Inventory of the California State War Council Records, 1940-1945

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Inventory: F3587

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Descriptive Summary

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Agency History
The California State Council of Defense was created in 1941, just at the beginning of World War II. Its function was to plan for the mobilization of agricultural, industrial, communication, and transportation facilities, for the protection of individual rights and consumer interests and for the suppression of sabotage and subversive activities. (Stats., 1941, Ch. 561, p. 1940).

A significant similar agency, the Council of Defense, was operative during World War I. For information on the Council of Defense see the bibliographic note at the end of the finding aid.

This Council of Defense of 1941 was subsequently abolished in 1943 and its duties and powers were transferred to a newly created organization, California State War Council (Stats. 1943, Ch. 294, p. 1277). This new body was composed of: the Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor, State Director of Civilian Defense, State Director of Civilian War Services, and two representatives from city and county governments each, who were to be appointed by and served at the pleasure of the Governor. The War Council was reorganized in 1944. Its membership was to include: the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, Director of the War Council, Attorney-General, four members of the legislature, and two representatives of city and county governments each (Stats. 1944, Ch. 55, p. 214). Finally, the duties and powers of the State War Council were
transferred to the jurisdiction of the California State Disaster Council, in the Governor's office (Stats. 1945, Ch. 1024, p. 1973). (26 f, 3/4 c.f.)

This group is classified into two major divisions: (1) general records of the California State War Council including minutes and correspondence and (2) advisory committee records which consist of advisory committee minutes and correspondence to and from the Council and the Governor's Office.

I. General Records - 1940-1945

Folder F3587:1A
Finding Aid
Organization, history: 1940-1945
Physical Description: (1 f)

Folder F3587:1

1. Minutes - 1940-1945

Folder F3587:2-4
Council of Defense, Minutes: 1940-1942
Physical Description: (3 f)

Folder F3587:5-8
State War Council, Minutes: 1943-1945
Physical Description: (4 f)

Folder F3587:25
Mailing List
Physical Description: (1 f)

Folder F3587:26
Report on Manpower and Equipment from California cities and counties.
Physical Description: (1 f)

II. Advisory Committee Records

1. Minutes

Folder F3587:9-13
Committee on Youth in Wartime: Nov., 1943-June, 1945
Physical Description: (5 f)

Folder F3587:14
Committee on Fire Services: Nov., 1944-May, 1945
Physical Description: (1 f)

Folder F3587:15
Committee on Food and Nutrition: Sept., 1943 - Oct. 1944
Physical Description: (1 f)

Folder F3587:16
Committee on Law Enforcement: July, 1944-May, 1945
Physical Description: (1 f)

2. Correspondence - Member Lists

Folder F3587:17
General Correspondence: 1943-1944
Physical Description: (1 f)

Folder F3587:18
California Evacuation Advisory Committee: 1943
Physical Description: (1 f)
| Folder F3587:19 | **Food and Nutrition Committee: 1943**  
Physical Description: (1 f) |
| Folder F3587:20 | **Procurement of Graduate Nurses Committee: 1943-1945**  
Physical Description: (1 f) |
| Folder F3587:21 | **Public Information Committee: 1943-1945**  
Physical Description: (1 f) |
| Folder F3587:22 | **State Civilian Protection Board: 1944-1945**  
Physical Description: (1 f) |
| Folder F3587:23 | **Student Nurse Recruitment Committee: 1943-1945**  
Physical Description: (1 f) |
| Folder F3587:24 | **War Problems Committee: 1944-1945**  
Physical Description: (1 f) |