Guide to the Franz Bibfeldt Papers 1951-1995
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Descriptive Summary

Identifier       ICU.SPCL.BIBFELDT
Title            Bibfeldt, Franz. Papers
Date             1951-1995
Size             2.5 linear ft. (5 boxes)
Repository       Hanna Holborn Gray Special Collections Research Center
                 University of Chicago Library
                 1100 East 57th Street
                 Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.
Abstract         Contains correspondence, newspaper articles, lectures by Martin Marty and
                 others, biographical material, lists, photographs, memorabilia, academic
                 attire, and a cassette tape. Material relates to fictional scholar Franz Bibfeldt.

Information on Use

Access
Access to some material may be restricted because of the need for special equipment.

Citation
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Bibfeldt, Franz. Papers,
[Box #, Folder #], Hanna Holborn Gray Special Collections Research Center, University of
Chicago Library

Scope Note
Contains correspondence, newspaper articles, lectures by Martin Marty and others, biographical
material, lists, photographs, memorabilia, academic attire, and a cassette tape. Material relates to
Franz Bibfeldt.

Related Resources
Browse finding aids by topic.

Subject Headings
- Bibfeldt, Franz
- Marty, Martin

INVENTORY

Box 1
Folder 1
Martin E. Marty, Franz Bibfeldt Archive, item list (bracketed numbers appearing in the following folder listing refer to this item list)


**Box 1**

**Folder 2**

Martin E. Marty, Franz Bibfeldt Archive, photocopied items keyed to item list in folder 1


**Box 1**

**Folder 3**

Martin E. Marty, Franz Bibfeldt Archive, photocopied items keyed to item list in folder 1

View digitized documents. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/scrc/md/bibfeldt-0001-003

**Box 1**

**Folder 4**

Martin E. Marty, Franz Bibfeldt Archive, photocopied items keyed to item list in folder 1


**Box 1**

**Folder 5**

Martin E. Marty, Franz Bibfeldt Archive, photocopied items keyed to item list in folder 1

View digitized documents. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/scrc/md/bibfeldt-0001-005

**Box 1**

**Folder 6**

References to Ur-material and Ur-material

- Martin E. Marty, review of The Relieved Paradox, by Franz Bibfeldt, The Seminarian, December 1950 (2)
- Catalog card of Bibfeldt work, from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, 1951-1952 (3)


**Box 1**

**Folder 7**

References to Ur-material and Ur-material, Franz Bibfeldt, "The Problem of the Year Zero," dissertation, English translation (4)


**Box 1**

**Folder 8**

Newspaper Stories

- James Robison, "Spirit of Franz Bibfeldt alive - although he never was," Chicago Tribune (5)
- Clarence Petersen, "The gospel according to 'Franz Bibfeldt': A divine inspiration," Chicago Tribune (8)
- "Franz Bibfeldt: A theologian for everyone" (9) Chicago Tribune, "University honors theologian, calendar critic, owner of invisible dog," Hartford Courant, April 2, 1992 (10)
Box 1
Folder 9
Photographs and other visual materials
• "Bibfeldtiana," display case card (11)
• Signed photograph, Vice-president Spiro Agnew (12)
• Signed photograph, Congressman Roman Pucinski of Chicago (13)
• Signed photograph, District Attorney Edward Hanrahan (14)
• Signed photograph, Governor Lester Maddox of Georgia (15)
• Signed photograph, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin (16)
• Signed photograph, Senator Charles Percy (17)
• Signed photograph, Mayor Richard J. Daley (18)
• Signed photograph, Shari Clark, Playmate of the Year 1971 (19)
• Signed photograph, Attorney-General William Scott (20)
• Martin Marty holding portrait of Bibfeldt by Siegfried Reinhardt, photograph (21)
• Martin Marty and Gerald C. Brauer at a Swift Hall lunch, photograph (22)
• W.G.N. credits (24)

Box 1
Folder 10
Photographs and other visual materials,
• American Historical Association exhibitor's badge (23)
• Exhibitor's badges (25)

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Folder 11
Photographs and other visual materials
• Martin Marty at Turnhalle in Groszenkneten, Germany, near Bibfeldt birthplace, color photograph (26)
• Postcard from J. C. Brauer to M. E. Marty (27)
• Cover of Newsweek, May 1, 1978 (28)
• Visualization of Bibfeldt's theology (29)
• Mao-Tse Tung, calligraphed saying (30)
• Library catalog card of Bibfeldt work (31)
• Motel marquee displaying "Welcome Franz Bibfelt" with festival participants in foreground, three color photographs (32)
• Card from a room at Jumer's Hotel, Peoria, Illinois, November 1, 1992 (33)
• Captions for Bibfeldt Day at Divinity School, University of Chicago (34)

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Lecture-like material

- Martin Marty, "Ur-Lecture," November 1, 1972 (36)
- R. M. Grant, "The Quest for the Historical Bibfeldt," lecture, 1976 (37)
- David Ousley, "The Quest for the Historical Bibfeldt," lecture, 1976 (38)
- Dennis L. Landon, "The Man Who Isn't There, Some Notes on the Quest for the Historical Franz Bibfeldt," lecture, 1976 (40)
- J. C. Brauer, lecture, 1992 (41)
- W. Mark McClemore, "The Bibfeldt Hustle, or Saturday Night Plague: Some Recent Theories of Pastoral Care," lecture, 1977 (42)
- Robin D. Mattison, "Both This World and the Next," sermon, 1978 (43)
- Otto Dreydoppel, Jr., "Franz Bibfeldt and Pastoral Care: Theologian of the Dead," lecture, 1978 (44)

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Lecture-like material

- Anonymous and not very good item (47)
- Dale Richeson, "An Exegesis of Franz Bibfeldt's The Food Context of Pastoral Care," lecture, n.d. (49)
- Robin Lovin, "Franz Bibfeldt and the Future of Political Theology," lecture, 1987 (50)
- Joseph Bessler, "On Reading Bibfeldt," lecture, n.d. (52)
- Robin W. Lovin, "Landmarks and Landmines in Bibfeldt Scholarship," AAR lecture, November 21, 1988 (54)
- Peter Schineller, Hilda Braunschweiger-Bibfeldt Lecture, Weston School of Theology, Boston, April 28, 1989 (56)
- Sam Portaro, "A Faith for Franz," lecture, April 1992 (57)

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Miscellaneous items

• "The Quest for the Historical Bibfeldt," Conversations at Chicago, precis of radio program, September 26, 1976 (59)
• Dennis L. Landon, President, Franz Bibfeldt Society, to Charles Collingwood, CBS Radio News, July 11, 1975, TLS, 1 p. (60)
• Charles Collingwood to Dennis Landon, July 25, 1975, TLS, 1 p.,
• Charles Kuralt, script for Dateline America, April 13, 1975 (61)
• Martin Marty, lecture announcement at the Divinity School, 1972 (62)
• Undated program from Valparaiso University (63)
• International Genealogical Index, Joannem Bibfeldt (64)
• Franz Pknöeurdt, "Biography for Academic Personnel" form, 1977 (65)
• Martin E. Marty, Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws, Valparaiso University, signed by Franz Bibfeldt (66)
• American Kennel Club, Registration Certificate for Hadley I, 1974 (67)
• Concordia Publishing House card, 1952 (68)
• L. Blankenbuehler, Concordia Publishing House, to Tony, request for Bibfeldt book (69)
• Franz Bibfeldt, to Herrn Redaktor, letter, published in the Seminarian (70)
• Franz Bibfeldt, Jr., of the rap staff, "Urges New Language of God" (71)
• "Library Finds Jewel Among the Dust," Seminarian, April 1, 1958 (72)
• "Announcements," Seminex, Concordia Seminary in Exile, October 8, 1974 (73)
• "New of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sioux Falls,"
• "Calendar of Events," March 1982 (74)
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• Sox 76, Chicago White Sox program, 1976, with note from Robert Otto to Martin Marty (76)
• "Cultic Studies Newsletter," March 1983 (77)
• Pacific Lutheran University, "Report to Investors," 1985-1986 (78)
• The International Trade Association of Greater Chicago,
• "Newsletter," June 1992 (79)
• Criterion, Winter 1983, p. 4 footnote (80)

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• Program of uncertain provenance (81)
• Siegfried Reinhardt, sketches of Franz Bibfeldt, correspondence (82)
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Miscellaneous items
• Allenson and Ex Libris book catalogs, correspondence (83)
• Harper and Row, Eerdmans Publishing Co., correspondence, bibliography (84)
• Donnelley Stool of Bibfeldt Studies, J. C. Brauer, Donnelley Stool acceptance speech, correspondence (85)

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  Inhouse correspondence and announcements (86)
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Box 2
Folder 8
  Outhouse correspondence and announcements (87)
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  Tod Hedinger, guitar composition (88)

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  "The 1981 Franz Bibfeldt Symposium," Conversations at Chicago #687, Martin Marty, Robert Grant, Robin Lovin, cassette tape
  View digitized documents. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/srcmd/bibfeldt-0002-010

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Folder 11
  Martin E. Marty, By Way of Response (Abingdon, 1981), pp. 33-37, about Bibfeldt

Box 2
Folder 12
  Martin Marty, miscellaneous

Box 2
Folder 13
  Miscellaneous items
  • Bill Moyers to Martin Marty, January 17, 1994
  • Conrad Cherry to Martin Marty, January 19, 1995
  • Martin Marty to Conrad Cherry, January 23, 1995

Box 3
  Donnelley Stool Christmas sock

Box 3
  Bibfeldt honorary degree hood, made by Elsa E. Marty

Box 3
  Plaque, "University of Oklahoma, S. L. E. P. Seminar Salutes Franz Bibfeldt, March 21, 1988"
Franz Bibfeldt degree from Concordia College, St. Louis, September 13, 1951

**Box 3**
Photographs of sketches of Bibfeldt Prototype of Warner Sallman’s Jesus Bibfeldt in academic attire Bibfeldt in Chicago White Sox uniform

**Box 4**
**Folder 1**
Miscellaneous items
- American Academy of Religion-Society of Biblical Literature, 1988
- Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 19-22, 1988, program

**Box 4**
**Folder 2**
Peterson, Doug, "Franz Bibfeldt: He Came, He Saw, He Compromised," in The Door, September/October, 1993

**Box 4**
**Folder 3**
Hirsley, Michael, "Scholars gather to toast a legend," Chicago Tribune, April 16, 1993
  View digitized documents. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/scrc/md/bibfeldt-0004-003

**Box 5**
**Folder 1**
Allen B. Veaner to Martin E. Marty, May 12, 1995 University of Arizona, School of Library Science, LIS589, Scholarly Communication, final examination distributed April 18, 1995, includes Question 3, "Identify the scholar Franz Bibfeldt"

**Box 5**
**Folder 2**
Allen B. Veaner to Martin E. Marty, student answers

**Box 5**
**Folder 3**
Allen B. Veaner to Martin E. Marty, student answers
  View digitized documents. http://pi.lib.uchicago.edu/1001/scrc/md/bibfeldt-0005-003

**Box 5**
**Folder 4**
Allen B. Veaner to Martin E. Marty, student answers

**Box 5**
**Folder 5**
Allen B. Veaner to Martin E. Marty, student answers
Box 5
Folder 6
Miscellaneous items
• Princeton University Theological Seminary Library, order form for P.T.L. Von Kaester, Semperlapsarianismus: die Sundelehre in der Theologie Franz Bibfeldts, 1988
• Dave Edwards, correspondence, 1994
• Robert D. Ibach, correspondence, 1995