

Universitetsbiblioteket i Tromsø

Privatarkiv nr. 12 : DC Gajdusek, dagbøker og annet materiale, 1951-1995

Kortfattet informasjon om Privatarkiv nr. 12: DC Gajdusek

Daniel Carleton Gajdusek ble født 9. september 1923 i Yonkers, New York, USA. Han døde i Tromsø 12. desember 2008. Foreldrene var kommet til USA fra Kongeriket Ungarn; moren hadde bakgrunn fra Debrecen i dagens Ungarn, faren fra Smrdáky i dagens Slovakia. Han oppnådde graden M.D. (*Medicinae Doctor*) fra Harvard University i 1946 og var dernest virksom ved en rekke universiteter og forskningsinstitutter over hele verden. Han ble hedret med en mengde priser og æresprofessorater for sin forskning i skjæringsfeltet mellom antropologi og virologi. Hans høyeste utmerkelse var uten tvil Nobelprisen i medisin, som han fikk i 1976 for sin banebrytende forskning på det han kalte «slow unconventional viruses», nå kjent som prioner. I perioden fra 1970 til 1997 ledet han et laboratorium for hjerneforskning ved National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (i en periode kalt National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke) i Maryland.

Mye av Gajduseks forskning var viet sykdommer som spesielt rammet urfolk. Etter studier av nervesykdommen kuru blant folkegruppen fore på Papua Ny-Guinea på 1950- og 1960-tallet, påviste han at smitteårsaken var knyttet til forenes tradisjonelle kannibalisme under begravelsesritualene. Han gjorde også inngående studier av flere sjeldne urfolkssykdommer, bl.a. pseudohermafroditisme og Huntingtons sykdom. Gajdusek var tidlig ute med å påpeke slektskapet mellom kuru og Creutzfeldt-Jakobs sykdom («kugalskap»).

Gajdusek adopterte og brakte til Maryland en rekke barn som han var blitt kjent med under sine feltarbeider. I et *Curriculum Vitae* fra januar 1992 er således 36 navngitte personer listet under rubrikken «Children (adopted)». På midten av 1990-tallet gjennomgikk Gajdusek en rettssak hvor han ble dømt til ett års fengsel for seksuelt misbruk av barn etter at en av hans adopterte sønner hadde anmeldt ham til politiet. Han erkjente å ha bedrevet pedofili, men forsvarte seg med at det angivelig var en akseptabel og utbredt praksis i de kulturene barnene kom fra. Dessuten mente

han at pedofili hadde urgamle røtter, og viste bl.a. til den greske antikkens pederasti. Etter endt soning levde han resten av livet, fra 1998 til 2008, i Europa. Vinterstid pleide han å oppholde seg i Tromsø, hvor han døde i 2008.

I januar 2009 fikk Universitetsbiblioteket i Tromsø (UB) tilsendt Gajduseks privatarkiv som til sammen fyller tyve arkivbokser. Det meste er merket *Journal(s)*, altså dagbøker. I tillegg er det også annet materiale relatert til hans profesjonelle og private liv, herunder en utførlig CV, diverse taler og foredrag han holdt, korrespondanse knyttet til oppdagelsen av sykdommen kuru, lister over besøkende til hans adopterte barn m.m. Alt materialet er maskinskrevet og oppstensilert. Det finnes trolig flere sett av samme materiale andre steder i verden. En kortfattet oversikt over materialet var allerede utarbeidet da UB mottok det. Avbildinger av den originale arkivoversikten er gjengitt nedenfor.

Det bør nevnes at UB også har mottatt en omfangsrik bokgave etter Gajdusek. De fleste av disse bøkene omhandler amerikanske urfolk og er samlet på urfolksrommet i 3. etg. på Kultur- og samfunnsfagbiblioteket.

Kilder (i utvalg)

- * *The Genius and the Boys*, dokumentarfilm redigert av Bosse Lindquist, 2009
- * Minneord om Gajdusek av Caroline Richmond, i *The Guardian* 25. februar 2009
- * Minneord om Gajdusek av Jaap Goudsmit, i *Nature* 457 (21. januar 2009)
- * Artikkel om Gajdusek av Joe Holley, i *The Washington Post* 16. desember 2008
- * Artikkel om Gajdusek av Donald G. McNeil Jr., i *The New York Times* 15. desember 2008
- * *The Trembling Mountain : a Personal Account of Kuru, Cannibals and Mad Cow Disease*, erindringsbok av Robert Klitzman, New York: Plenum Press, 1998
- * Maskinskrevet *Curriculum Vitae* av Gajdusek, datert January 1992 (i arkivboks 18)
- * «Kuru: Pathogenesis and Characterization of Virus», artikkel av Clarence J. Gibbs og D. Carleton Gajdusek, i *The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene* vol. 19, no. 1 (1970)

Arkivboks 1

DC Gajdusek Journal November 13, 1951-January 11, 1952 (December 2001)
Physician Investigator VI: Boxton Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Europe and North Africa. January 1, 1951 to January 11, 1962. Part II: Trip to Europe and North Africa. November 13, 1951 to January 11, 1952.

DC Gajdusek Journal February 4-December 22, 1954 (December 1990)
A Year in the Middle East. Expedition to Iran and Afghanistan via Europe and North Africa.

Arkivboks 2

DC Gajdusek Journal November 13, 1951-January 11, 1952 (December 2001)
Physician Investigator VI: Boxton Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Europe and North Africa. January 1, 1951 to January 11, 1962. Part II: Trip to Europe and North Africa. November 13, 1951 to January 11, 1952.

DC Gajdusek Journal February 4-December 22, 1954 (December 1990)
A Year in the Middle East. Expedition to Iran and Afghanistan via Europe and North Africa.

Arkivboks 3

DC Gajdusek Journal October 1955-December 31, 1957 (December 1996)
Journal 1955-1957; Australia and New Guinea. Virology to Autoimmunology; Ethnopediatrics to Kuru; Enchantment by Melanesians; Politics of Science (in Two Volumes)

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1, 1959 to December 31, 1959 (2001)
Journal of Continued Quest for the Etiology of Kuru with Return to New Guinea

DC Gajdusek Journal June 10-August 15, 1959 (October 1963)
New Guinea Journal

DC Gajdusek Journal May 6-July 10, 1960 (December 1964)
West New Guinea Journal

Arkivboks 4

DC Gajdusek Journal October 1955-December 31, 1957 (December 1996)
Journal 1955-1957; Australia and New Guinea. Virology to Autoimmunology; Ethnopediatrics to Kuru; Enchantment by Melanesians; Politics of Science (in Two Volumes)

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1, 1959 to December 31, 1959 (2001)
Journal of Continued Quest for the Etiology of Kuru with Return to New Guinea

DC Gajdusek Journal June 10-August 15, 1959 (October 1963)
New Guinea Journal

DC Gajdusek Journal May 6-July 10, 1960 (December 1964)
West New Guinea Journal

Arkivboks 5

DC Gajdusek Journal August 25-September 28, 1963 (October 1963; reprinted with index October 1971)
Paraguayan Indian Expeditions to the Guayaki and Chaco Indians

DC Gajdusek Journal November 15-December 24, 1963 (April 1965)
Journal of a trip to the Shepherd, Banks, and Torres Islands and to Espiritu Santo and Efate in the
New Hebrides

DC Gajdusek Journal January 7-May 6, 1960 (October 1964, Reprinted, August 1967, Reprinted with
Index, September 1970)
Solomon Islands, New Britain, and East New Guinea Journal

DC Gajdusek Journal December 25, 1963-May 4, 1964 (August 1980)
Journal of Further Explorations in the Kuru Region and in the Kukukuku (Anga) Country, Eastern
Highlands of Eastern New Guinea, and of a Return to West New Guinea.

Arkivboks 6

DC Gajdusek Journal August 26-October 6, 1964
Journal of an Expedition to the Western Caroline Islands

DC Gajdusek Journal January 23-April 7, 1965
Melanesian Journal. Expedition to New Hebrides, Solomon Islands, Manus, New Britain, and
New Guinea.

DC Gajdusek Journal July 29, 1965-December 20, 1965
Melanesian and Micronesian Journal. Return Expeditions to the New Hebrides, Caroline Islands,
and New Guinea.

Arkivboks 7

DC Gajdusek Journal, January 1 1965-December 31, 1965
Melanesian and Micronesian Journals. Medical Expeditions to the South Pacific.

DC Gajdusek Journal January 26-May 12, 1967 (December 1967)
South Pacific Journal.

Arkivboks 8

DC Gajdusek Journal January 26-May 12, 1967 (December 1967; revised and reprinted with index and
illustrations September 1982)
South Pacific Journal.

DC Gajdusek Journal January 26-May 12, 1967 1967 (December 1967; revised and reprinted with index
and illustrations September 1982)
South Pacific Journal.

Arkivboks 9

DC Gajdusek Journal November 3, 1967-March 17, 1968

New Guinea Expedition to the Kuru Region and Anga (Kukukuku) Populations of New Guinea, the Baining of New Britain, and the Lavongai of New Hanover.

DC Gajdusek Journal June 1, 1969-March 3, 1970 (September 1971)

Expeditions to the Soviet Union, Africa, the Islands of Madagascar, la Reunion and Mauritius, Indonesia and to East and West New Guinea, Australia and Guam to study Kuru and Other Neurological Diseases, Epidemic Influenza, Endemic Goitrous Cretinism, and Child Growth and Development with Explorations on the Great Papua Plateau and on the Lakes Plain and Inland Southern Lowlands of West New Guinea

Arkivboks 10

DC Gajdusek Journal June 1, 1969-March 3, 1970 (September 1971)

Expeditions to the Soviet Union, Africa, the Islands of Madagascar, la Reunion and Mauritius, Indonesia and to East and West New Guinea, Australia and Guam to study Kuru and Other Neurological Diseases, Epidemic Influenza, Endemic Goitrous Cretinism, and Child Growth and Development with Explorations on the Great Papua Plateau and on the Lakes Plain and Inland Southern Lowlands of West New Guinea

DC Gajdusek Journal August 22-September 14, 1970 (February 1972)

Colombian Expeditions to the Noama Indians of the Rio Siguirisua and to the Cofan and Igano Indians of the Putumayo

DC Gajdusek Journal February 15-July 12, 1972 (September 1976)

Journal of a Return to the Kuru Region and the Anga Peoples of New Guinea and Preliminary Preparations for the Research Vessel Alpha Helix Expedition to the New Hebrides and the British Solomon Islands Protectorate

Arkivboks 11

DC Gajdusek Journal September 8-December 9, 1972 (December 1980)

Journal of a Medical and Population Genetic Survey Expedition of the Research Vessel Alpha Helix to the Banks and Torres Islands of the New Hebrides, Southern Islands of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, and Pingelap Atoll, Eastern Caroline Islands.

DC Gajdusek Journal September 8-December 9, 1972 (December 1981, Revised and reprinted with index and illustrations May 1985)

Journal of a Medical and Population Genetic Survey Expedition of the Research Vessel Alpha Helix to the Banks and Torres Islands of the New Hebrides, Southern Islands of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, and Pingelap Atoll, Eastern Caroline Islands.

DC Gajdusek Journal January 26-July 8, 1974 (March 1975)

Micronesian, Indonesian and Melanesian Journal. A pediatric and neurological study expedition to the Western Caroline Islands, Malaysia, Sumatra, Java, Western New Guinea, and Papua New Guinea.

Arkivboks 12

DC Gajdusek Journal November 16, 1975-May 11, 1976 (May 1981, reprinted with corrections and additions August 1988)

Melanesian, Indonesian and Malaysian Expedition. Pediatric Neuroepidemiological, Endocrinological, and Microbiological Studies on Congenital Reduction Deformities in the New Hebrides; Pseudohypertrophic Muscular Dystrophy (Duchenne) in West New Britain, Kuru in the Eastern Highlands, and Male Pseudohermaphroditism among the Anga in Papua New Guinea; Muscular Dystrophy in the Sentani Lake Population, ALS/PD Complex among the lowland Auyu and Jakai, and Goiter among the Highland Eipomek and Cysticercosis with Epidemic Epilepsy and Burns in the Ekari Population of the Wissel Lakes of West New Guinea; and Viliuisk Encephalitis in Iakut of Siberia, and travels in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Sulawesi, Bali, Java, Singapore, Malaysia, the Soviet Union, Germany, Switzerland, and France.

DC Gajdusek Journal November 16, 1975-May 11, 1976 (May 1981)

Melanesian, Indonesian and Malaysian Expedition. Pediatric Neuroepidemiological, Endocrinological, and Microbiological Studies on Congenital Reduction Deformities in the New Hebrides; Pseudohypertrophic Muscular Dystrophy (Duchenne) in West New Britain, Kuru in the Eastern Highlands, and Male Pseudohermaphroditism among the Anga in Papua New Guinea; Muscular Dystrophy in the Sentani Lake Population, ALS/PD Complex among the lowland Auyu and Jakai, and Goiter among the Highland Eipomek and Cysticercosis with Epidemic Epilepsy and Burns in the Ekari Population of the Wissel Lakes of West New Guinea; and Viliuisk Encephalitis in Iakut of Siberia, and travels in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Sulawesi, Bali, Java, Singapore, Malaysia, the Soviet Union, Germany, Switzerland, and France.

DC Gajdusek Journal February 21-April 28, 1977

Journal of a Flight from Nobility in an attempt, in Latin America and French East Africa, to Recover from the Aftermath of Notoriety

Arkivboks 13

DC Gajdusek Journal January 4, 1978-August 14, 1978 (January 1979; revised and corrected July 1986)
Western Pacific Journal

DC Gajdusek Journal January 4, 1978-August 14, 1978 (January 1979; revised and corrected July 1986; corrected and appendices and correspondence added September 1988)
Western Pacific Journal

Arkivboks 14

DC Gajdusek Journal May 6, 1979-December 8, 1979

- I. Medical Investigations in Fiji, New Hebrides, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, West New Guinea, Indonesia, Soviet Siberia, Japan, Australia, and Germany
- II. Travels, Lectures, Conferences and Research Discussions in Israel, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Austria, West Germany, People's Republic of Germany and Berlin
- III. Travels, Lectures, Conferences and Further Field Investigation in Fiji, Australia, and Papua New Guinea

DC Gajdusek Journal September 25,-December 20, 1980 (March 1981)
New Guinea, Philippine, and Indonesian Journal

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1-December 31, 1982 (March 1993)

Journal of a Year of Travels and Medical Investigations in the United States, India, Australia, Japan, Papua New Guinea, West New Guinea, France, Columbia, Sweden, and Journeys to Switzerland and France with my New Guinean son, Sena; and across the U.S. with Ten Mikes and Moros.

DC Gajdusek Journal January 4-April 30, 1983 (July 1983)

China Journal with a Circuit through New Zealand, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Hawaii, and Geneva and Two Trips to London.

Arkivboks 15

DC Gajdusek Journal May 27, 1983-January 4, 1984 (May 1984)

European, North and South American, Australian Journal with Studies, Lectures and Travels in Italy, France, Columbia, Eastern U.S.A., New Zealand, Australia, Papua New Guinea, and Taiwan.

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1, 1986-December 31, 1986 (November 1988)

Ex Anthitheseos Armonia To Regain Aequanimity after Survival from Nobility

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1-December 31, 1987 (January 1990)

Deca-Log. A Journal of Ten Departures from and Returns to Prospect Hill.

Arkivboks 16

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1-December 31, 1988 (January 1990)

Duodeca Log. Journal of Twelve Departures from and Returns to Prospect Hill.

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1-December 31, 1989 (June 1991)

The Decline and Fall of Prospect Hill: the End of a Decade of Manorial Living.

Arkivboks 17

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1-December 31, 1990 (June 1993)
A Year of Reentrenchment in a Wonderland of Infectious Amyloids

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1-December 31, 1991 (January 1994)
Except for Happiness at Rainbow's End

Arkivboks 18

DC Gajdusek Journal January 1, 1995-December 31, 1995 (Draft Manuscript, not yet edited. This is one of a few archived copies of a draft transcription from notebook pages, loose jotting, and dictated tapes. It is not a published or released volume. It is not to be circulated or quoted.)
A Year of Disentanglement

DC Gajdusek CV, Lectures & Awards, Journals, Bibliography (1992)

DC Gajdusek Correspondents & Mailing Lists (1994)

Arkivboks 19

Correspondence on the Discovery and Original Investigations on Kuru. Smadel-Gajdusek Correspondence 1955-1958.

Kuru Epidemiological Patrols. 1957. Gajdusek.

Arkivboks 20

A Record of Visitors to the Adopted Melanesian and Micronesian Children of D.C. Gajdusek. 1972-1985. Chevy Chase and Prospect Hill.

A Record of Visitors to the Adopted Melanesian and Micronesian Children of D.C. Gajdusek. 1985-1992. Prospect Hill, Deer Spring, and Yonkers