UQFL142
Bruce Muirden Collection

Size
6 boxes

Contents
Correspondence relating to the literary journal *The Austrovert*, research material for *The Puzzled Patriots: The Story of the Australia First Movement* published in 1968, transcripts, newspaper cuttings and journals

Date range
1942 to 1969

Biography
Bruce Muirden was born in Melbourne and educated at the University of Adelaide where he studied history. In 1950 he founded the literary journal *The Austrovert* which he edited until production ceased in 1953. In 1952 he published *Austro-Verse*, a short anthology of *Austrovert* poetry featuring work by Vincent Buckley and Judith Wright. Muirden worked as a journalist in Australia and later the United Kingdom, eventually returning to Adelaide where he became a press secretary to the Australian Labor Party. Despite the demise of *The Austrovert*, he continued an active interest in Australian literature, writing numerous articles and reviews for newspapers and magazines. Muirden is the author of *The Puzzled Patriots: The Story of the Australia First Movement* (1968) and *The Diggers who Signed on for More: Australia’s Part in the Russian Wars on Intervention, 1918-1919* (1990). In 1989 he was elected secretary of the Australian Journalists’ Association and resigned shortly before his death in 1991.

Notes
Open access

Series A: The Austrovert and Literary Correspondence

Muirden edited *The Austrovert* from 1950 to 1953 and this series includes copies of the journal and associated correspondence. Correspondents include Vincent Buckley, Clem Christesen, Frank Dalby Davidson, Miles Franklin, Max Harris, A.D. Hope, Rex Ingamells, Stephen Murray-Smith, Kylie Tennant, Arthur Upfield and Judith Wright. There are also newspaper cuttings and some letters from later periods from Xavier Herbert, Stephen Murray-Smith and Kylie Tennant.

Box 1
Folder 1
Copies of issues 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of *The Austrovert* (1951-52), 2 copies of *Austro-Verse* (1952) and a copy of *The Australian Author* (1935).
Folder 2
Newspaper cuttings and correspondence relating to *The Austrovert*, including letters from Clem Christesen, Max Harris, Rex Ingamells, Stephen Murray-Smith and P.R. Stephensen, 1950 to 1960, 98 letters in total.

Folder 3
Correspondence relating to *The Austrovert* and other literary matters from Kate Baker, Vincent Buckley, Frank Dalby Davidson, Brian Fitzpatrick, Miles Franklin, Xavier Herbert, A.D. Hope, Leonard Mann and Vance Palmer, 1951 to 1957, 21 letters. Includes a transcript of a lecture by A.D. Hope titled ‘The Australian Scene – Literature and Drama’ dated 25 May [1953].

Folder 4
Correspondence relating to *The Austrovert* from Roger Challis Brown and David Hutchison, 1951 to 1953, 15 letters.

Folder 5
Correspondence relating to literary and general matters from Kylie Tennant and her husband Lewis Charles Rodd, 1951 to 1961, 29 letters.

Folder 6
Correspondence relating to *The Austrovert* from Arthur Upfield, 1951 to 1952, 7 letters.

Folder 7
Correspondence relating to *The Austrovert* from Judith Wright signing as Judith Wright McKinney, 1951 to 1953, 11 letters.

Series B: Research for The Puzzled Patriots
This series is contained in boxes 2 to 7 and includes research material and correspondence relating to Muirden’s book *The Puzzled Patriots: The Story of the Australia First Movement*, published in 1968. The bulk of the series comprises transcripts and statements from the Inquiry conducted by Mr Justice Clyne in 1944 and 1945 into the internment of members of the Australia First Movement in 1942. There are also copies of the Australia First Movement’s journal *The Publicist*, correspondence, reports, journal articles, newspaper cuttings and research notes.

Box 2
Issues of *The Publicist* from January to March 1942 in one volume, copy of volumes 1 and 2 of the transcript of ‘An Inquiry into the Internment in 1942 of Certain Persons Connected with the ‘Australia First Movement’ Group’ (the Clyne Inquiry), covering proceedings from Jun to Oct 1944, and statements and other evidence relating to the internment of Keith Bath.
Box 3
Copy of volumes 3, 4 and 5 of the Clyne Inquiry into the 1942 internment of Australia First Movement members, covering proceedings from Oct 1944 to Feb 1945.

Box 4
Copy of volumes 6, 7 and 8 of the Clyne Inquiry into the 1942 internment of Australia First Movement members, covering proceedings from Feb to May 1945.

Box 5
Correspondence, reports, journal articles, newspaper cuttings, pamphlets, transcripts and affidavits relating to Muirden's research into the Australia First Movement.

Box 6
Folder 1
Research notes compiled by Muirden relating to the Australia First Movement.

Folder 2
Transcripts of notes taken at Australia First Movement meetings in Sydney on 5 and 19 Feb 1942.

Folder 3
Correspondence between Keith Bath, P.R. Stephensen, S.B. Hooper and A.R. Mills relating to the Clyne Inquiry and subsequent legal matters, 1945 to 1947, 28 letters.

Folder 4
Newspaper cuttings, typescripts, letters and other research material pertaining to P.R. Stephensen and the Australia First Movement.

Folder 5
Correspondence to Muirden relating to his research into the Australia First Movement, 1961 to 1969, 94 letters. Correspondents include Arthur Calwell and Ion Idriess. This collection is arranged alphabetically by correspondent's surname with folder 5 covering A to M and folder 6 N to Z.

Folder 6
Correspondence to Muirden relating to his research into the Australia First Movement, 1964 to 1969, 122 letters. Includes a typescript by Edward Masey written in 1944 and letters from Nigel Sinnott written in 1978. Correspondents include Kenneth Slessor, Gavin Souter and Kyle Tennant.
Folder 7

Folder 8