



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Abraham J. Multer Papers**

**Manuscript Collection No. 500**



## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Abraham J. Multer Papers
<b>Dates</b>	1947-1967
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS-500
<b>Repository</b>	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Multer, Abraham Jacob, 1900-1986
<b>Extent</b>	20 linear feet (50 Hollinger boxes)
<b>Language of the Material</b>	English

## Administrative Information

**Biographical Sketch** Abraham J. Multer was born in Manhattan, New York on 24 December 1900 to Max and Emma Rock Multer. In 1911, his parents moved to the congressional district he was later to represent. Multer received his B.A. from the City College of New York by attending night classes. He later earned an LL.B. from Brooklyn Law School and a LL.D from Yeshiva University. Multer was admitted to the bar in 1923.

Multer entered the private practice of Rayfiel and Multer where he remained until his congressional election. Beginning in 1936, Multer was the special assistant attorney general of New York state Democratic conventions. He later became the attorney general of the Democratic national conventions. During World War II, Multer served in the United States Coast Guard Reserve and also on the Coast Guard Auxiliary. He was the Judge Advocate of the Coast Guard League. In 1947, he became the special assistant counsel to the New York City mayor.

Abraham Multer was elected to the House of Representatives as a Democrat to fill the resignation of Leo F. Rayfiel. He served in the House from 1947-1977. While in the House, Multer was extremely active in the Banking and Currency, District of Columbia and Small Business standing committees. After his retirement from Congress, Multer served from 1979-1984 as the special referee for the Brooklyn Appellate Division.

Multer was active in a number of Jewish organizations. These included: the East Midwood Jewish Center, the President's Council of Yeshiva University, Jewish National Fund, Young Men's Hebrew Association, United Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Hebrew Institute of Long Island, Jewish Theological Seminary and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Multer died on 4 November 1986 in West Hartford, Connecticut. He and his wife Bertha had two sons: Robert K. and Howard C. Multer.

**Scope and Content** The Abraham J. Multer papers contain the records of Abraham Multer's congressional career, with a special focus on the records of the Small Business Committee. The records are primarily concentrated on the first session of the 90th Congress (1967). Records are organized into envelopes detailing the subject, dated by the month of the introduction of the legislation. Within the envelopes are pieces of legislation, relevant committee hearing reports, background reports and constituent correspondence. There is some material from earlier sessions on the banking and currency and small business committee which is primarily found in the latter part of the series. The Congressional Record series contains articles relating to Multer's speeches and activities. There is one folder relating to Multer's positions on Jewish affairs.

Multer was a lawyer who served in the Coast Guard during World War II and later served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The papers do not contain anything relating to Multer's legal or military career.

**Arrangement** The papers are divided into two (2) series: A. Subject Files; B. Congressional Record.

**Terms of Access** The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

**Preferred Citation** Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Abraham J. Multer Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-500. Abraham J. Multer Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance** Received from Abraham J. Multer, Brooklyn, N.Y., 1968 and 1970.

**Processing Information** Processed by Kathy L. Spray. Additional processing by Melinda K. McMartin, July 2002.

## Index Terms

**Subjects** Jews -- New York (State) -- New York / Legislators

**Personal Names** Multer, Abraham J. (Abraham Jacob), 1900-1996

### Series A. Subject Files, 1947-1967

**Extent** 12.4 linear feet (31 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of constituent correspondence, legislation drafts and related reports of Multer's congressional activities. The majority of these files focus on Multer's major committee assignments- Banking, District of Columbia, and Small Business.

**Arrangement** The files are arranged in rough chronological order, with subjects arranged alphabetically.

### Container List

Box 1. Administrative Procedures Act. Agriculture. Airlines. Anti-trust. Armed Forces, 1967 January.

Box 2. Armed Forces. Armed Services. Automotive, 1967 January.

Box 3. Automotive. Banking, 1967 January.

Box 4. Banking, 1967 January.

Box 5. Banking, 1967 January.

Box 6. Banking, 1967 January.

Box 7. Boating. Boxing. U.S.S. Brooklyn. Civil Rights. Committees. Communications Act. Controls, 1967 January.

Box 8. District of Columbia, 1967 January.

Box 9. District of Columbia, 1967 January.

Box 10. District of Columbia, 1967 January.

Box 11. District of Columbia, 1967 January.

Box 12. District of Columbia, 1967 January.

Box 13. District of Columbia. Defense productions. Drugs. Education. Election Day. Equal Rights. Eye Institute, 1967 January.

Box 14. Federal Employees, 1967 January.

Box 15. Federal Employees. Federal Trade Commission. Fisheries. Flood Insurance. Foreign Affairs, 1967 January.

Box 16. Holidays. Housing. Immigration. Investment Advisors. Judiciary, 1967 January.

Box 17. Judiciary, 1967 January.

Box 18. J.F.K. Medal. Labor. Lotteries. Medicine. Members of Congress, 1967 January.

Box 19. Members of Congress. Merchant Marines. Narcotics. Plastic Bags, 1967 January.

Box 20. Post Office. Postal. Procurement. Public Health Service. Public Service Academy. Public Works. Rules of the House. Banking and Currency. Savings Bonds. Savings Stamps. Securities. Senior Service Corps. Shipping. Small Business, 1967 January.

Box 21. Small Business. Social Security. Sports. Tariffs. Taxation, 1967 January.

Box 22. Taxation. Trade. Veterans, 1967 January.

Box 23. Airlines. Small Business. Foreign Affairs. Trading Stamps. United Nations. Firearms. Banking, 1967 February.

Box 24. Automotive. Banking. Calendar. District of Columbia. Holidays. Housing. Railroad Retirement Act. Small Business. Voting. Recreation. Social Security. Taxation. Air Pollution. Alcoholism. Armed Services, 1967 April-June.

Box 25. Banking. Crime. Education. Federal Employees. Senior Citizens. Social Security. Veterans. Banking. Committees. Judiciary. Small Business. Taxation, 1955-1957, 1967 June-July.

Box 26. Cigarettes. District of Columbia. Employment. Foreign Affairs. Veterans. Education. Nursing. Banking, 1967 August-September.

Box 27. Banking, 1967 September-October.

Box 28. Banking, 1967 October.

Box 29. District of Columbia. Foreign Affairs. Banking. Merchant Marines. Natural Gas. Sports. Personal Poor's Investment Surveys. Banking and Currency. Departments-Agriculture. Legislative Papers, 1953-1960, 1967 October.

Box 30. Miscellaneous H.R.'s. Organizations- Committee of 1 Million Knights of Pythias Small Business, 1947-1967.

Box 31. Jewish Affairs, 1960-1967.

## **Series B. Congressional Record, 1962-1967**

**Extent** 7.6 linear feet (19 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of excerpts relating to Multer's congressional activities pasted into loose scrapbook pages.

**Arrangement** The clippings are arranged roughly in chronological order and subdivided by subject topic in folders.

### **Container List**

Box 32. Congressional Record. Index to clippings, 1962-1967.

Box 33-50. Congressional Record.