

# **Edward D. Re Papers**

## **CMS.118**

**Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by Frances Fynan**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Center for Migration Studies  
20 October 2017  
307 E. 60th Street  
New York, New York 10022

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Center for Migration Studies
<b>Title</b>	Edward D. Re Papers
<b>Date</b>	1942-1986
<b>Extent</b>	0.25 Linear feet
<b>General Physical Description note</b>	in one half-size document box.
<b>Location note</b>	CMS.118 is housed at the Center for Migration Studies, 307 East 60th Street, Third Floor, New York, New York, 10022.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	CMS.118 documents, via his own publications and via press clippings and manuscripts used for introductory remarks, the career of Italian-American jurist and legal scholar Edward D. Re between 1942 and 1986, and, in the process provides an example of an immigrant contribution to American intellectual life.

### Preferred Citation note

Center for Migration Studies of New York; Edward D. Re Papers (CMS.118); Box 1, Folder number.

## Biographical/Historical note

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The Honorable Edward D. Re was an Italian immigrant, United States judge, educator, and international legal scholar. Born in Santa Maria, Salina, a small island northeast of Sicily, October 14, 1920, he emigrated with his family to the United States in 1928 and settled in Brooklyn, where he received B.S. from Saint John's University School of Commerce in 1941 and an LL.B. from Saint John's University's School of Law in 1943. Graduating into World War II he joined the nascent United States Air Force and served until 1947, when he got a job teaching at his alma mater. He continued to serve in the military, seeing active duty during the Korean War, until his retirement in 1969.

In 1950 Re received a Doctor of Juridical Science from New York University in 1950, the same year that he married a co-student, Ann Corcoran and began a family that eventually extended to twelve children. Over the next decade Re became an expert in international law, particularly the settlement of foreign claims, and participated in local elector, being chosen as a member of New York State's Electoral College for 1960. President John F. Kennedy appointed him Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States February 15, 1961. President Lyndon B. Johnson made him Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs January 18, 1968, and then a judge in the United States Customs Court. President Jimmy Carter elevated him to Chief Justice of the U.S. Customs Court in 1977, a position he held until his retirement in 1992. Re had remained on Saint John's faculty as an adjunct professor during all this time. He returned to full-time teaching upon retirement from the bench, and then retired from teaching in 2003. Re died on September 17, 2006. More details about his life and career can be found in folder 4 of this collection.

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## Scope and Contents note

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CMS.118 provides researchers with an informative look into the life of Edward D. Re, and Italian immigrant, legal scholar, and public servant, through his own writing and the words of legal and academic professionals. He specialized in international law, the subject of many of his publications in this collection. Much of the history of this collection is unclear but it seems that Re collected the items in this collection himself, and that they were transferred from his possession to that of the Center for Migration Studies; in other words, the items in this collection were what Re considered important about himself.

CMS.118 contains four folders about and by Re. Folder 1 contains printed sections of the Congressional Records publications. Many of the preserved articles are about Judge Re and his work in the legal field. Folder 2 contains biographical materials, including typed biographies and programs from conferences honoring Judge Re. This folder sheds light on his professional affiliations and reputation. He was associated with U.S. Court of International Trade, U.S. Customs Court, Department of Justice, U.S. District Court in New York, New York Supreme Court, and United Nations and his work and service

to these institutions was highly respected. Folder 3 consists of materials authored by Re, and typed bibliographies. Re's scholarship appears in various law review journals and booklets. Most of his scholarship is on international law and foreign claims settlements. Folder 4 contains copies of articles from local newspapers, including two from the Philippines. All of these articles either focus on or mention Re. Photocopied articles from the New York Times were originally included in this collection and the citations can be found in the bibliography.

Edward D. Re's life serves as an example of a successful Italian immigrant who dedicated his life to education and legal service. He has been referred to as an example of the American dream. In addition to his immigrant identity, he was an incredible writer and scholar in the field of foreign claims and international relations law. Through this collection, we can see the professional evolution of Judge Re. We see the work he created and the praise he received in response, showing that the American dream is achievable and a life dedicated to education and law is rewarding.

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## Arrangement note

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CMS.118 contains four series:

- I. Congressional Records
- II. Materials about Edward D. Re
- III. Materials by Edward D. Re
- IV. Newspaper Articles

Materials are chronological within each series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies 20 October 2017

### Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers by appointment.

### Conditions Governing Use note

The Center for Migration Studies does not hold the copyright to the publications included in CMS.118. It is incumbent upon the researcher to clear copyrights before publication.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Personal Name(s)

- Re, Edward D. (Edward Domenic), 1920-2006

### Subject(s)

- International law.
  - Italian American authors
  - Italian Americans |x Education |z New York (State) |z New York |x History |y 20th Century
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## Bibliography

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“Group Here to Aid Nazi Victims Claim Deposits in Swiss Banks.” THE NEW YORK TIMES (New York, NY), Sept. 21 1962.

Kuhn, Edward W. and Edward D. Re. “Mobilization for Peace: The White House Conference on International Co-operation.” AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION JOURNAL 52 (June 1996): 529-32.

Re, Edward D. “Educational and Cultural Relations: Strengthening the Defense of Peace.” THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BULLETIN 59, no. 1517 (July 1968): 92-5.

“Upstate Claims Get New Forum.” THE NEW YORK TIMES (New York, NY), Aug. 26 1962.

Weaver Jr., Warren. “Agency to Press Philippine Task.” THE NEW YORK TIMES (New York, NY), Sept. 9 1962.

Weaver Jr., Warren. “Kennedy Approves Bill to Repay Americans’ World War II Losses.” THE NEW YORK TIMES (New York, NY), Oct. 23 1962.

## Collection Inventory

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	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Congressional Records 1960-1968	1	1
Materials about Edward D. Re 1961-1986	1	2
Materials by Edward D. Re 1942-1970	1	3
Newspaper Articles 1962	1	4