Buford A. Johnson papers

Processed by Jamie Madrigal and Reajnae Jenkins.
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The UCR Library
P.O. Box 5900
University of California
Riverside, California 92517-5900
Phone: 951-827-3233
Fax: 951-827-4673
Email: specialcollections@ucr.edu
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Buford A. Johnson papers
Date (bulk): 1951-1959
Date (inclusive): 1945-2012, undated.
Collection Number: MS 372
Creator: Johnson, Buford A.
Extent: 2.56 linear feet (3 boxes)
Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department.
Riverside, CA 92517-5900
Abstract: This collection contains military documents, correspondence, and other material pertaining to the Tuskegee Airmen and Buford A. Johnson, a Master Sergeant in the United States Army Air Force and chief mechanic who serviced jet aircraft in the 99th squadron of the 477th composite group in World War II. Highlights include newspaper clippings, programs, photographs, posters, and awards pertaining to the personal and professional accomplishments of Buford A. Johnson during and after his World War II service.
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]. Buford A. Johnson papers (MS 372). Special Collections & University Archives, UCR Library, University of California, Riverside.
Acquisition Information
The Buford A. Johnson papers were acquired as a gift in 2007. Additional material was received in 2008, 2011, and 2013.
Processing History
Processed by Reajinae Jenkins and Jamie Madrigal, 2015.
Processing of the Buford A. Johnson 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
Buford A. Johnson was a Master Sergeant in the United States Army Air Force and chief mechanic who serviced fighter planes in the 99th squadron of the 477th composite group also known as the Tuskegee Airmen in World War II. Born August 1927 in Longview, Texas, Buford went on to become the first African-American jet mechanic in the United States Air Force, the first African American Crew Chief to work on jet aircraft, and the first African American Crew Chief to work on jet aircraft in a combat zone.
Collection Scope and Contents
This collection contains military documents, correspondence, and other material pertaining to Buford A. Johnson, the Tuskegee Airmen, and events during World War II. Highlights include newspaper clippings, programs, photographs, posters, and awards pertaining to the personal and professional accomplishments of Buford A. Johnson during and after his World War II service.
Collection Arrangement
This collection is arranged into four series. The series arrangement for this collection is as follows:
Indexing Terms

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

Subjects
African American fighter pilots.
Johnson, Buford A.
United States. Army Air Forces. Fighter Group, 332nd History.
World War II.

Genres and Forms of Materials
Correspondence.
Documents.


Series Scope and Contents
This series includes newspaper clippings, photographs, programs, and other material documenting Buford A. Johnson's post-military service.

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

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2
Photographs pertaining to the Tuskegee Airmen, Buford A. Johnson's travels, and the West Covina Rose Float Foundation. undated.

Box 1, Folder 3
Fliers and programs pertaining to events attended by Buford A. Johnson. 2006-2012.


Series Scope and Contents
This series includes memorandums, checklists, correspondence, and other material pertaining to Buford A. Johnson's military service during and after World War II.

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

Box 1, Folder 4
Memorandums, checklists, and other material pertaining to Buford A. Johnson's post-World War II military service. 1952-1962.

Box 1, Folder 5
Correspondence between the United States Air Force and Buford A. Johnson. 1952-1956.

Box 3
Scrapbook of newspaper clippings pertaining to the Tuskegee Airmen. 1945-1947.

Box 3


Series Scope and Contents
This series includes certificates and awards that Buford A. Johnson received in honor of his military achievements.

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

Box 1, Folder 6
Certificate of recognition from the California State Senate. 2011.

Box 2
Heritage award presented to Buford A. Johnson from Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. 1999.

Box 2

Box 3

Series Scope and Contents
This series includes publications regarding Buford A. Johnson and the Tuskegee Airmen.

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

Box 1, Folder 7
"70 Years of Aviation Excellence, 1941-2011" by Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. 2011.

Box 3