### Descriptive Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Creator Information</strong></th>
<th>Zeff, Leo, 1912-1988</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
<td>Leo Zeff papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection Identifier</strong></td>
<td>MSP 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date Span</strong></td>
<td>1985-1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abstract</strong></td>
<td>The Leo Zeff papers (1985-1988; .2 cubic feet) contains photographs, reports, and correspondence that document Zeff’s research on ibogaine.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extent</strong></td>
<td>0.2 cubic feet (1 box)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Finding Aid Author</strong></td>
<td>Kristin Leaman, 2011</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Languages</strong></td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Repository</strong></td>
<td>Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Administrative Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Location Information:</strong></th>
<th>ASC</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Access Restrictions:</strong></td>
<td>Collection is open for research.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Acquisition Information:</strong></td>
<td>Donation by Sara Zeff Geber, October 21, 2010; Donation by Arthur Friedman, September 22, 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accession Number:</strong></td>
<td>20101021, 20140922.2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Preferred Citation:</strong></td>
<td>MSP 74, Leo Zeff papers, Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Copyright Notice:</strong></td>
<td>To the extent that he owns the copyright, the donor has assigned the copyright of his works to the Archives; however, copyright of some items in this collection may be held by their respective creators. Consult the reference archivist for details.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Subjects and Genres

Persons

Zeff, Leo

Topics

Ibogaine
Huichol Indians

Form and Genre Types

Color photographs
Correspondence
Manuscripts for publication

Occupations

Psychology
Psychotherapy
Biography of Leo Zeff

Before Leo J. Zeff (May 14, 1912 – April 13, 1988) graduated with his PhD and began his private practice in Oakland, California, he proudly served in the army as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was one of the first psychologists to be licensed as a PhD, and he specialized in Jungian psychology. In 1961, Zeff was introduced to MDMA by Alexander Shulgin. His plans for retirement immediately ceased once he discovered the possible therapeutic benefits of using the drug in some of his patients’ sessions. Zeff named MDMA “Adam” and when LSD and like drugs were made illegal, Zeff made the difficult decision to go underground and keep treating his patients with the drugs. Due to this unorthodox practice, Zeff operated under pseudonyms when mentioned in other researchers’ works. It is not until 2004 when Zeff’s real name was used. He firmly believed that LSD along with other drugs such as psilocybin, MDA, harmaline, ibogaine, and MDMA was of benefit to several of his patients if administered properly. He invented a specific protocol and a basic set of rules for administering the drug, and music was played during the session. In The Secret Chief Revealed: Conversations with Leo Zeff, Pioneer in the Underground Psychedelic Therapy Movement Myron J. Stolaroff states: “Zeff believed this [playing music] to be very important. This is one area in which I wish the conversation-text had delved more deeply. The music which was considered so important is barely discussed, other than to say that it was always on.” Zeff is noted as a pioneer in his field and made many contributions and advancements in psychoactive substances research. The Council on Spiritual Practices has the Zeff Memorial Library, which contains books, anthologies, papers, and newsletters about entheogens.

Sources:

http://www.mdma.net/leo-zeff/index.html


http://csp.org/practices/entheogens/docs/zeff_cat.html
Collection Description

Scope

The Leo Zeff papers (1985-1988; .2 cubic feet) contains photographs, reports, and correspondence that document Zeff’s research on ibogaine, and a manuscript of reflections shared with Alcoholics Anonymous members in 1977.


Processing Information

Papers have been housed in an acid-free folder; photographs have been housed in mylar sleeves and stored in acid-free envelopes. The collection has been arranged into photographs, papers, and correspondence.

Additions

The manuscript “Reflections Shared at the Sequoia Fall Retreat, November 1977,” by Leo J. Zeff was donated on September 22, 2014 by Arthur Friedman, of Berkeley, California. The manuscript was originally given to Friedman by Leo Zeff, who had asked him to read it.
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

1 box, Leo Zeff papers, 1977-1988

Folder
1. Photographs, undated

   Photograph of the first ten gram bottle of pure ibogaine to come through Canadian customs amidst grade A iboga from the Cameroons and iboga shavings from Gabon, undated

   Unidentified group photograph, undated

   Photograph of the first 10 gram bottle of pure ibogaine to come through Canadian customs, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff in a canoe coming to shore, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff riding a packing mule, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff with Huichol Indians in Mexico, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff with Huichol Indians in Mexico, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff with Huichol Indians in Mexico, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff holding a walking stick in Mexico, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff with Huichol Indians in Mexico, undated

   Photograph of Leo Zeff with Huichol Indian in Mexico, undated

   Photographs of Leo Zeff with Huichol Indians in Mexico, undated

2. Correspondence, 1987-1988

   Correspondence from Howard S. Lotsoff to Leo Zeff, 1987

   Correspondence from the Honorable Charles A. Rangel to Howard S. Lotsoff, 1988

   Correspondence from Arthur E. Jacobson to Howard S. Lotsof, 1988

   Correspondence from Charles R. Schuster to Howard S. Lotsof, 1988
Correspondence from Howard S. Lotsof to Leo Zeff, 1987


Unpublished manuscript of M.R. Dzoljic’s “Effect of Ibogaine…”, 1987

Bio/dynamics, Division of Biology and Safety Evaluation: “A Segment II Teratology Study in Rats,” Submitted to the Dora Weiner Foundation, December 1985

Bio/dynamics, Division of Biology and Safety Evaluation: “A Segment II Teratology Study in Rabbits,” Submitted to the Dora Weiner Foundation, December 1985

Bio/dynamics, Division of Biology and Safety Evaluation: “A Study of Fertility and General Reproductive Performance in Rats (Segment I),” Submitted to the Dora Weiner Foundation, December 1985

4. Manuscript “Reflections Shared at the Sequoia Fall Retreat, November 1977”