

**Joseph H. Greene's Letters and
Reports from Beijing, China, 1984-87
HC.840**

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

July 02, 2010

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections
370 Lancaster Ave
Haverford, PA, 19041
610-896-1161
hc-special@haverford.edu

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u>	4
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	4
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	5
<u>Letters, 1984-1987</u>	5
<u>Reports, 1984-1987</u>	5

Summary Information

Repository	Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections
Title	Joseph H. Greene's Letters and Reports from Beijing, 1984-1987
Date [inclusive]	1984-1987
Extent	2.0 Boxes
Language	English
Abstract	Letters and monthly reports from Beijing, China from 1984-1987 by Joseph H. Greene who was a Bank of America Vice-President and Representative. The papers record economic, political and cultural issues in China at the end of the 1980s.

Biographical/Historical note

Joseph H. Greene (1930-) is a member of the Haverford College class of 1952 who majored in political science. After college he came to Japan and realized his great interest in Asia. He spent a brief time at an Italian University and then received an M.A. in East Asian studies at New York University while working in the international department of the Bank of America in N.Y. The bank sent him to their Singapore office in late 1960, then to Saigon in 1968, followed by Jakarta until mid-1970, then Singapore for 3 years. In 1973, he moved to Houston, then Los Angeles and back to New York before being dispatched to China. Greene became the Vice President and Representative of Bank of America in Beijing, China. (information from a letter from Greene in this collection dated Sept. 21, 1987)

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Beijing (China)
- China--Economic conditions--1949-
- China--Politics and government--1949-

Personal Name(s)

- Greene, Joseph H.

Collection Inventory

Letters, 1984-1987 The letters are primarily copies made by Greene before sending, in case the originals were lost

Box
1

Scope and Contents note

The letters begin with an explanatory essay, somewhat in the form of a diary entry beginning in January 1984, giving the details of Joseph Greene's arrival in Beijing via Hong Kong and the official work that needed to be done in order for him to start his job, as well as a detailed description of his daily life and the people who worked with him. Each of the letters, directed to various people, likely friends, provides a different facet of life or a specific event in Beijing or travel to another part of China. In particular, there is some information about Chinese politics and government, trade issues, Chinese character traits and some about his work, travel, friends and acquaintances and daily life, particularly visiting places in Beijing and cultural life. The final set of letters, June-December 1987 includes some photographs, including the Bank of America building in Beijing and one of Joe Greene, along with a newspaper article that gives few details about Greene.

Reports, 1984-1987

Box
2

Scope and Contents note

These are monthly reports provided by Joseph H. Greene as Vice-President and Representative of Bank of America in Beijing. The reports begin on December 31, 1983 and continue through September 1987. They provide a variety of types of information about China, including economic and political commentary on a broad scale as well as internal information about the company, including marketing, personnel and other information. Examples of economic data include oil and cotton production, trade, competition from other banks, research, as in animal husbandry or reforestation; political topics include Premier Zhao Ziyang's trip to the U.S. and Canada and a visit by the U.S. president and the U.S.-China nuclear agreement and the 1986-90 five-year plan and the fall of Hu Yao

Reports, 1984-1987

Bang; marketing topics reflect the vast networking of Bank of America with other banks; personnel topics reflect travel related to bank business and visitors from other banks. Attached to these reports often are newspaper clippings from local newspapers, especially China Daily relating to bank business.