



The Sparrows' Nest

Database of Ron's Collection

A number of symbols/abbreviations are used in the database:

- * indicating that a piece of information was not explicitly stated in the document but that it could be assumed with ample surety that the information is correct
e.g. a letter sent by the SWF's 'publications secretary' between 1959-1960 was almost certainly to Ken Hawkes as other documents make it clear that he held that office in those years
- [?] indicating an illegible word, usually used when names were (partly) illegible
e.g. 'Al [?]'
- ? unsure whether word/information before the question mark is correct
e.g. 'Norman Giranns ? renews a subscription' (here the ? refers to the word 'Giranns')
e.g. 'handwritten, handwritten entry in different ? handwriting' (here the ? indicates that it is unsure whether there really are two different handwritings on the document)
- N/A depending on context meaning either 'Not Applicable' or 'Not available'
- xyz entries highlighted in yellow indicate the need to check something on/to rescan the original document
- xyz documents highlighted in green were – for totally subjective reasons – of special interest to the curator

Within their subcategory documents are sorted (if available) by date.

The letters

The letters are subdivided into three main categories: 'International Correspondence', 'UK Correspondence' and 'Unknown'. The category 'International Correspondence' is subdivided into countries with each subcategory containing both the correspondence sent from and to that country.

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| Document | <i>E.g. RON00127-8 Unique document ID number; usually made up by the ID numbers of the files composing the document (in this case RON00127 and RON00128).</i> |
| Description | <i>E.g. Edwin Eisenpass requests various pamphlets. A short description of the document. Information contained in this description (e.g. names of organisations) are not repeated in the box 'Keywords'. Names are written in the format 'Forename(s) Surname'.</i> |
| File(s) | <i>E.g. RON00266_e letter, RON00269_e envelope A list of all individual files making up the document with a short description. Any file ID number with the suffix '_e' marks an edited file, i.e. one which was edited after scanning, usually to enhance readability. This often resulted in a change of colours.</i> |
| Collection | <i>Here always Ron's Archive This box will become relevant if other collections are processed in the future.</i> |
| Type | <i>Here always letter</i> |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Language | <i>E.g. English, French In some documents more than one language has been used, e.g. in letters with a printed header in French and text written in English.</i> |
| Writing | <i>E.g. typewritten, handwritten signature, handwritten entry by recipient, postal stamps Information on the type of writing is given in the format 'primary writing, signature, secondary writing, tertiary writing, stamps, header, miscellaneous (e.g. highlighted)'.</i> |
| Sender(s) | <i>E.g. Eisenpass, Edwin Name(s) (if known/applicable) of sender(s) in the format 'Surname, Forename(s); Surname, Forename(s)'.</i> |
| Sender's organisations | <i>E.g. YPSL Name(s) (if known/applicable) of sender(s) organisations, mostly abbreviated. Sometimes the name of a publication is given, in these cases the correspondence was sent by the editors of that publication.</i> |
| Sent from | <i>E.g. USA, California, San Francisco Place the correspondence was sent from, usually in the format 'Nation-state, State/District/Borough (etc.), Village/Town/City (etc.)'.</i> |
| Recipient | <i>E.g. Hawkes, Ken See above 'Sender(s)'.</i> |
| Recipient's organisations | <i>E.g. SWF See above 'Sender's organisations'.</i> |
| Sent to | <i>E.g. UK, England, London See above 'Sent from'.</i> |
| Date | <i>E.g. 24/01/1961 Date stated on the document in the format 'DD/MM/YYYY'. If varying dates are stated on the document, e.g. one on the letter, another on the postal stamp, the date mentioned on the letter itself is stated. In a few cases dates were only stated by the recipient.</i> |
| Keywords | <i>E.g. SO, Spanish Civil War, Franco, fascism, anti-fascism Any keywords which might be useful to a researcher AND (usually) have not been stated in any of the other boxes. This may include e.g. organisations, publications, individuals, or events.</i> |
| See also | <i>E.g. RON00083, RON00084, RON00086 Rarely URLs are given but in general only the ID numbers of other documents IF the two documents explicitly refer to each other OR are supplementary to each other, e.g. one letter written in reply to another, a letter written on the back of a press release etc. This box does NOT refer to other letters by the same person etc.</i> |

Other types of sources

This part of the database is subdivided into four broad categories, each entailing different types of sources. In some instances the differentiations are imprecise (e.g. where to draw the line between leaflet and pamphlet etc.).

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| Leaflets & Co | This subcategory entails leaflets as well as short news bulletins, press releases etc. Often these have been sent along with a letter in which case the documents are cross-referenced. The format of the information is essentially the same as in the case of the letters. |
| Cheques & Co | This subcategory entails cheques, postal payment receipts, order forms etc. The format of the information is essentially the same as in the case of the letters. |
| Newspaper cuttings | This subcategory entails newspaper cuttings which had been sent along with letters. The format of the information is essentially the same as in the case of the letters. |
| Pamphlets | This subcategory entails pamphlets from various decades of the 20 th century. The format of the information is essentially the same as in the case of the letters. |

An example

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Document | RON00352 |
| Description | A letter describing the decentralisation of London AFB and a protest against a speech by General Lister. |
| File(s) | RON00352 |
| Collection | Ron's Archive |
| Type | letter |
| Language | English |
| Writing | typewritten |
| Sender(s) | N/A |
| Sender's organisation(s) | AFB |
| Sent from | UK, England, London |
| Recipient | Worman, M. |
| Recipient's organisation(s) | AFB |
| Sent to | UK, England, London |
| Date | 29/07/1947 |
| Keywords | Ken Hawkes, Machia Hawkes, Fred Read, DA, Spanish Civil War, Lister, Aragon, Spain, repression, police, arrest, court, Bow Street |
| See also | N/A |
| Notes re original document | archived |
| Hyperlink | RON00352.jpg |

59 Malham Road.
Forest Hill.
S.E.23.
London.

29th. July. 7.

To. M. Worman. Secretary. Manchester Group AFB.

Dear Comrade.

I regret the delay in writing to you, but for some unknown reason, I cannot find the file on the Manchester Group, and can only assume that Ken Hawks omitted to hand it over to me, and still has it at Parliament Hill.

As you probably know, the London group held a general meeting on the nineteenth of this month. The minutes of that meeting are to be printed in the first issue of the Internal Bulletin, and as soon as this done I will send you a copy.

The main point decided was the decentralisation of the London Group into three local groups, East, South and West, with an inter group committee. In the election of officers, Ken Hawks was elected secretary of International Relations, Machia Hawks as Treasurer, I myself as Gen. Sec. for London, and Fred Read as administrator for Direct Action.

At the moment we are having a spot of bother due to the events of Sunday. We were distributing handbills at Trafalgar Square on the occasion of General Lister (the Lister who led the attack on the anarchist collectives in Aragon) speaking. Some trouble developed, and Ken Hawks and Ray Upton were arrested, they appeared at Bow Street on Monday morning, and a weeks adjournment was obtained, and we hope to make a really good show next Monday at ten o'clock.

Can you give us a precision on the position of the Manchester Anarchist Group mentioned in the current issue of FREEDOM? Are they in contact with you, have they organic relations with the UAG and the Freedom Press Group? Any information on this subject would be most welcome.

All comrades of the London Group join with me in sending fraternal greetings and best wishes to all comrades in Manchester.

Yours for Anarchy.

Gen. Sec. London for the AFB.

And another one...

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| Document | RON00069 |
| Description | The Federation Anarchiste reports on the OAS and the bombing of the Federation's bookshop. |
| File(s) | RON00069_e |
| Collection | Ron's Archive |
| Type | Letter |
| Language | English, French |
| Writing | typewritten, handwritten signature, stamped |
| Sender(s) | Fournier, Clement |
| Sender's organisation(s) | Federation Anarchiste |
| Sent from | France, Paris |
| Recipient | N/A |
| Recipient's organisation(s) | SWF* |
| Sent to | UK, England, London* |
| Date | 12/03/1962 |
| Keywords | OAS, O.A.S., bombing, explosives, fascism, anti-fascism, coup d'état |
| See also | RON00070, RON00090 |
| Notes re original document | archived |
| Hyperlink | RON00069_e.jpg |

