

#### **ARSC Study Guide:**

# **EDWARD R. MURROW**



Edward R. Murrow's reporting on radio and television established what many journalists consider to be the professional standard for cultural and hard news reporting in the United States from the 1930s through 1960. Murrow began his career in broadcasting in World War II as CBS's European Bureau director, earning international acclaim for his integrity and steadfastness as Nazi bombs fell on Great Britain during the London Blitz. His move into television broadcasting during the 1950s allowed him to pursue a number of controversial subjects, including the "See It Now" expose of Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy. In a number of instances, such as the investigative newscast on the plight of migrant farm workers in Florida, Murrow's reporting for CBS motivated progressive reforms, prompting him to remark late in his career that television, "can get a lot of things done." The UCLA Film & Television Archive holds a number of materials documenting Murrow's life and career available for research access on-site at the Powell Library.

#### [This is only a partial list – consult the Archive Research and Study Center for additional titles]

#### **HEARST NEWSREEL**

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Edward Murrow, 1942 – 1954. Includes the following: "Pierre Huss, Central European Director International News Service, arrives home after years in Germany on the SS Excambion. Edward Murrow, CBS London correspondent, also on same ship tells of morale of British people. Overseas press club dinner, New York City. Senator Joseph McCarthy charges Murrow with Red ties, Murrow replies, New York City." Study Copy: VA3912 M

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Edward Murrow, 1942 – 1961. Includes the following: "White House Today – Edward Murrow sworn in as USIA chief, Washington, D.C." Study Copy: VA5417 M

Hearst Newsreel Footage. McCarthy Charges Murrow with Red Ties, Murrow Replies, New York City (1954-04). Includes the following: "Footage used in the See It Now broadcast of April 6, 1954, in which Senator Joseph McCarthy rebuts Edward R. Murrow's earlier (March 9, 1954) See It Now program, entitled A Report on Senator Joseph R. McCarthy. Unedited newsreel footage." Study Copy: VA5682 T

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Edward R. Murrow Receives TV Award from Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, New York City (1954-04-01). Includes the following: "Talk by Hammerstein and Murrow, includes footage of Federation of Jewish Philanthropy report." Study Copy: VA8394 M



#### **TELEVISION**

(Please note some titles may require additional lead-time to make available for viewing)

Ford Fiftieth Anniversary Show (1953-06-15). Simulcast on CBS and NBC. Producer, Leland Hayward. With, Ethel Merman, Frank Sinatra, Edward Murrow, Oscar Hammerstein, Bing Crosby, Henry Ford II. Speaking for the "American Mind," Murrow offers his impressions on the role of technology in the evolution and expansion of U.S. involvement in world affairs. Study Copy: VA2237 T

See It Now. A Report on Joseph McCarthy (1954-03-09). CBS. Producers, Edward R. Murrow, Fred W. Friendly. Host, Edward Murrow.

Utilizing excerpts from Wisconsin Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's public speeches, Murrow investigates the duplicitous nature of the so-called communist purges spearheaded by the Senator. Study Copy: VA926 T

Person to Person (1954-04-01). CBS. Host, Edward R. Murrow.

Murrow interviews Quaker activist, Clarence Pickett and actor, Marlon Brando. Brando is featured at his rented home in the Hollywood Hills the evening after having received the Academy Award for his performance in *On the Waterfront*. Study Copy: VA1900 T

*Toast of the Town* (1955-01-30). CBS. Producers, Marlo Lewis, Ed Sullivan. Director, John Wray, Host, Ed Sullivan. Guests, Edward Murrow, Jack Benny, George Burns, Rudy Vallee.

Celebration of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the radio industry inspired by Ben Cross' book *I Looked* and *I Listened*. Murrow is featured discussing radio news broadcasts with Sullivan.

Inventory Number: T01800

*Person to Person* (1955-06-03). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guests, W.C. Handy, Cornelia Otis Skinner. Murrow interviews composer W.C. Handy and playwright, author and performer Cornelia Otis Skinner. Study Copy: VA1900 T

Person to Person (1955-11-18). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guest, Phil Silvers. Murrow interviews Broadway, film and television performer, Phil Silvers. Study Copy: VA7090 T

Person to Person (1956-09-21). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guests, Bette Davis, Gary Merrill. Murrow interviews husband and wife performers, Bette Davis and Gary Merrill. Study Copy: VA7090 T

Person to Person (1956-10-05). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guest, Eddie Cantor. Murrow interviews "March of Dimes" organizer and performer, Eddie Cantor. Study Copy: VA9975 T

*Person to Person* (1957-05-31). CBS. Producers, John Aaron, Jesse Zousmer. Host, Edward Murrow. Guest, Lisa Kirk.

"Murrow interviews actress and singer Kirk in her New York City apartment." Inventory Number: T79587

Person to Person (1957-06-07). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guest, Fred Astaire. Murrow interviews performer, Fred Astaire. Study Copy: VA825 T

*Person to Person – Excerpt* (1958-11-07). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guest, Louella Parsons. Murrow interviews syndicated columnist and founder of the Hollywood Women's Press Club, Louella Parsons. Study Copy: VA8029 T

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#### **TELEVISION** (continued)

Small World (1958-11-12). CBS. Producers, Edward R. Murrow, Fred W. Friendly.

"Each week, Small World presented a filmed, intercontinental conversation that linked moderator Edward R. Murrow in New York with three internationally known figures located in different parts of the world. This issue includes author Rebecca West in Buckinghamshire, England; Vice Admiral Hyman Rickover in Washington, D.C.; and Dr. Mark Van Doren in Cornwall, Connecticut." Study Copy: VA20253 T

*Person to Person* (1959-02-20). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guest, Antonio "Argentina" Rocco. Murrow interviews professional wrestler, Antonio Rocco. Inventory Number: T6689

*Person to Person* (1959-05-22). CBS. Host, Edward Murrow. Guest, Mary Lasker. Murrow interviews philanthropist, Mary Lasker. Study Copy: VA5564 T

CBS Reports. Biography of a Missile (1959-10-11). CBS. Executive Producer, Fred W. Friendly. Editor, William Thompson. Photography, Charles Mack. Narrator, Edward Murrow.

Premiere broadcast of CBS Reports follows the construction of a missile from its initial conception to launch. Study Copy: VA10694 T

Edward R. Murrow Interviews John F. Kennedy, July, 1960 (1960-07).

"Murrow asks Kennedy about his prospects for the presidential nomination in an interview apparently filmed just prior to or during the Democratic national convention." Study Copy: VA12352 T

CBS Reports. Harvest of Shame (1960-11-25). CBS. Executive Producers, Edward Murrow, Fred W. Friendly. Director, Palmer Williams. Editor, John Schultz.

Broadcast by CBS the day after Thanksgiving in 1960, this investigative report by Murrow documents the plight of migrant farm workers in the United States. *Harvest* was Murrow's last televised broadcast prior to his appointment as head of the United States Information Agency. Study Copy: DVD1219 T

Hearst Telenews. Murrow Describes USIA Broadcasts – Washington, D.C. (1961-11-21).

"In an interview with editor William Randolph Hearst Jr., USIA director [Murrow] describes the content of the broadcasts." Study Copy: VA8394 T

An Hour with Ed Murrow (1965-04-30). CBS. Reporters, Charles Collingwood, Eric Sevareid. Memorial tribute to Murrow following his death on April 27, 1965. Study Copy: VA12189 T

#### **RELATED MATERIAL**

The Edward R. Murrow Collection (2005). CBS Television. Includes the documentaries This Reporter, and The McCarthy Years, The Best of 'See It Now,' and Harvest of Shame. Study Copy: DVD1216 – DVD1219 T

Goodnight and Good Luck: The Edward R. Murrow Story (1975). BBC-TV. Executive Producer, Will Wyatt. Writer, Frank Gillard. Narrator, Burgess Meredith. With, Frank Gillard, Sen. Hubert Humphrey, Charles Collingwood, William Paley, Fred W. Friendly.

"Produced by correspondent friends of his at the British Broadcasting Corporation and collaborated in with his longtime American colleagues, this is the story of Edward R. Murrow." Study Copy: VA5357 T

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#### **RELATED MATERIAL** (continued)

*Murrow* (1986-01-19). HBO. Executive Producer, Herbert Brodkin. Director, Jack Gold. Writer, Ernest Kinoy. Cast, David Travanti, Dabney Coleman, Edward Hermann. "Chronicles the career of the chain-smoking newsman who embodied the first golden age of television journalism." Study Copy: VA12010 T

American Masters. Edward R. Murrow: This Reporter (1990-07-30). PBS. Producer, Director, Susan Steinberg. Writer, Ed Apfel. Editor, Deborah Peretz. Photography, Mead Hunt. Two-part profile of CBS News executive and correspondent (1906-65), Edward Murrow. Utilizing reminiscences, audio recordings, archival footage and photos the documentary provides an overview of Murrow's professional career. Study Copy: VA12014 T

Good Night, and Good Luck (2005). Warner Independent Pictures. Director, George Clooney. Writers, George Clooney, Grant Heslov. Cast, David Strathairn, Jeff Daniels, George Clooney. Academy Award nominated biopic focusing on Murrow's investigative reporting on Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy. Study Copy: DVD1995 M

#### **PRINT RESOURCES**

(For more information consult the UCLA Libraries collection)

- Bliss, Jr. Edward (Ed. and introduction). *In Search of Light: The Broadcasts of Edward R. Murrow, 1938-1961.* New York: Knopf, 1967.
- Doherty, Thomas. *Cold War, Cool Medium: Television, McCarthyism, and American Culture.* New York: Columbia University Press, 2003.
- Edwards, Bob. *Edward R. Murrow and the Birth of Broadcast Journalism*. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, 2004.
- Einstein, Daniel. Special Edition: A Guide to Network Television Documentary Series and Special News Reports, 1955-1979. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow, 1987.
- Kendrick, Alexander. Prime Time: The Life of Edward R. Murrow. Boston: Little, Brown, 1969.
- Sperber, Ann M. Murrow, His Life and Times. New York: Freundlich Books, 1986.
- U.S. Committee of Foreign Relations. 1961. *Nominations of Edward R. Murrow and Donald M. Wilson (United States Information Agency)*. Washington: Government Printing Office.

#### **EXTERNAL RESOURCES**

(For more information please contact the institutions directly)

Edward R. Murrow Center of Public Diplomacy
The Fletcher School – Tufts University.
160 Packard Avenue, Medford, Massachusetts. Telephone: (617) 627-3700
http://fletcher.tufts.edu/murrow/index.html

UCLA Film & Television Archive



#### **EXTERNAL RESOURCES** (continued)

The Fletcher School's Murrow Collection consists of papers, correspondence, drafts and broadcast copies of news broadcasts from Murrow's career as a broadcast journalist. In addition to the papers, there are approximately 1,600 books shelved in the Murrow Memorial Room where Murrow memorabilia are also displayed – pictures, framed awards and citations, plaques, honorary degree hoods, medals, war mementos, bound volumes of scripts, and pamphlets.

Edward R. and Janet Brewster Murrow Papers
Archives and Special Collections – Mount Holyoke College.

8 Dwight Hall 50 College Street South Hadley Massachuset

8 Dwight Hall, 50 College Street, South Hadley, Massachusetts. Telephone: (413) 538-3079

http://www.mtholyoke.edu/lits/library/arch/col/msrg/mancol/ms0576r.htm

"The Edward Roscoe Murrow and Janet Brewster Murrow Papers contain correspondence, published and unpublished writings, subject files, financial and legal records, biographical material, memorabilia, Brewster and Murrow family papers and photographs, chiefly dating from 1929-1965."

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