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Los Angeles Public Library Acquires
Los Angeles Resistance Collection

Collection includes wide range of materials related to L.A.’s draft-resistance movement from the 1960s and 1970s

(October 14, 2014) The Los Angeles Public Library has acquired the Los Angeles Resistance Collection, a wide range of materials related to the Vietnam era draft-resistance movement from the mid-1960s through the mid-1970s. Items include personal letters from imprisoned draft resisters, anti-draft and peace leaflets, trial documents and transcripts. The collection also contains photographs, films, political buttons, posters, news articles and obituaries.

The collection will be housed in the Central Library in downtown Los Angeles and available to the public at the library and in digital format through the library’s website at www.lapl.org.

“The Los Angeles Resistance Collection represents an important part of L.A.’s political history and the national peace movement,” said City Librarian John F. Szabo. “It is an important addition to our popular collections chronicling local history. We are grateful to have the opportunity to preserve the Resistance Collection and, for the first time, make it widely available.”

The Los Angeles Resistance was founded in 1967 to stop the war in Vietnam, and later Laos and Cambodia. Supporters worked with draft-age men who publicly refused to cooperate with the draft and refused induction into the military. Resisters often served prison terms for their commitment.

“The resisters, organizers and supporters of the Los Angeles Resistance donated the collection, knowing that the example they set is, sadly, as relevant today as in 1967,” said Winter Dellenbach, a founding organizer for the Los Angeles Resistance. “It is hoped others will find inspiration in these materials, and will then carry it on.”

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, more than six million books, and state-of-the-art technology provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

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