Charles E. McGee papers

Finding aid prepared by Bianca Lisek and Alysia Thind, Student Processing Assistants.
Special Collections & University Archives
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Charles E. McGee papers
Date (inclusive): 1942-2009, undated
Date (bulk): 1950-1970
Collection Number: MS 272
Creator: McGee, Charles E.
Extent: 1.51 linear feet (4 boxes)
Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department. Riverside, CA 92517-5900
Abstract: This collection contains memorandums, special orders, correspondence, administrative records, and other material pertaining to Charles E. McGee, retired Colonel from the United States Air Force who compiled nearly 30 years of service and a record of 409 aerial fighter combat missions. Includes personnel, financial, and flight records documenting McGee's military career. A photograph of McGee and his military dress jacket are also included.
Languages: The collection is in English.

Access
This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[identification of item], [date if possible]. Charles E. McGee papers (MS 272). Special Collections & University Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Acquisition Information

Processing History
Processed by Alysia Thind and Bianca Lisek, Student Processing Assistants, 2015.

Processing of the Charles E. McGee papers was completed by undergraduate students from the University of California, Riverside as part of the Special Collections & University Archives Backlog Processing Project started in 2015. This project was funded by the UCR Library and administered by Bergis Jules, University and Political Papers Archivist, and Eric Milenkiewicz, Manuscripts Curator.

Biographical Note
Charles E. McGee was born in Cleveland, Ohio on December 7, 1919. His father was a social worker, minister, and teacher, causing their family to move around often during his childhood. In 1942, McGee was in the process of obtaining his degree in engineering at the University of Illinois. However, soon after World War II began McGee enlisted in the United States Army and began his service on October 26, 1942. After graduating from flight school McGee was stationed in Italy where he proceeded to fly 136 missions during World War II. He returned to Tuskegee, Alabama in 1944 where he took post as a twin engine instructor. By the end the 1950, the Korean War had broken out and McGee was now flying planes out of the Philippines, where he was stationed as a Base Operations Officer. He flew 100 low level bombing and strafing missions during the Korean War. In 1953, he graduated from the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base. A few years later McGee was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, causing his wife and three children to relocate with him across the United States and abroad throughout the next several years. In 1967, when the Vietnam War broke out, McGee was once again deployed and flew 173 missions. In 1969, McGee was promoted to the rank of Colonel and on January 31, 1973 he retired from the United States Air Force compiling nearly 30 years of service and a record of 409 aerial fighter combat missions.

Collection Scope and Contents
This collection contains memorandums, special orders, correspondence, administrative records, and other material pertaining to Charles E. McGee's military service, and more generally to the Tuskegee Airmen. Includes personnel, financial, and flight records documenting McGee's nearly thirty year career in the United States military. A photograph of McGee and his military dress jacket are also included.

**Collection Arrangement**

This collection is arranged into three series as follows:

- **Series 1. Military documents**, 1942-1973
- **Series 3. Photographs and artifacts**, undated

**Indexing Terms**

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

**Subjects**

- United States. Army Air Forces. Fighter Squadron, 99th
- United States. Army Air Forces. Fighter Group, 332nd
- World War, 1939-1945

**Genres and Forms of Materials**

- Correspondence
- Documents
- Financial records

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**Series 1. Military documents 1942-1973**

**Series Scope and Contents**

The series contains military documents including memorandums, special orders, correspondence, and other material pertaining to Charles E. McGee's military service.

**Series Arrangement**

This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 1</td>
<td>Memorandums, special orders, correspondence, and enlistment records for Charles E. McGee 1942-1945</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 2</td>
<td>Memorandums, special orders, correspondence 1942-1948</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folders 3-4</td>
<td>Memorandums, special orders, correspondence 1948-1953</td>
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**Physical Description:** 2 folders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 5</td>
<td>Memorandums, special orders, correspondence, and personnel orders for Charles E. McGee 1953-1958</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 1</td>
<td>Memorandums, special orders, correspondence, and personnel orders for Charles E. McGee 1958-1963</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 2</td>
<td>Personnel and flight orders for Charles E. McGee 1963-1965</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 3</td>
<td>Special orders and correspondence as well as personnel and flight orders for Charles E. McGee 1966-1968</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 4</td>
<td>Special orders and correspondence as well as personnel and temporary orders for Charles E. McGee 1964-1971</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 5</td>
<td>Correspondence of Charles E. McGee 1972, 1983</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Series 2. Administrative records 1968-2009**

**Series Scope and Contents**

The series contains administrative records including both military and personal financial records as well as McGee's flight records over the course of his military service.

**Series Arrangement**

This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 1</td>
<td>Flight records 1943-1970</td>
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Box 3, Folder 2
Box 3, Folder 3
Box 3, Folder 4

Series Scope and Contents
Flight records 1953-1969
Financial records 1968-1973
Financial records 1973-1994

Series Arrangement
This series contains a photograph of Charles E. McGee and his military dress jacket.

Series 3. Photographs and artifacts circa 1942-1973

Series Scope and Contents
This series contains a photograph of Charles E. McGee and his military dress jacket.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 2, Folder 6
Box 4

Photograph of Charles E. McGee in uniform (headshot) circa 1942-1973
Military dress jacket of Charles E. McGee (white) circa 1942-1973