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Guide to the Kwang Pu Chen papers 4079003

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Chen, Guangfu, 1881-1976
Title:	Kwang Pu Chen papers
ID:	4079003
ID:	MS#0215
Date [inclusive]:	1936-1968
Physical Description:	4.27 linear feet 11 boxes
Physical Description:	2 Reels Microfilms
Language of the Material:	English , Chinese .
Abstract:	The K.P. Chen papers documented the banking and finance career of a banker, entrepreneur, and finance advisor, Kwang Pu Chen dating from 1936 to 1968. Materials in the papers include accounts, loan contracts, correspondence, telegrams, diaries, financial reports, , letters, news clippings, notes, photographs, press releases, printed materials, and reports.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Kwang Pu Chen papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

K. P. Chen (Wade Giles: Chen, Kwang Pu, Chen, K. P.; Pinyin: Chen, Guangfu; traditional Chinese: 陳光甫; simplified Chinese: 陈光甫; original name: Huizu, 輝祖, Huide, 輝德; courtesy name: Guangfu, 光甫) was born in Jiangsu province, 1880. He is a banker, entrepreneur, finance advisor, and the founder of the Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank and the China Travel Service. He began studying aboard in the United States in 1904 and received his B.S. from Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1909. In 1912, he was the General

Manager of the Jiangsu Bank and moved headquarter of the bank to Shanghai. After he left Jiangsu Bank, he became a financial consultant to the Bank of China and became close to Chang Kia-ngau. In 1915, he founded the Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank. In 1928, he founded the China Travel Service. During the Sino-Japanese War, he was responsible for consolidating the economy and the negotiation of American loans. In 1941, H. H. Kung appointed K.P. Chen as the Director of the Stabilization Board of China to stabilize the Chinese currency. He also held other leading financial advisor positions in various committees such the Chairman of the Cotton Control Commission, the Universal Trading Corporation, Committee of International Chamber of Commerce, Foreign Trade Commission, and Foreign Exchange Equalization Fund Committee. After the Communist occupied most of mainland China, he followed the Nationalist government to Taiwan, where he resided until his death in 1976 at the age of 96.

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Summary

The Kwang Pu Chen papers consist of documents and printed materials assembled during Chen's career in banking and finance, including his negotiations for American loans (1938-1940), his affiliation with the Universal Trading Corporation (1938-1958), Foreign Trade Commission (1939-1940), Burma Road (1939-1940), Chinese Currency Stabilization Fund and the Stabilization Board of China (1939-1943), and Foreign Exchange Equalization Fund Committee (1947-1948). Other files including memoranda, diaries, and notes, printed papers, and the biography of K.P.Chen written by Chang Kia-ngau.

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Arrangement

Arranged in original order.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

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Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Chen, K. P. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1968. Accession number--M-68.

Ownership and Custodial History

Gift of Kwang Pu Chen, 1968.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 07/--/89. Processed in October 2018 and finding aid updated by Yingwen Huang.

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Accruals

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Related Materials

Related Material

Chinese oral history project collection, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University. [Finding Aid](#). This collection contains administrative information related to the project, including the interviewee files relating to his oral history interviews.

Related Material

[Reminiscences of Kuang-fu Ch'en, 陳光甫口述回憶錄](#)

Related Materials

Ta-Chun Hsu papers; C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Banks and banking, Chinese
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- Biographies (literary works)
- Diaries
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- Banks and banking -- China
- Business enterprises, Foreign -- China
- China -- Commerce
- China -- Commerce -- History -- 20th century
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- China -- Economic conditions
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- black-and-white photographs
- Photographs
- Press releases
- Reports
- Telegrams
- Burma Road (China and Burma)
- Inflation (Finance) -- China
- Universal Trading Corporation
- Chang, Kia-ngau, 1889-1979
- Chiang, Kai-shek, 1887-1975
- Hu, Shi, 1891-1962
- Kung, H. H. (Hsiang-hsi), 1880-1967
- Soong, T. V (Tzu-wen), 1894-1971
- Lochhead, Archie
- Miao, Yuntai, 1894-1988
- Morgenthau, Henry, 1891-1967
- Pei, Tsuyee, 1893-1982
- Young, Arthur N. (Arthur Nichols), 1890-
- Exchange Stabilization Fund
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- Shanghai shang ye chu xu yin hang
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