

# NELSON, JACK, 1929-2009.

## Jack Nelson papers, circa 1960-2009

Emory University  
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library  
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Digital Material Available in this Collection

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### Descriptive Summary

- Creator:** Nelson, Jack, 1929-2009.
- Title:** Jack Nelson papers, circa 1960-2009
- Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 1237
- Extent:** 20 linear feet (24 boxes), 1 oversized papers box and 1 oversized papers folder (OP), 1 oversized bound volume (OBV), 185MB of born digital material (124 files), and AV Masters: .5 linear feet (1 box)
- Abstract:** Papers of Pulitzer Prize winning southern journalist Jack Nelson, including subject files, writings, printed material, correspondence, photographs, sound and video recordings, and born digital materials.
- Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### Administrative Information

#### Restrictions on Access

Access to processed born digital materials is only available in the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (the Rose Library).

#### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Researchers are not permitted to copy or download any digital files from the Rose Library computer workstations.

#### Source

Gift, 2012.

**Citation**

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

**Processing**

A small number of born digital materials processed by Dorothy Waugh, June 2016. The born digital materials currently available to researchers were transferred from six CDs. Files were scanned for viruses using McAfee's anti-virus software. For the most part, files remain in their original format. However, a handful of files have been migrated from Macintosh Picture Image files to PDF. All files retain their original file names and dates. Researchers may also view an archived copy of the memorial website set up by family and friends of Nelson following his death.

The remainder of the collection is unprocessed.

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**Collection Description****Biographical Note**

Jack Nelson (1929-2009), Pulitzer Prize winning investigative journalist, was the *Los Angeles Times* Washington, D.C., bureau chief from 1975-1996, and the paper's chief Washington correspondent until his retirement in 2001. His first job as a reporter was for the *Biloxi Daily Herald* in the late 1940s. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, Nelson reported on news all over the South and became known for breaking exclusive stories. In 1960, while working for the *Atlanta Constitution*, he won the Pulitzer Prize for uncovering abuse at a Milledgeville mental hospital. In 1964, the editor of the *Los Angeles Times* recruited Nelson to open the paper's Atlanta bureau. He is best known for his coverage of the murder of Viola Liuzzo, the Orangeburg Massacre, the F.B.I.'s use of agents provocateurs in Meridian, Mississippi, and the Watergate scandal.

Nelson married second wife Barbara Matusow in 1974. He died in 2009.

**Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of the papers of Jack Nelson, including subject files, writings, printed material, correspondence, photographs and sound and video recordings. Born digital materials include roughly 100 digital photos (many of which were gathered together for Nelson's memorial service), a number of FBI files released as part of the Freedom of Information Act and relating to the Deacons for Defense of Justice, a handful of clippings related to the Deacons' confrontation with the Ku Klux Klan in Bogalusa in 1965, and an archived copy of the memorial website set up by the family and friends of Nelson following his death. The site collects together documents relating to Nelson and his work and features tributes and memories contributed by friends and relatives.

**Arrangement Note**

Processed born digital material arranged by record type.

The remainder of the collection is unprocessed.

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	-	Subject files, various
2	-	Subject files, civil rights
3	-	Subject files, Meridian, Mississippi
4	-	Subject files, various [created by Barbara Matusow]
5	-	Subject files, various [contains photo album created by FBI agent James Awe; photos document Ku Klux Klan murders in Mississippi, including the case of Wharlest Jackson]
6	-	Subject files, various
7	-	Subject files, various post-1970
8	-	Writings, speeches
9	-	Writings, speeches, 1987-1988
10	-	Writings, speeches
11	-	Writings, speeches
12	-	Writings, <i>Terror in the Night: The Klan's Campaign Against the Jews</i>
13	-	Clippings, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> , 1970-1980
14	-	Clippings, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> , 1982-1992
15	-	Photographs and books
16	-	Correspondence; <i>Terror in the Night</i> ; video and audio recordings
17	-	Audiovisual materials
18	-	Audiovisual materials
19	-	Audiovisual materials
20	-	Audiovisual materials
21	-	Audiovisual materials
22	-	Audiovisual materials
23	-	Audiovisual materials
24	-	Audiovisual materials
OP1	1	Political cartoon by Paul Conrad, inscribed to Jack Nelson, 1965
OP1	2	Letter from Joseph Pulitzer, gifted to Jack Nelson and Barbara Matusow
OP2	-	<i>Los Angeles Times</i> special edition, November 7, 1985
OBV1	-	Scrapbook of clippings

### Audio recordings

AV1	-	Bender, Al, April 24, 1990 [original: audio cassette] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp93g]
AV1	-	Binder, Al, November 2, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9mj][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8zt]

- AV1 - Cheney, May 15, 1989 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp95r]
- AV1 - Clark, Obic, November 7, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8xp][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp999]
- AV1 - Clark, Ramsey, undated (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpb19][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp92b]
- AV1 - Dawson, Kennerly, Gadson, and others, May 22, 1969 (side A and B) [original:  
audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpqf3][Digital/digitized  
copy available in the Reading Room: id rpq8d]
- AV1 - Gray, Duncan (side A and B) [original: microcassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpq3q][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpqbp]
- AV1 - Elaine and Tay et. al., undated (side A) [original: microcassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpq1f][Digital/digitized  
copy available in the Reading Room: id rpq09]
- AV1 - Gager, Mitchell, December 11, 1990 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9dq][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9r3]
- AV1 - Harris, Joe, November 2, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp96w][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9fv]
- AV1 - Harris, Joe and Mark Knowls, December 4, 1990 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8pq]
- AV1 - Hatcher, M., November 17, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp985][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9tc]
- AV1 - Henry, Aaron, November 9, 1985 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9bf][Digital/digitized  
copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9np]
- AV1 - Iram, Jim, May 7, 1991 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8s4][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8qv]
- AV1 - Johnson, C.; Everet Keller; and others (side A and B) ) [original: microcassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpqct][Digital/digitized  
copy available in the Reading Room: id rpq4v]
- AV1 - KKK tape 1, undated  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3s84][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3sdp]
- AV1 - Kochtelsky, undated (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]

- [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9zx][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpb05]
- AV1 - Bill Minor, May 6, 1991  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3sft][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3sbd]
- AV1 - Moore, Roy, November 2, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9ck][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9pt]
- AV1 - Tarrants, undated (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpb74][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpb88]
- AV1 - Tommy Tarrants, tape 1, Los Angeles Times Dining Room, May 1991  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3rvc][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3s29]
- AV1 - Tommy Tarrants, tape 2, Los Angeles Times Dining Room, May 1991  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3s98]
- AV1 - Ready, Bill, November 5, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9g0][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp94m]
- AV1 - Ready, Bill, November 7, 1989, Part II (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8t8][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8r0]
- AV1 - J. B. Stoner, National States Rights Party and his officers, Savannah, Georgia, April 25, 1969  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3scj][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id f3s70]
- AV1 - Student introduction, May 22 [?] (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9wn][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9kd]
- AV1 - Watts, Frank, July 27, 1990 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp902][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp9s7]
- AV1 - Young, C. Johnson (Side A and B) [original: microcassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpq78][Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpq64]

### **Born digital materials**

- RRL - Access copies of processed born digital material [Reading room access ONLY]
- Online- *Jack Nelson, 1929-2009*, 2012/12/21 (web archive)  
[\[Resource available online\]](#)