

# Guide to the Samuel F. Pryor Papers

MS 1481



compiled by Diane E. Kaplan

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Yale University Library  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1481

**CREATOR:** Pryor, Samuel F., Jr. (Samuel Frazier), 1898-1985

**TITLE:** Samuel F. Pryor papers

**DATES:** 1927-1984

**BULK DATES:** 1950-1984

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (3 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of correspondence, writings, printed material, newspaper clippings, and photographs documenting the life and career of Samuel F. Pryor and his friendship with Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1481>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1481>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Lawrence Pryor, 1988.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Samuel F. Pryor Papers (MS 1481). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

SAMUEL FRAZIER PRYOR, JR., 1898-1985

Samuel Frazier Pryor, Jr., was born on March 1, 1898, in Ferguson, Missouri. He attended the Taft School in Connecticut and received a Ph.B. from Yale University in 1921. After graduation, Pryor worked for the Remington Cash Register Company and from 1925-1941 was associated with the American Brake Shoe & Foundry Company and its subsidiary, the Southern Wheel Company. Pryor served as eastern treasurer of the Republican National Committee and in the 1940 presidential campaign was vice-chairman of the Republican National Committee and was in charge of Wendell Willkie's eastern headquarters.

In July, 1941, he became vice-president, director, and assistant to the president of Pan American World Airways, a position he held until his retirement in 1965. During World War II he headed Pan American's airport development program and directed the construction of fifty strategic air bases in South America and Africa. For this work President Truman awarded him the Medal of Merit in 1946.

Pryor graduated from the U.S. Treasury Narcotic Agent's School in Washington and served as an agent and advisor for the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in the Justice Department. He represented the government at meetings of Interpol, the International Criminal Police Organization.

In 1926 Pryor married Mary Taylor Allerdice. They had five children: Mary Taylor (Mrs. Lowell Thomas, Jr.), Samuel Frazier, Taylor Allerdice, Frances Bailey (Mrs. Robert Hawes), and Lawrence Allerdice. The Pryor household also included many animals, among them a gibbon ape named Kippy. They Pryors lived in Greenwich, Connecticut, but also maintained a ranch on the island of Maui in Hawaii. The Pryors were close friends of Anne and Charles Lindbergh and sold the Lindberghs a portion of their Maui property. Pryor's personal interests included a large collection of dolls and mechanical banks. Pryor published an informal autobiography, *All God's Creatures*, with John Burnett, in 1982. Samuel Pryor died on September 18, 1985.

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## Scope and Contents

The Samuel F. Pryor Papers, which date from 1927-1984, consist of personal papers including correspondence, writings, photographs, and printed material, which document Pryor's friendship with Anne and Charles Lindbergh as well as his collecting interests. The papers contain virtually no records relating to Pryor's work with Pan American Airways, the Republican Party, or the Bureau of Narcotics, though these aspects of his career are reflected in printed material about Pryor and in scattered congratulatory letters from prominent individuals in government. Lawrence A. Pryor donated his father's papers to the Yale University Library in 1988.

The bulk of the papers date after 1950 and concern the Lindberghs. The papers include letters from friends and members of the general public, who either knew Lindbergh, admired him, or had visited his burial site on Maui. In addition the papers contain Pryor's collection of photographs, clippings, and other printed material relating to the Lindberghs.

## Collection Contents

### Accession 1988-M-093: Additional Material

b. 1, f. 1	A -C	
b. 1, f. 2	Bruce Museum	1980-1981
b. 1, f. 3	Charles A. Lindbergh Fund	1976-1982
b. 1, f. 4	Clark, Tom C.	Circa 1950-1977
b. 1, f. 5	D -J	
b. 1, f. 6	Gurney, Harlan A.	1977-1980, undated
b. 1, f. 7	Halleck, Charles A.	1941-1973
b. 1, f. 8	Humphrey, Hubert	1965, 1978, undated
b. 1, f. 9	K -M	
	Lindbergh	
b. 2, f. 10	Letters written by Anne Morrow Lindbergh to Samuel and Mary Tay Pryor	1968-1981
b. 2, f. 11	Photocopies of Anne Morrow Lindbergh correspondence with others	1980, undated
b. 2, f. 12	Anne Morrow Lindbergh's notes on the Lindbergh material in the possession of Samuel Pryor	Undated
b. 2, f. 13	Typescripts of speeches and addresses given by Anne Morrow Lindbergh	1968, 1977, undated
b. 2, f. 14	Letters written by Charles A. Lindbergh to Samuel and Mary Tay Pryor	1953-1974, undated
b. 2, f. 15	Photocopies and originals of Charles A. Lindbergh's correspondence with others	1968-1974
b. 2, f. 16	Lindbergh photographs	1925-1974, undated
b. 2, f. 17	Typescripts and originals of speeches and writings of Charles A. Lindbergh	1968, undated
b. 2, f. 18	Lindbergh property on Maui	1969-1975, 1984
b. 3, f. 19	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1927, 1939-1968
b. 3, f. 20	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1970-1973
b. 3, f. 21	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1974
b. 3, f. 22	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1975-1976
b. 3, f. 23	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1977 April-May

b. 3, f. 24	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1977 June- August
b. 3, f. 25	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1978-1983
b. 3, f. 26	Lindberghs: printed material concerning	1984, undated
b. 3, f. 27	N -Z	
b. 3, f. 28	National Aeronautic Association: Lindbergh bust dedication	1975
	Pryor, Samuel	
b. 3, f. 29	Booklists	undated
b. 3, f. 30	Photographs	1959, 1972, undated
b. 3, f. 31	Printed material about or relating to Pryor	Circa 1930-1980
b. 3, f. 32	Writings	undated
b. 3, f. 33	Unidentified	1952-1984, undated

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Geographic Names**

Maui (Hawaii)

### **Names**

Lindbergh, Anne Morrow, 1906-2001

Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus),  
1902-1974

Pryor, Samuel F., Jr. (Samuel Frazier), 1898-1985