CLEAVER, KATHLEEN.
Kathleen Cleaver papers, 1900-2019 (bulk: 1960-2019)

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Cleaver, Kathleen.
Title: Kathleen Cleaver papers, 1900-2019 (bulk: 1960-2019)
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1497
Extent: 118.625 linear feet (116 boxes) and 2 extra-oversized papers folders (XOP)
Abstract: Papers of African American activist and lawyer, Kathleen Cleaver, including photographs, printed material, audiovisual and born digital material, books and periodicals, writings, subject files, and correspondence.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
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Related Materials in Other Repositories
Eldridge Cleaver Papers, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Source
A portion of this collection was a gift of Jojuyounghi Cleaver, and a portion of this collection was purchased from Kathleen Cleaver, 2020.

Custodial History
Jojuyounghi Cleaver is the daughter of Kathleen Cleaver. Rose Library staff packed the collection at Kathleen Cleaver's home and transferred it to the library. From 2017-2020, prior to the Rose Library's acquisition of the material, a team organized, labeled, and inventoried the photographs in the collection, including rehousing them in archival sleeves and boxes. Dr. Leigh Raiford lead a team of faculty, archival professionals, and artists from a variety of institutions. This team included Stephanie Alvarado, Dr. Lia Bascomb, Dr. Robin Hayes, Sierra King, Delphine Sims, John Stephens, and Tierra Thomas.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Kathleen Cleaver papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note
Curator of African American Collections, Pellom McDaniels, III, acquired the collection as part of the Rose Library’s holdings in Civil Rights and Post-Civil Rights Movements history. Archivists have retained all material received with the collection.

Processing
Arranged and described at the collection level by Meaghan O'Riordan, March 2020.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note
Kathleen Neal Cleaver (1945-) was born in Dallas, Texas, to activists. In 1948, Cleaver's father, Ernest Neal, accepted a job as the director of the Rural Life Council of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. In 1954, Ernest joined the Foreign Service. The family moved abroad and lived in such countries as India, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and the Philippines. They returned to the United States after Cleaver's brother died from leukemia.

Cleaver graduated from George School, a Quaker boarding school in Newton, Pennsylvania, in 1963. She continued her education at Oberlin College (Ohio) and later transferred to Barnard College (New York, New York). In 1966, she left college for a secretarial job with the New
York office of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) after her friend from
close.

At a student conference at Fisk University (Nashville, Tennessee), Cleaver met the Minister
of Information for the Black Panther Party, Eldridge Cleaver (1935-1998), a speaker at the
conference. Kathleen moved to San Francisco, California, in November 1967 to join the
Black Panther Party and married Eldridge in December that same year. Cleaver became the
Communications Secretary and the first female member of the Party's decision-making body, the
Central Committee. She organized the national campaign to free the Party's Minister of Defense,
Huey Newton, who was jailed and charged for killing an Oakland (California) police officer.

In 1968, Eldridge Cleaver was charged with attempted murder after a shootout with Oakland
police officers, during which fellow Black Party Panther member Bobby Hutton was killed.
He fled to Cuba and later Algeria. Kathleen reunited with Eldridge in Algeria in 1969 and gave
birth to their son, Ahmad Maceo (1969-2018). In 1970 in North Korea, she gave birth to their
daughter, Jojuyoungchi Cleaver.

Kathleen Cleaver attended Yale University (New Haven, Connecticut) from 1981-1984,
completing a Bachelor of Arts in history. In 1987, she divorced Eldridge Cleaver. She continued
her education at Yale Law School, earning a J.D. in 1989. After graduating, Cleaver worked for
the law firm of Carvath, Swaine & Moore (New York, New York). Later, she served as a law
She served as a faculty member at several different colleges and law schools, including the
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (New York New York), the Graduate School of Yale
University (New Haven, Connecticut), and Sarah Lawrence College (Yonkers, New York).
Cleaver joined the faculty at Emory University School of Law (Atlanta, Georgia) in 1992. In
addition to her teaching career, she continued her work as an activist for prison reform, including
freedom for death-row inmate Mumia Abu-Jamal and habeas corpus for Geronimo Pratt.

Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of the papers of African American activist and lawyer, Kathleen Cleaver,
and includes photographs, printed material, audiovisual and born digital material, books and
periodicals, writings, subject files, and correspondence. It includes extensive files documenting
her speaking engagements and activism, and manuscript drafts of her unpublished memoir,
Memories of Love & War. The collection also contains internal documentation on the Black
Panther Party's activities, including material relating to the International Section. Also included
are a significant number of photographs, including family photographs with Eldridge Cleaver
and their children, and a number of photographs of Black Panther activities and associates.
Audiovisual material includes films from the time that Kathleen and Eldridge spent in Algeria
in the 1970s, as well as speeches, lectures, and interviews by notable civil rights figures, such
as Malcolm X, Bobby Seale, Huey Newton, Fred Hampton, Stokely Carmichael, and Robert F.
Williams.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type. Items remain in original physical order but are arranged alphabetically
by type in the container list to facilitate access.
**Container List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Address books, circa 1968-2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Address books and notebooks, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Audiovisual material, audiocassette tapes [7], circa 1965-2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Audiovisual material, audiocassette tapes [83], circa 1980s-1990s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Audiovisual material, audiocassette tapes, DVD, and CDs, 1960-2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 66  | -      | Congo Oye, 1971 [original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vkq06]  
This film was made by Bill Stephens in collaboration with French filmmaker Chris Marker and Eldridge and Kathleen Cleaver. This DVD is a personal copy, likely a recording of the video cassette from the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. |
| 66  | -      | 41 Shots, undated [original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmh2x] |
[original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmh32] |
| 66  | -      | Art and [Culture?], Black Panther Party, undated [original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmh7m] |
| 66  | -      | Black Panther Party (Algiers, Algeria), undated [original: CD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmff7] |
[original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfmx] |
| 66  | -      | Black Panther Women's Retreat, 1997 October [original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmh46] |
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfks] |
| 66  | -      | Cleaver, Eldridge (Algiers, Algeria), undated [original: CD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmc07] |
| 66  | -      | Cleaver, Kathleen, Civil Rights History Project Collection (Atlanta, Georgia), 2011 September 16 [original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmh5b] |
| 66  | -      | Contradictions within the Black Panther Party, 1971 March 5 [original: CD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfjn] |
| 66  | -      | Conversations of Huey P. Newton and Eldridge Cleaver et al (Algiers, Algeria), 1971 March [original: CD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfrg] |
| 66  | -      | Congo Oye, 1971 [original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vkq06] |
This film was made by Bill Stephens in collaboration with French

- Dunbar TV Split_Huey Expell [from "Dunbar TV interview, "The Split"], undated; Dunbar TV wma [from "Dunbar TV interview, "The Split" ] undated [original: CD]
  [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfp6]

- Eldridge Cleaver: Target Zero, undated [original: DVD]
  [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmh8r]

- Kayode Dance [taken from copy of flash drive, 2007 August 29] [original: CD]
  [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmh6g]
Format is not compatible with player, so researcher must download file for access; includes born digital images and documents available through Digital Archives

- Nelson, Stanley, interviewed by PBC, 2015 November 3 [original: CD]
  [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfqb]

- Newton, Huey P., and Eldridge Cleaver, Algiers audio, undated [original: CD]
  [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfgc]

- Pepper, William, interviewed by James Corbett, 2017 April 28 [original: CD]
  [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id vmfhf]

- Audiovisual material, audiocassettes [25], DVDs [7], and videocassette tapes [14], 1993-2006

- Audiovisual material, audiocassette tapes [13], microcassette tape [1], 8mm video tape [1], and reel-to-reel tapes [10], circa, 1968-2016

- Audiovisual material, DVDs [1], microcassette tapes [2], and videocassette tapes [19], undated

- Audiovisual material, DVDs [10] and videocassette tapes [37], circa 1997

- Audiovisual material, reel-to-reel recorder, undated

- Audiovisual material, open reel tapes [21], circa 1967-1968

- Audiovisual material, open reel tapes [35], circa 1967-1968

- Audiovisual material, open reel tapes [33], 1967-1971

- Audiovisual material, open reel tapes [43], circa 1968

- Audiovisual material, open reel tapes [35], 1968-1971

- Audiovisual material, open reel tapes [39], circa 1970s

- Audiovisual material, videocassette tapes [29], circa 1980s-1990s

- Audiovisual material, videocassette tapes [40], Eldridge Cleaver, circa 1980s-1990s

- Audiovisual material, CD [1] and reel-to-reel tapes [3], and born digital material, floppy disks [30], circa 1966-2003

- Audiovisual material, videocassette tapes [20], printed material, and correspondence, 1985-2007

- Audiovisual material, open reel tapes, 1960s

- Audiovisual material, audiocassettes, writings, and correspondence, 1960s-1980s
110 - Books, undated
112 - Books, undated
113 - Books, undated
115 - Books, undated
111 - Books and periodicals, undated
114 - Books, periodicals, and Black Panther Party newspapers, undated
50 - Born digital material, CDs [5], circa 2010
48 - Born digital material, floppy disks [75], circa 1968-2016
84 - Correspondence and clippings, 1980-2000
29 - Correspondence and legal papers, circa 2005
13 - Correspondence and notes, 1963-1974
33 - Correspondence and photographs, 2009-2015
21 - Correspondence and printed material, circa 2011
39 - Correspondence and printed material, 2014-2016
38 - Correspondence, printed material, and born digital material, floppy disk [1], circa 2016-2017
83 - Correspondence, printed material, and obituaries, circa 2016
94 - Correspondence, printed material, periodicals, and clippings, 1946-2019
85 - Correspondence, printed material, and photographs, 1960-1980
88 - Correspondence, printed material, and photographs, 1980-1982
82 - Correspondence, printed material, and subject files: Pearl Juette Johnson Neal, 1990-1991
22 - Correspondence and subject files: the Cleaver family, 1996-2005
24 - Correspondence and subject files: Geronimo Pratt, 1996-1997
89 - Correspondence, women’s retreat, subject files, and Black Panther Party tape list, undated
XOP2 - *Eldridge Cleaver, Black Panther* movie poster, 1970
31 - "Events database (box 2 of 3),” 1999-2003
Cleaver organized material related to her speaking engagements in binders labeled "Events database."
45 - "Events database (box 3 of 3),” 2004-2011
Cleaver organized material related to her speaking engagements in binders labeled "Events database."
104 - Greeting cards and subject files, 1979-2015
14 - International Human Rights, Summer Love Policy Study in Rio files and audiovisual material, DVDs [3], 2006-2007
79 - Journals and reading notes in binders, 1963-1997
16 - Legal papers, undated
36 - Legal papers and correspondence, 1970-1977
Legal papers, correspondence, and audiovisual material, videocassette tape [1], 2005-2008

"Media/Communications Database," subject files, printed material, writings, and transcripts, 1995-1997

"Media/Communications Database," subject files, correspondence, and Target Zero, 2000-2005

"Media/Communications Database," subject files, printed material, writings, and transcripts, 2006-2013


Notebooks, address books, and printed material, circa 1996

Notes, correspondence, and subject files: the Cleaver family, 1973-1977

Photograph albums, circa 1930s

Photograph album, 1954-1958

Photograph albums, circa 1970-1990

Photograph albums, correspondence, and printed material, 1960-1970

Photograph albums and posters, 1951-1970

Photograph albums and scrapbooks, 1943-1989

Photograph albums and scrapbooks, 1970-1990

Photograph albums and scrapbooks, circa 1985-1987

Photographs, circa 1900s-2000s

Photographs, circa 1920s-1990s

Photographs, circa 1960s-1980s

Photographs, circa 1960s-1990s

Photographs, circa 1980s-2000s

Photographs, family, circa 1980s

Photographs, Neal and Johnson family, circa 1900s-1950s

Photographs, negatives, slides, correspondence, yearbooks, and born digital material, CDs [2], 1947-2003

Photographs, photograph albums, and scrapbooks, circa 1900-2000

Photographs and printed material, circa 1900-2011

Posters, 1997-2011

Printed material, 1964-1975

Printed material, 1993-2009

Printed material and audiovisual material, audiocassette tapes [3], 1995-2005

Printed material and photographs, circa 2000

Printed material, photographs, correspondence, and writings, 1989-2018

Correspondence includes a significant amount written to Dorothy J. (Johnson) Samuel

Printed material and scrapbook, 1972-1996

Printed material and subject files, 1967-1968
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<th>Description</th>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Scrapbooks, 1968-1987</td>
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<td>Scrapbook, circa 1980</td>
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<td>Scrapbooks, 1984-1991</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>Slides, circa 1993-2006</td>
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<td>Slides, correspondence, and subject files, 1965-2010</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>Slides photograph albums, and correspondence, 1971-1998</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>Subject files, 1968-1994</td>
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<td>Subject files, 1970-1986</td>
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<td>Subject files, 1988-1991</td>
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<td>Subject files, conferences, symposiums, and lectures, 1973-1998</td>
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<td>Subject files and correspondence, 1987-2012</td>
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<td>Subject files, correspondence, and writings, 1969-2013</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Subject files: Kathleen Cleaver, printed material, and correspondence, 1977-1998</td>
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<td>81</td>
<td>Subject files, printed material, and clippings, undated</td>
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<td>Subject files, printed material, correspondence, and born digital material, floppy disk [1]</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>Subject files and writings, Target Zero, 1969-2013</td>
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<td>96</td>
<td>Subject files, writings, and clippings, 1966-2007</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Teaching files, circa 2006</td>
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<td>67</td>
<td>Writings, and audiovisual material, audiocassette tapes and DVDs, 1960s-2000s</td>
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<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Writings, correspondence, and born digital material, floppy disks and CDs, 1966-2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>Writings, correspondence, and clippings, 1996-2007</td>
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<td>70</td>
<td>Writings, correspondence, and drafts of book chapters, circa 1970s</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>Writings, correspondence, and subject files, 1960-2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Writings, correspondence, and subject files, circa 1970s-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Writings, correspondence, subject files, and newspaper clippings, 1965-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Writings, correspondence, and Target Zero drafts, 1990-2000</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>Writings by Eldridge Cleaver, correspondence, and clippings, 1968-2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Writings by Eldridge Cleaver, printed material, clippings, periodicals, and photograph album,</td>
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<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Writings, Eldridge Cleaver and Target Zero, printed material, and born digital material, floppy disks and CDs, undated</td>
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<td>73</td>
<td>Writings, legal documents, and correspondence, about Eldridge Cleaver, 1955-1975</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>Writings, &quot;Memories of Love and War,&quot; project, undated</td>
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<td>74</td>
<td>Writings, “Memories of Love and War,” drafts, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Writings, “Memories of Love and War,” and correspondence, 1975-2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
95 - Writings, periodicals, and subject files, 1966-2007
92 - Writings, printed material, and audiovisual material, DVDs [4], CD [1],
    videocassette tape [1], and mini audiocassette tape [1], 1981-1995
65 - Writings, printed material, correspondence, speeches, and drafts of book
    chapters, undated
80 - Writings and subject files, circa 1970s-2001
59 - Writings, subject files, and audiocassette tapes regarding Eldridge Cleaver,
    undated
60 - Writings, subject files, and book prospectus, undated
69 - Writings, subject files, and drafts of book chapters, 1991-2017