

Introduction to Materials Related to Taiwan and Life of G. H. Kerr in Papers of Okinawa Prefectural Archives

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ABSTRACT

George H. Kerr (1911-1992), a former U.S. Vice-Consul in Taiwan and a witness to the 228 Incident in 1947, advocated U.S. or U.N. trusteeship for Taiwan and had important influence on the Taiwan Independence Movement. Kerr left behind many significant books and records about the history of Taiwan and Okinawa that are collected at the Hoover Institution of Stanford University (U.S.), the Taipei 228 Memorial Museum (Taiwan), and the University of the Ryukyus and the Okinawa Prefectural Archives (Japan). These materials can provide important information regarding the post-war history of Taiwan. This paper introduces some little-known materials related to Taiwan that are contained in the G. H. Kerr papers of the Okinawa Prefectural Archives (OPA). In addition, this article discusses Kerr's relationship with Taiwan, particularly in terms of what the records in the OPA can tell us about Kerr's influence on Taiwan's history and about how Kerr's advocacy for Taiwan affected his own life and career.

Keywords: George H. Kerr, John King Fairbank, *Formosa Betrayed*, 228 Incident, Trusteeship for Taiwan, UNRRA, FAPA, Okinawan History, McCarthyism, USCAR, Taiwan Independence Movement