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## **Amnesty International of the USA Inc. Barbara Sproul Papers10324576**

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Sproul, Barbara C.
<b>Title:</b>	Amnesty International of the USA Inc. Barbara Sproul Papers
<b>ID:</b>	10324576
<b>ID:</b>	HR#0001.20
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1970-1984
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	1975-1981
<b>Physical Description:</b>	10 linear feet 8 record cartons
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection documents the work of AIUSA human rights activist Barbara Sproul, particularly her work on Co-groups, opposition to the death penalty, and AIUSA policy and planning.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Amnesty International of the USA, Inc. Barbara Sproul Papers, 1970-1984; Box and Folder; Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Barbara Sproul became a member of Amnesty International in 1968 and has been active with the organization for many years. She was a founding member of Amnesty's Riverside Group on the Upper East Side of New York City and served as a member of the AIUSA Board of Directors (1972-1983), as well as its General Secretary (1978-1980). Sproul was also involved in the formation of the country coordination (co-group) program and led the Eastern European Co-group. Sproul is currently a Professor of religion at Hunter College, City University of New York.

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## Summary

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Much of the collection concerns the organization and functioning of AIUSA, including the work of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, the International Council Meeting (ICM), AI bylaws, fundraising, finances, and long-term planning. There is also material concerning the death penalty, prisoner cases taken on by the Riverside local group, and co-group information, especially the Eastern European (CSSR) Co-group. Materials consist of publications, reports, prisoner files, meeting minutes, financial records, planning documents, correspondence, and conference materials.

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## Arrangement

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This collection has been arranged into 16 series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor  
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New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

[rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu)

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

### **Revision Description**

EAD document created by CCR. 2021-04-14

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection has restrictions. Restrictions for boxes and folders are noted in the series descriptions and may also be found within the contents list.

### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from Amnesty International of the USA, Inc.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--Barbara Sproul. Method of acquisition--Deposit at University of Colorado Boulder.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--AIUSA. Method of acquisition--Deposit; Date of acquisition--2006.

### **Ownership and Custodial History**

The papers were originally donated by Barbara Sproul to the University of Colorado Boulder as part of the AIUSA collection. In 2006 the AIUSA collection was transferred to RBML. Additional material donated by Barbara Sproul in June 2007.

### **Processing Information**

Preliminary inventory by Harvey N. Gardiner at the University of Colorado, Boulder, August 16, 1994. Additional processing by Catherine Carson Ricciardi in 2007 and by Carolyn Smith in April 2017. Finding aid written by Carolyn Smith in June 2018.

### **Accruals**

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact [rbml@columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@columbia.edu) for more information.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

See Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research (CHRDR) page for more information about all AIUSA collections: <https://library.columbia.edu/libraries/chrdr/archive/collections/aiusa.html>

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Civil rights
- Fund raising
- Human rights
- Social rights
- Capital punishment
- Congresses and conventions
- Human rights in art
- Human rights in motion pictures
- Meetings
- Membership campaigns
- Political prisoners
- Strategic planning
- Women's rights
- Sproul, Barbara C.
- Amnesty International USA
- Amnesty International

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## Collection Inventory

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**Series I: AIUSA Executive Committee, 1974-1981**

**Scope and Contents**

The series contains meeting minutes and other documents of the Executive Committee that discuss policy decisions, AGM, budget information, and other operating details of AIUSA.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
General, 1980-1981	box 1	folder 1
Annual Meeting, 1977	box 1	folder 2
Meeting Minutes		
"Recent Zamani", 1976-1980 <u>Physical Description</u> : 4 folders	box 1	folder 3-6
"Deep Zamani", 1974-1976	box 1	folder 7
AI Statute, 1975-1977	box 1	folder 8

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**Series II: ICM, 1977-1981****Scope and Contents**

This series contains information on ICM including reports, schedules, and planning materials, among others.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Reports to the Board, 1979-1980	box 1	folder 9
Issues for the 1980 ICM, 1980	box 1	folder 10
ICM Committee, 1979-1980	box 1	folder 11
International Women's Year Conference, Mexico City, 1975	box 1	folder 12
10th ICM, Bad Honnef, 1977	box 1	folder 13
11th ICM, Cambridge, 1977	box 1	folder 14
12th ICM, Louvaine, 1979 <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 folders	box 1	folder 15-17
13th ICM, Vienna, 1980	box 1	folder 18
14th ICM, Montreal, 1981	box 1	folder 19

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**Series III: General, 1972-1984**

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains materials on a variety of subjects, especially performances and events, correspondence, publications, clippings, and committees.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Trade and Aid, 1978-1983 <u>Physical Description</u> : 4 folders	box 1	folder 20-23
Publicity (Past), 1974	box 1	folder 24
Clippings on AIUSA, 1974-1975	box 1	folder 25
Information Publications, 1975	box 1	folder 26
Annual Reports, 1972-1974	box 1	folder 27
Public Relations (PR) Materials, 1977	box 1	folder 28
Professional Committees, 1975-1979	box 1	folder 29
Washington Office, 1976	box 1	folder 30
United Nations, 1976-1979	box 1	folder 31
"Night of the Empty Chairs"--Performance, 1977	box 1	folder 32
Speaking Engagements, 1977	box 1	folder 33
Special Events (Past), 1973	box 2	folder 1
Scott Harrison's Thesis on AIUSA--Correspondence, 1981 June	box 2	folder 2
Structure and Roles Committee, 1977-1978	box 2	folder 3
Groups--Lists of Groups, Handbook for Co-groups and General, undated	box 2	folder 4
AI Campus Network--Handbook, undated	box 2	folder 5
Co-groups--General, 1978	box 2	folder 6
Mailing List Questions, 1974-1979 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 2	folder 7-8
Africa Coordination Group, 1977	box 2	folder 9
15th ICM at Rimini, 1982	box 2	folder 10
AGM: Chicago, 1984	box 2	folder 11

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**Series IV: Riverside Local Group, 1970-1984**



**Scope and Contents**

This series concerns the Riverside Group, which was chaired by Ivan Morris at this time. Most of the series deals with individual cases that the group worked on.

Title/Description	Instances	
Riverside Treasury, 1973 April-1976 June	box 2	folder 12
Ocholo O. Makanyenge, Kenya, 1974	box 2	folder 13
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2058		
Joaquim Pinte de Andrade, Portugal/Angola, 1970-1972	box 2	folder 14
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2056		
Luis Taruc, Philippines, 1973	box 2	folder 15
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2057		
Vladimir Bukovsky, Russia, 1975	box 2	folder 16
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2059		
Waldemar Rossi, Brazil, 1975	box 2	folder 17
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2059		
Ahmet Yesil, Turkey, 1982-1984	box 2	folder 18
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2068		
Pavel Skala, Group 1, 1981	box 2	folder 19
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2065		
Jiri Vesely, Group 163, 1979	box 2	folder 20

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2063

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Rudolf Battek, Czechoslovakia, 1973-1981	box 2	folder 21-22
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Physical Description: 2 folders

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2065

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Antonin Rusek, Czechoslovakia, 1975-1979	box 2	folder 23
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2063

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## Series V: Board of Directors, 1973-1982

### Scope and Contents

This series contains Board of Directors Minutes as well as additional Executive Committee Minutes.

Title/Description	Instances	
Board Minutes and General, 1979-1982 <u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders	box 2	folder 24-25
Board and Executive Committee Minutes, 1973-1976 <u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders	box 2	folder 26-27

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## Series VI: General Secretary, 1978-1980

### Scope and Contents

This small series contains general information on the Secretary General, the head of AI at the international level.

Title/Description	Instances	
General, 1978-1979 <u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders	box 2	folder 30-31

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**Series VII: AI Bylaws, 1974-1976****Scope and Contents**

This series contains several folders relating to amendments to the AIUSA bylaws and is comprised mainly of correspondence and notes by Sproul and others, suggestions for change and clarification in many areas of the bylaws from many people.

Title/Description	Instances	
Western Regional Office Board Minutes, 1976	box 3	folder 1
Western Region Before New Bylaws, 1974	box 3	folder 2
Bylaws Question, 1975	box 3	folder 3-5
<u>Physical Description:</u> 3 folders		

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**Series VIII: AI Search Committee, 1974-1978****Scope and Contents**

This series primarily documents the work of the nominating committee for the board of Directors National Coordinator. It contains resumes, job descriptions, letters of recommendation, discussion and discussion of candidates, etc. This series is restricted.

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

This series is restricted.

Title/Description	Instances	
Nominating Committee, 1975	box 3	folder 6
National Coordinator Project, 1974	box 3	folder 7
Search Committee Candidates, 1974	box 3	folder 8-10
<u>Physical Description:</u> 3 folders		
Search Committee, 1978	box 3	folder 11

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**Series IX: Co-Groups, 1979-1983****Scope and Contents**

This series contains information about AIUSA Coordination Groups. It includes information on managing the co-group system in general, such as reports to the board, budgets, lists of co-group addresses, surveys and evaluations of groups, and training information. It also includes files on specific co-groups; these contain newsletters, clippings, and correspondence, usually between Sproul and the contact person at the

co-group about cases and issues that the groups are working on. The series contains monthly mailings from Sproul to co-group leaders.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
AIUSA Board and Executive Committee Minutes, 1982-1983 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 3	folder 12-13
Monthly Mailings, 1982	box 3	folder 14
Monthly Mailings, 1981 <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 folders	box 3	folder 15-17
Meeting of Co-Group Leaders, 1981 December	box 3	folder 18
<b>Established Co-groups</b>		
Brazil Co-group--Ron Frase, 1980-1981	box 3	folder 19
Bolivia/Colombia Co-group--Judy Patterson, 1981-1982	box 3	folder 20
Chile Co-group--Pat Bronstein-Kos, 1981-1982	box 3	folder 21
People's Republic of China--Martha Gottlieb, Robert Brandt, 1981	box 3	folder 22
East Europe Co-group, Robert Sharlet, 1980-1981 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 3	folder 23-24
El Salvador--Michael Skadden, 1981-1982	box 3	folder 25
Ethiopia--Josie Martineau, 1981	box 3	folder 26
Guatemala Co-group--Steve Brown, 1981-1982	box 3	folder 27
Indonesia/East Timor Co-group--Chris Kuehl, 1981	box 4	folder 1
The Mahgreb--Susan Waltz and Jack Smith, 1981	box 4	folder 2
Middle East Co-group--Nancy Hagoort, 1981	box 4	folder 3
Philippines Co-group--Daphne Chapin, 1981	box 4	folder 4
South Africa Co-group--Susannah Riveles, 1981	box 4	folder 5
South Korea Co-group--Edward Baker, 1981	box 4	folder 6
South America Co-group--Marketta Freund, 1981 <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 folders	box 4	folder 7-9
South Asia--Barney Rubin, 1981	box 4	folder 10
Soviet Union Co-group--Susannah Sirkin, 1980-1982	box 4	folder 11
<b>Organization and Business</b>		
General Correspondence, 1980-1982	box 4	folder 12
Correspondence with Sheila, 1981	box 4	folder 13
Co-group Addresses, undated	box 4	folder 14

Co-group Function, undated	box 4	folder 15
BCS/Hinkley Correspondence, 1981	box 4	folder 16
Funding for Co-groups, 1979	box 4	folder 17
Co-group Questionnaires, 1981 Spring	box 4	folder 18
IS Co-group Matters, 1981-1982	box 4	folder 19
Interlink Press, undated	box 4	folder 20
Budgets, 1980-1981	box 4	folder 21
Co-Groups--Reports to the Board, 1983	box 4	folder 22
Training Materials, 1980	box 4	folder 23
Information Handling, 1980	box 4	folder 24
Techniques Evaluation Committee, 1979	box 4	folder 25
List of Coordination Groups (International), 1980	box 4	folder 26
International Campaigns, 1979	box 4	folder 27
Relief Policies and Procedures, 1979	box 4	folder 28
AI and International Organizations, 1979	box 4	folder 29
Cooperation with NGOs, 1979	box 4	folder 30
Co-group Addresses International, 1979	box 4	folder 31
Policy and Strategy Planning, 1979	box 4	folder 32
Decentralization, 1979	box 4	folder 33
Monitoring Adoption Groups, 1980	box 4	folder 34
IS a Survey of Coordination Work, 1981 April	box 4	folder 35
Guidelines for Membership Training, 1979	box 4	folder 36
Basic Functions and Guidelines, 1981	box 4	folder 37
New Co-groups, 1981	box 4	folder 38

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## Series X: Death Penalty, 1978-1984

### Scope and Contents

This series contains a wide variety of information about AIUSA's efforts to abolish the end death penalty. Most relate to the United States, but there is some material on other countries. It includes meeting notes and plans of action, suggestions for writing to state officials on the death penalty, research material such as clippings and lists of past executions, and reports on the use of the death penalty in the US and other

countries, among many others. There is much information from conferences and meetings, as well as mailings encouraging local groups to select a death penalty coordinator and take up the cause.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Death Penalty Program, 1981-1984 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 5	folder 1-2
General, 1978-1980 <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 folders	box 5	folder 3-5
Death Penalty Committee Minutes and Matters	box 5	folder 6
Mailings to Groups, 1980 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 5	folder 7-8
USA Programs, 1980	box 5	folder 9
National Commission, 1980	box 5	folder 10
UN Conferences, 1979-1980	box 5	folder 11
Liaison with the IS, 1980	box 5	folder 12
Death Penalty Coordinators' List, 1980	box 5	folder 13
Membership Correspondence, 1980	box 5	folder 14
Distinguished Friends, 1979	box 5	folder 15
Other AI Section DP Work, 1980	box 5	folder 16
Campaigns, 1979	box 5	folder 17
Liaison with Other Abolitionists, 1979	box 5	folder 18
Crises, 1979	box 5	folder 19
Death Logs, 1979	box 5	folder 20
IS Mission to the US, 1979 December	box 5	folder 21
IS Mission to Florida, 1979 June	box 5	folder 22
Press and Info, 1980	box 5	folder 23
Program on France, 1980	box 5	folder 24
Program on Trinidad and Tobago, 1980	box 5	folder 25
Program on Iraq, 1980	box 5	folder 26
Program on South Africa, 1980	box 5	folder 27
Program on Jamaica, 1980	box 5	folder 28
Program on USSR, 1980	box 5	folder 29
Information on DP Situation Abroad, 1980	box 5	folder 30
Legislation, 1980	box 5	folder 31

Medically Related Info, 1980	box 5	folder 32
Program on Japan, 1980	box 5	folder 33
Jack Potts, 1980	box 5	folder 34
Death Penalty Coordinators Handbook, 1981	box 5	folder 35
Death Penalty Program--General, 1982-1983 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 2	folder 28-29

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## Series XI: Fundraising, 1974-1982

### Scope and Contents

This series contains information on the 1981/1982 and 1982/1983 budgets for AIUSA; lists of major donors and their contributions; fundraising reports; a file on the International Promotion Project containing proposed fundraising plans, and information on the Art for Amnesty program, which raised funds through the sale of donated artwork and posters and prints.

Title/Description	Instances	
Current Budget, 1981-1982	box 6	folder 1
Direct Mail, undated	box 6	folder 2
Major Donors, 1974-1979	box 6	folder 3
Fundraising Reports, 1975-1976	box 6	folder 4
International Promotion Year, 1976-1977	box 6	folder 5
Art for Amnesty, 1976	box 6	folder 6
General, 1976-1979 <u>Physical Description</u> : 10 folders	box 6	folder 7-16

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## Series XII: Finances, 1974-1981

### Scope and Contents

This series contains a small amount of general financial information.

Title/Description	Instances	
General, 1974-1981 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 6	folder 17-18

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**Series XIII: Planning, 1975-1979****Scope and Contents**

This series documents planning and goals for the work of AIUSA in the 1970s and 1980s.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Jose Luis Verdejo Duarte, Chile, 1975 <u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2059.	box 6	folder 19
Hubar Matos, Cuba, 1975 <u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2059.	box 6	folder 20
Long Range Plan USA, 1980	box 6	folder 21
Planning Meeting, 1976 November	box 6	folder 22
Planning Meeting--"Wingspread", 1979	box 6	folder 23

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**Series: XIV: AI Publications, 1974-1982****Scope and Contents**

This series contains a proposal for the movie "The Secret Policeman's Ball," correspondence and reports regarding publication and distribution of AIUSA materials and problems faced by the organization, and a copy of "Resource List of Previewed Films" which reviews human rights related films. There are also issues of Matchbox and AI Actions.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
"The Secret Policeman's American Ball"--Movie Proposal, 1982	box 7	folder 1
Publishing AI Books, 1975	box 7	folder 2
Publications Questions, 1974	box 7	folder 3
<i>Amnesty International Action</i> , 1974-1982 <u>Physical Description:</u> 3 folders	box 7	folder 4-6
<i>Matchbox</i> , 1974-1983 <u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders	box 7	folder 7-9
Amnesty Action/Matchbox Correspondence, 1975	box 7	folder 10



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## Series XV: CSSR, 1978-1984

### Scope and Contents

This series concerns the Eastern European Co-group and cases in Czechoslovakia (CSSR). Most files relate to POC cases and the adoption groups that worked with those cases, and contain correspondence and updates about the prisoners. It also contains group mailings from Sproul to adoption groups providing updates, prisoner information, suggestions, and responses to questions.

Title/Description	Instances	
Group Mailings, 1980-1983 <u>Physical Description:</u> 5 folders	box 7	folder 11-15
Jarmila Belikova--Group 164, 1979-1980 <u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2068.	box 7	folder 16
Miloslav Cerny--Group 19, 1978-1982 <u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2068.	box 7	folder 17
Libor Chloupek--Group 143, 1979-1980 <u>Related Materials:</u> <b>Related Materials</b> Restricted until 2068.	box 7	folder 18
Zdenek (Athos) Churan--Group 49, 1979-1981 <u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2068.	box 7	folder 19
Dr. Josef Danisz (Urgent Action), 1980 <u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> Restricted until 2068.	box 7	folder 20
Stephan Kvic--Group 147, 1980 <u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>	box 7	folder 21

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Adrian Dobrovodsky--Group 203, 1980

box 7

folder 22

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Karel Kyncl--Group 231, 1982-1984

box 7

folder 23

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Jan Litomisky, Venezuelan Section, 1983-1984

box 7

folder 24

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Frantisek Lizna--Group 187, 1981-1984

box 7

folder 25

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Jan Mlynarik--Group 228, 1981-1984

box 7

folder 26

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Jiri Lederer (Urgent Action), 1979

box 7

folder 27

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Robert Merganz--Group 39 Investigation, 1981

box 7

folder 28

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Jiri Nemec--Group 154, 1980-1982

box 7

folder 29

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Jiri Panecek--Group 288, 1983

box 7

folder 30

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Jaroslav Sabata--Group 6, 1978-1979

box 7

folder 31

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Milan Simecka--Group 40, 1981

box 7

folder 32

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Anton Zlatohalvy--Group 216, 1981

box 7

folder 33

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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CSSR Campaign--VONS, 1979

box 7

folder 34

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Vaclav Soukup--Group 271, 1983

box 7

folder 35

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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Vaclav Havel--Group 96, 1982

box 7

folder 36

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2068.

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**Series XVI: Ivan Morris Fund, 1976-1983**

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains information on the Ivan Morris Fund, which provided relief directly to prisoners of conscience and their families. The fund could be used for health care, legal fees, basic living expenses, and education

Title/Description	Instances	
Relief Officer, 1980-1983	box 8	folder 1
Contributions, 1980-1983 <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 folders	box 8	folder 2-4
Cases, 1977-1983 <u>Physical Description</u> : 10 folders	box 8	folder 5-14
Ivan Morris--Notes and Brochure from Memorial Event, 1976	box 8	folder 15
Descriptions of Ivan Morris Fund, undated	box 8	folder 16

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