Guide to the James S. Beddie Papers

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Collection number: Bernath Mss 4

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Descriptive Summary
Title: James S. Beddie Papers
Dates: 1794-1975
Collection number: Bernath Mss 4
Creator: Beddie, James Stuart, 1902-
Collection Size: 3.2 linear feet (8 boxes).
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
Abstract: Includes various State Department records, e.g. material on the German War Documents Project (post-WWII), from an American scholar and Foreign Service Officer who spent his last years in Santa Barbara.
Physical location: SRLF.
Languages: English, German
Access Restrictions
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Acquisition Information
Biography
Much of the following information is drawn from James Stuart Beddie, A Family History (Goleta, California, ca. 1986):
James Stuart Beddie was born on July 29, 1902 in St. Paul Minnesota. His father, James, was a recent immigrant from Scotland who after first settling in Canada relocated to St. Paul where he worked in an administrative capacity for the railroad industry. Beddie's mother, Annette, was the daughter of a Swedish farm family that migrated to Minnesota in the 1860s. She worked as a dressmaker prior to marriage. A second child, William, was born in 1904. James Beddie received his earliest education at home under the tutelage of his father, but following a bout with scarlet fever, he entered the local public school system. After the death of Annette Beddie in 1910, other family members moved into the Beddie household in order to create a stable home life and Beddie and his younger brother continued with their education in St. Paul schools. Following his graduation from high school in 1918, Beddie entered Macalester College, located only a few blocks from his home, where his course of studies centered on history, English, and classical languages. In 1920, he transferred to the
Redacted text
documentation, party census information and material from the Volksgerichtshof (People's Court) relating to charges and verdicts in special treason trials from the Nazi era. The last includes the papers pertaining to the famous White Rose resistance group.

Archival material from the BDC was used extensively in providing evidence during the Nürnberg trials following the war and in later court actions undertaken by the German government to prosecute those accused of war crimes during the Nazi era. In one famous case, the last commandant of Auschwitz, living in hiding, was identified in part by comparison of his handwriting with that on the records held at the BDC. Scholars also have made use of the documents in the BDC for numerous works on the history of Nazi Germany. Fuller, more detailed accounts of the BDC are contained in Beddie's autobiography and, more succinctly, in Captured German and Related Records: A National Archives Conference, a copy of which is in Box 6, folder 4 of the collection.

Faced with the approach of the mandatory retirement age for government employees, Beddie left the Foreign Service in May of 1962. He returned to teaching, holding positions at Iowa Wesleyan, Westminster College (Pa.), and Fort Lewis State College (Durango, Co.) between the years 1963-1968.

In 1968 Beddie and his wife retired to Santa Barbara, California, eventually making their home in the Goleta area. In the fall of that year, Beddie participated in the National Archives Conference on Captured German Documents held in Washington D.C. Beddie maintained a life-long interest in the study of history. He belonged to a number of organizations, among them the Minnesota Historical Society, the Friends of the Goleta Library, where he served as president, the Mediaeval Academy of America, the American Historical Association, and was a contributor to the publications of the latter two. He also wrote his autobiography, cited above. James S. Beddie died on October 23, 1988 in Santa Barbara, California.

**Arrangement**

The James S. Beddie Papers contain the following series:

- **Personal** (Box 1). Biographical information, family documents, degrees/certificates, and correspondence, including the earliest material in the collection.
- **Chronological Files** (Boxes 1-2). Primarily State Department memoranda and correspondence, 1923-1956.
- **Military Service** (Box 2). Mainly correspondence, documents, and published material regarding Beddie's service in the U.S. Army and Navy, 1942-1957.
- **Whaddon Hall** (Boxes 2-3). Correspondence and reports, mainly concerning transfer of the German Archives back to West Germany, 1955-1958.
- **Berlin Document Center (BDC)** (Boxes 3-5). The core of the collection, this series includes unclassified correspondence, memoranda, and reports, as well as background files relating to the history of the BDC and numerous indexes/catalogs of documents in the BDC. Beddie was Director of the BDC, 1959-1962.
- **Academic/Teaching Posts** (Box 5). Small amount of correspondence and other material relating to Beddie's activities 1963-1968, after he had left the BDC.
- **National Archives Conference on Captured German Documents** (Box 6). Includes copy of a paper on the BDC delivered by Beddie, and transcripts of sessions at the conference held in Washington, DC, 1968.
- **Writings by Beddie** (Boxes 6-7). Includes articles and reviews, a copy of the Beddie's paper for the National Archives Conference, contributions to the Department of State Bulletin, and a copy of Beddie's dissertation Libraries in the XIIth Century.
- **Printed Material** (Box 7). Mostly relating to diplomacy and foreign relations, including some German material, ca. 1919-1932
- **Photographs** (Box 8). Black and white photographs of Germany, ca. WWII, and a photo album entitled "Berlin: Every-Day Life at the Wall," ca. 1959-1962.

**Related Material**

Beddie, James Stuart. *A Family History* (Goleta, California, ca. 1986).


National Archives. Berlin Document Center Records. Many series are available on microfilm from Scholarly Resources.

**Indexing Terms**

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

Beddie, James Stuart, 1902-- -- Archives.

United States. Dept. of State -- Officials and employees.

Berlin Document Center.
### Personal

| Box 1: 1 | Autobiographical sketch, *Who's Who* entries, and other biographical information, ca. 1956-1973 |
| Box 1: 2 | Family documents, 1794, 1867-1963 |
| Box 1: 3 | Degrees/Certificates, 1918-1951 |
| Box 1: 4 | Correspondence, 1929-1941 |

#### Chronological Files

**Scope and Content Note**

Mainly Department of State memoranda and correspondence.

| Box 1: 5 | 1923-1935 |
| Box 1: 6 | 1936-1937 |
| Box 1: 7 | 1938 |
| Box 1: 8 | 1939 |
| Box 1: 9 | 1940 |
| Box 1: 10 | 1941 |
| Box 2: 1 | 1942-1943 |
| Box 2: 2 | 1945-1946 |
| Box 2: 3 | 1947-1950 |
| Box 2: 4 | 1951-1953 |
| Box 2: 5 | 1954-1956 |

#### Military Service

**Scope and Content Note**

Primarily correspondence, documents, and published material.

| Box 2: 6 | U. S. Navy, 1942-1952 |
| Box 2: 7 | U. S. Army, 1952-1957 |

#### Whaddon Hall

**Scope and Content Note**

Correspondence and reports re transfer of German Archives to West Germany.

| Box 2: 8 | 1955-1956 |
| Box 2: 9 | 1957 |
| Box 3: 1 | 1958 |

#### Berlin Document Center

**Scope and Content Note**

Director, 1959-1962

| Box 3: 2 | 1959 |
| Box 3: 3 | 1960 |
| Box 3: 4 | 1961 |
| Box 3: 5 | 1962 |
| Box 3: 6-7 | Background Files (includes documents and articles relating to the Nazi Party, the Third Reich, and the history of the Berlin Document Center), ca. 1951-1962 |

#### Indexes/Catalogs of Documents

(unclassified; general list, followed by other chronologically arranged indexes)

| Box 4: 1 | List of Indices to Some of the Holdings of the Berlin Document Center, March 1, 1960 |
| Box 4: 2 | Summary of Miscellaneous, Non-Biographic ("Schumacher") Material, June 1959 |

**Group I:** (Ordner 1-10)

- Gesetzes und Verordnungsblaetter (Ordner 11-89)
- Verwaltung - Recht - Post - Speer - Todt - Gaue (Ordner 90-114c)
- Zeitungsausschnitte und Reden aufgelosst (Ordner 115-134)
Group V: Partei und Gliederungen (Ordner 135-168)
Group VI: Parteiführung und Reichsminister fuer Bewaffnung und Munition; Reichsminister fuer Ruestung und Kriegsproduktion (Ordner 169-198)
Group VIII: Verschiedenes (Ordner 210-290)
Group IX: Auslandsorganisation, Eingegliederte unde Besetzte Gebiete (Ordner 291-313)
Group X: Allgemeines (Ordner 314-334a)
Group XI: Korrespondenz Reichsfuehrer SS Laender (Ordner 335-342)
Group XII: Volkstum (Ordner 343-362)

Box 4: 3
Summary of Miscellaneous, Non-Biographic and Biographic ("Schumacher") Material, June 1959
Group XIII: Partei und Anderes (Ordner 363-401)
Group XIV: SA-Sturmabteilung der NSDAP (Ordner 402-424)
Group XV: SS - Polizei - Kripo - Gestapo (Ordner 425-468)

Box 4: 4
Index to Material of Reichsfuehrer SS: "Ahnenerbe," as of July 1959

Box 4: 5

Box 4: 6
Index to NSDAP Parteikanzei Material (non-biographic), as of July 1959

Box 4: 7
Index to Rasse-und Siedlungs-Hauptamt Material (non-biographic), as of July 1959

Box 4: 8
Index to the Material Reichsstatthalter in Bayern, as of July 1959

Box 4: 9
Index to Material of Reichswerke Hermann Goering, as of July 1959

Box 4: 10
Index to the Reichswirtschaftsministerium (and related) Material (non-biographic), as of July 1959

Box 4: 11
Index to the Material Reichsstelle fuer Mineraloel and Kontinentale Oel G.m.b.H., as of July 1959

Box 4: 12
Index to Material of Weser-Flugzeugbau G.m.b. H, Werk Nordenham (auslaendische Arbeiter), as of July 1959

Box 4: 13
Index to the Material of Hitler-Jugend, Gau Schwaben, as of July 1959

Box 4: 14
Summary of Miscellaneous, Non-Biographic ("Schumacher") Material - 2. Anhang: Berfehle und Anweisungen der Gestapo an die Bezirksaemter, Landraete, Gendarmerien, etc. in bezug auf staatspolitische Massnahmen, August 1959

Box 4: 15
Index to Material of NSDAP Hauptamt fuer Kommunalpolitik, as of August 1959

Box 4: 16
Index to Material of Hauptamt SS Gericht, as of August 1959

Box 4: 17
Index to RF-SS Himmler Diaries, as of August 1959

Box 4: 18
Index of Foreign Countries for which Lists of NSDAP Members are available, as of August 1959

Box 4: 19
Index to Files of Reichsorganisationsleiter der NSDAP, as of August 1959

Box 4: 20
Index to SA and NSKK Material (non-biographic), as of August 1959

Box 4: 21
Index to SS Material (Miscellaneous), as of August 1959

Box 4: 22
Index to SS Wirtschafts und Verwaltungshauptamt Material (non-biographic) as of August 1959

Box 5: 1
Index to the Material of Regierungspraesident von Lueneburg, as of August 1959

Box 5: 2
Index to files of the Reichskommissar fuer die Festigung deutschen Volkstums, as of October 1959

Box 5: 3
Summary of Miscellaneous, Non-Biographic ("Schumacher") Material, November 1959
  Anhang: Akte Dirlewanger, Stahlhelm, Soldatenbund, Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Luftfahrtmedizin - Reichsforschungsrat - Wehrforschungs-Gemeinschaft - Wirtschaftsstab Ost (Ordner 469-473)
  Supplement to Group XV: SS - Polizei - Kripo - Gestapo (Ordner 474-480)
  3. Anhang: Diverses (Ordner 481-501)

Box 5: 4
Index to files of the Einwandererzentrale (EWZ), as of December 1959

Box 5: 5
The Biographic Collections of the Berlin Document Center (supersedes previous edition of December 31, 1958), as of January 1, 1960
| Box 5: 6 | The Non-Biographic Collections of the Berlin Document Center, as of March 1, 1960 |
| Box 5: 7 | Index to files of the Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle, as of March 1960 |
| Box 5: 8 | Index to the files of the Nationalsozialistischer Lehrerbund (National Socialist Teacher’s Organization) as of July 1960 |
| Box 5: 9 | Index to files of the Reichsministerium fuer Volksaufklaerum und Propaganda, as of October 1960 |
| Box 5: 10 | Index to files of the Reichsrundfunkgesellschaft (R.R.G.), as of October 1960 |
| Box 5: 11 | Index to files of the Reichsschatmeister der NSDAP, as of November 1960 |
| Box 5: 12 | Index to files of the Parteiamtliche Pruefungskommission zum Schutze des NS-Schrifttums (PPK), as of June 1961 |
| Box 5: 13 | Index to files of the NSDAP - Gau Franken (Mainfranken), as of July 1961 |
| Box 5: 14 | Index to files of the Flick - Konzern, as of November 1961 |
| Box 5: 15 | Index to files of the Reichsarbeitdienst - Gau Franken (Arbeitsgau 28), as of November 1961 |
| Box 5: 16 | Index to files of the Krupp-Druckenmueller G.m.b.H., as of December 1961 |
| Box 5: 17 | Index to files of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront (DAF) - Gau Bayerische Ostmark as of March 1962 |
| Box 5: 18 | Supplement to Index Hauptarchiv, Group XXIX, n.d. |
| Box 5: 19 | Documentation Concerning Jews in the Berlin Document Center, Berlin, as microfilmed for The Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary, New York City, n.d. |
| Box 5: 20 | Miscellany, ca. 1959-1962 |

### Academic/Teaching Posts

| Box 5: 21 | Iowa Wesleyan College (Mt. Pleasant, Iowa), ca. 1963-1964 |
| Box 5: 22 | Westminster College (New Wilmington, Pennsylvania), ca. 1966 |
| Box 5: 22 | Fort Lewis College (Durango, Colorado), 1967-1968 |

### National Archives Conference on Captured German Documents

| Box 6: 1-2 | Washington, DC, 1968 |

### Writings by Beddie

| Box 6: 3 | Articles and Reviews, 1929-1975 |
| Box 6: 5-6 | Department of State Bulletin (includes German documents selected and translated by Beddie), 1946-1947 |
| Box 7: 1 | Libraries in the XIth Century (Harvard, PhD dissertation), 1928 |

### Printed Material

| Scope and Content Note |
| Mostly relating to diplomacy, foreign relations. |

| Box 7: 2 | German documents, broadsides, newspapers, ca. 1919-1932 |
| Box 7: 3 | Reports, newspapers, ca. 1942-1963 |
| Box 7: 4 | Handbooks, articles, reports, Wilton Park Conference literature, ca. 1960-1971 |

### Photographs

| Box 8: 1 | Photographs - b/w, German, ca. WWII |
| Box 8: 2 | Photograph Album - b/w, "Berlin: Every-Day Life at the Wall," ca. 1959-1962 |