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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Inventory of the George Detwiler  
Borges Collection, 1929-1944**

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## Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary.....	3
Biographical Note.....	3
Collection Overview.....	3
Restrictions.....	3
Search Terms.....	4
Administrative Information.....	4
Inventory.....	6

## Descriptive Summary

<b>Title:</b>	George Detwiler Burges collection
<b>Date(s)</b>	1929-1944
<b>Creator:</b>	Burges, George Detwiler, 1917-1944
<b>Abstract:</b>	George Detwiler Burges graduated from the College of Charleston in 1938. He served as a B-17 pilot during World War II and was killed in action in 1944. This collection consists of Burges' personal papers, letters, military records, photographs, newspaper and magazine articles, and military decorations including the Purple Heart and Distinguished Flying Cross.
<b>Extent:</b>	3.0 linear feet (1 document box, 2 oversize flat boxes)
<b>Repository:</b>	Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries 66 George Street Charleston, SC 29424 Phone: (843) 953-8016 Fax: (843) 953-6319 URL: <a href="http://archives.library.cofc.edu">http://archives.library.cofc.edu</a>
<b>Call Number:</b>	Mss 0095
<b>Language of Material:</b>	Materials in English

## Biographical Note

George Detwiler Burges graduated from the College of Charleston in 1938 and was an accomplished athlete who excelled in basketball and swimming. He was a veteran of the first American bombings of the European continent. After a year of action and 51 bombing missions, he returned to the United States and spent about ten months training pilots. Later, he formed a bombing squadron of 12 Flying Fortresses. He was sent back to England and took part in the first United States and Royal Air Force bombing raids of France. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Army Air Medal, and the Purple Heart. He was killed in action over Manfredonia, Italy, when his plane collided with another B-17 aircraft in 1944.

## Collection Overview

This collection consists of magazine and newspaper articles, military promotion papers, bombing raid reports, transfer orders, discharge papers, witness reports, military decorations, correspondence, photographs and other documents about George Detwiler Burges.

## Restrictions

### Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

## Copyright Notice

The nature of the College of Charleston's archival holdings means that copyright or other information about restrictions may be difficult or even impossible to determine despite reasonable efforts. Special Collections claims only physical ownership of most archival materials.

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## Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

### Names

Burges, George Detwiler, 1917-1944  
College of Charleston--Alumni and alumnae  
United States. Army Air Forces--Biography

### Subjects

Bomber pilots--United States  
B-17 bomber  
Fighter pilots--United States--Biography  
World War, 1939-1945--Aerial operations, American  
World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--Europe  
World War, 1939-1945--Medals  
Military decorations--United States  
Purple Heart  
Distinguished Flying Cross (Medal)

### Types of Material

Black-and-white photographs  
Clippings (information artifacts)  
Certificates  
Diplomas  
Letters (correspondence)  
Magazines (periodicals)  
Medals  
Military records  
Orders (military records)  
Photocopies  
Pistols

## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], George Detwiler Burges collection, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

## **Acquisitions Information**

Donated by Julius Burges, Edward D. Buckley, and W. Rieppe Mehrtens in 2002 and 2004.

## **Processing Information**

Originally processed by Special Collections staff, 2002.

Edited and reprocessed for encoding by Martha McTear, November 2012.

Encoded by Gillian Cote, November 2012.

Reviewed, edited, and uploaded by Martha McTear, February 2013.

## Inventory

Box 1 Folder 1	Biographical file
Box 1 Folder 2	Newspaper clippings, 1937-1945
Box 1 Folder 3	U.S. Army orders and correspondence, 1940 November-1941 December
Box 1 Folder 4	U.S. Army orders and correspondence, 1942 January-1945 January
Box 1 Folder 5	<i>Army Wings 1941</i> , published for the graduates of class 41-1, Southeast Air Corps Training Center
Box 1 Folder 6	Pilot flight record and log book, 1941 May 5-July 7
Box 1 Folder 7	Pilot's log, 1941 May-December
Box 1 Folder 8	U.S. Army individual flight records, 1941 July-1944 March
Box 1 Folder 9	<i>Cochran Control</i> , Aviations Cadet official publication, Cochran Field, Macon Ga., 1941 September
	Two copies.
Box 1 Folder 10	U.S. Army flying equipment receipts and lists, 1941-1943
Box 1 Folder 11	Letters to the Misses Burges, 1942 October 3, 1943 March 24
Box 1 Folder 12	St. John's Lutheran Church, service for men and women now in the service of our country, 1943 May 23
	Includes a list.
Box 1 Folder 13	<i>The fighting 463rd: a narrative and pictorial history of the 463rd Bombardment Group (H)</i> , Harold Rubin, 1945-1949
Box 1 Folder 14	Florence American Cemetery and Memorial, Florence, Italy
	Brochure and color photographs.
Box 1 Folder 15	Photographs of George D. Burges, undated.
	Six black and white photographs of George D. Burges on the steps of a house in Charleston, S.C.; Four black and white photographs of George D. Burges in uniform.
Box 1 Folder 16	Photographs of the crew taken in England after the raid on Abbeville, France, 1942 August 19
	This photograph appeared in <i>Life</i> magazine in September 14, 1942. Includes list of crew. 2 copies.
Box 1 Folder 17	Photographs of "Berlin Sleeper"
	The crew in class, playing volleyball, airfield in England, outside quarters, in the air getting information for a raid, loading up the guns, and clouds over the Channel.
Box 2	Objects

Model 1911 service pistol and holster

World War II medals: Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, Army Air Medal and two flying wings.

Box 3

Oversize materials, 1929-1944

Bennett Public School Certificate of Merit, 1929 June 14

Charleston High School Diploma, 1933 June 9

Gymnasium Carolopolitanum Award, 1933 June 9

College of Charleston Diploma, 1938 May 24

U.S. Army Air Corps Training Center Diploma, 1941  
December 12

Purple Heart certificate, 1944

Two photographs of B-17s in formation and dropping bombs

*Life* magazines: 1942 April 6, 1942, September 14, 1943  
March 1

Articles on air task force, American planes on  
bombing missions and *Life's* Bourke-White goes  
Bombing.