Finding Aid for the John P. Hurndall Second World War Collection 2016.172.w.r

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Center for American War Letters Archives
3/29/2017
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Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Center for American War Letters Archives
Title: John P. Hurndall Second World War Collection
source: Roney, Jane Hurndall, Mrs.
Identifier/Call Number: 2016.172.w.r
Physical Description: 1 Linear feet(1 carton)
Date (inclusive): 1946-1966
Abstract: This collection contains photographs, letters, scrapbooks, and other material belonging to John Hurndall, who was part of the US Reparations Mission following World War II.
Leatherby Libraries, Special Collections, CAWL Archives
Storage Unit: Hurndall 1
Storage Unit: 1-14
Storage Unit: Hurndall 1
Storage Unit: 2 books
Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research.
Immediate Source of Acquisition
Gift of Jane Hurndall Roney and Julie Hurndall Yost
Arrangement
Biographical / Historical
John C. Hurndall (1902-1966) was deputy chief of staff for the United States Reparations Mission after World War II from May to September of 1946. A November 9, 1945 issue of Stars and Stripes says Hurndall joined the mission as a consulting geologist. He also worked in the oil industry and, according to an obituary from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, served as president of Bandini Petroleum Company from 1952 to 1958.
The obituary also says Hurndall was an associate of E.W. Pauley and Associates "for three years after World War II." Edwin W. Pauley was the United States Representative to the Allied Reparations Committee.
According to a newspaper obituary provided by the donor, Hurndall served as a Naval Intelligence Officer during World War II and "amphibious flotilla commander in the South Pacific."
Hurndall was born on January 17, 1902 and died of cancer in Newport Beach on May 17, 1966.
Preferred Citation
[Item title, Box number, Folder number], John P. Hurndall Second World War correspondence (2016.172.w.r), Center for American War Letters Archives, Chapman University, CA.
Content Description
This collection contains scrapbooks, photographs, correspondence and material pertaining to the United States Reparations Mission following the Second World War from May to September 1946. The records document the team's work in Japan, China, Manchuria, North Korea, and South Korea. There are also pictures documenting Germany, Britain, the Philippines, and France following World War II. Hurndall was deputy chief of staff for the mission. According to a November 9, 1945 issue of Stars and Stripes, Hurndall was a consulting geologist on the mission.
Items of note include pictures of the war crimes trials in Tokyo and Nuremberg following the Second World War. There are also pictures from a "Jewish Displaced Persons" camp in Furth, Germany, and pictures showing the damage in Germany following World War II. In letters to his wife, Hurndall also gives post-Second World War descriptions of various Chinese cities.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
World War, 1939-1945
Photographs
Correspondence -- World War, 1939-1945
World War, 1939-1945 -- Reparations
Manchuria (China) -- History -- 1931-1945.
World War, 1939-1945 -- China -- Manchuria
World War, 1939-1945 -- China
War crime trials -- Germany -- Nuremberg
War crime trials -- Japan -- Tokyo
Holocaust survivors -- History -- 20th Century
World War, 1939-1945 -- Refugees -- Germany
Roney, Jane Hurndall, Mrs.
Hurndall, John P., Mr., 1902-1966

box Hurndall 1, folder 1  
Series 1. Correspondence from John P. Hurndall 1945-11-26-1946-07-01  
Physical Description: .08 Linear Feet(1 folder)
Scope and Contents
This series contains five letters that Hurndall sent to his wife while he was overseas on the US Reparations Mission. Hurndall sent the letters from Japan, China, Manchuria, and Korea. In the letters, Hurndall writes about the atmosphere in various Chinese cities after the war. He describes Shanghai as a "madhouse" and writes about the high prices of merchandise: "Since the Americans have come in prices have risen 400 to 500% and higher than the U.S. for the same things." In one letter dated January 1, 1946, Hurndall also writes: "Yesterday, all of China changed from driving on the left to the right side of the street."
Hurndall also writes about post World War II foreign affairs. In one letter dated January 5, 1945 (it likely should have been 1946 - the envelope is dated 1946), Hurndall writes about the continued presence of Japanese troops in North China and mentions that disarming of the Japanese in North China "is practically at a standstill."

box Hurndall 1, folder 2-11, folder 2016-172-w_Hurndall  
Series 2. Scrapbooks 1945-11-1946-10  
Physical Description: .62 Linear Feet(10 folders)
Scope and Contents
This series contains three scrapbooks: US Reparations Mission to the Far East and Europe, US Reparations Mission to Japan and the unlabeled scrapbook US Reparations Mission Asia. The scrapbooks contain pictures taken from late 1945 to mid-1946 during trips by staff members of the US Reparations Mission. The scrapbooks contain pictures of Japan, China, Korea, Manchuria, Germany, Britain, France, the Philippines, Egypt, and Guam.
The US Reparations Mission to the Far East and Europe scrapbook contains pictures taken during trips by the staff of the US Reparations Mission to Japan, China, the Philippines, and Guam. The scrapbook includes a roster of the staff of the US Reparations Mission. There are also two letters from Edwin W. Pauley, the US Representative on the Allied Reparations Commission, to Hurndall and a certificate of commendation for Hurndall.
Items of note in the US Reparations Mission to the Far East and Europe scrapbook include pictures of the war crimes trials in Tokyo and Nuremberg following the Second World War. There are also pictures from a "Jewish Displaced Persons" camp in Furth, Germany and pictures showing the damage in Germany following World War II.
Items of note in the US Reparations Mission to Japan scrapbook include pictures showing the destruction in Manila following the Second World War, pictures of the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, and "street scenes" in Tokyo.
Pictures in the unlabeled scrapbook US Reparations Mission Asia include images that document the Soviet removal of equipment from industrial plants in Manchuria.
Scans of the original scrapbooks and accompanying captions are digitized (see Instance for folder location).
Series 3. Photographs 1946

Physical Description: .05 Linear feet (1 folder)

Scope and Contents

Items in this series include 27 photographs and 12 negatives. The photographs include images of Chinese military leader Lin Biao with two other men. A caption on the back spells his name as "Lin Piao" and describes him as the "Commander Chinese Communist Forces in Manchuria." Another picture shows five men standing in front of a statue. The Truman Library, which also has a copy of the photograph, identifies the location as the Sadong Coal Mine in North Korea. The Truman Library identifies the men in the picture as "Mr. Dick Johnston, Mr. Hendricks, guide, Lt. Lisner, and Mr. John Hurndall."

There are also pictures of wrecked Japanese planes and a man with a rickshaw.

Series 4. Los Angeles World Affairs Council speech

Physical Description: .07 Linear Feet (1 folder)

Scope and Contents

According to a note on an envelope provided with this collection, this series contains the typewritten rough draft of a speech that Hurndall gave to the Los Angeles World Affairs Council. The date of the speech is not known.

The rough draft includes crossed out paragraphs and the handwritten addition of text. In the draft speech, Hurndall writes about visiting Manchuria and China in the summer of 1946 as part of the US Reparations Mission. He describes life in Manchuria after the war. In one interesting section, Hurndall writes about efforts by the Chinese army to crack down on an illegal flea market by driving a truck through it. He also writes about the objective of the mission in Manchuria and about coal mining in Manchuria. Hurndall also writes about visiting North Korea and the experience of visiting plants in North Korea while being accompanied by armed soldiers.

Series 5. Reports on Japanese Assets 1946-06-1946-07

Physical Description: .24 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents

This series contains two books: "Report on Japanese Assets in Soviet-Occupied Korea to the President of the United States June 1946" and "Report on Japanese Assets in Manchuria to the President of the United States July 1946". Both books are marked "Restricted."

Series 6. Biographical information

Physical Description: .035 Linear Feet (1 folder)

Scope and Contents

This series contains biographical information about John Hurndall and Edwin W. Pauley, a U.S. Ambassador who was U.S. Representative on the Allied Reparations Commission. Pauley was director of the United States Reparations Mission to Japan.

The series includes a 1966 obituary about Hurndall from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. There is also a computer printout of an April 28 1945 article in the Chicago Tribune announcing Pauley's appointment. Also included are images and information about Hurndall from the Truman Library and a printout of the Wikipedia entry about Edwin Pauley. Additionally, there is a photocopy of a page of the book "On the Front Lines of the Cold War" by Seymour Topping that mentions the "American Pauley Mission."