

## Fonds - Personal Papers of James L. Theodores

[Fonds] [Personal Papers of James L. Theodores](#)

[Series] [World Bank Resident Representative for Afghanistan activities and related research and reference materials](#)

[Series] [World Bank Group Field Coordinator security policy and planning](#)

[Series] [Personal records](#)

### Identity area

Reference code	WB IBRD/IDA WB_IBRD/IDA_109
Title	Personal Papers of James L. Theodores
Dates	1966 - 2002 (Creation)
Level of description	Fonds
Extent and medium	4.15 linear feet of textual records; 18 black & white photographic prints; 10 color photographic prints; 4 maps

### Context area

Name of creator [Theodores, James L.](#)

#### Biographical history

James L. Theodores was born on September 4th, 1922 in Thompson, Connecticut. After serving in World War II, Theodores attended Fitchburg State University in Massachusetts where he completed a BSE in Education. He subsequently completed a Master's degree in Management & Finance from New York University.

Prior to beginning employment at the World Bank, Theodores held a variety of positions related to education planning and management. These included: Superintendent of Schools in Scarsdale, New York; Education Planning, Building and Development Consultant for St. Ceyre Architects in Detroit, Michigan; and Senior Advisor to Colombia's Ministry of Education in Bogota, Colombia. He also published two books in the field of education.

Theodores joined the World Bank in 1970 as an Education Facilities Planner in the Education Department, the primary Bank unit responsible for appraisal, negotiation, and supervision of operational project work in the nascent education sector. Following the Bank-wide reorganization of 1972 that decentralized operational oversight into the new regional vice presidencies (RVPs), Theodores moved into the Education Division of the Europe, Middle East and North Africa Projects Department (EMPED).

In 1977, Theodores was named the Resident Representative for Afghanistan. Situated in Kabul, he held this position until 1980. As Resident Representative, Theodores was responsible for: maintaining liaison between the World Bank and Afghanistan government and presenting the Bank's views to the government; advising the Bank on significant developments in the country; participating in the preparation and presentation of projects for consideration by the Bank; providing information or responding to requests of the Afghan government; and facilitating the work of Bank missions visiting the country.

Following the closure of the World Bank's Kabul office in 1980, Theodores returned to World Bank headquarters in Washington D.C. and was named Senior Management Analyst in the Organization Planning Department (OPD). Theodores was named acting Field Coordinator (FC) in 1981, replacing Lawrence H. Berlin, and was officially named the new FC Coordinator in July 1982. As Field Coordinator, Theodores was responsible for introducing and establishing systems of security for both travelling and resident Bank/IFC staff and their dependents and advising the Vice President, Personnel and Administration (VPA) on field office matters.

Theodores left the Bank in 1987. He retired to Newport, Rhode Island before moving to San Francisco in 2009. He passed away on March 9th, 2014.

Repository  
Immediate source of  
acquisition or transfer

[World Bank Group Archives](#)

Donated to the World Bank Group Archives by the daughter of James L. Theodores in 2015.

## Content and structure area

Scope and content

Fonds consists of records from Theodores's time as Resident Representative in Kabul, Afghanistan and as Field Coordinator for the World Bank Group. Many of the records in this fonds appear to be a selection made by Theodores either during his time employed at the Bank or upon his departure. Some of the records, such as those relating to Afghanistan after Theodores had completed his time as Resident Representative there, may have been collected by Theodores for personal interest or in support of potential research projects to be undertaken at a later date. A small number of records relating to Theodores's employment with the World Bank or to the history and future of Afghanistan are also included.

Accruals

Accruals are not expected.

## Conditions of access and use area

Conditions governing  
access

Records are subject to the World Bank Policy on Access to Information.

Conditions governing  
reproduction

Records are subject to the Copyright Policy of the World Bank Group.

Language of material

- English

## Description control area

Rules and/or conventions  
used

Internal World Bank Group Archives rules based on ISAD(G).

Dates of creation revision  
deletion

9 August 2016