

FOCUS *on Global Resources*

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In This Issue

The current issue of *FOCUS on Global Resources* surveys CRL's rich and diverse China-related collections and shows how those collections support research and teaching on modern China. The collections were amassed by CRL over the last six decades, guided by bibliographers, preservationists, and expert selectors at many CRL libraries.

CRL holdings described include the colorful, illustrated (and fully digitized) [Hunter Collection](#) of “street literature” issued during the early years of the People's Republic; radio and film transcripts; more than a century of missionary society archives beginning in the 1830s; British intelligence reports on China in Tibet; and more.

Two articles in this issue—“[Researching Treaty-Port Shanghai](#)” and “[Shared Purchase Supports Faculty Grant Project](#)”—describe how CRL works with

On page 1: Post-World War II Chinese street literature praising increased steel production. Published by the Yu-ling Bookstore. From CRL's Edward Hunter e-collection.

continued from page 1

member library collection specialists, faculty, and scholars to make rare or uncommon primary source materials available for undergraduate and postgraduate research.

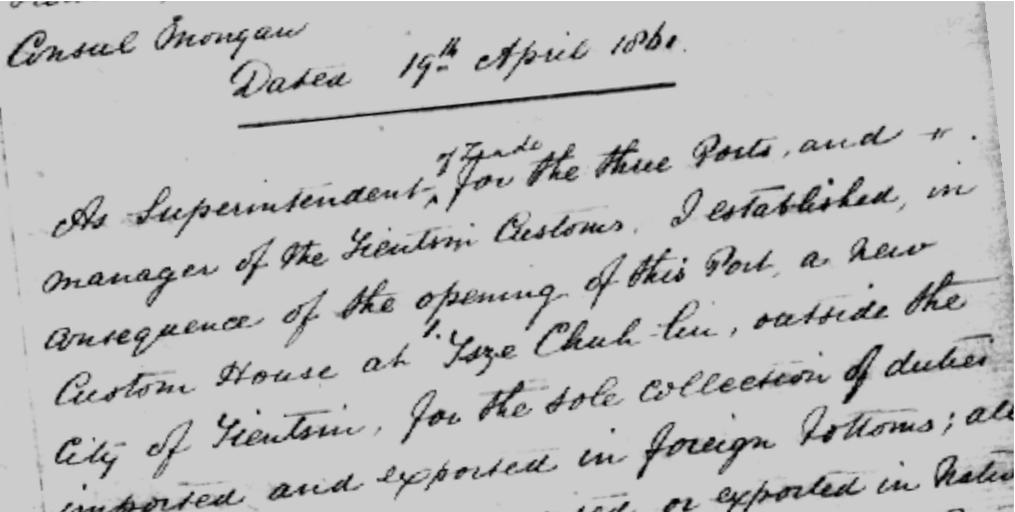
In “[Digitized Newspapers Relating to China](#)” the staff of CRL's International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON) project provides information on digitized China-related newspapers available via open access or as commercial products.

—*Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.*
President

Researching Treaty-Port Shanghai (1843–1943)

Bryna Goodman

Department of History
University of Oregon



Consul Inongaw
Dated 19th April 1861.
As Superintendent ^{of Trade} for the three Ports, and
manager of the Tientsin Customs, I established, in
consequence of the opening of this Port, a new
Custom House at 'Yze Chuh-lee', outside the
City of Tientsin, for the sole collection of duties
imported and exported in foreign bottoms; all
... or exported in native

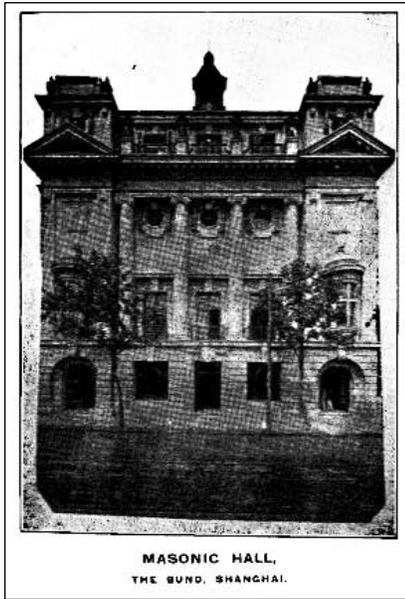
Transcript of a colonial-era authorization for construction of a new customs house in Tientsin, an important port city near the mouth of the Peihao River. From Foreign Office section of British Public Records Office.

During Spring term 2009 I taught an undergraduate history research seminar on treaty-port Shanghai. History research seminars at the University of Oregon are “capstone” courses especially designed for senior history majors and minors. The goal of the class is to engage students in the process of historical research and interpretation by means of the exploration of primary sources and the careful design and execution of a research paper. It is challenging to offer a history seminar on China, since most of our undergraduate history majors have few if any skills that would enable them to interpret Chinese-language materials. Shanghai, however, works well as a topic, because of the city’s historically semi-colonial character and its enclaves of foreign residents. During its century of existence in Shanghai, the Anglo-American International Settlement—which, together with the Shanghai French Concession, operated under rules of extraterritorial jurisdiction—generated a trove of historical documents concerning the city that facilitate research in English.

My efforts to gather an extensive and varied body of English language materials on Shanghai for the students’ research were substantially aided by the rich CRL holdings. The University of Oregon library holds some of the major Shanghai English-language papers, including the *North China Herald*, *China Weekly Review* (*Millards Review of the Far East*), together with U.S. Consular dispatches (microfilm), Shanghai Municipal Police Files (microfilm), a recently published Shanghai Municipal Archives reprint of the *Minutes of the Shanghai Municipal Council (1843–1943)*, and a number of relevant missionary papers (in Special Collections). But the UO newspaper collections are incomplete, and we lack British archival materials. To counter these deficits students relied on CRL holdings.

Prior to teaching the course, I was particularly glad to learn of the 2008 publication of the Cambridge Archive Edition of British archival materials, *Shanghai: Political and Economic Reports, 1842–1943*, and arranged to borrow the entire 18 volume (14,500-page) collection through interlibrary loan from CRL. I placed the set on library reserve for the students for the duration of the teaching term. This voluminous collection heavily features communications from the British consul in Shanghai to the British ambassador in the capital, but includes as well many economic and political reports and intelligence summaries, as well as various wartime reports, materials on public health concerns and crises, and matters related to the Shanghai French Concession. There also is considerable material on the opium trade.

The seminar begins with an introduction to Shanghai historiography, both to consolidate the students’ backgrounds in Shanghai history, and to enable them to consider interpretive threads and debates. After reading and discussing various



Historic Masonic Hall first chartered in 1865 in the Bund district of Shanghai. From CRL e-collections.

historiographical approaches, the emphasis of the course shifted to the interpretation of primary sources. The students considered different topics and types of evidence in turn: Shanghai maps, Shanghai newspapers, Shanghai police reports, visual materials (photos and films), British “Shanghaiander” memoirs, and consular and municipal archives. Because the students were generally restricted to English-language sources, we spent time, in particular, considering the nature of the Shanghaiander community, its biases, and the nature of—and power relations constituting—encounters between Chinese and various groups of foreigners in the city. In the first weeks of class students also were given short research exercises that ensured an engaged encounter with the major source collections. Once the students developed their paper topics I asked them, for example, to locate a document relevant to their research topic in either the Shanghai Municipal Police Reports or in the Shanghai Political and Economic Reports, and to copy and bring it to class. In class they made brief presentations on these materials, indicating how they might interpret them in the context of their projects, and listening to their classmate’s reactions. This type of exercise acquainted students with each others’ interests, leading to more collaborative research. Students concentrating on different sources often found materials for each other as they progressed in their research.

The Shanghai Political and Economic Reports were important for several students’ research projects. For one student, who was working on the Shanghai opium trade in the 1930s, the Political and Economic Reports were the major primary source, in addition to the Shanghai Police Reports. Another student who found them essential examined British responses to the popular nationalism of the May 30th Movement 1925. A third student, probably the strongest student in the class, systematically paged through the collection for the dates of his project, which focused on the unusual, strongly anti-imperialist English-language newspaper, the *Shanghai Courier*. Although the British archival collection did not contain directly relevant materials for his project, it did help him develop a better sense of context for understanding the English-language press in Shanghai and the relations between municipal and consular authorities and the local press.

All of the students found the collection convenient and easy to read because of the chronological organization of the volumes and the fact that they were available in hard copy rather than microfilm. In certain respects the lack of indexing was an advantage, since it forced the students to skim the contents, increasing their chances of discovering related materials. One student found the collection particularly useful for understanding the different segments of the British community and their interaction. As he commented to me in a brief email when I asked about his reading of these records, “I found that the cables between the British embassy in Beijing and the consulate in Shanghai revealed some of the tension between the latter’s Shanghai-lander community and the policy of the entire empire. This difference between local interests and imperial interests is well-documented, but any work on British political interests in Shanghai and China, whether focused on the Shanghaiander community or regional British policy, would benefit from a perusal of these reports.”

This particular student was quick to grasp the significance of these materials. Some of the other students would have benefited from more explanatory front matter, which the collection unfortunately lacks. Nonetheless, with some contextualization through other course materials, the CRL collection offers a highly valuable and accessible addition to a research seminar on Shanghai history. I anticipate using it again in a similar fashion when I teach the class in the future. ❖

Shared Purchase Supports Faculty Grant Project

Yem Fong

Associate Professor & Faculty Director,
Collection Development
University of Colorado at Boulder

Doctoral thesis on China's "open door" policy by Tchen Ki Chan. University of Paris, 1912. From CRL e-collections.

CRL recently negotiated an unscheduled special shared purchase on behalf of an economics faculty member at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Professor Carol H. Shiue has been working on research partially funded by an NSF grant entitled "What Explains Modern Economic Growth? New Evidence from a Comparison of China and Europe." Her research focuses on explaining the causes of growth, identifying the factors that determine whether growth is possible, and determining how it may be sustained. She pursues these issues by providing a detailed quantitative analysis of economic conditions that prevailed in major economies at the time of the turning point of modern economic growth between the 18th and the 20th centuries. The project assesses economic development of China in three major areas: domestic commodity markets, international market integration, and the accumulation of worker skills (human capital).

Her research requires access to a large 170 volume set that is only held by Harvard and Berkeley in the U.S. *The Zhong guo jiu hai guan shi liao 1859–1948* is a complete publication of the original sources of the British maritime customs service when they were located in China starting in the 19th century. It is the only source covering international trade in China in this period that is fully comprehensive in scope. Other sources are scattered and incomplete. These sources were published out of the complete collection of the Nanjing No. 2 Archives of China.

Professor Shiue is developing a data set by analyzing trade activity in the various Chinese ports starting with Shanghai. Her research is based on both primary and secondary sources. The resulting analyses and data will provide new information for research into international trade of the period, as well as foreign relations and cultural and historical studies.

The ballot for the Shared Purchase Program is sent out annually in March. Since the program for this fiscal year had just finished, and since the Purchase Proposal Program occurs in the Fall, an unscheduled Shared Purchase ballot was arranged. CU Boulder and CRL pledged more than half the money needed to fund the purchase and the special ballot was sent to those libraries with significant East Asian collections. Another four member libraries, the University of California-Irvine, Cornell University, Indiana University, and the University of Oregon contributed to fully fund this purchase. Until these materials arrive at CRL, Mary Wilke at CRL also facilitated special ILL borrowing of these materials from Harvard's Yenching library so that the faculty member can receive 30 volumes at a time.

This is a fabulous example of how CRL can contribute to research needs of our faculty through shared purchases and through their network of contacts among CRL libraries. It's a reminder to many of us to keep CRL collections and options in mind when unusual research or ILL requests occur. ❖

CRL Resources on China

Mary Irene Wilke

Francis Alba

Center for Research Libraries

since 1902:—

	LICENSED OPIUM-SMOKERS. (Formosa-Chinese.)						
	Actual number at the end of each year.			Compared with preceding year.		Number per 100 of the Population.	Index-number of Licensees.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.		
1897	47,688	2,909	50,597	—	—	2.09	30
1898	88,486	6,963	95,449	44,852	—	3.64	56
1899	121,602	9,360	130,962	35,513	—	4.97	77
1900(Sept.)	155,975	13,089	169,064	38,102	—	6.30	100
	152,050	12,802	165,752	—	3,312	6.18	98
					8,133	5.66	93

Data on licensed opium users in Formosa (aka Taiwan) compiled by the Sanitary Bureau, Government of Formosa, 1909. From CRL e-collections.

The following are selected resources held by CRL that highlight the history and culture of China. Please search our catalog for more material.

Gong fei di fang quanq bo xuan ji (1951–1981)

Taipei: Zhong Gong yan jiu" za zhi she

This set contains summaries of local radio broadcasting in the People's Republic of China from 1959–1981.

Chinese Pamphlets: Political communication and mass education in the early period of the People's Republic of China (1947–1954)

Collected by Edward Hunter: Various publishers

These Chinese pamphlets, picture books, and other propaganda were issued during the early years of the People's Republic of China between 1947 and 1954. Unlike the high-end, made-for-export propaganda held by many Western libraries, this is the "street literature" of the revolution; the comic books, leaflets, and other ephemera distributed for mass consumption in the provincial cities and villages.

Chinese Filmscript and Advertisement Collection 1946–1985

Leiden: IDC, 2006

This collection contains transcripts from the Central Newsreel and the Documentary Film Studio of China, two of the major mass media and communication channels in China from 1950–1970. Created by government agents, the transcripts provide a glimpse into the Cultural Revolution, 1966–1976 and cover all aspects of social activities, though the emphasis is on the development and achievement in the building of a socialist country.

British Intelligence on China in Tibet, 1903–1950

Leiden: IDC, 2002

British intelligence reports and policy files on China in Tibet provide researchers with material for the years between the Younghusband Mission of 1903-04 through the 1951 take-over of Tibet by China.

China Inland Mission, 1865–1951. Pts. 1–4

Marlborough, Wiltshire: Addam Matthew Publications, 2006

Founded in 1865, the China Inland Mission was different from other missionary societies. Not only was it interdenominational, but based recruitment on spirituality rather than gender, class, or education. Missionaries wore Chinese dress, learned the

language, and were directed to become part of the community. Rather than limiting their work to port cities, these missionaries sought to evangelize the inland provinces. The archives chronicle their story from inception into the 20th century, and provide accounts of such important events as the Muslim rebellion, the Boxer Rebellion, and the riots of Shanghai in late 19th century China.

**Church Missionary Society Archives. Section I: East Asia Missions.
Pts. 10–21 (1834–1970)**

Marlborough, Wiltshire: Adam Matthew Publications, 1996–

These parts of the larger CMS archives set provides important missionary documents dealing with China. Included are material from the China Mission, 1834–1914; the South China Mission, 1885–1934; the Chekiang Mission, 1885–1934; the Western China Mission, 1897–1934; the Fukien Mission, 1900–1934; the Kwangsi-Hunan Mission, 1911–1934; along with periodicals from China.

**Church Missionary Society Archives. Section II: Missions to Women.
Pts. 1–2 (1834–1957)**

Marlborough, Wiltshire: Adam Matthew Publications, 1997–1999

These parts of the larger CMS archives set, which cover the 1834–1957 time period, provide important missionary documents and periodicals concerning work with females in the East, including China.

Tong wen hui kao (1644–1787)

Taibei: Gui ting chu ban she, 1978–1980

This reprint set contains documents on relations between China and Korea and Korea and Japan for the 1644–1787 time period.

**East India Company Factory Records: Sources from British Library London.
Pt. 1 China and Japan and Pt. 2 China (1596–1840)**

Marlborough, Wiltshire: Adam Matthew Publications, 2005–

Scholars can follow the growth of English trade with Japan, China, and India through the Factory Records. These are the early papers of the East India Company, detailing the progress of their agents in establishing factories (trading posts) and promoting trade in the East.

Zhong yang yan jiu yuan li shi yu yan yan jiu suo suo cang su gu

Nan'gang: Zhong yang yan jiu yuan li shi yu yan yan jiu suo, 1970

This microfilm set contains documentation of Chinese folk culture from the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, the premiere folk culture research institution in China. ❖

Digitized Newspapers Relating to China



James Simon
Center for Research Libraries

Published in Shanghai, *Lih Pao* provided an anti-Japanese perspective in the 1930s.

Amidst the burgeoning collections of online news resources are recently available full-text archives of newspapers from China. The [International Coalition on Newspapers \(ICON\)](#) of the Center for Research Libraries routinely tracks new digitized newspaper archives, providing a portal to open access and commercial products at <http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm>. The following resources represent a sampling of currently available databases for scholars. *Note: commercial resources represented herein are not currently accessible via CRL or ICON.*

People's Daily Database (Renmin Ribao, 人民日報)

This flagship newspaper is the voice of the central government of the People's Republic of China. It was established in 1946 and claims a current circulation of nearly three million.

The [People's Daily Online](#) was launched in 1997, and archives of the online Chinese edition are available from 2004.

The *People's Daily* produced an electronic edition based on the original paper edition. Dating back to May 1946, the database features complete coverage of the title in interchangeable PDF and text formats. Both formats are downloadable and printable. The database has recently been upgraded to incorporate current issues, updated on a daily basis. Subscription only.

People's Liberation Army (PLA) Daily (Jie fang jun bao, 解放军报)

People's Liberation Army (PLA) Daily is the official newspaper of the military of the People's Republic of China. The role of the PLA during the cultural revolution makes this title a valuable research resource. The database offers full-text searching of retrospective content, complete from the first issue in 1956 to the present. The database presently contains more than 450,000 articles as text-only; full image digital content will be available in the future. Available through [East View Information Services](#). Subscription only.

China Core Newspapers Database (CCND)

Part of the China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) set of databases, this [online full-text database](#) covers more than 700 newspapers published in mainland China since 2000. The database contains more than eight million articles (text only), searchable by title, author, keyword, full-text, and several other fields. Articles are viewable as PDF or in the proprietary CAJViewer. Content is added daily, approximately one week behind publication.

Distributed by East View. Index searching free, full-text access by subscription.



September 15, 1946 edition of *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily).

WiseSearch

WiseSearch is a robust database of more than 75 million articles from hundreds of media sources aggregated by [Wisers Information Ltd.](#) (Hong Kong). Information is updated daily from more than 1,500 content providers in Hong Kong and Greater China. WiseSearch claims to be the largest Chinese database of published information from Greater China. Distributed by [LexisNexis](#). Subscription only.

Apabi Newspaper Database

Apabi offers a variety of full text eBooks and databases. Beijing Founder

Apabi Technology Ltd. is one of the leaders in digital publishing technologies, and has developed digital library systems as well as a platform for the publishing of eNewspapers. Its full-text, full-image newspaper database covers more than 300 current newspapers on a cross-searchable platform. The majority of news content covers August 2007 forward, though some content reaches back further (e.g., *Zhejiang Daily*, *Hangzhou Daily*). The database includes a wide variety of regional and provincial titles, including special interest titles on business and finance, agriculture, sport and leisure, trade, and others. Distributed by East View. Subscription only.

Digitization of newspapers is growing in Taiwan as well. Major newspapers have been focusing on digitizing their content, particularly the United Daily News and China Times groups. The following commercial products demonstrate the range of approaches taken in accessing Chinese language titles from the region.

Newspapers in Taiwan 新聞知識庫

This product contains full-text article access (with clipped images) from 10 important news titles from Taiwan, including *Zhongyang ribao* (中央日報, *Central Daily News*), *Zhongguo shi bao* (中國時報, *China Times*), and *Lian he bao* (聯合報, *United Daily News*). Content is primarily current issues (2002–) Developed by the TTS Group of Taiwan. Subscription only.

United Daily News Group (UDNdata)

In February 2001, UDN Online created the [Web site](#) to provide more than 8.3 million news articles published by the *United Daily News* Group, the largest news group in Taiwan. Recently it launched its historical archive of content, including seven Chinese newspapers in Taiwan, Europe, and North America. Coverage extends to the earliest issues, from 1951 to the present. Distributed by [TBMC](#) in Taiwan. Subscription only.

Central Daily News Archive Image (Zhongyang ribao 中央日報)

This title began in 1928 in Shanghai, eventually settling in Taiwan in 1949. The on-line database covers page image access to this title from 1928 to 2000. *Central Daily News* is the official news media for the Kuomintang government in Taiwan. Available from [TBMC](#). Subscription only.

Chinese Daily News

This title is reported to be an important daily from southern Taiwan first published February 20, 1950. The database, containing issues from 1996 to the present, features page images and indexed articles. Available from [TBMC](#). Subscription only.

***Shijie Ribao* (World Daily 世界日報)**

The [World Daily fulltext search](#) site, available from Shih Hsin University in Taiwan, offers access to limited runs of *Shijie Ribao*, a Chinese language daily founded in Beijing in 1925. The [database](#) contains searchable news articles between 1926 and 1929, with limited page image accessibility (the image files are named using Big5 characters, making the links inaccessible to western machines). Open access.

The National Central Library of Taiwan was reportedly [digitizing periodical content](#), including newspapers. However, access to the contents was not available at time of writing.

In addition to full text, numerous products feature useful article indexes to newspapers from China.

The National Index to Chinese Newspapers & Periodicals (NICNP)

This effort, led by the Shanghai Library, contains more than 30 million entries from approximately 18,000 periodical and newspaper titles. Nearly 3.5 million article entries are added each year. Shanghai Library provides access to articles on demand. The database provides access based on time period (1833–1919, 1920–1949, 1950–1992, 1993–2009), and is customizable for different subjects.

Electronic Index to the Early *Shenbao* 申報 (1872–1898)

This online-index of articles from the Shanghai daily *Shenbao* (1872–1949) covers the years from the paper's launch in April 1872 to the end of the year 1898. It provides keyword access to more than 11,000 entries, which facilitates the use of this important source for the history of late Qing China. The index also includes articles reprinted from selected Hong Kong papers from the same time period. Open Access.

A few resources exist that relate to overseas Chinese populations, connecting diaspora groups to the homeland.

***Ming Pao Daily News Database* (明報)**

The database represents a collaboration between the Asian Library, University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada), a Chinese news group, and a family foundation dedicated to the furthering of Chinese culture in Canada. The archival database of community news in Chinese (1993–present) is freely available online.

NZ Chinese Journals

This database contains two Chinese language titles published in Wellington, New Zealand. The *Man Sing Times* (民聲報 – 人民的聲音) (1921–1922) and *New Zealand Chinese Weekly News* (中國大事週報) (1937–1946) represent the small and largely rural Chinese New Zealand community. Open Access.

Finally, the last product represents the specialized communities that rely on news data for their research and entertainment.

Taiwan Baseball News Archives

This project cooperated with the United Daily News Group in Taiwan to create a digital library of newspaper clippings, texts, illustration, pictures, photos, and other materials. The site includes 20,000 news pieces and 800 photos. ❖

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Center for Research Libraries Staff Contacts (800) 621-6044

President
Bernard F. Reilly x 334
breilly@crl.edu

Assistant to the President
Yvonne Jefferson x 319
yjefferso@crl.edu

Vice President/Director of Programs
and Services
Melissa Trevvett x 316
mtrevvett@crl.edu

Member Liaison and Outreach
Services Director
Mary Wilke x 351
mwilke@crl.edu

Director of International Resources
James Simon x 324
jsimon@crl.edu

Director of Technical Services
Amy Wood x 327
awood@crl.edu

Director of Information Systems
Patricia Xia x 341
pxia@crl.edu

Head, Access Services
Kevin Wilks x 314
kwilks@crl.edu

Head, Stack Management
Patricia Finney x 328
pfinney@crl.edu

Digital Program Manager
Virginia Kerr x 265
vkerr@crl.edu

Global Resources Program Contacts (800) 621-6044

Director
James Simon x 324
jsimon@crl.edu

Project Manager—DSAL Project
Gerald Hall x 318
ghall@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—Global
Resources Network
Judy Alspach x 323
jalspach@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—ICON
Carolyn Ciesla x 315
cciesla@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—Human Rights
Sarah B. van Deusen Phillips x 333
svandeusen@crl.edu

Contact for Information Regarding: (800) 621-6044

Billing/Invoicing/Deposit Accounts
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Membership/Communications/
Public Relations/Marketing
Don Dyer x 317
ddyer@crl.edu

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lfarley@crl.edu

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