June 2012


Western Theological Seminary

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Papers, 1949-2002.  4.50 linear ft.

Abstract

Graduate of Hope College, 1948; Western Theological Seminary, 1951; Yale Institute of Far East Languages, 1951-1952; McCormick Seminary, 1957-1958.  Served in the military during Second World War; ordained by RCA in 1951 and commissioned as a missionary; served in Japan from 1952-1974 as evangelist.  In 1974, was appointed RCA Secretary for Asian/African Ministries.  The collection consists of correspondence with missionaries and other RCA administrators during the years 1974-1989, along with information about the mission fields for which he was responsible (Africa, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Philippines, and Taiwan).

Accession No: W94-1163  
Provenance: Glenn Bruggers  
Donor: Phyllis Bruggers  
Photographs: 24 images (Boxes 1, 2 and 3)  
Processed by: Elaine Bruins, March 2010

Biography

Glenn Bruggers was born on August 21, 1923, in Holland, Michigan, when his father was pastor of the Sixth Reformed Church in Holland.  He served in the military during the Second World War and returned to Hope College to finish his work for a B.A. degree in 1948.  During the war, he felt a desire to become a missionary.  In 1951, he received a degree from Western Theological Seminary and was commissioned to go to Japan as an evangelist along with his wife, Phyllis.  The Bruggers served in various capacities in Japan from 1952-1974.  In 1974, he was appointed as the RCA Secretary for Asian/African Ministries and returned to the United States.  He retired in 1989.


Scope and Content

This collection consists primarily of correspondence with missionaries and other RCA administrative personnel during the years he was Board Secretary, along with pamphlets, articles, and information about the countries for which he was responsible as Secretary (Africa, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, and Taiwan).  The collection is arranged alphabetically.

Container List

Box 1

Administrative Council-RCA, 1976, 1983  
“Africa News,” 1981
Benes, Rev. Louis, Mission Trip Report, 1976-1977
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Bulletin, Falmouth Reformed Church, June 11, 1950
China Christian Colleges, n.d.
China Conversation, April, 1980
“China Notes,” 1981, 1986
China Statement, October 18, 1979
Chung Chi College and Theological Seminary, Hong Kong, 1962-1976, n.d. (10 images)
Conference for World Mission, 1982
Correspondence
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Brouwer, Arie, RCA General Secretary, 1974-1976, 1982
Buteyn, John E., RCA Secretary for World Missions, 1974-1976, 1982 (2 folders)
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RCA Treasurer’s Office, Missionary Salaries and Expenses, 1974-1976
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CRWRC Church of South India Partnership Proposal, 1982
deVelder, Walter and Harriet, 1976
Good Shepherd School (Ethiopia), 1976
Hong Kong
Christian Industrial Committee, 1971-1976
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Maxwell Street Reformed Church, 1949
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Mission Committee Handbook, 1989

Box 3

Missionary
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National Christian Council of Kenya, 1977
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New Brunswick Theological Seminary, 1976-1978
Office for East Asia and the Pacific, 1976-1988

Pamphlet
“C.S.I. Girls School” (India), 1980
Diocese of Vellore, India, 1976-1986
“50 Years-The Rev. Joseph John” (India), 1984
“Inauguration of Diocese of Vellore,” 1976
“Katpadi Industrial Institute” (India), 1986
“On the Scene – ‘Reality in Japan,’” 1975


Photographs, n.d. (9 images)

RCA
Grandville Office Plans and Leases, 1971-1976
Mission Board Policy Papers, 1957-1959
Mission Trip Reports, 1964
Recruitment Reports, 1975
Volunteer Services, 1974-1976
World Mission Report, 1982

Reflections on Asia Trip, April 11-May 13, 1978
Reformed Missions Consultation, 1984
Remembrance, Joyce Karsen, 1989
Report on trip to India, 1988
Report on trip to Taiwan and Japan, 1982
Speakers Bureau Review, n.d.

Taiwan
General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, 1977-1988
Mackay Memorial Hospital, n.d.

Tanis, Elaine Buteyn, 1989
United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, 1977, 1982
Wichert, Illinois, First Reformed Church, 1968
World Alliance of Reformed Churches, 1983-1984
WTS Alumni Council, 2002