Roy Maxwell Talbot papers

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2017
Descriptive Summary

Title: Roy Maxwell Talbot papers
Dates: 1908-1943
Collection Number: Consult repository
Extent: Six linear feet

Online items available http://northbaydigital.sonoma.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/maxwell
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Abstract: Roy Maxwell Talbot (1880-1963) began his career in the Chinese Maritime Customs in 1908. He served as Commissioner of Customs from 1935 until 1938, when he became Audit Secretary in the Inspectorate General's Office. He was in that position until 1942. In July of 1932, Talbot was arrested by Japanese officials in Antung, Manchuria for refusing to hand over the Chinese customs revenues. In 1941, he was held in the Bridge House, an infamous dungeon, for forty-two days. Talbot's detention by the Japanese created an international incident. Newspapers around the world carried headlines of an arrest of an "American" employed by the Chinese.

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection is open for research by appointment.

Publication Rights
The library can only claim physical ownership of the collection. Users are responsible for satisfying any claimants of literary property.

Preferred Citation
Roy Maxwell Talbot papers. Sonoma State University Library

Biography/Administrative History
Roy Maxwell Talbot (1880-1963) began his career in the Chinese Maritime Customs in 1908. He served as Commissioner of Customs from 1935 until 1938, when he became Audit Secretary in the Inspectorate General's Office. He was in that position until 1942. He served in Canton, Icheng, Nanking, Shanghai, Harbin, Swatow, Kongmoon, Aigun, Antung, Changsha, Amoy and Kunming. In July, 1932, Talbot was arrested by Japanese officials in Antung, Manchuria for refusing to hand over the Chinese customs revenues. In 1941 he was held in the Bridge House, an infamous dungeon, for 42 days. Talbot's detention by the Japanese created an international incident. Newspapers around the world carried headlines of an arrest of an "American" employed by the Chinese.

Scope and Content of Collection
Diaries, printed material, photographs and negatives, personal correspondence, radio script, copies of official papers, ephemeral material, artifacts and miscellaneous records of Roy Maxwell Talbot document his life in China as a Customs Service Agent from 1908-1942. The diaries contain the greatest depth of information. The majority of the photographs are not identified. The collection is contained in 12 boxes that comprises approximately six linear feet of storage space.

Indexing Terms
China -- History -- 1912-1928.
China -- History -- Republic, 1912-1949.
World War, 1914-1918 -- China.
World War, 1939-1945 -- China.
Swatow (Canton, China).
Shantou (Guangdong Sheng, China).

Roy Maxwell Talbot Papers Inventory