Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: Archives & Special Collections, Santa Clara University Library

Title: Conrad S. Babcock papers

source: Santa Clara College (Calif.)

source: University of Santa Clara (Calif.)

source: Santa Clara University (Calif.)

creator: Babcock, Conrad S. (Conrad Stanton), 1876-1950

Identifier/Call Number: MSS.2015.11.23

Abstract: The Conrad S. Babcock papers, circa 1877-1941 (bulk 1898-1918), document Babcock's service in the U.S. Army from 1894-1937. The bulk of the collection consists of Babcock's memoirs detailing his military service at home, in the Philippines during the Philippine-American War and in France during the final months of World War I. The memoirs also document the rapid transformation in size, wartime tactics and weaponry taking place in the military at the turn of the century. Included are handwritten and typed drafts of his memoirs; letters from the War Department documenting his military service; battlefield maps; a typed memorandum written by John Breckinridge when he was a Captain in the 5th Cavalry; a photograph album documenting the end of World War I and photographs of the 22nd Infantry in Montana in the late 19th century. This collection is arranged into one series: Series I. Chronicles of Conrad S. Babcock, circa 1877-1941 (bulk 1898-1918).

This collection is located in Santa Clara University Library's Archives & Special Collections.

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection is open for research.

Access Restrictions
None

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Preferred Citation
Conrad S. Babcock papers, MSS.2015.11.23, Santa Clara University Library, Archives & Special Collections.

Processing Information

Biographical History
Conrad S. Babcock was born on February 26, 1876 in Stonington, Connecticut to Blandina Stanton and Brigadier General John Breckinridge Babcock, a Civil War veteran who served with the 5th Cavalry during the American Indian Wars. Conrad S. Babcock was appointed to the United States Military Academy (West Point) in 1894. After graduating from West Point in 1898, he served the first of two terms in the Philippines during the Philippine-American War. In 1901 he returned to the United States where he wedded Marion Eeles of San Francisco. They had two sons, Conrad Stanton, Jr. and Charles Parmelee Stanton, both of whom went on to have distinguished military careers. While in the United States, Babcock was stationed at numerous bases around the country, providing relief duty in San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and patrolling the borderlands of Yuma, Arizona during the Mexican Revolution. In 1917, Babcock was sent to France, where he led three different infantry regiments in battle during the final months of World War I. Over the course of his career, Conrad S. Babcock earned two Silver Star citations and a Distinguished Service Medal. Upon his retirement in 1937, Babcock began writing about his military service. His memoirs describe a rapidly growing army undergoing a dramatic shift in wartime tactics and weaponry. An edited version of his writings, Reminiscences of Conrad S. Babcock: The Old U.S. Army and the
New, 1898-1918, was published in 2012. Though he retired as a Colonel in 1937, Babcock was advanced to Brigadier General on the retired list in 1940. He died in 1950 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

**Bibliography**


**Organizational History**

Santa Clara University was founded in 1851 by the Society of Jesus as Santa Clara College and is California’s oldest operating institution of higher learning. It was established on the grounds of Mission Santa Clara de Asís, the eighth of the original 21 California missions. The college originally operated as a preparatory school and did not offer courses of collegiate rank until 1853. The institution became known as the University of Santa Clara in 1912, when the schools of engineering and law were added. For 110 years, Santa Clara University was an all-male school. In 1961, women were accepted as undergraduates and Santa Clara University became the first coeducational Catholic university in California. The number of students and faculty tripled over the next decade and the university began the largest building program in school history with eight residence halls, a student union, and an athletic stadium. In the early 1970s, the Board of Trustees voted to limit the size of the undergraduate population, an action that was intended to preserve the character and ensure the quality of the university for generations to come. In 1985, the university adopted Santa Clara University as its official name.

**Bibliography**


**Arrangement**

This collection is arranged into one series: Series I. Chronicles of Conrad S. Babcock, circa 1877-1941 (bulk 1898-1918).

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The Conrad S. Babcock papers, circa 1877-1941 (bulk 1898-1918), document Babcock’s service in the U.S. Army from 1894-1937. The bulk of the collection consists of Babcock’s memoirs detailing his military service at home, in the Philippines during the Philippine-American War and in France during the final months of World War I. The memoirs also document the rapid transformation in size, wartime tactics and weaponry taking place in the military at the turn of the century. Included are handwritten and typed drafts of his memoirs; letters from the War Department documenting his military service; battlefield maps; a typed memorandum written by John Breckinridge when he was a Captain in the 9th Cavalry; a photograph album documenting the end of World War I; and photographs of the 22nd Infantry in Montana in the late 19th century.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

World War, 1914-1918 -- Campaigns -- France
United States Army -- Officers
Philippines -- History -- Philippine American War, 1899-1902
Santa Clara College (Calif.)
University of Santa Clara (Calif.)
Santa Clara University (Calif.)
Series I. Chronicles of Conrad S. Babcock, circa 1877-1941 (bulk 1898-1919)

Scope and Content
This series documents Babcock's service in the U.S. Army from 1894-1937. The bulk of the collection consists of Babcock's memoirs, detailing his military service at home, in the Philippines during the Philippine-American War and in France during the waning months of World War I. Included are handwritten drafts of his memoirs and the first part of his typed manuscript, titled From this Generation to the Next; letters from the War Department documenting his military service; maps to be included with his book; a typed memorandum written by John Breckinridge when he was a Captain in the 5th Cavalry; a photograph album documenting the Third Army Composite Regiment and the victory parades at the end of World War I; and photographs of the 22nd Infantry in Montana in the late 19th century.

Arrangement
This series is arranged by format.

| box 1, folder 1 | J.B.B. Memorandum, c. 1877 |
| box 1, folder 2 | War Dept. Correspondence, 1937 |
| box 1, folder 3 | Memoirs, undated |
| box 1, folder 4 | Memoirs, undated |
| box 1, folder 5 | Memoirs, undated |
| box 1, folder 6 | Memoirs, undated |
| box 1, folder 7 | Typed Manuscript, undated |
| box 1, folder 8 | Photographs, undated |
| box 1, folder 9 | Maps, undated |
| box 1, folder 10 | Newspaper Clippings, c. 1919 - 1930 |
| box 2, Item 1 | Military Scrapbook, circa 1877-1919 |

Material Specific Details: This box contains 1 unbound scrapbook of photos. Scrapbook is inscribed "Third Army Composite Regiment Organized in Coburg, Germany in 1919." Scrapbook contains 115 photos.