



CLAUDE PEPPER AND WORLD WAR II: A GUIDE TO SELECTED MATERIALS IN THE CLAUDE PEPPER COLLECTION

Florida State University Libraries

From the time he entered the United States Senate in 1937 until the Pearl Harbor attack in December 1941, Senator Claude Pepper was an active spokesman for United States intervention in World War II and aid to the allies to prevent the further spread of war. During those years, Pepper helped shape our foreign policy through his service on the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. He and his wife Mildred visited Berlin in 1938 and reported back to President Roosevelt that Adolph Hitler's military campaign threatened the security and peace of the United States and its allies. After Germany invaded Poland and Czechoslovakia, and attacked England, Pepper urged U.S. involvement in the war. He supported the movement for a military draft. In 1940, he drafted the "Lend-Lease" resolution, designed to provide battleships, warplanes, and other military equipment for Great Britain to defeat the Nazi threat in Europe and to keep the United States out of war. His plan was so controversial that he was hanged in effigy in front of the U.S. Capitol by an isolationist group, and ridiculed in the press. Twice the Senate defeated the resolution, but the legislation was rewritten and finally passed in 1941. This guide will help you locate appropriate materials in the Claude Pepper and Robert Manning Strozier Libraries that illustrate Senator Pepper's activities and views on foreign affairs during World War II.

BACKGROUND SOURCES

Pepper, Claude and Hays Gorey. *Pepper: Eyewitness to a Century*. New York: Harcourt, Brace Jovanovich, 1987. **(Strozier E748.P455 A3 1987)**

Pepper, Claude. *Ask Claude Pepper*. New York: Doubleday & Company, 1984. **(Strozier Special Collections HQ1064.U5 P4551984)**

Patterson, Joseph A. *War and Peace. Claude Pepper's Foreign Policy*. Paper submitted to the Department of History, Hobart College, May 25, 1947. **(Claude Pepper Library)**

Rhodes, Robert Lee, Jr. *Claude Denson Pepper, His Role in Foreign Policy*. Honors Paper submitted to the Department of History, Emory University, 1969. **(Claude Pepper Library)**

Stoesen, Alexander Rudolph. *Spokesman or Seer, Claude Pepper and New Deal Foreign Policy*. Paper read at the Southern Historical Association Meeting, Richmond, Virginia. 1965. **(Claude Pepper Library)**

CORRESPONDENCE IN CLAUDE PEPPER LIBRARY

Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies. 1940-1941. Series 201, Box 29A, Folder 12, 13.

General Federation of Womens Clubs: Stopping Hitler. 1941. Series 201, Box 158, Folder 3 Notes by

Claude Pepper Re: War. 1940. Series 431A, Box 15, Folder 3. Pepper's Call to Enter in War with

Europe. 1941. Series 201, Box 118, Folder 4. War Bond Sales Rally. 1942. Series 201, Box 151A, Folder 9.

U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE PAPERS

Pepper, Claude. United States Senate. *Committee on Foreign Relations Files*. 1944-1950.

Series 202C, Boxes 1, 1 A, 2. Includes correspondence, bills, and background material related to issues of Soviet-American relations, punishment of Nazi War criminals, Germany, international law, Italy, and Japan. (Claude Pepper Library)

You may also wish to consult the *Congressional Information Service (CIS) Congressional Masterfile 1* (Strozier Documents CD-ROM CIS MFI) and the *CIS Index to Unpublished US Senate Committee Hearings, 1823-1964* (Strozier Documents Ref Z1223 .Z7 C48), in the Documents/Maps/Micromaterials Department of the Florida State University Libraries.

You may also wish to consult the *Congressional Indexes, 1789-1969*, and the *Indexes to Unpublished Hearings*. They are available on the Lexis-Nexis Congressional Universe website, accessible from the FSU Libraries Databases webpage, at <http://www.fsu.edu/~library/luis.html>

DIARIES AND ITINERARIES IN CLAUDE PEPPER LIBRARY

Pepper, Claude. *Diaries*. 1937-1945. Series 439, Boxes 1-2.

Pepper, Claude. *Itineraries and Day Books*. 1937-1945. Series 206, Boxes 1-4.

SPEECHES IN CLAUDE PEPPER LIBRARY

Relief Appropriations (Maiden Speech-Pepper). 1937. Series 203B, Box 11, Folder 16.

In addition, there are transcripts of many speeches by Senator Pepper from the American Forum of the Air series during the late 1930s and early 1940s. His "Florida Radio Broadcasts" in the 1940s are also an excellent resource. They cover such topics as isolationism, national defense, foreign policy, Lend-Lease, and Adolf Hitler.

AUDIO RECORDINGS IN CLAUDE PEPPER LIBRARY

There are many interviews, discussions, and speeches by Senator Pepper during the war years.

Subjects include Lend-Lease, Adolf Hitler, communism, neutrality, the League of Nations, Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies, Russia, national defense, and Nazi sentiment in the United States.

VIDEO RECORDINGS IN CLAUDE PEPPER LIBRARY

Video recordings include newsreels and talks given by Senator Pepper on such topics as Lend-Lease, being hung in effigy, Mildred Pepper's trip to Germany, Winston Churchill, and the Yalta Conference.

PHOTOGRAPHS IN CLAUDE PEPPER LIBRARY

Photographic materials documenting Senator Pepper's World War II activities include pictures of Pepper attending the Nuremberg War Trials, speaking at Senate Foreign Relations Committee meetings, and visiting Berlin, training camps in the United States, and military installations in Europe.

Compiled by Burt Altman
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