



Robert LeRoy Papers (S0579)

Collection Number: S0579

Collection Title: Robert LeRoy Papers

Dates: 1963-1996

Creator: LeRoy, Robert, 1923-

Abstract: The Robert LeRoy Papers includes correspondence, newsletters, and photographs collected by the right-wing political activist. The collection also contains a copy of LeRoy's autobiography "From My Foxhole to Tokyo."

Collection Size: 0.2 cubic foot
(6 folders, 1 cassette tape, 4 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Robert LeRoy Papers* (S0579); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Robert LeRoy on February 14, 1997 (Accession No. SA3249).

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Biographical Note:

Robert LeRoy was born in Ellensburg, Washington, in 1923. He grew up in the Tacoma region and as a young adult became involved with radical right-wing, populist, religious, and political groups, including those of the Presbyterian radio evangelist Dr. Carl McIntire and St. Louisan

Gerald L. K. Smith. LeRoy began military service in 1943, serving as a paratrooper in the South Pacific until 1946. He documented his World War II experiences in a book, *From My Foxhole To Tokyo*, which he self-published in 1992.

After he returned, LeRoy studied at Pacific Lutheran College in Tacoma and found work as a public school teacher. He was dismissed after complaining to a superintendent that he felt a fellow teacher was a Communist. LeRoy also dropped his membership in the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars because he felt those groups were soft on Communism. In 1962, he joined a group in Norborne, Missouri, called the Minutemen. After losing a teaching job in Nebraska in 1965 because of his political views, LeRoy became the chaplain of the Minutemen and traveled nationally as a speaker for it. The Warren Commission investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy at one time placed into evidence two exhibits suggesting a link between the assassination and the Minutemen, but later withdrew them. From 1965 to 1968 LeRoy met with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and answered questions about possible Minutemen involvement in gun-running operations.

Because of his convictions as a Baptist evangelist, LeRoy eventually split with Minutemen founder Robert DePugh and formed the Christian Sons of Liberty in Liberty, Missouri, in 1970. He organized anti-Communist protest rallies and became known as the "parachuting preacher" because of his paratrooper background. In 1980, he moved the headquarters of the Christian Sons of Liberty to New Jersey and then to Langley, Washington, in 1981, where he continued to be active in anti-Communist and right-wing populist causes.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into five folders and is organized by document type.

Scope and Content Note:

The Robert LeRoy Papers include correspondence describing his involvement with the Minutemen, the group's factional organization and some of its members. It contains newsletters LeRoy published in 1963, a 1966 radio interview of LeRoy when he worked as a chaplain for the Minutemen, a copy of his 1992 memoir, *From My Foxhole To Tokyo*, and four photographs of Robert LeRoy.

Container List:

Box 001	f. 1	Correspondence, 1995-1996
	f. 2	Newsletters, 1963-1995
	f. 3	<i>From My Foxhole To Tokyo</i> by Trooper Bob LeRoy, 1992
	f. 4	Radio Interview with Minuteman Chaplain, T579.1, 1966
	f. 5	Photographs 579.1-4, 1943-1990

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Anti-communist movements--United States	1-5	
LeRoy, Robert, 1923-	1-5	Yes

Index Term	Folder	Image
Minutemen (Militia Organization)	1-5	