 1956-65, 1979
2-10	"He Walked Alone" by Mrs. C. T. Pratt, 1955
1-36	Hennacy, Ammon; corres., leaflet, 1969
3-8	"High Cost of Living" by Arnold Petersen and "Money" by Daniel De Leon, 1935
1-29	"I Am a Miner" by B. L. Coombes (FACT-London), 1939
1-28	"I Drive a Taxi" by Herbert Hodge (FACT-London), n.d.
2-35	Independent-Socialist Party; platform, 1958
2-12	Irish Republican Army; SWP pamphlets, 1972
1-27	"Labor, A Look at" (Excursion Books-St. Paul), 1946
2-23	Lanka Sama Samaja Party (Ceylon); pamphlets, 1954-60
2-15	Latin America; SWP pamphlets, 1950s-1970s
1-13	Malcolm X; SWP pamphlets, 1960s
1-59	Mandel, Ernest; corres., 1973-83
2-31	<i>Marxist Review: A Journal of International Socialism</i> , n.d.
2-9	Middle East; pamphlets, 1940s-1960s
2-25	<i>Militant, The</i> ; policy and procedures, 1944-45
1-4	Monroe Defendants, Committee to Aid the; FBI files, 1962, 1964
1-31 thru 33	Monroe, N.C. kidnapping trial; clippings, Feb 1964
1-35	Monroe, N.C. kidnapping trial; robbery of Dr. A. E. Perry's home,
26 Feb 1964	
1-34	Monroe, N.C. kidnapping trial; Weissman reporting, Feb 1964
3-7	"Montezuma's Dinner: An Essay on the Tribal Society of the North American Indians" by Lewis Henry Morgan, 1950
1-48	Mountain Spring Camp, 1950s
1-15	"Negro Farmers in Mississippi" (Mississippi State College), 1954
1-51	Novack, George; corres., 1980, 1985
3-15	Novack, George, and Joseph Hansen, Healyite campaign against; corres., publications, 1976

<b>Box-Folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
2-37	Pathfinder Press pamphlets, misc., 1970-73
1-46	Pathfinder Press/Merit Publishers; corres., 1969-71, 1979-80
1-40	Pearce, Brian; corres. re Trotsky war correspondence volume I, 1972-75
2-13	Political theory; SWP pamphlets, 1950s-1970s
2-5	Racism; SWP pamphlets, 1940s-1970s
1-50	Reed, Evelyn; corres. with Connie Weissman, 1954-64
3-9	"Religion of Capital, The," by Paul LaFargue, n.d.
1-60	Scholtz, Gisela; corres., 1979-81
1-26	"School Segregation in the United States, The Historic Fight to Abolish," by Doxey Wilkerson, 1954
1-53	Shoul, Bernice (Bunny); corres., 1960, 1974-76
1-49	Sinclair, Louis; corres., 1977-84
2-34	Socialist Workers Party; constitution, 1961
2-38	Socialist Workers Party; factionalism, 1981-84
1-5	"South, Forces of Progress in the" by Jim Jackson, 1955
1-16	"Soviet Union, The" by Theodore Edwards (Bulletin of Marxist Studies No. 2), 1958
1-37	Spanish Refugee Aid, 1957-58
1-17	"Theory of Structural Assimilation, The" by Tim Wohlforth, 1964
3-10	"Theses, Manifestes et Resolutions Adoptes par les Ier, IJe, IIIe et IVe Congres de l'Internationale Communiste," 1934
2-32	<i>Trotskisme</i> (No. 5-6), 1956
1-63	Trotsky, Leon, archives at Harvard University, 1940-79
2-8	"Trotsky, Leon, Articles by, in <i>The Militant</i> -- 1929-1941 and <i>The New and Fourth International</i> -- 1934-1956," 1967
1-19	Trotsky, Leon; <i>History of the Russian Revolution</i> , corres. with U-M Press about, 1973-74
1-18	"Trotsky, Leon, The Teachings of: Four Lectures by Jack Warwick," 1944
2-16 thru 19	Trotsky, Leon; writings (pamphlets), 1930s-1950s
1-45	Trotsky, Natalia Sedova; corres., reports, 1956-57
1-20	Trotsky-Stalin Centenary Conferences, 1979
2-1 thru 3	Turchin/Daniels manuscript on social problems in the Soviet Union, 1976
2-33	"Twentieth Congress (CPSU) and World Trotskyism, The," 1957

<b>Box-Folder</b>	<b>Folder heading</b>
1-21	U.S. Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners (USLA), 1968
2-14	U.S. economy; SWP pamphlets, 1971, 1973
1-58	Van Heijenoort, Jean; corres., 1976, 1979, 1981-82
3-13	<i>Vanguard: A Libertarian Communist Journal</i> , 1936-37
1-38	Weissman, George; Daumier lithographs exhibitions, 1958
1-22	Weissman, George; expulsion from SWP, 1984
1-41	Weissman, George; list of <i>Militant</i> articles authored, 1946-76
1-39	Weissman, George; Lumbee Indians article, c. 1977
1-68	Weissman, George; memorial tributes in <i>Bulletin in Defense of Marxism</i> , 1985
1-30	Weissman, George; Osceola Indians article, n.d.
1-25	Weissman, George; "Story," n.d.
1-24	Weissman, George; "The Southerner," 1956
3-20 thru 27	Weissman, George; Trotsky war correspondence volume II manuscript <b>[CONTENTS OF THESE FOLDERS MAY NOT BE PHOTOCOPIED]</b>
3-16 thru 19	Weissman, George; Trotsky war correspondence volume II notes
1-23	"Weissman's, George Lavan, Last Three Articles" (Fourth Internationalist Tendency), n.d.
1-55	West, Donald L. (Appalachian South Folklife Center); corres., 1968-81
2-21	Women's liberation and feminist issues; SWP pamphlets, 1960s-1970s
3-11	Worthy, William, passport case; corres., press coverage, 1961-64
2-29	Young Socialist Alliance; constitution, publication, 1960s