

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Tiananmen Square Collection (RBSC- ARC-1785)

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Tiananmen Square Collection

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	4
Notes	4
Series descriptions	4

Summary information

Repository:	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Title:	Tiananmen Square Collection
ID:	RBSC-ARC-1785
Date:	1989 (date of creation)
Date:	1989 (date of creation)
Physical description:	26 cm of textual records and other media.
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Finding aid created by Ashlynn Prasad in April 2018. Accrual processed by James Goldie in November 2019.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Angela Codina, a Canadian lawyer, was residing in Macau at the time of the Tiananmen Square incident in Beijing in 1989. The Tiananmen Square incident, also called June Fourth incident or 6/4, was a culmination of a series of protests and demonstrations in China in the spring of 1989 that culminated on the night of June 3–4 with a government crackdown on the demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in Beijing. Although the demonstrations and their subsequent repression occurred in cities throughout the country, the events in Beijing—and especially in Tiananmen Square, historically linked to such other protests as the May Fourth Movement (1919)—came to symbolize the entire incident. In the midst of this unrest, Codina traveled to Beijing to conduct a series of interviews with the leaders of the uprising. Codina also participated in the Tiananmen Square uprising as a speaker at the gathering there, bringing greetings of solidarity as a Canadian to those who were present.

Custodial history

Angela Codina conducted these interviews of the Tiananmen Square uprising's leaders at the request of Geraldine Bowman and Harry Kopyto. After their creation, the cassette tapes were eventually sent out of the country and restored to Ms. Codina after she left China. Geraldine Bowman accepted and kept custody of the materials from the 1990s onward, during which time she commissioned transcriptions to be made of the recorded interviews. The materials were also briefly in the possession of Marjorie Chan, an actor who referred to them during the process of creating a play about the Tiananmen Square incident. Rare Books and Special Collections acquired the materials from Geraldine Bowman in December 2017. Photographs depicting events at Tiananmen Square that had been in the possession of Harry Kopyto were added to this collection in October 2019.

Scope and content

The collection is made up of 11 cassette tapes containing 12.5 hours of audio, of the interviews that Angela Codina conducted with the leaders of the Tiananmen Square uprising. The collection also consists of the following textual materials: written transcripts that were later made of the interviews (at the behest of Geraldine Bowman); materials for a book written by Angela Codina; newspaper clippings; periodicals and journals; and correspondence. The collection also contains 274 photographic negatives and 448 colour photographs.

Notes

Title notes

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Physical description:** 26 cm of textual records 11 cassette tapes 274 negatives 448 colour photographs

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-1	File - Angie - Book Beginning			
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-2	File - Names of Interviewees			
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-3	File - Marjorie's Working Copies			
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-4	File - Tape 1 Transcription Originals			
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-5	File - Tape 2 Transcription Originals			
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-6	File - Tape 3 Transcription Originals			
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-7	File - Tape 4, 5, 6 Transcription Originals			
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-8	File - Tape 7 Transcription Originals - Speech at Beijing University	June 1, 1989		
RBSC-ARC-1785-1-9	File - Tape 8, 9, 10 Transcription Originals			
RBSC-ARC-1785-2-1	File - Postcards			
RBSC-ARC-1785-2-2	File - Periodicals			
RBSC-ARC-1785-2-3	File - Students			
RBSC-ARC-1785-2-4	File - Correspondence			
RBSC-ARC-1785-2-5	File - Uprising Participants (including students)			

RBSC-ARC-1785-2-6	File - Book Materials	
RBSC-ARC-1785-2-7	File - Media Coverage	
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-01	Item - Tape 1 - Side B	May 30, 1989
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-02	Item - Tape 3 - Side B - First speech before media evening	May 30, 1989
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-03	Item - Interview - Tape 4	
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-04	Item - Tape 4	May 31, 1989
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-05	Item - Tape 8 - Continuation Interview with Professor	
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-06	Item - Tape 9	June 6, 1989
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-07	Item - 8	
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-08	Item - Tapes Match Finished	June 1
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-09	Item - Tape 9 Finished	
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-10	Item - Tape 10	June 6, 1989
RBSC-ARC-1785- RBSC-ARC-1785- SPC-11	Item - 5	
RBSC-ARC-1785- PH-001 to 274	File - Negatives	
RBSC-ARC-1785- PH-275 to 722	File - Photographs	1989