Finding Aid to the General George H. Crook Collection MS.1242

Finding aid prepared by Anna Liza Posas
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2013
Title: General George H. Crook Collection
Identifier/Call Number: MS.1242
Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 0.1 Linear feet (2 folders)
Date (bulk): Bulk, 1885-1890
Date (inclusive): 1885-1977
Abstract: General George Crook (1852-1890) was a career United States Army officer who is best known for his service during the United States Civil War and Indian Wars in the late 19th Century. This collections consists of correspondence, an Apache Wars report by Crook, and Crooke's obituary written by O. O. Howard. This material was created between 1885 and 1890. There is also a bibliography created by the Southwest Museum Library, circa 1977.
creator: Crook, George, General, 1829-1890
creator: Howard, O. O.|q(Oliver Otis), 1830-1909
Scope and contents
This collections consists of correspondence and an Apache Wars report by Crook. The collection also includes Crooke's obituary written by O. O. Howard in 1890 June and a bibliography of books and articles held in the Southwest Museum Library, circa 1977. The bulk of the material was created between 1885-1890.
Preferred citation
General George H. Crook Collection, 1885-1977, Braun Research Library Collection, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MS.1242[item number].
Use
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Access
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org.
Custodial history
With the exception of the Crook bibliography, MS.1242.D, this collection was assembled by Southwest Museum staff from Library acquisitions made between 1910-1973. Some of the items were originally from the collections of Charles Fletcher Lummis and Joseph Amasa Munk. The bibliography was created by Southwest Museum staff some time before 1977.
Processing history
Finding aid completed by Anna Liza Posas, 2013. Final processing of collection and publication of finding aid made possible by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).
Biographical/Historical note
General George Crook (1852-1890) was a career United States Army officer who is best known for his service during the United States Civil War and Indian Wars in the late 19th Century.
He was born in 1828 September 8 on a farm near Taylorsville, Ohio. He graduated from West Point in 1852 and spent the first part of his military career in Northern California and Oregon. He fought in the Apache Wars from 1871-1875 where he led a campaign against the legendary Chiricahua Indian leader, Geronimo.
General George Crook earned a reputation for diplomacy and developing a respect for the Native American tribes he was ordered to fight against.
His campaign with Geronimo would be the last of his military career. Crook remained a senior officer and during his last years he worked vigorously against white encroachments on Indian lands. According to the Lakota chief Red Cloud, a one-time adversary, Crook “never lied to us. His words gave the people hope.”
Crook died on 1890 March 2.
Related Archival Materials note
George Crook Papers, A 024, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Folder 1, item MS.1242.A
Letter from Crook to Secretary of the Interior 1889 April 8
Scope and contents
Crook is recommending Charles Fletcher Lummis as an Indian Agent for the Pueblo Indians.
Acquisition
Bequest from Charles Fletcher Lummis to the Southwest Museum, 1910 February 28.

Folder 1, item MS.1242.B
Letter from Crook to Jefferson Davis 1885 September 11
Scope and contents
In the letter, Crooke is indicating to Jefferson Davis how difficult it is to collect valuable "Indian relics."
Acquisition
Library purchase from Dawson's Bookshop, 1973 February 2.
Publication note
Letter was reproduced in The Masterkey," volume 47, number 2, page 75, 1973 April-June issue.

Folder 1, item MS.1242.C
Crook obituary by O.O. Howard 1890 June
Acquisition
Donated to the Library as part of the Munk Library of Arizoniana, 1910 April 7.

Folder 1, item MS.1242.D
Bibliography circa 1977
Scope and contents
Bibliography was created by Southwest Museum staff. The title of the bibliography is "General George Crook in Arizona: bibliography of books and articles in the Library of the Southwest Museum, Highland Park, California."

Folder 2
Apache Wars report circa 1886
Acquisition
Bequest from Charles Fletcher Lummis to the Southwest Museum, 1910 February 28.
Scope and contents
This is a partial hand-written report by General Crook. The report starts on page 22
Report includes information on "Indian raids" in Mexico and activities in Fort Apache, For Navajo, Fort Bowie, and Fort Marion. There is also mention of the Chiricahua Indians and Geronimo.
Separated Materials note
Transferred from MS.1 Charles Fletcher Lummis Collection, folder title, "partial copy of report by General George Crook," from Box 159. Transferred 2013 August 7 by Anna Liza Posas, Archivist.