Dutch East Indies Photograph Albums

Preliminary arrangement and description by Special Collections staff
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Guide to the Dutch East Indies Photograph Albums, ca. 1920s

Collection number: Bernath Mss 209

Dutch East Indies Photograph Albums

Dates: ca. 1920s

Collection number: Bernath Mss 209

Collection Size: 0.3 linear feet (1 flat oversize box).

Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Abstract: Collection contains five black and white photograph albums, mostly of images on tour around Sumatra Island of the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia). Photographs begin in Germany, Austria and the Netherlands then continue to coastal Europe (Italy, Gibraltar) on a cruise to Sumatra via the Suez Canal. The remainder of photographs are from the traveler’s presumed temporary residence in North Sumatra and car trips around the island.

Physical location: Del Norte Oversize.

Languages: English, Dutch

Access Restrictions
None.

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Preferred Citation
[Item description], Dutch East Indies Photograph Albums. Bernath Mss 209. Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Acquisition Information
Purchase, 2006.

Scope and Content of Collection
Collection contains five black and white photograph albums, mostly of images on tour around Sumatra Island of the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia). Photographs begin in Germany, Austria and the Netherlands then continue to coastal Europe (Italy, Gibraltar) on a cruise to Sumatra via the Suez Canal. The remainder of photographs are from the traveler’s presumed temporary residence in North Sumatra and car trips around the island. Some location names are in Dutch.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog. Sumatra (Indonesia)--Pictorial works.
Box 1  

**Album 1: "Bavaria, Rotterdam, Medan-Deli"**  

Additional Note  
Contains 104 black and white snapshots of travels from Europe to Indonesia, with captions primarily in English. Locations include Munich, Bavaria (Germany); Vienna (Austria); Rotterdam, the Hague, Amsterdam (the Netherlands); Stromboli, coastline, Genoa (Italy); Gibraltar; Suez Canal; Gulf of Aden; Ceylon; Medan, Berastagi (N. Sumatra). Photos include traveling companions, local peoples and street scenes, ships and shipboard views, residences and interior shots (presumably places they stayed), village and scenic views, and "my first car," an Overland Whippet, manufacturing briefly from 1926-1931. Front interior cover has business card pasted in for an Erich Kollowratek in Vienna. One loose professional portrait with inscription in Dutch, dated 1932.

Box 1  

**Album 2: "Medan-Deli"**  

Additional Note  
Contains 191 black and white snapshots of North Sumatra, with occasional captions in English and some Dutch. Locations include Aceh, Sigli, Berastagi (N. Sumatra). Photos feature extensive auto, motorcycle and pony touring of the countryside, with many scenic views; interiors and exteriors of residences; a crocodile hunt; the interior of a Dutch submarine.

Box 1  

**Album 3: "Sumatra, Medan to Deli"**  

Additional Note  
Contains 165 black and white snapshots of Sumatra with occasional captions in English. Album documents a trip from the north down the east coast of Sumatra and to the west. Locations include Tarutung, Sibolga, Lake Singkarak, Sawah Lunto, Padang, Pajacombo. Photos feature auto trips around the countryside and scenic views, including waterfalls and caverns; and coal mines in Sawah Lunto.

Box 1  

**Album 4: "Medan – Padang, Soengei Poenoeh, Return to Medan"**  

Additional Note  
Contains 149 black and white snapshots of Sumatra with occasional captions in English. Album continues previous set of photos from trip around Sumatra (with some duplicates), with locations including Tarutung, Sibolga, Padang, Sawah Lunto, Lake Singkarak. Photos feature a marker of the equator, a volcanic crater (Mount Merapi), caverns, the coal mines in Sawah Lunto, and other scenic views; bridges and railways; *Rafflesia arnoldi*; "the biggest flower in the world," a carnivorous plant; and one of the travelers (possibly the creator of the albums) holding a tiger cub.

Box 1  

**Album 5: "Medan - Padang - Medan"**  

Additional Note  
Contains 176 black and white snapshots of Sumatra with occasional captions in English. Album continues previous set of photos (some duplicates), with locations including Mount Merapi crater, Padang, Soebang Pass. Photos feature the volcanic crater; scenic and coastal views; boats, cars, bridges, roads and railways; *Rafflesia arnoldi*; monkeys.