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

Descriptive Summary

Title: Jack Nelson papers, circa 1960-2009
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1237
Extent: 20 linear ft. (24 boxes), 3 oversized papers (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.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Use copies have not been made for all audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance for access to this material.
Access to processed born digital materials is only available in the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (the Rose Library).

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Source
Gift, 2012.

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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.

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.


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.
### Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subject files, various</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subject files, civil rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subject files, Meridian, Mississippi</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subject files, various [created by Barbara Matusow]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>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]</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>Subject files, various</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subject files, various post-1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Writings, speeches</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Writings, speeches, 1987-1988</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>Writings, speeches</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Writings, speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Writings, <em>Terror in the Night: The Klan's Campaign Against the Jews</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>Photographs and books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Correspondence; <em>Terror in the Night</em>; video and audio recordings</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Audiovisual materials</td>
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<td>Audiovisual materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>OP1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Political cartoon by Paul Conrad, inscribed to Jack Nelson, 1965</td>
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<tr>
<td>OP2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letter from Joseph Pulitzer, gifted to Jack Nelson and Barbara Matusow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP3</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Los Angeles Times</em> special edition, November 7, 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBV1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scrapbook of clippings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Audio recordings

- **AV1** - Bender, Al, April 24, 1990 [original: audio cassette]  
  [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp93g]
- **AV1** - Bender, 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 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 rpq3][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 rpqb]

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 rp93]

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 rp9v]

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 rp9n]

AV1 - Ireram, 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 rp8v]

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 f3sd]

AV1 - Kohtelsky, undated (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]
Bill Minor, May 6, 1991
Moore, Roy, November 2, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]
Tarrants, undated (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]
Tommy Tarrants, tape 1, Los Angeles Times Dining Room, May 1991
Tommy Tarrants, tape 2, Los Angeles Times Dining Room, May 1991
Ready, Bill, November 5, 1989 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]
Ready, Bill, November 7, 1989, Part II (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]
J. B. Stoner, National States Rights Party and his officers, Savannah, Georgia, April 25, 1969
Student introduction, May 22 [?] (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]
Watts, Frank, July 27, 1990 (side A and B) [original: audio cassette]
Young, C. Johnson (Side A and B) [original: microcassette]

Born digital materials
Access copies of processed born digital material [Reading room access ONLY]
[Resource available online]