

Guide to the Clarence E. Larson Science and Technology Oral History collection, 1983-1993

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1983-1993

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History

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Title Statement

Guide to the Clarence E. Larson Science and Technology Oral History collection, 1983-1993

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

C0079

Date

1983-1993

Language

English

Abstract

This collection contains 49 videotape cassettes, some of which have been copied to DVD, featuring interviews with famous scientists and historians of twentieth-century technology conducted by Clarence E. Larson.

Creator

Clarence E. Larson

Physical Characteristics

3 linear feet (5 boxes)

Repository

George Mason University. Special Collections and Archives.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Clarence Larson in 1993.

Processing Information

Processed by Special Collections and Archives staff. EAD markup completed by Eron Ackerman and Jordan Patty in March 2009.

Preferred Citation

Clarence E. Larson Science and Technology Oral History collection, Accession #C0079, Special Collections and Archives, George Mason University.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Special Collections and Archives also holds other science and technology collections, such as the Harold Morowitz papers and the [Carol D. Litchfield Microbiology collection](#).

Biographical Information

Chemist Clarence E. Larson (1909-1999) was born in Cloquet, Minnesota. He graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Chemistry and completed his Ph.D. work at the University of California at Berkeley. Larson was one of the talented American scientists working on the Manhattan Project during World War II. Later he served as a director at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, and an executive at Union Carbide. Dr Larson was a recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award of the American Society for the Advancement of Science. He was also a member of the American Nuclear Society, the American Institute of Chemists, the American Chemical Society, and the Cosmos Club.

Scope and Content

This collection contains 49 videotape cassettes, some of which have been copied to DVD, featuring interviews with famous scientists and historians of twentieth-century technology conducted by Clarence E. Larson.

Index Terms

Subjects:

Science--History--20th century.
Technology.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged alphabetically by surname of interviewee.

Contents List

Larson Clarence Collection

Abelson, Phil (1913-2004) 12-20-83

Container 1 (box)

Scope and Content

Co-discoverer of the first transuranic element. Inventor of thermal diffusion for uranium isotope production. Bethesda, MD. 17 minutes.

Agnew, Harold, UCSD (1921-) 12-21-83

Container 1 (box)

Scope and Content

Crew of the first sustaining reactor. Fermi Award winner. La Jolla, CA. 11 minutes.

Alvarez, Luis (1911-1988) 3-13-84

Container 1 (box)

Scope and Content

Inventor of ground control radar. Developer of high energy linear accelerators. Nobel Prize winner.

Arnold, William

Container 1 (box)

Scope and Content

Originator of the word fission, while he worked with Niels Bohr in Copenhagen in 1938.

Atanasoff, John V. (1903-1995)

Container 1 (box)

Bacher, Robert (1905-2004)

Container 1 (box)

Scope and Content

Pioneer in nuclear energy research.

Backus, John (1924-)

Container 1 (box)

Bechtel, Steve Sr. (1900-1989) 7-10-84

Container 1 (box)

Scope and Content

San Francisco, CA. 30 minutes.

Blueprint for Space- Science Fiction to Science Fact- Hosted by Astronaut Alan Shepard

Container 1 (box)

Brobeck, William (1908-1998)

Container 1 (box)

Calvin, Melvin (1911-1997)

Container 1 (box)

Scope and Content

Berkeley, CA. 25 minutes.

Clarke, C. Arthur- "A Failed Recluse" (1917-) copy

Container 1 (box)

Cohen, Karl

Container 1 (box)

Delbecco, Rene 3-25-86

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

La Jolla, CA. 25 minutes.

Djerassi, Dr. Carl (1923-) 7-12-84

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

Copies 1, 2

Edgerton, H.E. (1889-1990)

Container 2 (box)

Eklund, Dr. Sigurd 4-30-84

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

Bethesda, MD. 18 minutes.

Glennan, Dr. Keith (1905-1995)

Container 2 (box)

Goldschmidt, Dr. Bertrand (1913-2002) 12-7-83

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

Nuclear pioneer starting with work with Madam Curie. Bethesda, MD. 18 minutes.

Hafstad, Dr. Lawrence (1904-1993)

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

Discoverer of delayed Neutrons. 41 minutes.

Hoff, Dr. Ted (1937-) 12-22-88

Container 2 (box)

Hollaender, Dr. Alexander (1898-1997) 12-20-83

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

Bethesda, MD. 16 minutes.

Hurd, Cuthbert (1911-1996)

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

Pioneer in computer science. Started IBM computer project.

Jukes, Thomas (1906-1999)

Container 2 (box)

Kamen, Dr. Martin (1913-2002) 3-24-86

Container 2 (box)

Scope and Content

Santa Barbara, CA. 14 minutes.

Santa Barbara, CA. 14 minutes.

Magoun, Dr. Horace (1907-1991) 8-20-84

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Los Angeles, CA.

McMillan, Dr. Edwin (1907-1991) 3-15-84

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Co-discoverer of Neptunium and Plutonium. Nobel prize winner. Inventor of synchrotron.

Nichols, Kenneth David (1907-2000) 11-6-85

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

General manager of the Manhattan Project. General manager of the Atomic Energy Commission. Bethesda, MD. 20 minutes.

Oliphant, Dr. Mark (1901-2000) 11-3-88

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Bethesda, MD. 20 minutes.

Packard, David (1912-1996) 3-15-84

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Co-Founder of Hewlett-Packard Corporation. Deputy Secretary of Defense. Copy 1.

Pauling, Linus (1901-1994) 2-12-93

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Chemical bond theory. Winner of two Nobel Prizes. Copy 1 (Cassette 1 of 2)

Pauling, Linus

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Chemical bond theory. Winner of two Nobel Prizes. Cassette 2 of 2.

Peierls, Rudolph (1907-1995) 4-25-89

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Bethesda, MD. 27 minutes.

Pioneers- Djerassi, Hollifield, Goldschmidt, Bechtel, Packard, and Pauling

Container 3 (box)

Rush, Dr. Kenneth 11-6-85

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Bethesda, MD. 19 minutes.

Schawlow, Dr. Arthur (1921-1999) 10-28-84

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Palo Alto, CA. 28 minutes.

Seaborg, Dr. Glenn (1927-1999) 12-29-93

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Co-discoverer of Plutonium. Nobel Prize winner. Discovery of many transuranic elements. Copy 1.

Segre, Emilio (1905-1989) 3-20-84

Container 3 (box)

Scope and Content

Discovery of slow Neutrons and anti-proton. Nobel Prize winner. Copy 1.

Singer, S. Fred (1924-)

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Pioneer in space research.

Starr, Dr. Chauncey (1912-) 12-20-85

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Palo Alto, CA. 28 minutes.

Stehling, Dr. Kurtiz

Container 4 (box)

Tape, Dr. Gerald (1915-1905) 4-30-84

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Fundamental research on radar and nuclear science. Bethesda, MD. 23 minutes.

Taylor, Lauriston (1902-2004)

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Pioneer in radiation research.

Teller, Dr. Edward (1908-2003) 12-29-83

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Pioneer in nuclear theory. Fermi Award Winner. Copy 1.

Townes, Dr. Charles (1915-) 3-21-84

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Inventor of Maser-Laser Principle. Nobel Prize winner. Copy 1.

Weinberg, Alvin (1915-2006) 3-21-84

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Washington, D.C. 12 minutes.

White, Dr. Robert 4-25-89

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Development of modern weather forecasting. President of National Academy of Engineering. Bethesda, MD. 27 minutes.

Wigner, E.P. (1902-1995) 3-4-86

Container 4 (box)

Scope and Content

Instrumental with Szilard in persuading President Roosevelt to start Nuclear Energy Project. Nobel Prize winner in Physics.

DVD Copies

Container 5 (box)

Scope and Content

DVD copies of many of the interviews.