

# **Robert R. Nathan Associates Records**

## **A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



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Prepared by Brian McGuire

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Robert R. Nathan Associates Records

**Span Dates:** 1950-1966

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1950-1957)

**ID No.:** MSS49981

**Creator:** Robert R. Nathan Associates

**Extent:** 7,600 items ; 36 containers ; 14.4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Summary:** International economic consulting firm. Correspondence, memoranda, journals, travel diaries, reports, statistical materials, technical and legal documents, speeches, writings, printed matter, and miscellaneous subject files documenting Robert R. Nathan Associates's administration of an economic development plan for the government of Burma from 1951 to 1957.

## 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.

### People

Mahā Chve, 1915-

Nathan, Robert R. (Robert Roy), 1908-2001. Robert R. Nathan travel diaries. 1952-1959.

Ne Vañ' ", Ū", 1911-2002.

Nu, U, 1907-1995.

Singer, H. W. (Hans Wolfgang), 1910-2006.

Walinsky, Louis Joseph, 1908-2001.

### Organizations

Robert R. Nathan Associates.

### Subjects

Agriculture--Burma.

Communication and traffic--Burma.

Economic development--Burma.

Industries--Burma.

International economic relations.

Mines and mineral resources--Burma.

Taxation--Burma.

Technical assistance--Burma.

Transportation--Burma.

### Places

Burma--Commerce.

Burma--Economic conditions--1948-

Burma--Economic policy--20th century.

Burma--Foreign relations--1948-

Burma--History--1948-

Burma--Politics and government--1948-

Burma--Social conditions--20th century.

# Administrative Information

## Provenance

The records of Robert R. Nathan Associates, international economic consulting firm, were given to the Library of Congress by the organization in 1972.

## Processing History

The records of Robert R. Nathan Associates were processed in 1972. The finding aid was revised in 2014.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Robert R. Nathan Associates is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The records of Robert R. Nathan Associates are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Robert R. Nathan Associates Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

# Biographical Note

## Robert R. Nathan

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1908, Dec. 25	Born, Dayton, Ohio
1931	Graduated, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.
1939	Joined Commere Department
1942	Became chairman, War Production Board planning committee
1946-2000	Founder and chairman, Robert R. Nathan Associates, which conducted studies for industry associations, federal agencies, and clients of foreign governments, including Burma, El Salvador, Israel and Vietnam
1957-1959	Chairman, Americans for Democratic Action
1968	Advisor to presidential campaign of Hubert H. Humphrey
2001, Sept. 4	Died, Bethesda, Md.

# Scope and Content Note

The records of Robert R. Nathan Associates span the years 1950-1966, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1950-1957 while the organization, first under contract with the Agency for International Development and subsequently supported by the government of Burma (now Myanmar), formulated an economic development plan for that

country. Centered in Rangoon, a team of Nathan Associates economists assisted the Burmese government devise economic and social development plans, establish a tax system, and institute efficient public services. The collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, journals, reports, statistical materials, technical and legal documents, speeches, writings, printed matter, and miscellaneous subject files documenting the work of the organization. Also included are travel diaries of Robert R. Nathan, founder and chairman of the organization, and materials relating to a book on Robert R. Nathan Associates by Louis J. Walinsky, director of the project.

Among the main topics treated are Burmese agricultural development, trade and industry, transportation and communications, mineral development, political relations and social services, technical assistance, and economic progress. Individuals represented as correspondents or subjects include economist H. W. Singer and Burmese leaders Mahā Chve, U Ne Van, and U Nu.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

The collection is organized by topic or type of material.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	PFI foreign loans, etc.
BOX 1	Reparations
BOX 1	Agreement and mechanism
BOX 1	Gass reports
BOX 1	General
BOX 1	Japan
BOX 1	Utilization
BOX 1	Walinsky, Louis J., background matter
BOX 1	Chapter 10
BOX 1	Chapters 26-30 (5 folders)
BOX 2	Chapters 31-35 (4 folders)
BOX 2	Walinsky, Louis J.
BOX 2	Burma II, 1953-1955
BOX 2	Reports
BOX 2	1956
BOX 3	1957-1959 (3 folders)
BOX 3	Agriculture
BOX 3	Aerial survey
BOX 3	Agriculture Rural Development Corp.
BOX 3	Contour
BOX 3	Credit
BOX 3	Coops general
BOX 3	Department budget
BOX 4	Exchange earnings and outlook
BOX 4	Extension activities
BOX 4	Fertilizers
BOX 4	Field trips
BOX 4	File cabinet indexes
BOX 4	Fish
BOX 4	General
BOX 4	Ground nuts
BOX 4	Irrigation
BOX 4	Joint ventures with Israel
BOX 4	Labor
BOX 4	Land nationalization
BOX 4	Machinery and mechanization
BOX 4	Marketing
BOX 4	Miscellaneous correspondence
BOX 4	Opium

## Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 4	Planning and organization
BOX 4	Projects
BOX 4	Research
BOX 4	Rice
BOX 4	Cargill
BOX 4	Export outlook and program
BOX 4	1951-1956
	(3 folders)
BOX 5	1957-1960
BOX 5	FAO reports and meeting
BOX 5	Long-term improvement program
BOX 5	Miscellaneous
BOX 5	State agricultural bank
BOX 5	Statistics and census
BOX 5	Sugar
BOX 5	Taxation
BOX 6	Cabinet and sub-cabinet agencies
BOX 6	Construction and housing
BOX 6	Materials
BOX 6	National Housing Board
BOX 6	Neutral policies
BOX 6	Statistics
BOX 6	Corporation of Rangoon
BOX 6	Development institutions
BOX 6	Film board
BOX 6	Forestry and timber
BOX 6	Bamboo strips
BOX 6	Export marketing
BOX 6	General
BOX 6	Marketing
BOX 6	Reports
	(2 vols.)
BOX 6	State Timber Board
BOX 6	Teak
BOX 6	Hotels and tourism
	(2 folders)
BOX 6	Burma II office correspondence
BOX 6	Contracts
BOX 6	1951-1953
BOX 7	1957-1961
	(2 folders)
BOX 7	Wholesale and retail trade
BOX 7	Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture
BOX 7	Burma II office diary copies
BOX 7	Contract termination
BOX 7	General
BOX 7	International Cooperation Administration

## Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 7	Report, integrated forests and industries
BOX 7	Transportation communications
BOX 7	Aviation
BOX 7	Telecommunications
BOX 7	Water (4 folders)
BOX 8	Burma contract IV
BOX 8	Walinsky, Louis J., reports and correspondence, 1961
BOX 8	Reports
BOX 8	Bound (2 groups of material)
BOX 8	General, 1955-1959 (5 items)
BOX 8	Standing Committee for Supervision and Coordination
BOX 9	Government studies
BOX 9	Kalewa Coal Project, Nathan Associates report
BOX 9	Transportation-communication
BOX 9	Aviation
BOX 9	Highways (3 folders)
BOX 9	Motor vehicles
BOX 9	Ports and wharves
BOX 9	General
BOX 9	Port of Rangoon
BOX 9	Postal development
BOX 9	Rail
BOX 9	Burma Railway
BOX 9	Refrigerated service
BOX 9	Rate structure
BOX 9	General
BOX 9	Laughlin report
BOX 9	Shipping
BOX 9	Technical assistance
BOX 9	Mahā Chve (Burmese prime minister)
BOX 9	United Nations
BOX 10	U Nu (Burmese prime minister)
BOX 10	Mission to U.S.
BOX 10	Visit to U.S.
BOX 10	U.S. private
BOX 10	Washington to Rangoon correspondence
BOX 10	Chronological file, 1957
BOX 11	“Economic Survey of Burma,” 1951-1966 (10 items)
BOX 11	Burma office correspondence, 1954
BOX 12	Burma general
BOX 12	Burmese officials correspondence
BOX 12	Tax research and administration
BOX 12	Technical assistance
BOX 12	U Hla Maung (Burmese diplomat and lawyer)

## Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 12	Stanford Research Institute
BOX 12	Tun Thin (Burmese government official)
BOX 12	Frank Trager
BOX 12	Industry
BOX 12	Advisory commissions
BOX 12	Asbestos cement sheeting
BOX 12	Brick and tile
BOX 12	Cement
BOX 12	Cottage and small scale
BOX 12	Development and plans
BOX 12	Distillery and brewery
BOX 12	Domestic miscellaneous
BOX 12	Electric motors and fans
BOX 12	Fertilizers
BOX 12	Glass
BOX 12	Domestic development corporations
BOX 13	Joint ventures
BOX 13	Jute
BOX 13	Industrial Development Corp
BOX 13	Massachusetts Institute of Technology studies
BOX 13	Miscellaneous
BOX 13	Pharmaceuticals
BOX 13	Plants, projects, proposals
BOX 13	Plywood
BOX 13	Projects, general
BOX 13	Pulp and paper
BOX 13	General
BOX 13	Mill project
BOX 13	Other proposals
BOX 13	Parsons and Whittemore proposal
BOX 13	Projects, other countries
BOX 13	World peace outlook
BOX 13	Rice
BOX 13	Byproducts (3 folders)
BOX 13	Milling
BOX 13	Rubber
BOX 13	Salt
BOX 13	Saw milling
BOX 14	Sericulture
BOX 14	State enterprises
BOX 14	State Industrial Research Institute
BOX 14	Statistics
BOX 14	Steel
BOX 14	Sugar
BOX 14	Byproducts

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<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 14	General
BOX 14	Task forces
BOX 14	Cotton factory
BOX 14	General
BOX 14	Jute
BOX 14	Pharmaceutical factor
BOX 14	Textiles
BOX 14	Truck assembly
BOX 14	Union of Burma Applied Research Institute
BOX 14	Wheat flour milling
BOX 14	Information
BOX 14	Bibliographies
BOX 14	Book reviews
BOX 14	Burma trips, Walinsky
BOX 14	Burmese press
BOX 15	Business associations
BOX 15	Clippings
BOX 15	1954-1961 (2 folders)
BOX 15	Extraordinaire
BOX 15	Constitution
BOX 15	Correspondence
BOX 15	Creshkoff trip to Burma
BOX 15	General
BOX 15	Government
BOX 15	U Ne Van (Burmese general and prime minister)
BOX 15	Officials
BOX 15	Singer, H. W.
BOX 15	U Nu, 1960
BOX 15	Economic programs and outlook
BOX 15	Magazine articles
BOX 15	Miscellaneous
BOX 16	Orientation overseas staff
BOX 16	Prime minister, U Nu
BOX 16	General
BOX 16	Speech, 1957
BOX 16	Speeches
BOX 16	Problems of technical assistance
BOX 16	Technical personnel in Burma
BOX 16	Insurance
BOX 16	General
BOX 16	Union of Burma Insurance Board
BOX 16	International trade
BOX 16	Balance of payments
BOX 16	Barter trade and credit agreements
BOX 16	Commerce Development Corp.

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<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 16	Exports
BOX 16	General
BOX 16	Market research, intelligence promotion
BOX 16	Imports
BOX 16	Czechoslovakia
BOX 16	General, 1955-1958
BOX 17	Joint venture trading companies
BOX 17	Open general license
BOX 17	Policies and procedures
BOX 17	Programs and implementation
BOX 17	Special programs
BOX 17	Statistics
BOX 17	General
BOX 17	Pl 480 type products
BOX 17	Textiles
BOX 17	Yugoslavia
BOX 17	India-Burma
BOX 17	Port traffic
BOX 17	Tariff policies
BOX 17	Trade agreements
BOX 17	Trends
BOX 17	Joint ventures
BOX 17	Columbia university study
BOX 17	Japan
BOX 17	Legislation, Special Company Act, 1950
BOX 17	Management
BOX 17	Audits
BOX 17	Contracts
BOX 17	Government economic services
BOX 17	Pricing policy
BOX 17	Public administration and management
BOX 17	Public service
BOX 17	Civil Supplies Management Board
BOX 17	General
BOX 17	State enterprises
BOX 18	Mineral development
BOX 18	Burma Corp.
BOX 18	Burma mines
BOX 18	Coal
BOX 18	Field trips
BOX 18	General
BOX 18	Government policy
BOX 18	Iron
BOX 18	Joint ventures
BOX 18	General
BOX 18	Standard Ore and Alloys Corp.

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<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 18	Lead
BOX 18	Mineral Resources Development Corp.
BOX 18	Minerals
BOX 18	General
BOX 18	Prices
BOX 18	Opportunities
BOX 18	Petroleum
BOX 18	Burma Oil Corp.
BOX 18	General
BOX 18	Precious and semiprecious stones
BOX 18	Production and exports
BOX 18	Tin
BOX 18	Tungsten
BOX 18	United States
BOX 18	Department of Commerce
BOX 18	Firms
BOX 18	Study missions
BOX 18	Wax
BOX 19	Private Industry
BOX 19	Foreign proposals
BOX 19	General
BOX 19	Government of Burma policies
BOX 19	International treaties
BOX 19	Minerals development policies
BOX 19	General
BOX 19	Joint venture proposals
BOX 19	U.S. minerals conference, 1957
BOX 19	Opportunities
BOX 19	Procurement agencies
BOX 19	Procurement policies
BOX 19	State Central Stores Board
BOX 19	Union of Burma Purchase Board
BOX 19	Production, income, consumption
BOX 19	Consumer expenditures
BOX 19	General
BOX 19	Surveys
BOX 19	Gross national product and national income
BOX 19	Projected capital-output ratios
BOX 19	Savings and investments
BOX 19	Public and political relations
BOX 19	External
BOX 19	Burmese embassy
BOX 19	Speech material
BOX 19	Washington, D.C.
BOX 19	Formosa
BOX 20	General

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<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 20	Government of Burma speeches
BOX 20	Missions to the U.S.
BOX 20	Relations with
BOX 20	Ghana
BOX 20	India
BOX 20	Israel
BOX 20	Thailand
BOX 20	United States
BOX 20	General
BOX 20	Organizations, Far East American Council
BOX 20	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
BOX 20	Yugoslavia
BOX 20	<i>See It Now</i> broadcast, Feb. 1951
BOX 20	Speech material
BOX 20	United Nations
BOX 20	Internal
BOX 20	Anti-Fascist People's Freedom Party
BOX 20	Articles, newspaper
BOX 20	Business community
BOX 20	Cabinet
BOX 20	Corruption
BOX 20	General
BOX 20	Insurgency
BOX 20	KMT, Chinese Nationalist Soldiers, fighting in Wu state
BOX 20	Opposition-criticism
BOX 20	Speeches
BOX 20	Pyidawtha grants
BOX 20	Reports
BOX 20	Central Statistics and Economic Department
BOX 20	Economic indicators
BOX 20	Economic survey
BOX 20	General
BOX 20	Industrial production index
BOX 20	National income
BOX 20	Quarterly report on economic progress
BOX 20	House, Phillip N.
BOX 20	Labor statistics
BOX 20	Progress reporting
BOX 20	Procedures
BOX 20	Reports
BOX 21	Reports, evaluations
BOX 21	Research
BOX 21	Social service
BOX 21	Education
BOX 21	General
BOX 21	Health

## Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 21	General
BOX 21	Training program
BOX 21	Housing
BOX 21	Special Projects Implementation Board
BOX 21	States (Burmese political divisions, similar to provinces)
BOX 21	Finances
BOX 21	General
BOX 21	Technical assistance
BOX 21	Activity reports
BOX 21	Rangoon
BOX 21	Rangoon staff
BOX 21	B-H (6 folders)
BOX 22	L-T (9 folders)
BOX 22	Armour Research Foundation
BOX 22	Asia Foundation
BOX 23	Burmese embassy, Washington, D.C., 1952-1958 (3 folders)
BOX 23	Contract termination
BOX 23	Contracts, foreign technicians
BOX 23	Correspondence with Burmese
BOX 23	Economic Development Institute
BOX 23	Ford Foundation
BOX 23	General
BOX 23	Management accounting
BOX 23	Foreign experts
BOX 23	Hagen, Everett
BOX 23	Israel
BOX 23	Knappen Tippetts Abbett Engineering Co. (2 folders)
BOX 23	Maxwell Graduate School
BOX 23	Medical
BOX 23	Public relations
BOX 23	Rice for technicians agreement
BOX 23	Robert R. Nathan Associates activities
BOX 23	Burma miscellaneous
BOX 23	Miscellaneous
BOX 24	Political parties
BOX 24	Press conference, etc.
BOX 24	Rangoon
BOX 24	Washington, D.C.
BOX 24	Staff recruitment
BOX 24	Agricultural economist
BOX 24	Chief economist
BOX 24	Fiscal economic
BOX 24	Industrial economist

## Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 24	Miscellaneous
BOX 24	Statistical economist
BOX 24	Trips to Burma\
BOX 25	Walinsky, Louis J.
BOX 25	Special reports
BOX 25	Trip diaries
BOX 25	1952-1955
BOX 26	1955-1959
BOX 26	United States State Department
BOX 26	Washington, D.C., Burmese embassy
BOX 27	Printed matter
	(42 items)
BOX 28	(11 items)
BOX 29	(6 items)
BOX 30	(36 items)
BOX 31	(11 items)
BOX 32	(7 items)
BOX 33	(38 items)
BOX 34	(27 items)
BOX 35	(5 items)
BOX 36	(24 items)