Inventory of the George Detwiler Burges Collection, 1929-1944
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Descriptive Summary

Title: George Detwiler Burges collection

Date(s): 1929-1944

Creator: Burges, George Detwiler, 1917-1944

Abstract: 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.

Extent: 3.0 linear feet
(1 document box, 2 oversize flat boxes)

Repository: Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424
Phone: (843) 953-8016
Fax: (843) 953-6319
URL: http://archives.library.cofc.edu

Call Number: Mss 0095

Language of Material: 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

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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


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 | *Army Wings 1941*, published for the graduates of class 41-1, Southeast Aircorps 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 | *Cochran Control*, Aviations Cadet official publication, Cochran Field, Macon Ga., 1941 September |
| Box 1 Folder 10 | Two copies. |
| Box 1 Folder 11 | U.S. Army flying equipment receipts and lists, 1941-1943 |
| Box 1 Folder 12 | Letters to the Misses Burges, 1942 October 3, 1943 March 24 |
| Box 1 Folder 13 | St. John's Lutheran Church, service for men and women now in the service of our country, 1943 May 23 |
| Box 1 Folder 14 | Includes a list. |
| Box 1 Folder 15 | *The fighting 463rd: a narrative and pictorial history of the 463rd Bombardment Group (H)*, Harold Rubin, 1945-1949 |
| Box 1 Folder 16 | Florence American Cemetery and Memorial, Florence, Italy |
| Box 1 Folder 17 | Photographs of George D. Burges, undated. |
| Box 1 Folder 18 | Brochure and color photographs. |
| Box 1 Folder 19 | Photographs of the crew taken in England after the raid on Abbeville, France, 1942 August 19 |
| 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.