The S.A. Merritt Papers

An Inventory of Archival and Manuscript Holdings of the S.A. Merritt Papers at U.S. Cavalry Memorial Research Library

U.S. Cavalry Association
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Finding aid by Dr. Mark H. Danley with assistance from Leslie Tangeman

Contents

Overview of the Collection

Using the materials in this collection: Researchers who wish to consult the materials in this collection should fill out a call slip request the box and folder no.

Photocopying: If you wish photocopies of any items in this collection, please consult library staff who will provide instructions. Do not remove any items from folders or boxes; existing order of unbound materials must be maintained.

Publication: Permission to examine archival or manuscript materials for research does not constitute permission to publish. Any publication of materials.

All materials in this collection may be protected by copyright.

Overview of the Collection

Creator: Merritt, Sylvester Aloysius, 1899-1976?
Title: Papers
Size/Extent: ca 5 cubic feet
Collection Cat. No. AP2
Languages: English
Abstract: Typescript and manuscript correspondence and diaries, types transcriptions of official documents, and scrapbooks documenting army life 1920s - 1950s and activities in
Biographical Note on S.A. Merritt

Sylvester Aloysius Merritt, known as “S.A. Merritt” or “Hippsky Merritt” to his colleagues and friends, was born on November 1, 1899 in Grand Rapids, MI to Henry Eli Merritt and his wife, the former Mary Ann Mara. Little information on Merritt’s childhood and youth is available, but sometime during his childhood Merritt left Michigan, and by 1919 Merritt was working in the steel industry in Pennsylvania. Around that time, according to his diary, he became dissatisfied with the area and left, spending a few months working a series of industrial and service jobs in Ohio and Michigan. Later that year, while in Cincinnati, Ohio, Merritt enlisted in the Army on 28 November 1919, beginning a military career that would span a total of 35 years of service.

Merritt was assigned to Troop B, 8th Cavalry in Fort Bliss, Texas. In 1921 Merritt advanced to Private First Class. He reenlisted at the end of his first three-year term, and reenlisted continuously every three years until 1942. Around 1922 through 1924, Merritt served as troop clerk, A Troop, 8th Cavalry. This assignment marked the beginning of Merritt’s long experience with army administration, which he continued for nearly the three decades of his service. In 1923 he served as regimental historian, and helped a Sergeant Sullicam compile a history of the regiment. Merritt was promoted to corporal in January 1925, and was by then serving in A Troop of the 8th Cavalry. In 1926 Merritt spent six months on detached service at the U.S. Cavalry School at Fort Riley, Kansas. Upon his return in November 1926, he began special duty as a clerk in the personnel office of the regimental headquarters.

Merritt was promoted to sergeant in early 1927, by now working in Service Troop, 8th Cavalry. In 1927, a trip AWOL for several months resulted in a conviction by special court martial and reduction in rank to private, but Merritt earned corporal again by August of that year, and sergeant again by October. The following year, 1928 with another enlistment completed, Merritt signed on for another three years, though his family hoped he would leave the military service. During that year he served in Headquarters Troop, 8th Cavalry and operated the Message Center and Regimental Headquarters. In 1929 Merritt was again at Fort Riley, this time in the noncommissioned officers’ class at the Cavalry School. At some point during his military career Merritt received the nickname “Hippsky”. The exact origins are unknown but Merritt did suffer from a dislocated hip at one point earlier in life.

In early 1920s Merritt experienced the effects of the Great Depression on the Army as in August 1933 he was sent on detached service with the CCC (Civilian Construction Corps) and was appointed acting sergeant major of the CCC Area Headquarters Arizona-New Mexico District. Merritt spent much of the rest of the 1930s at Fort Bliss with the 8th Cavalry. By 1924 he had reached staff sergeant, and was acting sergeant major of the 1s Squadron, 8th Cavalry. In that year he also married Mary Wilma Lang, daughter of his older army colleague, Frank M. “Batty” Lang, also stationed at Fort Bliss in the 8th Cavalry. Merritt and his father-in-law enjoyed a close relationship, even after Lang retired in 1935, and in the decades that followed until Lang’s death in 1965. In 1938, Merritt, still a staff sergeant, had moved to HQ Troop, 8th Cavalry. During several summers he performed special duty helping to run the CMTC (Civilian Military Training Camps) at Fort Blss, serving as acting sergeant major of the CMTC in 1938. In 1938-39 he was serving as first sergeant, Troop E. 8th Cavalry. Merritt was promoted again to Master Sergeant on 3 February 1941, serving in Headquarters Troop, as the S-2 and S-3 and S-3 NCO; he became regimental Sergeant Major in September 1941.

After American entry into the Second World War, Merritt earned a commission and began his 12 year active service as a commissioned officer. He was appointed captain in teh Adjutant General’s Department of the Arm of the United States, and assigned later that month as an Instructor, Law and Administration Department, Provos Marshal General’s School Center, Fort Oglethorpe, GA. Merritt retained his position and moved to Fort Custer MI when the PMG school moved later in 1942. There Merritt served as Executive Officer of the School and in
1943 was promoted to major. He changes posts again with the school at Fort Sam Houston, Texas in 1944. On August 11, 1945, Merritt left for overseas service. In the Philippines, c. 1945-46 (exact dates not known as of writing of this finding aid April 2004) Merritt served as commander LUPOW (Luzon Prisoner of War Camp), guarding and overseeing the repatriation of Japanese POWs. In 1946 he was assigned as Provost Marshal, Philippine Base Command, HQ in Madaluyong, Rizal, later moving to serve as commander, , dependent housin in Manila and Fort McKinley. The following year he was reassigned as Inspector General of Base R, Batangas City, Philippines, and later in May of that year sent to Finschaeffan, New Guinea, and reassigned to Graves Registration. Merritt was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on August 28, 1947. In 1948 Merritt left New Guinea to serve in the U.S. again. During the late 1940s and early 1950s Merritt served as an officer in the Ohio Military District, and at the Adjutant General’s School. In June 1952 he was ent overseas again to Sasebo, Japan.

S. A. Merritt retired from the U.S. Army at Camp Stoneman, CA, with 35 years federal service, on 25 March 1954. S. A. and Wilma Merritt spent much of their retirement in Tucson, Arizona. During his retirement, Merritt became an enthusiastic and active amateur historian, collection and transcribing a considerable number of unit rosters, and unit holiday dinner menus, which often had rosters printed on them. Merritt was also very active in cavalry veterans organizations, particularly the 1st Cavalry Division Association, which he sometimes helped with membership drives. Merritt also corresponded frequently with former comrades from the interwar army, or “old army” as he called it. He frequently took the initiative in inviting his friends to remember their service together. He did this through written narrative and was a prolific writer of reminiscences. Merritt not only distributed his works to his friends and correspondents but solicited responses from them as well. He particularly enjoyed collecting and transcribing unit personnel rosters, particularly from the various troops of the 8th Cavalry Regiment and other units of the 1st Cavalry Division of the 1930s. S. A. and Wilma Merritt seen to have traveled often during their retirement, often to visit cavalry veteran’s association conventions, and to visit friends and relatives. Merritt corresponded with and visited his three sons and their families during the 1960s a well. Merritt’s exact date of death is unknown, but it is believed he died sometime shortly after he originally donated his papers to the U.S.C.A. (then the U.S. Horse Cavalry Association) c. 1976-77.

S. A. Merritt and Wilma Merritt had three children, all sons, Ralph W. Merritt (b. 1929, later served as a transporation officer in the U.S. Army), Thomas N. Merritt (n. 1931, later served as a U.S. Air Force NCO), an Sylvester Aloysious Merritt, Jr., (n. 1935, also known to his family as “Blue”, later served as an Infantry Officer in the U.S. Army). All three of Merritt’s sons served in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War era.

Scope and Content of the Collection

Organization of the Collection

The collection is organized into six sections/series:

Many original photographs from the scrapbooks and other items within the various series below have been removed for preservation from regular folders to the photograph storage boxes for this collection; photocopies have been placed in the regular folders document placement, layout, etc. of the photographs. The container listing following each series description lists which photos correspond to the items in that box and folder. As explained in the custodial history section below, many photographs originally scrapbooks kept by Merritt were removed from original leaves and placed in the USMCRL photograph collection. Most are found in the USCMRL

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate cited item and series here], Papers of S.A. Merritt, AP2, U.S. Cavalry Memorial Research Library, U. Cavalry Association, Fort Riley, Kansas

Researchers should consult the latest edition of Chicago Manual of Style or other style manual appropriate for their discipline for additional information.
Custodial History

Merritt donated his papers to the U.S. Cavalry Association, then the U.S. Horse Cavalry Association, in 1976, and shortly before his death. (probably 1977-78) (His exact date of death is not know, but is believed to be around 1976; see Biographical Note above). Much of Merritt’s collection was dispersed soon after acquisition within the offices of the U.S. Cavalry Association, as the Association at that time did not have a library and archival program. In the years that followed the founding of the USCMRL in 1996, but before it was organized according to professional archival standards, some of Merritt’s materials were further dispersed. Some scrapbooks that came from Merritt were placed in the USCMRL photo collection. Some of these photographs, as with a few other items that came from Merritt, were accessioned individually using the pre-2004 individual accession card system. Other papers from Merritt were placed into the USCMRL “Reading Files” or general files, and organized by subject rather than provenance. During 2001-2003, photographs were removed from scrapbook leaves for preservation purposes, but with Merritt’s caption and description information recorded. In most cases the provenance of the photographs was either evident from the descriptions, or recorded on the photograph enclosure. In 2004 the USCMRL decided to attempt to restore as many of Merritt’s papers as possible to a collection organized, arranged and described according to professional archival standards. Items with a clear provenance of S.A. Merritt were removed from subject-organized archival storage boxes, from the USCMRL Reading Files, and from collections of unorganized items. Items recovered were arranged into the series listed and described below. A large number (approx. 3 boxes) of photographs originally from Merritt’s scrapbooks are excluded from the collection described in this finding aid, and located in the USCMRL photograph collection 8th Cavalry Regiment boxes I-III. In most cases, as noted above, provenance and Merritt’s own description information has been recorded and is still available. Original layouts of these scrapbooks, however, was not recorded.

Processing Information:

Collection processed by Dr. Mark H. Danley, Leslie Tangeman, with assistance Dorothy Greenawalt in April 2004; processing included restoring dispersed materials to original provenance, see important information under Custodial History above for additional explanation.

Series Descriptions and Container Listings

Series I. Indexes and Inventories

Indexes of personal records, photograph albums, scrapbooks printed books (including military manuals), and household items, 1950-51; indexes and inventories of personal records and correspondence; indexes to volumes of transcribed historical materials and data, c. 1955 - c. 1964, probably superceding part of previous index; index of scrapbooks c. 1963?; address book [of correspondents, family, former comrades, etc.], c. 1961? Some alphabetical organization within each chronological grouping, address book organized alphabetically. It is very likely that Merritt changed the organization of the records he created several times, and some parts of the indexes to correspondence and collected historical material may supercede other parts. Only a very few items mentioned by Merritt in the items in this series are contained in the collections of the USCMRL. Photocopies of all Merritt’s indexes and inventories are available bound, with the pages of the photocopies numbered. Items in the following series that are possibly referred to in these indexes and inventories are indentified, citing the page number in the photocopied indexes. Many photographs originally in scrapbooks described in these indexes are now in the USCRL photograph collection (See above p. 7 of this finding aid.) Note also that some additional indexes and inventories are found in Series II.

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<td>2</td>
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<td>Address book V-Z</td>
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Series II. Diaries and related material  Diaries and journals made kept by Merritt 1919-1960; typescript transcriptions produced by Merritt, c. 1950s-1960s, using his own originals. (No manuscript originals of the typed portions appear extant, though some orginal manuscript leaves which Merritt did not transcribe. Exact date of transcription of some of the diaries by Merritt is unknown. Whether Merritt added additional commentary at the time of transcription is also not certain.

The series contains two diaries. The first is titled Diary, Journal or Whatever you Might Desire to Call It (see p. 136 of index). This diary itself seems to consist of several distinct sections, some with their own titles. The first of these sections, titled “A Journal of Many Trips and Travels Throughout the United States” covers 1919-1933. The years 1919-1924 spans only two pages, the detailed bulk of the diary beginning in 1925. Merritt notes that he typed the transcription in 1951. He discusses a number of subjects related to his service as an enlisted cavalryman, including mention of cavalry field exercises and training missions, a trip AWOL during 1927 and the consequences when he turned himself in, a great number of procedures and practices regarding duties, daily life and recreation for enlisted soldiers during the 1920s-1930s, time spent with girlfriends and his future wife, Wilma Lang. Merritt also mentions by title particular books read and movies seen, and description of parties and social occassions. Following some notes for 1934 is an inventory of books marked 1935; Merritt’s indexes (p. 136) indicate he intended to be kept with his diary. The second subpart of this first diary is titled “Events, Notes, Diary and What Not” and begins in 1942, starting with Merritt’s commissioning as a Captain in the Adjutant General’s Department (CHECK) Here Merritt records incidents of state-side service in the Adjutant General’s Department during World War II, including service in the Provost Marshal General School, visits from wife and children, statements of expenses, and a wide variety of experiences and incidents regarding wartime army administration in the continental United States. A following section covers c. 1945-1952, the entries becoming more frequent and extensive around 1954 when Merritt retired. These manuscript sections detail Merritt’s activities, socializing and corresponding with friends including former comrades. Also included are details of expenditures (household and other), travelogues, visits from and correspondence with Merritt’s three sons and their families. Included is a cartoon about the birth of a pet dog’s puppies, some commentary on national and international politics, including an essay “Why I Became a Democrat in 1956”, part of which was transcribed from the Dec 1955 issue of Army Navy Air Force Journal (CHECK). Included with this diary, interleaved in chronological sequence and reflecting Merritt’s arrangement, is a small amount of correspondence. Some relates to Merritt’s efforts in 1952 to secure a birth certificate from the probate court of Kent County, Michigan. A few letters to Merritt’s aunt, Eliza McGinty contain commentary regarding his thoughts about his current army assignments. This section ends around 1956; a final section covers events of 1960, ending the first diary.

The second diary in this series seems to be an entirely separate creation. It is titled “Fort Bliss Texas: 1930 and Continue the Years --Miscellaneous. It consists entirely of a fairly detailed daily account of the Citizens Military Training Camps held at Fort Bliss, TX in 1938, 1939, and 1940 including copies of various policies an procedures, orders, etc. interspersed with Merritt’s own narrative. Disbound during processing.

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<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Record of Events, Diary, Journal or Whatever You Might Desire to Call It, 1954-60</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fort Bliss, Texas and Continue the Years, July 1 to July 13, 1938</td>
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<td>July 30, 1938 to July 24, 1940</td>
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Series III. Correspondence and records mostly relating to cavalry veterans organizations (1st Cavalry Division Association and 8th Cavalry Regiment Association). Includes copies of letters 1965-68, holiday greetings and matters regarding membership in the 1st Cavalry Division Association, organized alphabetically by correspondent’s name. Copies of letters sent and received to and from the same correspondent reflecting Merritt’s original arrangement. Many of the letters also contain reminiscences of life and service in U.S. Army horse cavalry units during the 1920s-1930s, and cover a very wide variety of topics. Correspondents include Series also includes a copy of Directory of the Membership: 1st Cavalry Division Association, 1965 edition, also a notebook/binder of ca. 500 leaves of 1st Cavalry Division Association membership information and correspondence, 1958 - c. 1965. Notebook/binder Organized chronologically, with Merritt’s dividers by year. Most correspondence consists of invitations to the join the 1st Cavalry Division
Association, but some contain reminiscences on army life in the 1920s-1930s as well as updates on the present status (c.1950s-1960s) of former comrades. (This notebook/binder may be the item listed as “Vol. 8” on p. 67 of Merritt’s index; see photocopy). Series also includes leaves from a scrapbook include group photos of veterans and spouses, programs, etc. made by Merritt documenting 1st Cavalry Division memorials and Association meetings/reunions, c. 1949- c. 1965 (original photographs removed to photograph storage boxes of this collection; photocopy of leaves showing original layout in folder); maps of Fort Bliss, Texas 1958 (from 1958 reunion of 1st Cavalry Division Association), miscellaneous correspondence related to 1st Cavalry Division Association, 1963-1968, two items on 8th Cavalry Regiment Association: pamphlet with roster (c. 1946?) and narrative with transcribed rosters by Merritt on reunion of 8th Cavalry Regiment personnel, 1964

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<td>Correspondence 1965-68 Powell, Dupert - Yost, Ralph E.</td>
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<td>Directory of the Membership, 1965</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Binder (membership information and correspondence), 1958-65</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Scrapbook leaves and photocopies of scrapbook 1st Cavalry Division memorials and reunions, c. 1949-65</td>
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<td>14P</td>
<td>1-14</td>
<td>Photographs from scrapbook</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Misc. correspondence, 1963-68</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>8th Cavalry Regiment reunion materials</td>
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Series IV. Cavalry Historical Materials Contains wide variety of historical material on horse cavalry units of the U.S. Army, especially the 8th Cavalry Regiment, collected by Merritt, mostly during the period of his retirement, starting in 1954. Many of the documents in this series are Merritt’s typescript transcriptions of primary source material such as rosters, unit holiday dinner menus, etc. Consists of ____ subseries; see subseries descriptions below

Subseries A. General cavalry historical information Typescript notes and narratives on cavalry equipment 1930s-1940s, general history of cavalry units, typescript narrative by Merritt Reminiscing with ye Olde Army Prior to 1930 with commentary on everyday practice of small unit administration, military justice, consumer credit for soldiers et. al.; notes on posts and stations of cavalry units of the U.S. Army, 19th-20th centuries, including compilation The Horse in All Its Glory: Posts, Camps and Stations of the Horse Cavalry Regiments, 1905-1921; correspondence and other notes on histories of forts, camps, and posts where cavalry units were stationed; narratives on polo at Fort Bliss, Texas and Army polo in general; rosters, lists of stations, correspondence with veterans, narratives, etc. of 6th Cavalry Regiment, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 11th Cavalry Regiment, military police units at Fort Bliss, 82nd Field Artillery (Horse). Correspondents include Tom Slade, 7th Cavalry Regiment, veteran of 7th Cavalry 1913-1940, including service on Mexican border; rosters and historical narratives of the 1st Cavalry Division (Cite Pubs??) 1920s-1960s; transcripts of cavalry songs and verses, correspondence with private organization U.S. Cavalry Memorial Association, Midway, CA, 1965-67.

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<td>Notes and narratives [incl. Reminiscing with ye Olde Army, Horse in All His Glory, and others]</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Notes on Posts and stations of cavalry regiments</td>
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<td>Notes of narratives on polo</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Rosters, lists of stations, letters, etc. 6th, 7th, 10th, 11th Cavalry Reg.; Ft. Bliss MP’s; 82nd FA (Horse); incl. Tom Slade corresp.</td>
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<td>1st Cavalry Division historical materials (to c. 1944)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1st Cavalry Division historical materials (Vietnam War)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Transcriptions of cavalry songs, verses</td>
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Subseries B. Biographical information on cavalry personnel Subseries includes narratives, biographical dataforms, original and duplicated documents, correspondence, etc. containing biographical
information on various cavalrymen c. 1920s-1950s, many of whom served in the 8th Cavalry Regiment, some documents are Merritt’s transcriptions of autobiographical sketches; organized alphabetically by last name of biographee; subseries also includes typescript drafts of lists of USMA graduates who served in the cavalry, and bound compilation of typescript lists by Merritt titled *Graduates of West Point 1886 thru 1942: A Partial List who Served in the 1st Cavalry Division*...

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<td>6</td>
<td>Narratives, biographical forms, etc. general and alphabetical by last name, Collier, John L - White, Van C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>typescript drafts of rosters bound compilation <em>Graduates of West Point 1886 thru 1942</em></td>
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**Subseries C. 8th Cavalry Regiment historical materials** Subseries contains original and transcribed rosters of 8th Cavalry Regiment officers and noncommissioned officers, 1934-1943 (not complete for those all years), also roster of personnel from Luzon Prisoner of War Camp No 1, 1946. [These materials seem to have been originally grouped together by Merritt and are retained together here.]. Subseries also contains manuscript compilation titled *Personnel ad Non-Commissioned Officers Who Served With the Eighth U.S. Cavalry, 1919-1942 [with] Some Remarks Added by C. P. Jones, 29 Nov 1957*; compilation by Merritt with Jones’ mss. commentary on personal abilities and character traits of soldies and NCO’s mentioned. Subseries further contains draft typescript transcriptions of 8th Cavalry narratives, records of events, rosters anc etc. (transcribed) on 8th Cavalry Regiment and their personnel, including reminiscences, extracts from diaries, etc. Rosters, narratives, records of events, etc. organized with documents relating to entire regiment first, then l component units of regiment, in chronological order. One photograph from leaf with biographical information removed to photograph storage box for this collection, clipping replaced in file with preservation photocopy.

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<td><em>Personnel ad Non-Commissioned Officers Who Served With the Eighth U.S. Cavalry, 1919-1942</em></td>
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<td>Draft transcriptions of rosters</td>
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<td>Narratives, rosters, records of events, etc., 8th Cav. Reg.,1866-1936 (includes photocopy of leaf with clippings and photograph; clippings replaced by photocopy; photo removed to photo box for this collection)</td>
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<td>Narratives, rosters, records of events, etc., 8th Cavalry Reg., 1937-1939</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Narratives, rosters, records of events, etc., 8th Cav. Reg., 1940-42; HQ and Svc Troop; HQ Troop, 1927-1941</td>
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<td>14P</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Photo from leaf with clipping and bio. information</td>
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<td>MG Troop 1935-, Trps A 1926-1945, B 1935, C 1918, E 1930-1940</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Index cards listing service records, data of 8th Cav. Reg., c. 1918-1943</td>
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**Subseries D. Compilations and bound volumes** Subseries consists of cavalry historical and biographical materials bound together or kept together by Merritt, or believed to have been kept together by Merritt. The material in Box 7, folders 2-6 may have been kept together by Merritt and may be the items once contained in the “Volume No. I” of compilations *Historical Data of Cavalry (Horse)* listed on p. 86 of Merritt’s index (see photocopy). Many of the rosters included are from transcribed unit holiday dinner menus from the 1920s-1930s. Some of these compilations contain copies of correspondence with reminiscences, etc. of life in the horse cavalry during the 1920s-1930s. The two binders of historical material that follow are vol. I and vol. III respectively of Merritt’s *Historical Data of Cavalry (Horse)*, listed on p. 86 of his index (see photocopy). Volume II is organized alphabetically by subject, but without any subject listing. It does have a table of contents, but without references to specific pages or sections. Included are biographical narratives and data of some of Merritt’s colleagues and friends, including his father-in-law, M Sgt. Frank “Batty” Lang, correspondence from Merritt to his children and friends, original documents of 8th Cavalry Regiment field exercises in August, 1940, original pencil cartoons depicting army life 1920s-1940s including one depicting a cavalryman’s reaction to mechanization, records and notes of the 8th Cavalry non-commissioned officers’ club,
and clippings (c. 1956-59) from the column “Desert Notebook” by J.F. Wedock from the newspaper Arizona Daily Star. (original clippings replaced with preservation photocopies.) Many of the letters and narratives in the volume contain significant reminiscences into army life during the 1920s-1930s. Volume III has a table of contents. The volume is unpaginated, but is organized roughly by numbered sections, though it is not clear if the table of contents refers to them. The volume consists mostly of letters and separately titled narratives and essays, including some opinion pieces by Merritt in which he reflects on current events from his perspective of a long-serving army veteran. Some newscuttings included. Narratives contain reminiscences of army life during the period between the world wars.

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Series V. Scrapbook  Contains scrapbooks and groups of scrapbook leaves not associated with and not included with one of the series above. Series includes small group of leaves, probably from larger scrapbook not extant with rosters and programs and probably referred to on p. 111 of Merritt’s index (see photocopy), includes copy of Official Program: The Hawaiian Division Annual Horse and Transportation Show, Schofield Barracks, T.H., June 5th and 6th, 1931, [unit holiday dinner napkin with roster removed to oversized box, photocopy at 64% reduction placed in file with other leaves]; also leaves with holiday greeting cards and few other items, c. 1950-54 from scrapbook remainder of which probably not extant; also leaves probably from scrapbook Motor trip from Columbus, OH to Tucson, Arizona and Return, 1951, referred to as no. 12 on p. 133 of Merritt’s indexes (see photocopy); series also includes group of approx. 106 leaves with mostly photos depicting incidents of Merritt’s service and travels in East Asian regions c. 1946-47 including Philippines, New Guinea, New Britain, Korea, with photos of Luzon P.O.W. camp some depicting Japanese prisoners with brief commentary, pencil drawing “My Filipino houseboy’s conception of Guerilla Warfare during Japanese occupation on island of Panay, P.I.”; also leaves from scrapbook with photos of Merritt’s friends and former comrades Dale Woosley and Mary Stone, includes photo Wosley on recruiting service c. 1942; also scrapbook (mostly printed/duplicated newsletters, etc.) titled Scrap Book: 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) Vietnam 1966; scrapbook ca. 70 leaves with photos c.1949-1960s of Merritt’s friends and former colleagues from 8th Cavalry Regiment and their families, etc. (in process of having photos removed as of April 2004, photocopy documenting layout available). Series also includes large folio size scrapbook (appears made from commissary shopping bags bound together using tape), title Fort Bliss 1938 - ?, with Merritt’s note that material is not in chronological order. Contains large number of newspaper clippings c. 1938 - c. 1960s?, also other ephemera materials, some full newspapers laid in, also maneuver maps, some hand-drawn from 1941 Louisiana maneuver Series further contains small amount of miscellaneous items and leaves probably from scrapbooks not extant, exact date of scrapbook not known, items original booklet Manuever Flags of First Cavalry Division The Flag War of Third Army At/In Louisiana April--May--1940 [includes evaluation criteria for unit during maneuvers], also include three postcards to Merritt while at Adjutant General’s school in Fort Custer, MI, 1943-44. [some photos removed and placed in photograph storage boxes for this collection, photocopies documenting layout of item in folder]
Box  Folder  Contents
11  1  Scrapbook leaves 8th Cavalry rosters, programs etc. 1919-1942
13OS  1  Napkin with menu and roster, Thanksgiving dinner, Nov. 24, 1927, Service Troop, 8th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Bliss, TX
10  1-3  Scrapbook leaves Merritt’s travels and service in East Asian regions, c. 1946-47
11  2  Scrapbook leaves holiday greeting cards, etc. c. 1950-54
     3-4  Scrapbook leaves Motor trip from Columbus, OH to Tucson, Arizona and Return, 1951
           5  Scrapbook leaves Dale Woosley, Mary Stone
     6  Miscellaneous items from scrapbooks
14P  16-19  photographs and postcards from miscellaneous items from scrapbooks
11  -  Scrap Book: 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) Vietnam 1966
13OS -  Scrapbook [folio size]
12  -  scrapbook leaves friends and their families, c. 1949-1960s (still in process of having photos removed and rehoused as of April 2004)

Series VI. Other items  Includes pencil mss. notes apparently from undergraduate class at unknown college/university in constitutional law and philosophy.

Box  Folder  Contents
12  1  Notes from constitutional law and philosophy classes

INDEX TERMS
United States. Army -- Administration (LCSH?)
United States. Army -- Organization (?)
Citizen’s Military Training Camps

List of separately titled items included in this collection


Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division. Information Section. 1st Cavalry Division: The First Team. Korea, 1958. 32 p. Box 5, Folder 2

Official Program: The Hawaiian Division Annual Horse and Transportation Show, Schofield Barracks, T.H., June 5th and 6th, 1931. n.p.., 1931. Box 11, Folder 1

Illustrated Review Seventh U.S. Cavalry Fort Riley, Kansas, 1910. [extracts from; typescript transcriptions by Merritt]. under [“O”] divider, Hist. Vol. II  Box 8

Jacobs, Bruce. “Hell for Leather: The Story of the 1st Cavalry Division” Saga: True Adventures for Men May 1955, p. 28-33, 57-63. [pages disbound from magazine, with magazine cover] - Box 5, Folder 2

“Why I Became a Democrat in 1956” [partially transcribed(?)] from Army Navy AirForce Journal, December 1955 - Box 2, Folder 3

**Your Political Directory in a Nutshell.** League of Women Voters of Tucson, 1953 - Box 1, Folder 3

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**Unpublished separately titled items**

(all items authored by S.A. Merritt unless otherwise indicated; excludes separately titled items of only a few pages)

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Regiment of 8th Cavalry. October 1919 through October 9, 1921

“Observations of a Helicopter Pilot Who has just Returned from Vietnam, 21 November 1967” [unsigned; authorship not certain]

Personnel and Non-Commissioned Officers who Served with Eighth U.S. Cavalry 1919-1942 [mss.; some remarks added by C.P. Jones]

Reminiscing With Ye Olde Army Prior to 1930

Reunion of the Eighth U.S. Cavalry, Desert Inn, Tucson, Arizona, 26th August 1964

Sub-standard Quarters of Enlisted Men and Civilian Employees at Fort Bliss, Texas, 1919 thru 1928

To My Old Leather Britches Friend of the Horse Cavalry and Dear Pal...Mike (“Melvin Goocher”)...

Ye Olde Cavalryman of he Past: Captain Herbert L. Jackson, U.S.A. 1879-1950

**Narratives of Maj. W.A. Wilkerson** (enlisted service in Troop G, 8th Cavalry Regiment 1886-1891) (all in Hist. Vol. II, Box 8)

“The Big Bend Country of Texas” (signed ms. by Wilkerson and typed transcript by Merritt)

“The Death of Sitting Bull the Last of the Great Indian Chiefs, December 15, 1890” (signed ms. by Wilkerson)

“Four Months in the Saddle: the Cross-Country March of the 8th Cavalry From the Mexican to the Canadian Border” [1888] (signed ms. by Wilkerson and typed transcript by Merritt)

“How a Bottle of Whiskey Saved a Soldier’s Life” (signed ms. by Wilkerson and typed transcript by Merritt)

“Narrative of the ‘Parker Family’” (signed ms. by Wilkerson and typed transcript by Merritt)

“The Sioux Uprising of 1890-91 (The Sitting Bull Campaign)” (signed ms. by Wilkerson and typed transcript by Merritt)

**Subject Index**

This subject index is not intended to be exhaustive nor a substitute for consulting the collection itself to locate items of interest.

For listings that refer to separately titled pieces, compilations, etc. or items in them, and abbreviation of title given in italics, see “abbreviation in index” in table above. For Hist Vol. II, the letter of an alphabetically ordered section for which the original letter tabs appear missings is given in brackets, e.g. [“E”].

Note that some index entries refer to scrapbooks or items in scrapbooks that may have been moved since this index was compiled. Items listed as in Box 10 or Box 11 are in that box as of April 2004; Box 10 consists of scrapbook leaves, the photos and maps from which may be removed and rehoused later. Box 11 contains scrapbook leaves the photos from which also may be rehoused later. This index also contains references to
leaves in the scrapbook described as “scrapbook leaves friends and their families, c. 1949-1960s” in the description of Series V. above. References in this index are to the numbered pages/leaves of the photocopy of the whole scrapbook found, in Box 12 as of April 2004. Finally, this index lists maps in the folders in which they are housed as of April 2004; they may be removed later to oversize box 13OS.

1st Cavalry Division - campaigns, World War II, “Hell for Leather” - Box 5, Folder 2; inspection report of Troop A, 8th Cavalry August 8, 1945 - Box 5, Folder 6; campaigns, Vietnam - scrapbook, Box 11; documents: maneuver flags - Box 11, Folder 6; documents: unit cadres - Box 5, folder 2; field exercises, 1927-1928 - Diary Box 2, Folder 2; field exercises 1927, 1928, 1931 - Box 6, Folders 1-2; field exercises, 1931 - under “M” divider in Hist. Vol II Box 8

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Army spouses - Horse Soldier Box 4, Folder 6; Wedding invitation lists - Box 1, Folder 5; cartoons about domestic incidents, etc. between army spouses - under “C” divider, Hist. Vol. II, Box 8; see also “weddings”

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Wagons - “How a Bottle of Whiskey Saved a Soldier’s Life” - Hist. Vol. II Box 8

Wallace, Washington - [scrapbook leaves friends and their families, c. 1949-1960s], p. 3-4]

Weddings - photo “Nuptials of Larry Zink” - [scrapbook leaves friends and their families, c. 1949-1960s], p. 42; wedding invitation lists of Merritt’s sons - Box 1, Folder 5

Wilkerson, W.G. - narratives of late nineteenth-century 8th cavalry - Hist. Vol. II, Box 8

Wives - see Army spouses

Woosley, Dale D. - under divider [“P”] in Hist. Vol. II, Box 8; scrapbook leaves - Box 11, Folder 5

World War I - narrative on Bill Sleger - under [“O”] divider in Hist. Vol. II, Box 8

World War II - “Hell for Leather” - Box 5, Folder 2; Filipino impressions of Japanese - drawing, scrapbook, Box 10 [see Series V. description]