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## University of Memphis Libraries Preservation and Special Collections Department

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# John C.Z. Thomas collection

Title: Collection No: Extent: Inclusive Dates:	John C.Z. Thomas collection MSS.472 0.7 cubic feet 1965-1969
Abstract:	The collection comprises newspapers, newsletters and documents related to activist organizations at Memphis State University and in Memphis, Tennessee, during the mid-1960s.
Donor: Processed by: Access: Language: Preferred Citation:	John C.Z. Thomas, Knoxville, Tennessee, September 2008. Chris Ratliff, September 2016. Open to all researchers. English John C.Z. Thomas collection, Preservation and Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis.
Publication date:	September 2016

### **Scope and contents**

The collection comprises newspapers, newsletters and documents related to activist organizations at Memphis State University (MSU) and in Memphis, Tennessee. The items were collected by John C.Z. Thomas, an instructor in the History Department at MSU from 1965 and 1968. Mr. Thomas served as faculty advisor to the Liberal Club and was involved with the West Tennessee American Civil Liberties Union. The 1968 Memphis sanitation workers' strike is prominently referenced in the material, which include issues of *The Rodent, The Filling Station* and *Fred* produced by MSU students, and *Logos*. Other documents concern the West Tennessee ACLU chapter founded in the late 1960s. The first two issues of an entertainment newspaper known as *Memphis Blue Notes* from 1966 are included.

### Subject terms

American Civil Liberties Union of West Tennessee. College student—Political activity—Tennessee—Memphis State University—History—20<sup>th</sup> century. Memphis State University. Sanitation Workers Strike, Memphis, Tenn., 1968.

### Inventory

Box 1

Folder

	Memphis State University:
1	Liberal Club, 1967-1968.
2	The Grmxpht/The Rodent, undated. Includes: The Grmxpht, issues 1 & 2; The Rodent, No. 1, 3-6, 11, special summer issue, Vol. 2, No. 1-3.
3	The Filling Station/Fred, 1967 and undated.
4	Miscellaneous student publications, 1965-1968. Includes "Sutra", "The Apex",
	"Black Thesis", No.8.
5	Save Our City, 1968-1969. Material issued by "Save Our City" group, as well as
	Memphis Area Project newsletter and "Happening: A Weekly Calendar", Vol. 1,
	No. 2,4.
6	West Tennessee American Civil Liberties Union, 1967-1968.
7	West Tennessee American Civil Liberties Union newsletter, 1967-1968. Includes Vol. 1,
	No. 1-4. Also Scope (Middle Tennessee ACLU), 1967 November, Tennessee
	ACLU Newsletter, 1968 October.

- Logos, Vol. 1, No. 1-7, 1966.
- 8 9
- Clippings, memoranda, 1966-1967. Re: *Logos*. *C.O.M.E. Appeal*, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1968 March. *Memphis Blue Notes*, Vol. 1, No.1, 2, 1966 April-May. OS