Interim Catalogue of the Archives of the Medical Association for the Prevention of War, collected by Dr Alex Poteliakhoff

Archive Reference: GB 0532 MAP

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Introduction

This archive tells the story of a group of doctors and other medical professionals who aimed to use their authority and expertise to work for disarmament and a better society: the Medical Association for the Prevention of War (MAPW). You can find out more about the creation of MAPW in no. 95 of the 100 Objects exhibition: A Letter to the Lancet. http://100objectsbradford.wordpress.com

The catalogue is taken from a collection description written for the Archives Hub and a list made by the donor of the collection, Alex Poteliakhoff. It is being made available online with minor edits as part of our Quick Wins programme, which will put much more information about our archives online quickly by digitising old lists. This is an “Interim” catalogue because there is much more scope for detailed listing of the contents of the archive in future.

If you’d like to use this archive, do get in touch: our contact details are on the front cover of this catalogue.

Alison Cullingford, Special Collections Librarian.

Collection description

Reference code
GB 0532 MAP.

Title
Archives of The Medical Association for the Prevention of War, collected by Dr Alex Poteliakhoff.

Dates
1951-1996.

Level of description
Collection.

Extent
1.5 linear metres.

Name of creator
The Medical Association for the Prevention of War and Dr. Alex Poteliakhoff, medical practitioner.
Administrative history

The Medical Association for the Prevention of War (MAPW) was founded in 1951. It originated in a letter to the Lancet signed by seven distinguished doctors (Richard Doll, Alfred Esterman, Ian Gilliland, Horace Joules, Duncan Leys, Lionel Penrose, and Martin Pollock) expressing concern at the growing arms race and calling for doctors to use their unique expertise and authority to work for disarmament. This led to extensive correspondence in the Lancet and privately, as a result of which a forum to discuss these issues was held in London on 16 March. Chaired by Dr Joules, it was attended by 130 doctors and led to the founding of the MAPW.

Three working parties were set up: on the misuse of science, psychological aspects of war, and the international role of medicine. From its inception MAPW made its presence felt with protests, such as that in 1952 against a British government embargo on the export of medical supplies to China. Activities diminished during the 1960s and early 1970s, but the investigation into issues of peace and conflict was maintained with MAPW conferences and publications, which reached an international audience.

When the group International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) was formed in 1980, MAPW became an affiliated organisation. The formation, at the same time, of the Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (MCANW) posed some problems of identity, but MAPW continued with its aims while co-operating with MCANW on nuclear issues. In 1992 MAPW merged with MCANW to form Medact (Medical Action for Global Security).

Dr. Alex Poteliakhoff, who has worked in general practice and in hospitals, joined MAPW in 1951. He has been active in the organisation, serving as Treasurer, Secretary and Vice-Chairman.

Archival history

Presented by Dr Poteliakhoff to Nick Lewer of the University of Bradford’s Peace Studies department in January 2002.

Immediate source of acquisition

Donated to Special Collections by Nick Lewer in 2002.

Scope and content

MAPW records in this Archive include rules, papers of AGMs, Executive Committee and sub-committees, correspondence, accounts, newsletters and other publications, and files on conferences, lectures and fundraising. There are files on initiatives including the Lionel Penrose Trust, Medical Educational Trust and the John Humphrey Memorial Trust, and on the eventual merger with MCANW. Four artificial subject files (H2, H3, H6, H7) bring together early correspondence and significant material for the history of MAPW. Some
papers appear to have been acquired by Dr Poteliakhoff independently of his work in MAPW.

**Appraisal**

Archival appraisal will be carried out as the Archive is catalogued in more detail.

**Accruals**

Several files in the sequence were retained by Dr Poteliakhoff which may be donated to Special Collections at a later date (files J1, M1, M8, P1, P2, W1).

**System of arrangement**

Files arranged in an alphabetical sequence by Dr. Poteliakhoff.

**Access conditions**

Available to researchers, by appointment. Access to archive material is subject to preservation requirements and must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation. The correspondence sections of this archive contain personal data on individuals and access is therefore restricted under the Act. More detailed cataloguing may make it possible to refine this restriction. Researchers should contact the Special Collections Librarian for information about the status of the material they wish to view.

**Copyright/conditions governing reproduction**

MAPW copyrights have been retained; other rights are held by various third parties. Copies may be supplied or produced at the discretion of Special Collections staff, subject to copyright law and the condition of the originals. Applications for permission to make published use of any material should be directed to the Special Collections Librarian in the first instance. The Library will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material.

**Language of material**

English.

**Related archives**

The Wellcome Library Archives and Manuscripts holds records of Medact and MCANW.

**Publications**

*Physicians and the Peace Movement*, by Nick Lewer (Cass, 1992). The Archive contains many published and unpublished articles concerning the history of MAPW.
Archivist’s note
Original descriptions by John Brooker, revisions by Alison Cullingford.

Rules or conventions
ISAD(G) 2nd ed.

Date(s) of description
May 2002 (Collection description) and March 2004 (Handlist), revised December 2013.

Indexing

Persons
Poteliakhoff, Alex

Corporate bodies
Medical Association for the Prevention of War

Subjects
Physicians
Peace movements – History
War, Medical aspects – History
Details of archive contents

Introduction
As noted in the collection description, the donor has put the Archive into an alphabetical sequence based on file title.

Files in alphabetical sequence

A1  AGMs, MAPW

A2  Appeals, MAPW

A3  Accounts, MAPW

A4  Articles, miscellaneous

A5  MAPW Australia

A6  Anthems
1980, 1982. MAPW proposal to Unesco World Congress on Disarmament Education to eliminate "military power and war" from national anthems. Typescript proposal and press cuttings.

A7  Addresses of associations and organisations

B1  Brandt report
B2 Booklets
1951-1990 and undated. Pamphlets, leaflets from MAPW and other organisations.

C1 Correspondence
1951-1969. Restricted under DPA.

C2 Correspondence
1970-1979. Restricted under DPA.

C3 Correspondence
1980-1982. Restricted under DPA.

C4 Correspondence
1982-1991. Restricted under DPA.

C5 Conferences. Rome, Toronto, Berlin 1952
Congres Mondial des Medecins, Rome. 18th International Red Cross Conference, Toronto. Papers on use of biological weapons in Korea, 1952. Restricted.

C6 Conferences

C7 Chiswick Women's Aid Conference, Royal Society of Medicine November 1977
Erin Pizzey spoke to MAPW about her work. Report and correspondence.

C8 Conference: The human cost of wars since 1945. 16 October 1982
Programme, correspondence. Restricted under DPA.

C9 Conference: Nuclear winter and Chemical war. 19 May 1984
Flyers, correspondence, list of participants. Restricted under DPA.

C10 Chemical and Biological Warfare
C11  Culture of Peace.

C12  Conference: Chemical and Biological Weapons, RSM, 26 April 1986.
Report on conference and extracts from the papers.

C13  Conference: Can We Prevent War? Guy's Hospital, 8 June 1991.
Programme, flyer, correspondence, list of speakers and attendees. Restricted under DPA.

Programme, flyer.

C15  Conference: The Right to Wage War. RSM, 11 May 1985
Press cuttings, background paper.

C16  Conference: Education and Health, with Teachers for Peace, 11 June 1988
Summaries of talks.

E1   Executive Committee Minutes

E2   Ethics, including Apartheid and Medical Ethics

E3   East-West Reach, East-West Peace People

G1   Gulf War: Papers
1985-1988. Circulars, papers from other organisations and individuals

H1   John Humphrey Memorial Trust
1988-1996. Set up to institute annual lecture. Correspondence, copy of deed of trust text. Restricted under DPA.
H2 History of MAPW
1951-1954. Correspondence, articles, press cuttings, documents concerning founding of MAPW.

H3 History of MAPW

H4 UK/USSR MEP (Medical Exchange Programme), later HealthProm

H5 Human Rights

H6 History of MAPW

H7 History of MAPW: Labour Party proscription
1952-1963, 1986. Correspondence concerning political stance of MAPW and its proscription by the Labour Party as "communist front". Including 1986 correspondence between AP and Labour Party archivist on surviving records on this issue. Restricted under DPA.

H8 HEART. Health and Refugee Trust (South Africa)
1988 Circulars and correspondence. Doll and Hoffenberg were trustees.

I1. IPPNW, First Congress, Airlie. 20-25 March 1981

Restricted under DPA.

I3. IPPNW, Second Congress, Accounts, Indemnity
Correspondence 1981-1982. Restricted under DPA.

I4. IPPNW, Second Congress, Fund raising
Correspondence, papers 1981-1982. Restricted under DPA.
I5. IPPNW, Third Congress, Amsterdam, June 1983

I6. IPPNW, Fourth Congress, Finland, 1984

I7a & b. IPPNW, Fifth Congress, Budapest, 1985
Restricted under DPA

I8. IPPNW, Sixth Congress, Cologne, 1986
Restricted under DPA.

I9. IPPNW, Seventh Congress, Moscow, 1987
Restricted under DPA.

I10. IPPNW, Seventh Congress, Moscow, 1987. Speeches etc.

I11. IPPNW, Eighth Congress, Montreal, 1988
Restricted under DPA.

I12. IPPNW, First European Symposium, Brussels, 1985
Second European Symposium, Madrid, 1986; Fifth European Symposium, Coventry, 1990.

I13. IPPNW, Third European Symposium, Prague, 1987
Restricted under DPA.

I14. Centre for International Peacebuilding

I15. IPPNW Correspondence
1980-1987. Correspondence, minutes, circulars. Restricted under DPA.

Restricted under DPA.
I17. Industry and the Bomb


L1. Leicester Branch, MAPW
1981-1985. Restricted under DPA.

L2. London Group, MAPW

L3. London Group, MAPW. AGM and lectures, 8 September 1984
Flyers, correspondence. Restricted under DPA.

L4. Lionel Penrose Trust. Setting Up/Initiation to Establishment
1971-1979. Correspondence and papers. Restricted under DPA.

Correspondence with Grant-making Charities
1977-1985. Correspondence, forms, lists of covenants. Restricted under DPA.

L6. Lionel Penrose Trust. Covenants, Accounts. Correspondence
1980-1987. Restricted under DPA.

L7. Lionel Penrose Trust. Correspondence and Accounts
1984-1994. Restricted under DPA.

L8. Lionel Penrose Trust. Covenants
1989-1993. Restricted under DPA.

L9. Lionel Penrose Trust. Covenants
1979-1984. Restricted under DPA.
L10  Lionel Penrose Trust. Correspondence with E.P. Cadbury re endowment
1985. Restricted under DPA.

M2  MCANW Documents

M3  MCANW Minutes, correspondence

M4. Medical Needs of Developing Countries.
1986, 1990. Includes paper by Dr Poteliakhoff. Restricted under DPA.

M5a and b. Mediation Project

M6  Membership lists and mailing lists

M7  Miscellaneous: Including Tokyo Declaration, Brandt Report, Just Defence etc
1980s-1991

M9  MCANW, Correspondence
1982-1984. Restricted under DPA.

M10  Merger of MAPW with MCANW
Correspondence 1981-1992. Restricted under DPA.

M11  MET (Medical Educational Trust)
1981-1983. Restricted under DPA.

M12  MAPW A.G.M. 1983
Included showing of film One million Hiroshimas, speech by guest speaker Jonathan Dimbleby, The media and the bomb, and briefing for the general election 1983. Restricted under DPA.

M13  Direct mailing campaign in conjunction with IPPNW
1985. Correspondence and content of direct mailing to doctors. Restricted under DPA.
N1  MAPW Newsletters

N2  Newspaper and journal cuttings

N3  National Peace Council. Some papers


P3  Conference, posters etc.

P4  Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR)

R1  Refugee Studies programme, Oxford University

R2  Rules, MAPW

S1  SANA (Scientists Against Nuclear Arms) Conference, Budapest, July 1986.
Programme, correspondence. Restricted under DPA.

S2  SSD3 Third Special Session on Disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly, 1988
Includes MAPW written statement to the SSD.

T1  Terrorism: causes and prevention
U1 United Nations

W2 World Court Project
1992-1996. Correspondence, periodicals, documents re judgment by the International Court of Justice on use of nuclear weapons. Restricted under DPA.

W3 Centre for World Development Education

Y1 Yugoslavia

Z Publications

MAPW journals

Bulletin, Medical Association for Prevention of War, nos. 1-27, May 1951-June 1964


MAPW pamphlets

Comfort, Alex. How to Read the Newspapers (and listen to the News Bulletins). London : MAPW, [n.d.].


The medical ethic. London : Executive Committee of MAPW, [n.d.].
MAPW conferences


Non-MAPW publications


