Lawrence F. Kramer, Collector.
Papers, 1966-80. GUIDE
Kramer, Lawrence Felix, Collector, 1949- (Cornell University Class of 1970)  
5.4 cubic ft.

Collection includes mimeographed and photocopied material.  
Lawrence Kramer was a Cornell University student from 1966 to 1970.

Summary: Collection consists of documents, correspondence and publications 
generated by leftist political groups active in the Ithaca, New York area from 1966 to 1972. Also, material concerning political events and disturbances, such 
as the takeover of Willard Straight Hall, Cornell University, April 1969; the Cornell draft resistance, and the involvement of Bruce Dancis and Daniel Berrigan (1966-1968); the Cornell TROJAN HORSE incident, January 1967; and anti- 
Vietnam War protests. Also, documentation of the activities and internal 
evolution of organizations including The Office and the Glad Day Press (1966- 
1971); the national and campus branch of Students for a Democratic Society (1967-1969); the Cornell Draft Resistance (1967-1968); National Caucus of Labor Committees, and its publications, SOLIDARITY, NEW SOLIDARITY, CRISIS, and CAMPAIGNER; the Socialist Labor Committee (1971-1972), including its national 
publications, CRISIS, QUANTUM, and PERSPECTIVES; the Socialists Labor Committee in Ithaca, New York, and its publications, THE ELEVENTH HOUR and ILR VOICE; the Socialist Workers' Party; the Worker-Student Alliance and their publication, NEW LEFT NOTES; the Young Socialist Alliance; the New Left; the Ithaca Labor Committee; the Independent Socialists; the Independent Radical Coalition; the Cornell Mobilization Direct Action Project; National Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam; New American Movement; Progressive Labor Party; The Resistance, Ithaca, New York; Ithaca Neighborhood Center;

...the Revolutionary Youth Movement and Revolutionary Youth Movement II, and 
their publications FIRE and LIBERATED GUARDIAN; and Students for a Constructive 
Foreign Policy, Cornell University. Printed material includes magazines, 
newsletters, pamphlets, brochures and leaflets, and internal documents such as 
position papers, proposals and drafts of documents. Other material includes 
published and unpublished commentaries and articles, as well as political 
journals, meeting notes, correspondence and notes of Lawrence Kramer; government 
files obtained through requests under the Freedom of Information Act; clippings 
and editorial material concerning left groups and events; lists of signers of 
public petitions; university disciplinary citations; buttons and other 
memorabilia. Some material has been annotated by Kramer and Peter Agree (Cornell 
University Class of 1969).

Material in Box 6: access is restricted to permission of the donor until January 1, 2014.


Cite as: Lawrence Felix Kramer, Collector. Papers, #37\07\2151. Department of 
Manuscripts and University Archives, Cornell University Libraries.
**Lawrence Kramer New Left Collection: Papers 1966-1972**

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Catalogued by Lawrence Kramer  
January 30, 1984

**Note on Restrictions**  

The following files containing personal information cannot be examined until January 1, 2014 without Lawrence Kramer's permission:  

- All files placed in Box 6:  
  - C18, C19, E3, E4.

**Note on File Terminology**

In the inventory that follows, the file name is in **bold**, and:

"Periodicals" includes magazines, newspapers, and one-issue pamphlets or brochures.  
"Documents" includes all other material except newspaper clippings.
General Description

The collection brings together materials from leftist political groups, institutions, and events that one New Leftist encountered, joined, and wrote about from 1966 to 1972.

Notable components are:

1. Most of the public materials distributed--at crisis times on a daily basis--by Cornell University-based antiwar and New Left organizations from 1966 to 1971 (the period when Lawrence Kramer, Cornell Class of 1970, was in Ithaca).

2. Documentation of the activities and internal evolution of organizations including:

   - The National Caucus of Labor Committees, both its early, rationalist incarnations pre-1970 and its later unusual evolution.
   - the Socialist Labor Committee and its decision to dissolve (1971-1972).

3. Printed materials including:

   - "Public" documents: magazines, newsletters, pamphlets, brochures, leaflets.
   - "Internal" documents: Position papers, proposals, drafts of documents.

4. Other materials including:

   - Published and unpublished commentaries and articles, as well as political journals, meeting notes, correspondence and notes of Lawrence Kramer.
   - Government files obtained through the requests under the Freedom of Information Act, resulting in partial releases of documents showing the surveillance activities of the FBI, and collections of other departments.
   - News clips and editorial material documenting left groups and events.
   - Lists of signers of public petitions, university disciplinary citations, buttons and other memorabilia.

Within the files inventoried, most documents are dated, and some are annotated by Lawrence Kramer and Peter Agree, Cornell Class of 1969. Some additional commentaries and explanations are found in the glossary and inventory listings that follow.

Virtually all the material is open for unrestricted inspection.
Glossary

Though the following notes are inevitably subjective, they at least provide a start:

Cornell SDS: Local chapter of national SDS. Major growth occurred beginning in late 1967, especially with the ebb of the draft resistance movement, and after reorganization in the summer of 1968. By Spring 1969, it was one of the nation's largest chapters, with over 300 members. Leading up to the national split in June 1969, in contrast to many other chapters, members of different factions continued to work together. PL/WSA was little represented in the chapter; following the split, the main groups were the IRC and ILC.

Glad Day Press: Also called The Office and the Glad Day Press: nonprofit nonexclusionary publishing arm of the Ithaca left, first at 107 Dryden Road, later at 308 Stewart Avenue. After 1967, Glad Day Press publications can usually be identified by the International Workers of the World Local 450 (IWW) union bug.

ILC: Ithaca Labor Committee (Fall 1969-March 71). Most of its members began in the Cornell SDS Labor Committee, where they were central to developing the Cornell SDS Housing Program; later they formed the Ithaca Socialist Labor Committee.

IS: Independent Socialists, a still-existing socialist organization.


MDAP: Mobilization Direct Action Project (Summer 1967), organizing project in Flatbush (Brooklyn) and Manhattan, sponsored by Mobe. Mostly Cornell students; 12 arrested at Navy ship on Hiroshima Day 1967. Provided most of the participants for the August 24 demonstration and money distribution at the NY Stock Exchange, made famous by Abbie Hoffman.


NCLC: National Caucus of Labor Committees (1968-present), formerly the Labor Committee faction within SDS; the majority NCLC faction led by Lyndon LaRouche ("Marcusites" or "Positive Political Tendency") expelled the Fraser faction that became the SLC. After many sharp changes in political ideology, the NCLC is now a right-wing group.

PL: Progressive Labor Party, then a Maoist group; still-existing organization.

The Resistance: Umbrella for local draft resistance groups, including the Cornell "We Won't Go" group and the April 15, 1967 Sheep Meadow draft card burning. Sponsored massive draft card returns October 16, 1967, December 3, 1967, April 3, 1968. Many Cornell chapter members were also in SDS.

RYM: Revolutionary Youth Movement (June 1969-1970?), faction of late SDS; continued after the split; later evolved into the Weather Underground.

RYM II: Revolutionary Youth Movement II (1969-?), Maoist faction of late SDS; continued after the split; later evolved into the Revolutionary Communist Party and other groups.

SDS: Students for a Democratic Society (1962-1969), formerly the Student League for Industrial Democracy, split into RYM, RYM II, WSA, NCLC, SWP, IS, NAM. Had local and regional chapters, spinoffs like the adult Movement for a Democratic Society, Teachers for a Democratic Society.

SFCFP: Students for a Constructive Foreign Policy (1966-67), campus education and dormitory organizing group. Many members later joined SDS.

SLC: Socialist Labor Committee (March 1971-July 72), most members formerly in the NCLC; virtually all ILC members and former members who had moved to NY to work with the NCLC, plus others, were labelled by Marcus "Bavarians" or "Fraserites" (after Steve Fraser, a leader of the group) or "Bavarians," and expelled as a faction from the NCLC.

SWP: Socialist Workers Party, continuing Trotskyist national organization.

WSA: Worker-Student Alliance (1968-1970), faction of late SDS; continuing post-split group.

YSA: Young Socialist Alliance, youth group of SWP.
Box 1: The Ithaca Labor Committee, the Socialist Labor Committee, the National Caucus of Labor Committees

A2: Ithaca LC public (early 1969-March 71), 4 periodicals including The May Student Strike, and Everything You Always Wanted to Know About the New Priorities Movement.
A4: NCLC, Fraser faction replies to NCLC (1970-71), 21 documents.
A7: SLC internal (1972), 38 documents.
A8: SLC public (1971), 40 documents.
A9: SLC public (1972), 30 documents.  
(Note: Ithaca SLC internal and public, including The Eleventh Hour and the ILR Voice, are filed as part of A6-A9.)
A10: SLC Crisis national newspaper (1971-72), 3 issues (I expect to locate and provide a complete set of the approx. 20 issues.)
A11: SLC Quantum newspaper (1972), South Dakota spinoff, 3 issues (complete)
A15: NCLC national conference internal (12/29/70-1/2/71), 30 documents.
A16: NCLC internal and Marcusite faction (1970-71), 70 documents + 10 issues of an internal discussion bulletin.
A17: NCLC public (1968-69), 75 documents + 10 periodicals.
A21: NCLC non-SLC critiques (1968-76), 20 documents, including letters of resignation from former SLC members who returned to the NCLC.

(Note: in both SLC and NCLC files, there is sometimes a fine line between internal and public documents.)
Box 2: Students for a Democratic Society and its factions and splitoffs; National Caucus of Labor Committees periodicals

B1: SDS national internal (1966-69), 14 documents.
B3: SDS final national convention, Chicago, internal (June 1969), 26 documents + newsclips.
B6: SDS NYC region, CAW arts magazine (1968), 3 issues.
B8: SDS RYM (1969-70), 3 issues of Fire Magazine (faction's successor to New Left Notes) 2 issues of Liberated Guardian.
B13: PL, WSA and front groups (1968-71), 23 documents including critiques of PL.
B14: NCLC Solidarity, New Solidarity, Philadelphia Crisis newspapers (1968-75), 100 issues.
Box 3: Cornell events and antiwar groups, Students for a Democratic Society
National and Cornell Draft Resistance, Lawrence Kramer Selective Service files
Periodicals from Cornell, Ithaca, and the Glad Day Press

C1: National antiwar and antidraft petitions (1967-68), 4 documents.
C2: National antiwar and left groups, miscellaneous (1968-72), 16 documents.
C5: National Mobilization to End the War (1967), 3 internal (including contact list) and 4 public documents.
C7: Liberation News Service descriptive & PR materials (June 1968), 6 documents + letter from Ray Mungo.
C11: Cornell draft resistance: Bruce Dancis (1966-68), 4 documents + clips.
C14: Lawrence Kramer correspondence from Selective Service System (1967-71), 27 documents.
C15: Lawrence Kramer correspondence to Selective Service System (1967-71), 26 documents.
C16: Lawrence Kramer American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit (1968), 8 letters + clips.
C17: Lawrence Kramer draft resistance (1967), letters from Robert Kennedy (original) and J.W. Fullbright (copy).

* Restricted C18: Lawrence Kramer miscellaneous political writing (1963-72), 23 documents.

C20: Lawrence Kramer public meetings notes (1967-71), four groups of documents.
C22: Cornell food boycott; "I am not yet convinced that the proctor is a Horse's Ass...I am convinced" button controversy (November 1966), 2 documents + clips + buttons
C23: Cornell Trojan Horse riot (January 1967), magazine, leaflet, Lawrence Kramer draft article + clips.
C25: Cornell National Student Conference on Vietnam (February 1967), 2 documents + registration list + clips.
C26: Cornell Soul of Blackness Week (February 1967), 1 document + clips.
C27: Cornell Union of Students election (Spring 1967), 7 documents + clips.

C28: Cornell participation in April 15 and October 21 national demonstrations (1967), 8 issues of Mobilizer, 9 documents + clips.

C30: Cornell and South Africa (1968-69), 1 document + clips.
C31: Cornell Barton Hall Marine recruiters sit-in (November 1967), 7 documents including disciplinary citation with lists of participants.
C32: Ithaca Neighborhood Center descriptive & PR material (January 1968), (previously Ithaca Neighborhood College), 12 documents + 4 letters.

C33: "President Perkins Day" at Cornell (February 1968), 2 documents + clips.
C34: Cornell administration communications about draft, SDS (1967-69), 2 documents.

C36: Ithaca antiwar and left groups miscellaneous (1966-71), 20 documents.
C37: Cornell Students for a Constructive Foreign Policy (1966-67), 3 documents + Genesis, 3 issues.

C38: Cornell SDS internal (1968), 17 documents.
C40: Cornell SDS public (1968), 17 documents.
C41: Cornell SDS public (January-June 1969), 46 documents.
C42: Cornell SDS post-split internal and public, includes IRC (1969), 42 documents.


C44: Cornell Crisis (April 1969), 8 SDS responses, 14 university statements and press releases.

C45: Niagara Regional SDS (1968-69), 4 issues (complete) of Notes from the Green Piano, brochures from Buffalo SDS, Niagara Liberation Front, Seattle Liberation Front (where Niagara Reg organizers later went), ?? documents.

C46: Argument (1966-67), left opinion, 7 issues.
C47: New Patriot (1967-68), antiwar, 6 issues.
C48: Dateline Ithaca (1968-80), local politics, 15 issues.
C49: The First Issue (1968-69), SDS magazine, 6 issues.
C50: Scimitar (1968), Ithaca underground tabloid, 4 issues.
C51: Talking Black (1969), Black students magazine, 2 issues.
C53: Volunteers (1970), successor to First Issue, 3 issues (complete).
C54: Tihoero (1971), successor to Volunteers, 2 issues.


Box 4: SDS New Left Notes and other left publications

D1: **New Left Notes** (1966-69), 64 issues.


D4: **Liberation & WIN** (1969-74), 4 and 1 issues.

D5: **Leviathan** (1969-70), 7 issues.

D6: **Reprints** from Radical Education Press (Michigan), New England Free Press (Massachusetts), Southern Students Organizing Committee (Tennessee), others (1966-70?), 18 pamphlets and documents.

D7: **The Movement** (1966-70), 15 issues.

D8: **Miscellaneous underground newspapers** (1967-70), 4 issues.

D9: **Radical Teacher & Radicals in the Professions Newsletter & RIP speech**, (19??), 1 and 3 issues.


D13: **Spartacist, Spartacist League** (1965-71), 7 issues + 14 documents.


D16: **Workers World, Youth Against War & Fascism** (1968-69), 4 issues + 4 documents.

D17: **SWP & YSA** (1968-7?), 7 documents.

D18: **New American Movement** (1972-74), 3 issues.

D19: **Situationists, Surrealists, Reichians** (1968-73), 8 documents.

D20: **Miscellaneous left newspapers** (1967-74), 9 issues.

Box 55 Lawrence Krarer Freedom of Information Act Files
Buttons
Duplicates & material to be copied and returned to files

E1: Duplicates from Cornell SDS, national SDS, NCLC, Ithaca LC, SLC, approx. 200 documents and publications.

E2: Lawrence Krarer Freedom of Information Correspondence (1975), 9 letters to government; correspondence from Freedom of Information Act officers, Clarence Kelly and other high officials: 9 from Justice Dept., 3 from State Dept., 8 from FBI, 10 from CIA [check it].


E5: To copy: 5 documents to return to C29, 12 documents to return to C13, other miscellaneous.

E6: Cornell and left buttons
2. "I am not yet convinced that the provost is a horse's ass" (1967)
3. "I am convinced" (1967)
4. "I'm from CAL color me RED" (Cornell Aeronautics Lab or Berkeley?)
5. "Fast for Peace" (paper)--from 1967 CURW fast
6. Dove (paper)--from 1967 CURW fast
7. "End the War in Vietnam"
8. "I'm a NERVOUS NELLIE"
9. "LYNNDnetLYNND"
10. "End the War in Vietnam NOW!" Columbia Indep. Committee on Vietnam
11. "SICK of the WAR? SAY SO!!"
12. "Withdraw from Vietnam!"
13. "END university complicity/Build Vietnam Week April 8-13"
14. "Abolish the draft" (1966?)
15. "Oct. 16 The Resistance" (1967)
16. "Dec. 4 The Resistance" (1967)
17. Greek letter Omega (Resistance logo) 1967
18. "HELL NO The Resistance" (1967)
19. "April 3 The Resistance" (1968)
20. "Dr. Spock Brought Me Up" (1967)
21. "Girls say Yes to boys who say NO/Draft Resisters Peace-Chick Support Squad"
22. "Support Our Boys in Canada" (homemade anonymous)

23. "FIGHT for Socialism/PLP"
24. "Nixon-Humphrey-Wallace/November 5/STRIKE 3"

25. "Eneco" Cuban Flag (Cuba 1968)
26. "Cuba Territorio Libre de America" (Cuba 1968)