

**James Zartman Papers on
the Illinois Civil Rights Rally
342013.JZPICRR.KOEZ**

Finding aid prepared by Katie Obriot and Elise Zerega

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

November 14, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Chicago History Museum

03/04/2013

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Summary Information

Repository	Chicago History Museum
Title	James Zartman Papers on the Illinois Civil Rights Rally
Date [inclusive]	1964,1985
Extent	0.21 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	<p>James Zartman (1925-) is an attorney who worked to defend civil rights for African Americans in the 1960s and 1970s. Zartman was first involved in civil rights through the Ad Hoc Committee for Civil Rights. In 1963, Zartman attended the March on Washington. He then served as treasurer for the Illinois Rally for Civil Rights, which organized Martin Luther king Jr.'s speech at Soldier Field on June 21, 1964 (also known as the "I Have a Dream Civil Rights Rally"). This collection contains materials relating to Zartman's participation as treasurer for the Illinois Rally for Civil Rights.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

James Zartman (1925-) is an attorney who worked to defend civil rights for African Americans in the 1960s and 1970s. He was born and raised in Freeport, Illinois, graduated from DePauw University, in Greencastle, IN, and earned a law degree from Harvard University Law School, Cambridge, MA. He moved to Chicago in 1953 and was hired by the law firm Chapman and Cutler. After hearing a speech by Edwin C. "Bill" Berry, the president of the Chicago Urban League, Zartman became involved in civil rights through the Ad Hoc Committee for Civil Rights. In 1963, Zartman attended the March on Washington. He then served as treasurer for the Illinois Rally for Civil Rights, which organized Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech at Soldier Field on June 21, 1964, known as the "'I Have a Dream' Civil Rights Rally."

Zartman continued to work to defend civil rights by taking cases in Chicago that fought red-lining and cases for the Illinois Fair Housing laws. After the 1968 Chicago riots, Zartman defended individuals accused of rioting. He served for ten years on the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.

Scope and Contents note

This collection contains materials relating to Zartman's participation as treasurer for the Illinois Rally for Civil Rights, which was responsible for bringing Martin Luther King Jr. to Chicago to speak at Soldier Field for the "'I Have a Dream' Civil Rights Rally" on June 21, 1964. Documents in this collection include financial statements, reports, and cancelled checks to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Andy Frain Company, which provided the ushers at Soldier Field; and Alexander and Company, the organization's insurance broker that procured a policy with Lloyd's of London for the event. Also included are correspondence, guest lists, and seat passes for Zartman and his wife, who sat on the platform where Martin Luther King Jr. gave his speech.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Chicago History Museum 03/04/2013

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Processing Information note

Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project."
By Katie Obriot and Elise Zerega. March 4, 2013.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- King, Martin Luther, Jr., 1929-1968

Subject(s)

- Chicago Park District
 - Chicago Urban League
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Please cite this collection as:

James Zartman papers on the Illinois Civil Rights Rally (Chicago History Museum), plus a detailed description, date, and box/folder number of a specific item.

Newspaper Clippings and Program

Collection Inventory

Newspaper Clippings and Program 1964	Box 1	Folder 1
Dr. Edgar H. S. Chandler 1964, 1985	Box 1	Folder 2
Illinois Rally for Civil Rights Donations 1964	Box 1	Folder 3
Chicago Park District Correspondence Regarding Permit and Proof of Insurance from Lloyd's London 1964	Box 1	Folder 4
Rally Meeting and Luncheon 1964	Box 1	Folder 5
Rally Financial Papers 1964	Box 1	Folder 6
Rally Financial Papers 1964	Box 1	Folder 7