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Scope

Records in this collection relate to twelve separate Associations or Unions with which Dr. Collins was affiliated at one time or another during his career as an Advisor. Specifically, they are the following:

1. Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association (S.V.T.M.A.)
2. Esso Staff Officers Association (E.S.O.A.)
3. Esso Radio Officers Association (E.R.O.A.)
4. Jersey Standard Tanker Officers Association (J.S.T.O.A.)
5. American Tanker Officers Association (A.T.O.A.)
6. Deepwater Officers Association (D.O.A.)
7. Socony Vacuum Tanker Officers Association (S.V.T.O.A.)
8. Tankers Supervisors Association (T.S.A.)
9. Texas Radio Officers Association (T.R.O.A.)
10. Texas Tanker Officers Association (T.T.O.A.)
11. Tide Water Tankers Men's Association (T.W.T.M.A.)
12. Tide Water Tanker Officers Association (T.W.T.O.A.)

Materials for these various associations are not uniform either in kind or in quantity. The one type of document common to all are "Form Books", and these have been grouped together into one Series. These volumes essentially contained copies of the various notices and other documents which Collins issued as part of his every day work.

In addition to these Form Books, however, for the first four unions listed above, that is, S.V.T.M.A., E.S.O.A., E.R.O.A., and J.S.T.O.A., some other materials are found, again, in varying but essentially small quantities. S.V.T.M.A., the largest in quantity, contains General Correspondence (both Letters Received and Letters Sent); Master Files (Letters Sent only); Elections Documents (essentially ballots, envelopes and statement sheets) related to election matters when members had to ratify a number of proposals brought before them, or elect certain representatives; and a few Miscellaneous Documents as well. E.S.O.A. has some General Correspondence, Master Files, and Elections Documents. E.R.O.A. and J.S.T.O.A. contain only some Elections Documents. Thus, four Series have been formed around each of these four Associations. To reiterate, only "Form Books" are common to all, and are the only type of document for the unions above numbered five to eleven.

Also, there is found also another extremely fragmentary series called Miscellaneous Volumes or Publications. This series contains Dr. Collins' dissertation, two newsletters published by S.V.T.M.A. and one newsletter published by the T.W.T.M.A. With but some very minor exceptions for a very small amount of material dated for a few years in the 1940s, the Papers of John J. Collins are dated in the decade of the 1950s, and more especially in the years 1955, 1956 and 1957. No material is dated after 1957. The total volume of the collection is approximately 5 and a half cubic feet.

Contents

I. FORM BOOKS

As previously mentioned, for a majority of the unions, Form Books are the only type of records which exist in this collection. These volumes, titled as such by Dr. Collins, contain copies of notices to members of the Association; Questionnaires; Ballots; Bulletins; and similar documents issued by Collins in his capacity as Adviser. These were gathered together on an annual basis and loosely bound (via a 3 hole puncher) to form a book for handy reference. In other words, these volumes (now disassembled by Archives staff for their better preservation) contain essentially the various notices or documents sent to the members. Apparently, a blank copy of each type of document or form which could be or was used during the course of any given period was retained as a sample of the types of documents which the Advisor made use of. There are Form Books for all the eleven different Associations. The earliest year represented is 1948, the latest 1957. One volume covering the year 1955 was given the description "General" by Collins. Volumes are arranged as follows:

Box 1

American Tanker Officers Association	1955
American Tanker Officers Association	1956
American Tanker Officers Association	1957
Deepwater Officers Association	1948
Deepwater Officers Association	1949
Deepwater Officers Association	1955
Deepwater Officers Association	1956
Deepwater Officers Association	1957
Esso Radio Officers Association	1955
Esso Radio Officers Association	1956
Esso Radio Officers Association	1957

Box 2

Esso Staff Officers Association	1948-1952
Esso Staff Officers Association	1950-1952
Esso Staff Officers Association	1953
Esso Staff Officers Association	1954-1955
Esso Staff Officers Association	1955
Esso Staff Officers Association	1955
Esso Staff Officers Association	1956
Esso Staff Officers Association	1956
Esso Staff Officers Association	1957

Box 3

Jersey Standard Tankers Officers Association	1955
Jersey Standard Tankers Officers Association	1955
Jersey Standard Tankers Officers Association	1956
Jersey Standard Tankers Officers Association	1956

Box 4

Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association	1954
Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association	1955
Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association	1956
Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association	1956
Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association	1957
Socony Vacuum Tanker Officers Association	1955
Socony Vacuum Tanker Officers Association	1955

Box 5

Socony Vacuum Tanker Officers Association	1956
Tankers Supervisors Association	1955
Tankers Supervisors Association	1956
Tankers Supervisors Association	1957
Texas Radio Officers Association	1956
Texas Radio Officers Association	1957
Texas Tanker Officers Association	1955
Texas Tanker Officers Association	1956

Box 6

Tide Water Tanker Men's Association	1955
Tide Water Tanker Men's Association	1956
Tide Water Tanker Men's Association	1957
Tide Water Tanker Officers Association	1955
Tide Water Tanker Officers Association	1956
Tide Water Tanker Officers Association	1957

VACUUM TANKER-Men's'S ASSOCIATION (S.V.T.M.A.)

Records relating to this Union are divided into the following four Sub Series: General Correspondence; Master Files; Elections Documents; Miscellaneous Documents.

General Correspondence

Files cover the years 1951 (very fragmentary), 1952,1953, 1954, and 1956 and consist of both Letters Received and copies of Letters Sent. Essentially they deal with labor matters of various kind such as dues payments, working conditions, sickness, good and welfare and similar concerns. Correspondence is with various union members as well as with company officials. However, Files for 1951, 1952, and 1953 deal exclusively with the United States Selective Service regarding the draft status of various union members, and evidently are letters written by Collins appealing for a change in draft status for these men because of the nature of their work. Arrangement is as follows:

Box 7

1951
Jan - Jun 1952
Jul - Dec 1952
Jan - Mar 1953
Apr - Jun 1953
Jul - Sep 1953
Oct - Dec 1953
Jan 1954
Feb 1954
Mar 1954
Apr 1954
May 1954
Jun 1954
Jul 1954

Box 8

Aug 1954
Sep 1954
Oct 1954
Nov 1954
Dec 1954
Jan 1956
Feb 1956
Mar 1956
Apr 1956
May 1956
Jun 1956
Jul 1956
Aug 1956
Sep 1956
Oct 1956
Nov 1956

Master Files

Titled as such by Dr. Collins, these files, unlike that of General Correspondence, consist exclusively of carbon copies of letters sent, and no Letters Received. Subject matters are the same as those indicated under General Correspondence. Only two years, 1954 and 1956 are covered. Arrangement is as follows:

Jan - Mar 1954
Apr - Jun 1954
Jul - Sep 1954
Oct - Dec 1954

Box 9

Jan - Mar 1956
Apr - Jun 1956
Jul - Sep 1956
Oct - Dec 1956

Elections Documents

These documents refer to Voting Matters in which the membership had to participate by either ratifying contracts or electing representatives. They are arranged as follows:

a) 1955 Ratification of Wage Increase. Documents consist of ballots which carry the signatures of the individuals attesting to the fact that they participated in the voting.

ca. 25 items (sampled out
of an original ca. 250 items)

b) 1957 Ratification of an Agreement providing "for an overall increase in wages, overtime and tank cleaning of five percent (5%)". Documents consist of ballots cast and envelopes which carry the signature of the individual attesting to the fact that he participated in the voting.

ca. 25 items (sampled out
of an original ca. 150 items)

Miscellaneous Documents

These documents, for the most part are financial in nature

a) Dues Statements. These statements are basically in the form of a typed sheet on which are listed the name of the member, the amount of dues paid, the name of the vessel on which the member served, and some related notations. Attached to these sheets are carbon copy receipts signed by the various individuals. Dtd Dec. 1949.

ca. 40 items

b) Miscellaneous Statements. These Statements are somewhat similar to the above but appear to be essentially receipts Dtd Nov. 1951

10 items

c) Miscellaneous Letters and Documents. Dtd 1951

11 items

III. ESSO STAFF OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (E.S.O.A.)

Records in this group are divided into three Sub Series - General Correspondence; General Files; and Elections Documents. The General Correspondence Files cover the years 1953 to 1956; the Master files cover the years 1949 to 1956. Materials are arranged as follows:

General Correspondence

1953
1954
1955
1956

Box 10

Master Files

1949
1950
1951
1952
1953
1954
1955
1956

Elections Documents

This small quantity of data refers to four elections in which the Association was involved:

1. Voting for Executive Committee, 1949

Consists of Statement Sheet certifying that the individual voted, together with the Ballot said individual

ca. 10 samples out of
ca. 25 items originally

2. Voting for Acceptance or Rejection of Agreements, 1953

Consists of Statement Sheet certifying that the individual has voted, together with the Ballot of said individual, and some Reaction Sheets

ca. 10 samples out of
a larger quantity

3. Voting on Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, 1954

Consists of Statement certifying that individual voted and ballot said individual

ca. 10 samples out of
ca. 45 items originally

4. Voting on Ratification of an Agreement with the Company, 1957

Consists of Statement Sheet certifying that individual voted and envelope which contained the ballot, and some ballots themselves

ca. 20 samples out of
ca. 40 items originally

OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (E.R.O.A.)

Records relating to this Union are extremely fragmentary and contain only a few scattered documents arranged into one Sub Series, Elections Documents. These were elections regarding a 1956 Agreement, a 1956 Nomination, and 1957 Amendments.

Elections Documents

Voting on Agreement between Association and the Company, 1956

Consists of Ballots cast and Statement Sheets which indicate whether individual voted

ca. 20 items sampled out
of a larger quantity

Voting on Nominations for Secretary of the Association, 1956

Consists of Ballots cast

ca. 12 items sampled out
of a larger quantity

Voting on Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, 1957

Consists of Ballots cast

ca. 20 items sampled out
of a larger quantity

V. JERSEY STANDARD TANKER OFFICERSASSOCIATION (J.S.T.O.A.)

Records in this Group are extremely fragmentary and contain only a few scattered documents arranged into one Sub Series, Elections Documents.

Elections Documents

These documents concern the 1957 nominations and elections to the Executive Committee of one individual to represent the Deck Department and another individual to represent the Engine Department. They consist of Nomination Forms, Primary Ballots cast, Election Ballots cast, and Ballot Envelopes which contained the ballots. Apparently, some envelopes contain ballots which were received late and then had to be tallied.

Nominations Forms

ca. 12 items sampled out of
a larger quantity

Primary Ballots

ca. 12 items sampled out of
a larger quantity

Election Ballots

these Ballots, arranged in
a large loose leaf volume,
have all been retained to
show a more or less typical
arrangement of Election
Documents

Election Envelopes

ca. 15 items sampled out of
a larger quantity

VI. MISCELLANEOUS VOLUMES OR PUBLICATIONS

Only four items are found in this very fragmentary Sub Series, each of which is described below.

Box 11

- a) "Tydol Beam", a newsletter published by the Tide Water Tanker Men's Association

1 issue, Vol 1, No. 3, dtd
June 15, 1940

- b) "Mobilight", a newsletter published by the Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association on a semi-monthly basis "in the interests of the unlicensed seamen employed by the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company, Inc.". Issues range from about 10 to 16 pages

8 issues, dtd Mar 12, 1940 - Feb 10, 1941

- c) "News Weekly", a newsletter published by the Socony Vacuum Tanker - Men's Association

1 issue, Vol 2, No. 24, dtd
Mar 24, 1941

- d) The Jersey Standard Tanker Officers Association, 1938-1957, A Study In Independent Unionism, dissertation by John J. Collins. This dissertation consists of about 500 leaves, is a typescript in carbon copy and hard bound. It was submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Department of History at Fordham University, 1957. It would appear that judging from the Table of Contents there are some missing sections.

Appendix A

Samples of Documents Found in Form Books

These several samples of documents serve to illustrate some of the kinds of materials found in this Series.

Appendix B

Samples of Correspondence

These several samples serve to illustrate some of the matters discussed in the Collins Correspondence.

Appendix C

Samples of Election Documents

These several samples serve to illustrate the two or three different types of documents found in this Sub Series.

CONTAINER LIST (Shelf List)

For Staff Use Only

Box 1

Series - FORM BOOKS
Sub Series - American Tanker Officers Association
Deepwater Officers Association
Esso Radio Officers Association
No. of Folders - 11

Box 2

Series - FORM BOOKS
Sub Series - Esso Staff Officers Association
No. of Folders - 9

Box 3

Series - FORM BOOKS
Sub Series - Jersey Standard Tanker Officers Association
No. of Folders - 4

Box 4

Series - FORM BOOKS
Sub Series - Socony Vacuum Tanker Men's Association
Socony Vacuum Tanker Officers Association, 1955
No. of Folders - 7

Box 5

Series - FORM BOOKS
Sub Series - Socony Vacuum Tanker Officers Association, 1956
Tanker Supervisors Association
Texas Radio Officers Association
Texas Tanker Officers Association
No. of Folders - 8

Box 6

Series - FORM BOOKS
 Sub Series - Tide Water Tanker Men's Association
 Tide Water Tanker Officers Association
 General
 No. of Folders - 7

Box 7

Series - SOCONY VACUUM TANKER MEN'S ASSOCIATION
 Sub Series - General Correspondence, 1951 - Jul 1954
 No. of Folders - 14

Box 8

Series - SOCONY VACUUM TANKER MEN'S ASSOCIATION
 Sub Series - General Correspondence, Aug 1954 - Nov 1956
 Master Files, 1954
 No. of Folders - 20

Box 9

Series - SOCONY VACUUM TANKER MEN'S ASSOCIATION
 Sub Series - Master Files, 1956
 Elections Documents
 Miscellaneous Documents
 Series - ESSO STAFF OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
 Sub Series - General Correspondence
 No. of Folders 13

Box 10

Series - ESSO STAFF OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
 Sub Series - Master Files
 Elections Documents
 Series - ESSO RADIO OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
 Sub Series - Elections Documents
 Series - JERSEY STANDARD TANKER OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
 Sub Series - Elections Documents
 No. of Folders - 19
 Remarks - This container houses the entire loose-leaf
 volume of Election Ballots from J.S.T.O.A. which was retained as a sample

Series - MISCELLANEOUS VOLUMES OR PUBLICATIONS
Sub Series - None
No. of Folders - 3 and 1 loose volume
Remarks - The volume is Dr. Collins' Dissertation