Descriptive Finding Guide for

90th Bombardment Group
“The Jolly Rogers”
Collection

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Cataloging Information

Collection number: SC.10195
Location: Archives
Restrictions: None
URL Museum: http://sandiegoairandspace.org/collection/item/90th-bomb-group-special-collection
URL OAC: http://www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/San+Diego+Air+and+Space+Museum+Library+and+Archives
URL Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/albums/72157634249249264179
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Provenance

The materials in this collection were donated to the San Diego Air & Space Museum prior to 2005 The collection has been processed and is open for research.

History

Formed in April 1942 at Key Field, Mississippi, the 90th Bombardment Group was part of the Fifth Air Force of the United States Army Air Forces and operated the Consolidated B-24 Liberator heavy bomber in the Southwest Pacific Theater. The group initially moved to Willow Run Airport in Michigan, then to Hickam Field in Hawaii before arriving in Queensland, Australia, in November 1942. The group's original squadrons were the 10th Reconnaissance Squadron and the 319th, 320th and 321st Bombardment Squadrons, although within a week of activation, the 10th was renamed the 400th Bombardment Squadron. Between 1943 and 1944, they bombed Imperial Japanese naval and air installations throughout New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, making it possible the retaking of the Philippines and the eventual defeat of Japan. The group was awarded two Distinguished Unit Citations and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation for its extensive combat service in China; Netherlands East Indies; New Guinea; the Bismarck Archipelago; the Western Pacific; Leyte, and Luzon.

Description & Content Notes

Description: This collection is housed in five archival boxes, each measuring 15.5” x 12.5” x 10.5”.

Content Notes: This collection documents the 90th Bombardment Group service during World War II. The collection is a donation from the 90th Bomb Group Association by Thomas Fetter, one of the association founders. Much of the material was gathered for John Alcorn, who was writing The Jolly Rogers, titled after the group’s unofficial name. Many of images have been scanned and are in the 01-series of photos (00024560-00024717) and Album 237 90th Bomb Group.
Important Personalities & Subjects

Aircraft Nose Art; Battle of the Bismarck Sea; Bomber aircraft; Consolidated B-24D Liberator; Jolly Rogers; Southwest Pacific theatre of World War II; U.S. Army Air Forces.

Series Description

SERIES I: Photographs
SERIES II: Diaries, Correspondence and Documents

Box Listing

Series I: Photographs

Box 1 of 5

1. Photo Album 1: Photos have been scanned and are now in the 01-series of photos (00024560-00024717) - they are the documents contained in that album
2. Photo Album 2: Photos have been scanned and are now in the 01-series of photos (00024560-00024717) - they are the documents contained in that album
3. Photo Album 3: Photos of 90th bomb group aircrews
4. Photo Album 4: Photos of 90th Bomb Group personalities
5. Photo Album 5: Photos of 90th Bomb Group bases
6. Photo Album 6: Photos of 90th Bomb Group targets

Series II: Diaries, Correspondence and Documents

7. Binder 7: Miscellaneous documents on personalities, correspondences

Box 2 of 5

2. Binder 9: Diary (copy) of Wiley Woods, Navigator 320th Squadron
3. Binder 10: Diary (copy) of Paul E. Johnson, 319th Squadron Pilot
5. Binder 12: Correspondences from Colonel A.H. Rogers to John Alcorn
6. Binder 13: Diary (copy) of Captain Clay Holiday, 400th Squadron Staff (in folder)
7. Binder 14: Documents ofLt. Walter Higgins, 321st Squadron Pilot, including recollections of Bismarck Discovery
8. Binder 15: Diary (copy) of James McMurria, 321st Squadron Pilot
9. Binder 16: Diary (copy) of W.C. Presley 320th Squadron Bombardier
10. Binder 17: Diary (copy) of M. Freeman Jr., 321st Squadron bombardier
11. Binder 18: Diary (copy) of Carl Camp, 320th Squadron
12. Binder 19: Recollections of Carl Camp, 320th Squadron
17. Binder 24: 90th Bomb Group Ops 1/45-6/45

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1. Binder 25: Balikpapan Raids
2. Binder 26: 319th Squadron 1/44-8/44
5. Binder 29: 319th Squadron 1/44-8/44
7. Binder 31: 321st Squadron 1944

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2. Binder 34: 400th Squadron Field Orders 1/44-8/44
3. Binder 35: 400th Squadron 1/44-8/44
6. Binder 38: Weekly Status Ops and Reports 319th Squadron
7. Binder 39: Weekly Status Ops and Reports 320th Squadron
8. Binder 40: Weekly Status Ops and Reports 321st Squadron
9. Binder 41: Weekly Status Ops and Reports 319th Squadron

Box 5 of 5

1. Binder 42: Miscellaneous Correspondences
2. Binder 43: 90th Bomb Group Operation Losses
3. Binder 44: Correspondences 90th Bomb Group and Association
   Names included: Matt Higgins; A. H. Rogers; Tom Fetter; Harry Clay, Jr.; Paul Johnson; Lloyd H. Adams; Vernon Ekstrand; Woody Keefe; and misc.
4. Binder 45: Correspondences 90th Bomb Group and Association
   Names included: Carl Camp; “Dusty” Swanson; Gordon Bixler; Mel Barton; George Matoy, Jr.; William Bomicino; Richard Sanderson; Manville Heisel; E. A. Wood, Jr.; Stephen J. Novak; Jan Zirkle; Ray Rhodes; Russ Whitcomb; Paul Gottke; Murray Pearl; Frank B. Fosket; Francis E. Woodling; Edward T. Keyworth, Jr.; Paul Matt; George W. Eckrich; F. Tucker Fuller; and Paul Matt (book editor?).

End of Box Listing