Guide to the Charles B. Burdick Military History Collection

Collection number: MSS-2010-03-01

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San José State University

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Processed by: Robert Donahue
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Charles B. Burdick Military History Collection
Dates: 1914-1984
Bulk Dates: 1939-1966
Collection number: MSS-2010-03-01
Creator: Burdick, Charles B., 1927-1998
Collection Size: 93 Boxes, 217 Maps, 122.83 Linear Feet
Repository: San José State University, Library.
San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The Charles B. Burdick Military History Collection, 1914-1984 (bulk 1939-1966), represents the research files and collections amassed by military historian and SJSU history professor, Charles B. Burdick. The collection documents the history of World War I and World War II. World War I subjects covered include the Paris Peace Conference and the Treaty of Versailles, which formally ended World War I and military operations. World War II materials include publications originating from the German High Command, as well as reports and statistics from countries such as Italy, Germany, Japan, and the United States. The collection also includes print copies of the legal proceedings from the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, and maps of important World War II locations. The formats represented include correspondence, ephemera, maps, newspaper clippings, reports, and scrapbooks. This collection is arranged into three series: Series I: World War I & World War II Materials, 1914-1984 (bulk 1939-1958); Series II. International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE) Materials, 1946-1948; and Series III. Military Maps, 1919-1966 (bulk 1950-1966).

Physical location: Vault 1, Range 28A and 29B

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MSS-2010-03-01
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English, German, Italian, Japanese.

Access
The collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation
Charles B. Burdick Military History Collection, MSS-2010-03-01, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Processing Information

Project Information
This finding aid was created as part of the Survey and Cataloging Project, a two-year San José State University Library grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project began in 2008. The Project Director is Danelle Moon. The Project Archivist is Erin Louthen.

Biography
Charles B. Burdick (1927-1998) grew up in San José, California where he attended Lincoln High School before enlisting in the United States Army during World War II. After serving in the Army, Burdick enrolled at San José State College in 1946. He graduated with a B.A. in History in 1949, and obtained his Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1954. He joined SJSU’s History Department in 1957, and became department chair in 1976. Throughout his teaching career, Professor Burdick worked diligently to create a program dedicated to military history. In addition, he donated several large private book collections on military history to the University Library, significantly adding to the monographic holdings in this area. Professor Burdick also taught for many years at the Sixth United Army Intelligence School located at the Presidio in Monterey, California. Over the course of his distinguished career, Burdick published dozens of articles and book chapters, and wrote and edited over twenty books. His research and writing on the history of the German High Command in World War II remains an important part of the historiography of World War II. After an association with San José State University that spanned forty-five years, Professor Burdick retired in 1988. He died in 1998.

Bibliography
Roth, Jonathan. Burdick Military History Project. Pamphlet. San José, CA: San José State University History Department, undated.


Related Material
Charles B. Burdick War Poster Collection, MSS-2010-02-02, San José State University Special Collections & Archives.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Charles B. Burdick Military History Collection, 1914-1984 (bulk 1939-1966), represents the research files and collections amassed by military historian and SJSU history professor, Charles B. Burdick. The collection documents the history of World War I and World War II. World War I subjects covered include the Paris Peace Conference and the Treaty of Versailles, which formally ended World War I, and military operations. World War II materials include publications originating from the German High Command, as well as reports and statistics from countries such as Italy, Germany, Japan, and the United States. The collection also includes print copies of the legal proceedings from the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, and maps of important World War II locations. The formats represented include correspondence, ephemera, maps, newspaper clippings, reports, and scrapbooks.

Arrangement
Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

World War, 1914-1918
World War, 1914-1918 -- Records and correspondence
World War, 1914-1918 -- Maps
World War, 1939-1945
World War, 1939-1945 -- Records and correspondence
World War, 1939-1945 -- Maps
International Military Tribunal for the Far East

Series I: World War I and World War II Materials 1914-1984 (bulk 1939-1958)
Physical Description: 20 Boxes
Series Scope and Content Summary
This series documents the history of World War I and World War II.
World War I materials include several volumes of the Treaty of Versailles, as well as numerous pamphlets published by groups such as the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and the Community Pulpit Series, promoting the concepts of peace, labor, and morality.
World War II materials include documents printed in English, German, Italian, and Japanese. Formats include hand-written notes concerning Italy during the war and post-war years, the German High Command, and United States military reports and summations detailing U.S. bombings on Japan and Germany. In addition, this series includes Charles Burdick's personal research notes and correspondence.
Arrangement
This series is arranged chronologically by date range.

Box 1  World War I Pamphlets 1914-1918

Box 2  Maps of European Countries, Notes 1914-1947

Box 3  German Language Materials, Newspapers 1915-1947


Boxes 5-6  World War II Materials, German Military, German Language Materials 1938-1978

Boxes 7-8  Newspaper Clippings 1939-1946

Box 9  World War II German Military Information 1939-1955
| Box 10 | Fire Safety 1943-1947 |
| Box 11 | World War II Germany, German Army 1943-1947 |
| Box 12 | World War II, Bombings of Japan and Germany 1944-1953 |
| Box 13 | Oberkommando des Heeres (OKH) Project, Europe, Foreign Military 1945-1958 |
| Box 14 | Military Reports and Summations from Military 1946-1984 |
| Box 15 | Errata Sheet 1948 |
| Box 16 | Publications, World War II 1950-1966 |
| Box 17 | Research Notes, Reports, Italy, World War I, Russia 1950-1953 |
| Box 18 | Correspondence 1983 |
| Box 19 | Japanese Language Materials Undated |
| Box 20 | Graduation Gown Undated |

**Series II: International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE) 1946-1948**

**Physical Description:** 73 Boxes

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series documents the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE), also known as the Tokyo Trials and Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal. Supreme Commander of the Allied forces, General Douglas MacArthur, ordered the establishment of the IMTFE and approved the charter, which was modeled on the Nuremberg Trials Charter of 1945-1946. The tribunal convened on May 5th, 1946, to prosecute the leaders of the Empire of Japan for three specific crimes: Class A: crimes against peace; Class B: war crimes; and Class C: crimes against humanity, committed during World War II. Twenty-eight political and military leaders were charged with Class A crimes and more than 5,700 Japanese nationals were accused of Class B and C crimes, mostly related to prisoner abuse; Emperor Hirohito and the Imperial Family were not prosecuted. The International Military Tribunal for the Far East adjourned on November 12th, 1948.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged chronologically by date range.

| Box 21 | Captain Murphy - Analysis of Documentary Evidence, Books 1-3 1946 |

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Boxes 22-79  International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE) 1946-1948

Boxes 80-81  Defense Summations 1948

Boxes 82-87  Judgements 1948

Box 88  Prisoner of War Summation 1948

Box 89  Summation of Araki Sadao 1948

Boxes 90-91  Defense Documents and Judgements Undated

Box 92  Prosecution of Japanese War Criminals Undated

Box 93  International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE) 1947

Series III:  Military Maps 1919-1966
  Physical Description: 217 Maps
  Series Scope and Content Summary
  This series includes maps of various locations in the Far East as well as some Pacific Islands. Many of the maps are based on information from the World War II period, but were revised in the 1960s with information gathered since their original publication in the 1940s.
  Arrangement
  This series is arranged alphabetically by country. Posters are located in the flat file drawers labeled "Burdick Charts" in Vault 1.
  California - Undated - 2 Maps
  China 1946-1964 - 10 Maps (one undated)
  Farallon Islands - Undated - 1 Map
  French Indonesia - 1950-1965 - 2 Maps
  Guam - 1963 - 2 Maps
  Japan - 1919-1965 - 52 Maps
  Korea - 1964 - 2 Maps
  Mariana Islands - 1960-1964 - 4 Maps
  Philippine Islands - 1921-1986 - 114 Maps
  Singapore - Undated - 17 Maps
  Taiwan - 1950-1965 - 17 Maps
  Vietnam - 1950-1965 - 10 Maps