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Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: Robert B. Jay Collection
Dates: 1937-2001
Identification: OCH/RBJ
Creator: Jay, Robert B.
Physical Description: 0.69 linear feet
Alternate Extent Statement: 5.50 GB digital video
Language of Materials:
English
Uighur; Uyghur
Chinese
Repository: Old China Hands Archives

Abstract: The Robert B. Jay Collection consists of photographs, maps, correspondence, and research materials collected by Jay related to World War II-era China. Of particular note is a toy Chinese Yo-Yo and original photographic prints possibility depicting the Tientsin flood of 1939.

Biographical Information:
Robert B. Jay was a U.S. Marine stationed in China during World War II.

Access Terms
This Collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Genre/Form of Material:
Electronic records
Maps
Paper records
Photographic material

Processing Information:
Christine Hertzel and Tiffney Sanford, 2016

Conditions Governing Use:
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Conditions Governing Access:
The collection is open for research use.

Preferred Citation:
[Identification of item], [date], Robert B. Jay Collection, Special Collections and Archives, Oviatt Library, California State University, Northridge.

Scope and Contents
The Robert B. Jay Collection documents some of the research Jay conducted on various topics related to WWII-era China, including the Hempel Family who ran a butchery and restaurant in Peking [present day Beijing]. The Hempel's shop was frequented by U.S. Marines who called themselves "Knights of the Round Table," named so for the round table they would gather around in the back of the shop. Other research topics include Catholicism and Catholic landmarks in China; Chinese traditions; U.S. Marine service in China; Chinese cities such as Tientsin [present day Tianjin], Peking/Peiping [Beijing], and Shanghai; the Boxer Rebellion; and Israel Epstein, an Old China Hand. The materials include reproductions of maps, research articles, correspondence, and photographic prints. Of particular note are "Rashed's Pictures," possibility depicting the Tientsin flood of 1939, with captions on the back written in Uighur and English.

Also included in the collection are two video recordings of a China Marine Reunion Tour of Mainland China recorded in 1990 and a bamboo or wooden Chinese Yo-Yo, known as a diabolo in other cultures.

The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject.
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