
Inventory of the Harriet Mills McKay papers

Processed by Rita Morin.

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Processed by:

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Machine-readable finding aid derived from Microsoft Word and MARC record by Rita Morin.

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Collection Summary

Title: Harriet Mills McKay papers

Dates: 1937-1994

Dates: (bulk 1937-1949)

Collection Number: 94007

Creator: McKay, Harriet Mills, d. 1949

Collection Size: 4 manuscript boxes(1.6 linear feet)

Repository: Hoover Institution Archives

Stanford, California 94305-6010

Abstract: The collection is comprised of Harriet Mills McKay's diaries, manuscripts, correspondence, and photographs, relating primarily to conditions in the Philippines under Japanese occupation in World War II. It also includes manuscripts written by her daughter, Mary Maynard and another American, Evelyn Burchfield, relating to the same subject.

Physical Location: Hoover Institution Archives

Languages: In English

Access

Collection is open for research.

The Hoover Institution Archives only allows access to *copies* of audiovisual items. To listen to sound recordings or to view videos or films during your visit, please contact the Archives at least two working days before your arrival. We will then advise you of the accessibility of the material you wish to see or hear. Please note that not all audiovisual material is immediately accessible.

Publication Rights

For copyright status, please contact the Hoover Institution Archives.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Harriet Mills McKay papers, [Box number], Hoover Institution Archives.

Acquisition Information

Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1994.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. To determine if this has occurred, find the collection in Stanford University's online catalog at <http://searchworks.stanford.edu/>. Materials have been added to the collection if the number of boxes listed in the online catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.

Related Materials

Francis Willard Brush papers, Hoover Institution Archives

Ann Miller Depew papers, Hoover Institution Archives

James J. Halsema papers, Hoover Institution Archives

Harriet Mills McKay and Douglas McKay papers, Orin G. Libby Manuscript Collection, Repository

George C. Mora papers, Hoover Institution Archives

Biographical Note

Harriet Mills McKay was born on November 6, 1896. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Mills. She graduated from Park River High School, North Dakota, and later from the University of North Dakota in 1920 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Harriet married Douglas McKay soon after her graduation and had two children, Robert and Mary.

In 1937 Harriet moved with her husband and children to the Philippines when Douglas became the manager-director of the Mindanao Mother Lode mines. During the Japanese occupation of the Philippines, Harriet, Douglas, Mary, and other civilians fled their homes and went into hiding with guerrillas in the jungle for nearly two years. At this time her son Robert was a boarding student at Brent International School in Baguio, and was subsequently interned at the Bilibid internment camp.

In November of 1943 Harriet, Douglas, and Mary were part of a group evacuated from the Philippines to Darwin, Australia, aboard the submarine *USS Narwhal*. In 1944 they returned to the United States, where Robert joined them after his liberation from Bilibid internment camp in 1945. In 1947, Harriet, Douglas and Mary returned to the Philippines, but due to the poor health of Douglas and Harriet the family returned to the United States. Harriet died on August 13, 1949, and is buried in San Francisco.

Harriet attempted unsuccessfully to publish her memoirs "Black Island" and "No Conqueror Comes." In 2002 her daughter, Mary McKay Maynard, published her own memoir, *My Faraway Home: An American Family's WWII Tale of Adventure and Survival in the Jungles of the Philippines*.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Harriet Mills McKay papers relate to life in the Philippines under the Japanese occupation during World War II. They are comprised of diaries, letters, poetry fragments, government documents, photographs, notes and drafts of manuscripts written by Harriet McKay. The bulk of the material consists of drafts and notes for the manuscripts written by Harriet depicting life in the Philippines before and during the Japanese occupation. The collection also includes correspondence and materials related to the time spent in the jungle and mountains during the Japanese occupation. The collection is arranged into series.

The **Manuscripts** series contains drafts of McKay's memoirs, which document her family's life preceding World War II and during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines. Also, included are manuscript drafts written by Evelyn Burchfield and Mary McKay Maynard.

The **Diaries and Correspondence** series illustrates life during the occupation through letters and diaries that document the daily life of the McKay family in the jungle, Harriet's poetry, communication with other civilian refugees, and subsequent evacuation by the United States Navy.

The Incremental Materials contains one DVD of a video recording documenting McKay's son Robert's experience, titled "The Bob McKay Story: An American Experience in a Japanese Internment Camp, World War II Philippines."

Arrangement

The collection is organized into 3 series: Manuscripts, Diaries and Correspondence, and Incremental Materials.

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, 1939-1945--Philippines.

Philippines--History--Japanese occupation, 1942-1945.

Box: 1-3

Manuscripts, circa 1942-1944, 1994, undated.

Scope and Content Note

Contains notes and drafts of McKay's memoirs "Black Island" and "No Conqueror Comes." Her notes and fragments of the drafts are handwritten, while the majority of manuscript drafts are typewritten or copies. Included are copies of the manuscript drafts written by Evelyn Burchfield, "Twenty-Five Years with the Filipinos," and Mary McKay Maynard, "War Story."

Arrangement

Arranged in four groups: Black Island Materials, No Conqueror Comes Materials, Additional Manuscripts, and Fragments.

"Black Island" Materials, circa 1944 undated

Box/Folder: 1 : 1-2 **Draft of "Black Island," circa 1944**
Box/Folder: 1 : 3-4 **Draft of Black Island (photocopy), undated**
Box/Folder: 1 : 5-6 **Draft and notes of "Black Island," circa 1944**

Box/Folder: **"No Conqueror Comes" materials, circa 1944**

Box/Folder: 1 : 7-9 **Draft of "No Conqueror Comes," circa 1944**
Box/Folder: 1 : 10 **Draft of "No Conqueror Comes," circa 1944**
Box/Folder: 2 : 1-2 **Third Draft of "No Conqueror Comes," circa 1944**
Box/Folder: 2 : 3-5 **Draft of "No Conqueror Comes," circa 1944**
Box/Folder: 2 : 6-8 **Final Draft of "No Conqueror Comes," circa 1944**
Box/Folder: 3 : 1-3 **Final Draft (carbon copy) of "No Conqueror Comes," circa 1944**

Box/Folder: **Additional Manuscripts, 1994 undated**

Box/Folder: 3 : 4-5 **Evelyn Burchfield Manuscript (photocopy), undated**
Box/Folder: 3 : 6-8 **"War Story" by Mary Maynard, 1994**

Scope and Content Note

Includes handwritten account by her brother, Robert McKay, on his liberation from Bilibid internment camp.

Box/Folder: **Fragment Materials, circa 1942, undated**

Box/Folder: 3 : 9 **Draft and poetry, undated**
Box/Folder: 4 : 1 **Draft and notes, undated**
Box/Folder: 4 : 2 **Background documents, circa 1942**

Scope and Content Note

Includes photographs and newspaper clippings.

Box: 4 **Diaries and Correspondence, 1937-1949**

Scope and Content Note

Contains Harriet Mills McKay's diaries kept during the Japanese occupation from March 1942 through April 1943. The diaries illustrate the daily life of the McKay family in the jungle and Harriet's poetry. The correspondence is comprised of personal letters between Harriet and family in the United States, letters to publishing houses, communications between Douglas and Fred Fiegel, government letters and forms regarding the McKay family.

Arrangement

Arranged by individual or organization.

Box/Folder: 4 : 3 **Harriet Mills McKay diaries, Mar. - Dec. 1942**
Box/Folder: 4 : 4 **Harriet Mills McKay diaries, Jan. - Apr. 1943**
Box/Folder: 4 : 5 **Harriet Mills McKay correspondence with publishers, 1946-1949**
Box/Folder: 4 : 6 **Harriet Mills McKay correspondence, 1937-1945**
Box/Folder: 4 : 7-8 **Douglas McKay correspondence, 1942-1944**
Box/Folder: 4 : 9 **U.S. and Philippine government correspondence and forms, 1942-1947**
Box: 4 : 10 **Incremental Material, 2009**

Scope and Content Note

Contains one video recording on DVD titled "The Bob McKay Story: An American Experience in a Japanese Internment Camp, World War II Philippines." The recording of 50 minutes contains an interview interspersed with photographs, maps, and other materials. The electronic files are dated 25 February 2009. Use copy available in reading room
