



Ron's Collection - *General Information*

Ron's Collection is an amazing treasure trove of leaflets, newspaper cuttings and (most numerous and interesting) letters, **providing fascinating insights into the history of syndicalist groups and individuals**, active in Britain and around the world.

The documents primarily record activities of the **Anarchist Federation of Britain** (AFB), which subsequently became the **Syndicalist Workers Federation** (SWF), between the 1940s and the early 1960s. The collection therefore provides researchers with unique source material on a period often overlooked in the history of radical politics, the years between the end of the Spanish Civil War and the iconic events of the late 1960s.

Part of the collection's importance is that it not only contains information on British syndicalists, but on groups and people from all over the world and with very different politics.

Ron's Collection is now complemented by the archive of the Solidarity Federation (SolFed Collection). Whereas Ron's Collection contains many internal documents, the SolFed Collection includes many of the AFB/SWF's publications, such as papers and pamphlets.

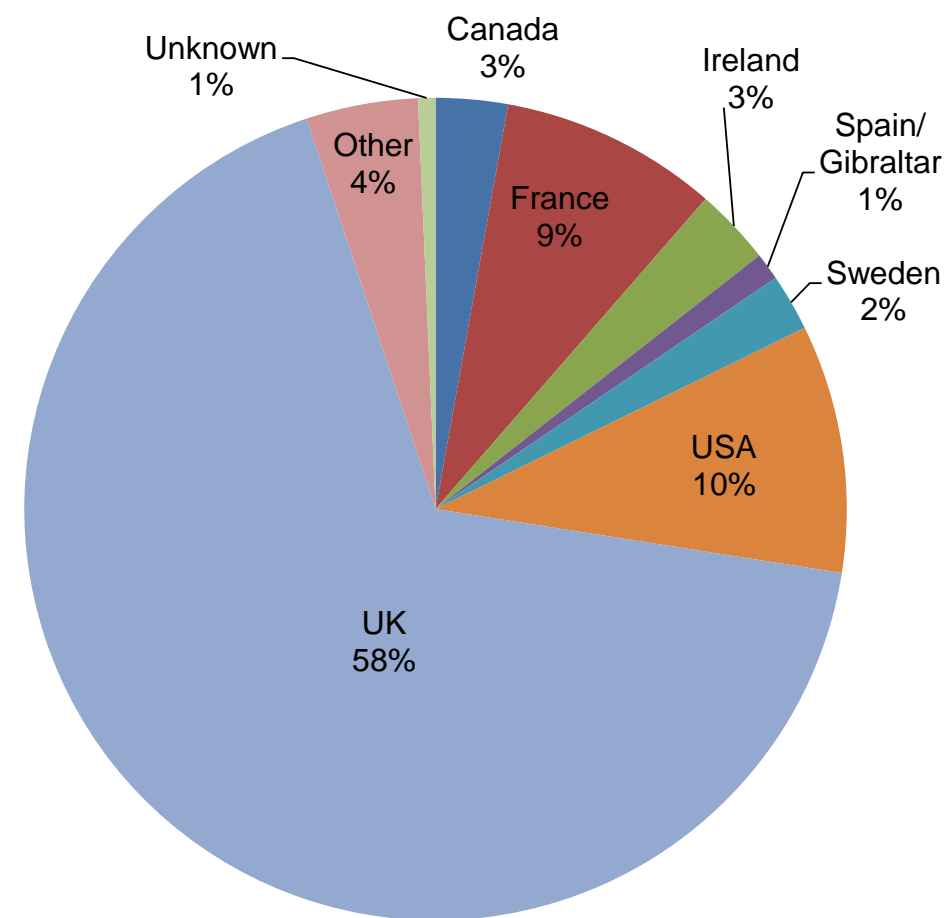
Be it out of curiosity or academic interest, the documents provide researchers with **fascinating information regarding historical struggles** (e.g. numerous strikes, the Civil Rights Movement, anti-nuclear protests), the **personal lives and motivations** of people involved in the AFB/SWF (or in correspondence with them), records of **internal debates and splits, confrontations with opponents** (be it police, fascist groups or landlords trying to evict the printing press) and **current affairs of the day** (e.g. the Cuba Crisis or the Hungarian Uprising).

Ron's Collection – *The database*

Ron's Collection has almost been completely processed* (i.e. sorted, preserved, digitalised and catalogued) and the catalogued information as well as the scanned materials can be accessed via a database.

Currently a **total of 1,164 documents** have been processed.

The **vast majority** of the processed documents (88%) **are letters**; others were classed as cheques, leaflets, invoices, newspaper cuttings etc.

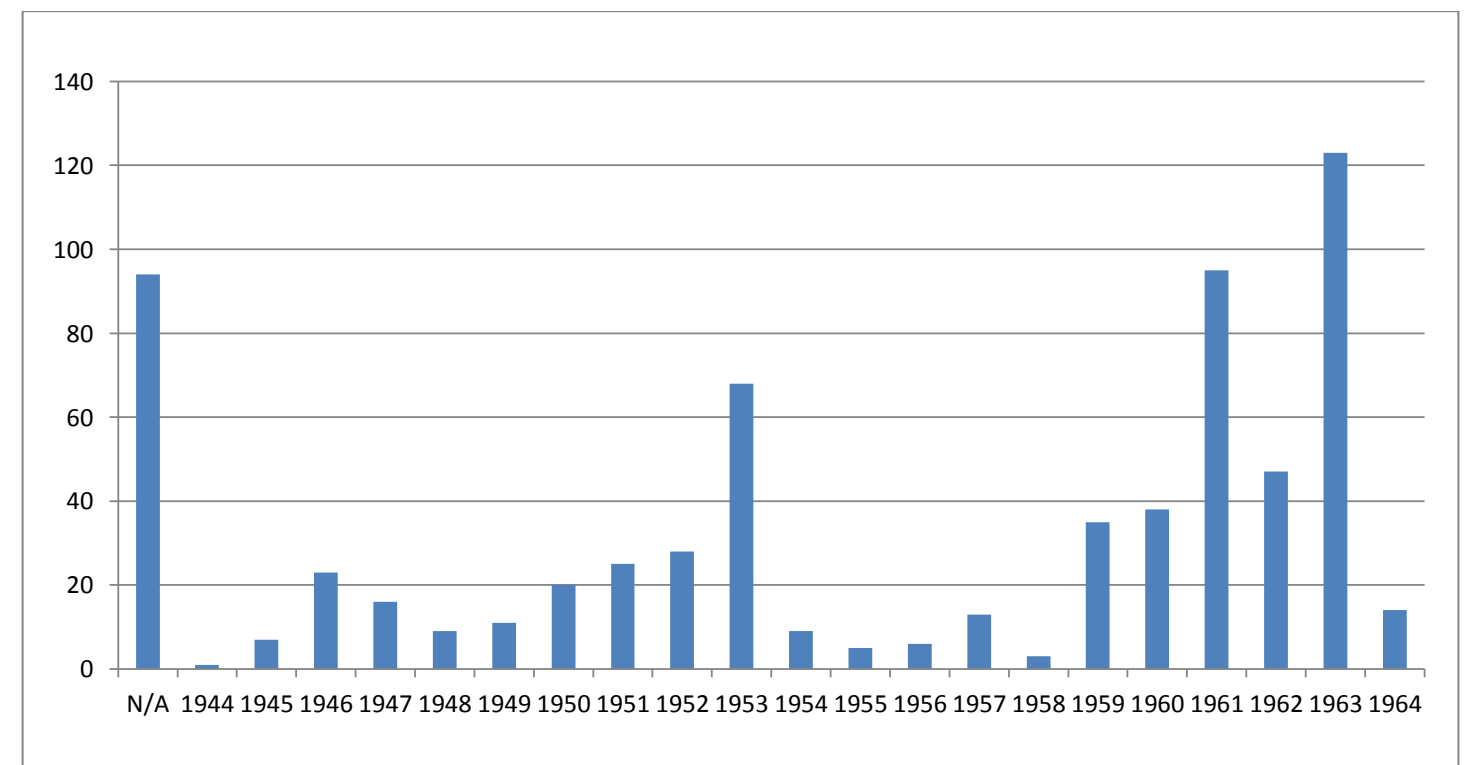


The processed documents were **sent to and from 25 different countries** and feature six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Swedish.

Origin/destination of letters

Argentina	5	India	1	Spain	11
Austria	2	Ireland	31	Sweden	23
Belgium	1	Italy	4	Switzerland	2
Canada	29	Japan	5	Uruguay	2
Hong Kong	1	Mexico	1	USA	100
Cuba	1	Morocco	1	Zimbabwe	1
Denmark	1	Netherlands	3	UK	692
France	88	Norway	4	Unknown	7
Germany	9	South Africa	1		

Within the largest sample of documents, the correspondence sent within the UK, there are documents for every year between 1944 and 1964, but the **majority of documents originate during the years 1950-3 and 1959-63.**



* Ron's kind donation of materials also contained numerous books and pamphlets. Aside a few very fragile pamphlets these were not digitalised.

Organisations & their (more or less catchy) acronyms

The wider relevance of Ron's Collection and the corresponding parts of the SolFed Collection can also be exemplified by the fact that in the documents a vast number of groups, trade unions, parties, companies, etc. are being referred to, discussed, gossiped about, etc.

Please help us correct and add to this list!

	ACT, A.C.T. ARP, A.R.P. ATT, A.T.T. CAM, C.A.M. CC, C.C. CLC, C.L.C. CW, C.W. EL, E.L. FORA, F.O.R.A. GWU, G.W.U. IRM, I.R.M. ITCU, I.T.C.U. NCLC, N.C.L.C. NELAG, N.E.L.A.G. NWS, N.W.S. RSG, R.S.G. SL, S.L. SRL, S.R.L. SWI, S.W.I. UAG, U.A.G. CIA, C.I.A. ESE, E.S.E. GEB, G.E.B. DATA, D.A.T.A. AEU, A.E.U.		
(a british political group? – not the CIA you think of)		Association of Scientific Workers	AScW, A.Sc.W.
(a british trade union?)		Association of Supervisory Staff, Executives and Technicians	ASSET, A.S.S.E.T.
(a british trade union?)		Assosication of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen	AESD, A.E.S.D.
(a british trade union?)		Biblioteca Archivo Internacional Anarquista	BAIA, B.A.I.A.
Amalgamated Engineering Union		Birmingham Anarchist Society	
Amalgamated Printers' Association		Birmingham University Anarchist Group	
		Boilermakers' Society (a british trade union)	
American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations	AFL-CIO, A.F.L.- C.I.O.	Brin's Oxygen Company (BOC Group)	BOC, B.O.C.
Amical Interlinguista de Cultura Libertari		Bristol Federation of Anarchists	
Amnesty International		British Broadcasting Corporation	BBC, B.B.C.
Anarchist Communist Federation of Bulgaria		British Light Steel Pressings	BLSP, B.L.S.P.
		British Thomson-Houston	BTH, B.T.H.
Anarchist Federation Britain		Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament	CND, C.N.D.
Anarchist Federation Canada		Central Board for Conscientious Objectors	CBCO, C.B.C.O.
Anarchist Federation France (Federation Anarchiste)		Centre Internationale de Recherches sur l'Anarchisme, Internatonal	CIRA, C.I.R.A.
Anarchist Federation Japan		Centre for Research on Anarchism	
Anarchist Federation Mexico		Circus Clown Club of America	
Anarchist Youth		Comite Ayuda Resistencia Espaniola	CARE, C.A.R.E.
Anarcho-Syndikalistische Freie Foederation Bayern		Commission Internationale de Liasion Ouvriere	CILO, C.I.L.O.
Anti-Capital-Punishment League		Committee for a Workers' International	CWI, C.W.I.
Argentine Libertarian Federation		Committee of 100	
Assembly of Building Technicians		Common Wealth (Party?)	
Associated Electrical Industries		Communist Party	CP, C.P.
Association of Building Technicians		Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo	CNT, C.N.T.
Association of Cinematograph Television and Allied Technicians		Confédération Française des Travailleurs Chrétiens	CFTC, C.F.T.C.
Association of Engineering & Shipbuilding Draughtsmen		Confédération générale du travail	CGT, C.G.T.
		Constructional Engineering Union	CEU, C.E.U.
		Criminal Investigation Department	CID, C.I.D.
		Crusejo Iberico de Liberacion	CIL, C.I.L.
		Cuban Libertarian Group	
		Cuban Libertarian Movement	
		Dundee Anarchist Group	
		Electrical Trades Union	ETU, E.T.U.
		Electrical Trades Union	
		Electricity Supply Board	ESB, E.S.B.
		Ex-Servicemens Movement for Peace	
		Federación Anarquista Ibérica	FAI, F.A.I.
		Federacion de Mujeres Libres	
		Federacion Ivberica de Juventudes Libertarian	
		Federation of Rural Workers	
	FLA, F.L.A.	Federation of the National Education	FEN, F.E.N.
		Fighters for Freedom	
	AEI, A.E.I.	Freedom Press	
		Freie Arbeiter Stimme Group (Free Voice of Labour Group)	FAS, F.A.S.
		Front de Libération Nationale (National Liberation Front)	FLN, F.L.N.
	AESD, A.E.S.D.	General Post Office	GPO, G.P.O.

General Teaching Council	GTC, G.T.C.	National Union of Seamen	NUS, N.U.S.
German war time (World War II name for Central European Time)*	GWT, G.W.T.	National Youth Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament	YCND, Y.C.N.D.
Glasgow Federation of Anarchists		Nederlands Syndicalistisch Vakverbond	NSV, N.S.V.
Gosudarstvennoye Politicheskoye Upravlenie (State Political Directorate)	GPU, G.P.U.	No Conscription Council	
Gruppi Anarchici d'azione Proletaria		Northern Industrial Action (formerly Industrial Action Committee)	
Iberian Federation of Libertarian Youth	FIJL, F.I.J.L.	Norwegian Syndicalist Federation	NSF, N.S.F.
Imperial Chemical Industries	ICI, I.C.I.	Notting Hill Anarchist Group	
Independent Labour Party	ILP, I.L.P.	Organisation de l'armée secrète	OAS, O.A.S.
Industrial Rights Movement		Oxford Anarchist Group	OAG, O.A.G.
Industrial Workers of the World	IWW, I.W.W.	Paddington No-Conscription Council	
Initiative Commission of the International Anarchist Congress		Reigate and Redhill Young Socialists	
International Committee for Labor Relations	ICLR, I.C.L.R.	Revolutionary Communist Party	RCP, R.C.P.
International Glove Workers Union of America ?	IGWU, I.G.W.U.	Romford and Hornchurch Anarchist Group	
International Labour Organization	ILO, I.L.O.	Save Franco's Victims Committee	
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union	ILGWU, I.L.G.W.U.	Scottish Wholesale Cooperative	SCWS, S.C.W.S.
International Workingmen's Association, International Workers Association	IWMA, IWA, IAA, AIT, I.W.M.A., I.W.A., I.A.A., A.I.T.	Seamen's Reform Movement	FAF, F.A.F.
	IZD, I.Z.D.	Sebatian Faure Group	SF, S.F.
	IRA, I.R.A.	Sinn Fein	
Internationaler Zivildienst		Socialism Reaffirmed	
Irish Republican Army		Socialist Labour League	SLL, S.L.L.
Iron and Metal Workers' Federation (Norway)		Socialist Party of Great Britain	SPGB, S.P.G.B.
Istituto Italiano di Bibliofilia		Socialist Party of Ireland	SPI, S.P.I.
Italian Anarchist Federation		Socialist Republican League	
Itinerant Action International	IAI, I.A.I.	Socialist Republican Party	
Jeunes Libertaires Groupe de Bordeaux		Socialist Worker	SW, S.W.
King's Cross Publishing Company		Socialist Workers' League	
KPFA 94.1 (radio station)	KPFA, K.P.F.A.	Solidarite Internationale Antifasciste	SIA, S.I.A.
Labour Party		Spartakus	
Le Comite Provisore de Defence		Sveriges Arbetares Centralorganisation	SAC, S.A.C.
League against capital punishment	LACP, L.A.C.P.	Sydney Anarchist Group	
League for Worker's Control		Syndicalist Workers Federation	SWF, S.W.F
Libertarian Film Club		The Colony	
Libertarian League	LL, L.L.	The Young Libertarian	
Liberto Sarrau		Tierra y Libertad	
London Anarchist Group	LAG, L.A.G.	UGTA Union générale des travailleurs Algériens	UGTA
London Federation of Anarchists	LFA, L.F.A.	Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers	USDAW, U.S.D.A.W.
Mexican Soli		Unione Sindicale Italiana	USI, U.S.I.
Movement contre le Racisme, l'Antisemtisme et pour la Paix	MRAP	Unions of Algerian Workers	USTA
Movimento de Resistencia		University Libertarian Movement	
Movimento Libertario Cubano en el Exilo Miami FLA		Versailles Group - Anarchist Federation France	
Musicians Union		War Resisters International	WRI, W.R.I.
National Association of Labour Student Organisations	NALSO, N.A.L.S.O.	Welsh Nationalist Party	
National Association of Schoolmasters		Woolwich Anti-Fascist Committee	
National Coal Board	NCB, N.C.B.	Workers' Educational Association	WEA, W.E.A.
National Council of Labour		Workers' Northern Publishing Society	
National Progressive Democrats	NPD, N.P.D.	Workers' Party Group (joined SWF in 1961)	
National Rank and File Movement	NRF, N.R.F., RF, R.F., R&F, R.&F.	Workers' Party of Marxist Unification	
National Seamen's Reform Movement		Working Men's Club and Institute Union*	POUM, P.O.U.M.
National Secular Society		Young Communist League	CIU, C.I.U.
National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants		Young Democratic Socialists	YCL, Y.C.L.
National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers	NUAW, N.U.A.W.	Young Men's Christian Association	YDS, Y.D.S.
National Union of Government and Federated Workers	NUGMW, M.U.G.M.W.	Young People's Socialist League	YMCA, Y.M.C.A.
National Union of Lock and Metal Workers	NULMW, N.L.M.W.	Young Women's Christian Association	YPSL, Y.P.S.L.
National Union of Miners	NUM, N.U.M.		YWCA, Y.W.C.A.
National Union of Public Employees	NUPE, N.U.P.E.		