

Accession No.: 97-2

PROCESSING RECORD

Scripps Institution of Oceanography Archives

Arthur Datus Raff. 1917-1999

Arthur Raff Papers, 1954, 1996

Physical Description: 1 Manuscript box; 7 audio cassette tapes; 5 b/w photographs

Description: The accession includes a typescript entitled, "Reminiscences," transcribed from an audio tape recording made by Arthur Datus Raff, and seven 60-minute audio cassette tapes which record these reminiscences by Arthur Datus Raff. The accession includes an index to the transcript prepared by Arthur Datus Raff. The accession includes 5 black and white copy prints and copy negatives of photographs received from Arthur Datus Raff in 1984 which show Raff and Mason working on USC&GS ship 'Pioneer' in 1954. The original prints were retained by Raff. Raff also wrote "About Victor Vacquier," 6 page typescript.

"Reminiscences:" In 1996, Scripps Institution of Oceanography historian Elizabeth N. Shor urged retired Marine Physical Laboratory scientist Arthur Raff to record memoirs of his scientific career in preparation for the upcoming celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Marine Physical Laboratory. She offered to transcribe any tape recordings Raff would make of his memoirs. Raff began to dictate his memoirs on 28 March 1996 and completed the dictation in May. Elizabeth N. Shor transcribed the tapes by July 1996 and returned them to Raff for review and final editing. Shor completed the edited transcript in December 1996. Raff retained the original audiocassettes, but copied the cassettes for Shor who gave them to the Scripps Archives in March 1997. The reminiscences recount Raff's arrival at the Marine Physical Laboratory in 1947 and his impressions of MPL staff including Carl Eckart, Russell Raitt and others. They describe Raff's work on including R/V E.W. Scripps, M/V Stranger and the yacht Saluda. The manuscript recounts Raff's work with Ronald Mason using a fluxgate magnetometer for magnetic surveys, including the famous magnetic surveys on the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey vessel Pioneer. The manuscript describes Raff's work with Russell Raitt using hydrophones in a refraction study of the ocean basin.

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Marine physicist

Oceanography History 20th century

Plate tectonics History

U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey

Arthur Datus Raff
Papers, 1954-1996
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BOX

FOLDER TITLE

1

Arthur Datus Raff, "Reminiscences, 1996," Transcribed by Betty Shor

Photographs, 1954

About Victor Vacquier, 1996. [account by Arthur D. Raff accusing Victor Vacquier and Bill Menard of plagiarizing research involving magnetic surveys of the deep sea floor off the coast of California, conducted by Raff and Ronald G. Mason in the 1950s.]