

Willard B. Prince collection of World War I maps and related materials.

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



**Geography and Map Division
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2013**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/gmd.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2007627349>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/eadgmd.gm013002>

Prepared by Ryan Moore

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Collection Summary

Title: Willard B. Prince collection of World War I maps and related materials

Span Dates: 1917-1949

Call No.: G5831.S65 coll .P7 Vault : Prince

Creator: Prince, Willard B., 1888-1949

Extent: 336 items

Extent: 336 pieces chiefly of printed maps, manuscript maps, manuscripts

Extent: 32 containers

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2007627349>

Summary: The Willard B. Prince collection of World War I maps and related materials contains Prince's wartime diary, manuscript maps, printed maps, postcards, photographs, letters, personal papers, military reports, and other materials. Sgt. Major Willard B. Prince served as a mapmaker in the 5th Division of the United States Army during World War I. After the war, Prince worked for the Downtown Athletic Club and conceived of the idea for the Heisman Trophy. A limited number records related to that history are present.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Prince, Willard B., 1888-1949, cartographer.

Prince, Willard B., 1888-1949--Correspondence.

Prince, Willard B., 1888-1949--Diaries.

Prince, Willard B., 1888-1949.

Stevenson, Kenyon, 1895-

Organizations

United States. Army. Division, 5th.

Subjects

Argonne, Battle of the, France, 1918--Maps.

Saint-Mihiel, Battle of, Saint-Mihiel, France, 1918--Maps.

World War, 1914-1918--Campaigns--France--Maps.

World War, 1914-1918--Campaigns--France--Vosges Mountains.

Places

France--History, Military--20th century--Maps, Manuscript.

Scotland--Maps.

Vosges Mountains (France)--History, Military--20th century.

Provenance

Gift of Marjorie Prince Howard (daughter), March 2006.

Processing History

The collection of Willard B. Prince was arranged and described in March 2006.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Willard B. Prince is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Geography and Map Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Willard B. Prince collection of World War I maps and related materials, Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1889-1910	Born and raised in Beverly, Massachusetts, where he attended school. Entered college at the Boston School of Fine Arts and graduated in 1910.
1917-1918	Became a cartographer and sergeant in the American Expeditionary Force during World War I. Prepared intelligence maps for the 5th Division, which saw combat in the Vosges, St. Mihiel, Argonne Meuse and East of the Meuse offenses. Designed the Division's crest. Prince claimed he was the first American trained in aerial photography under the French at Chaumont. Received the Verdun Medal and the Silver Star for bravery on the battlefield. Kept a diary of his wartime experiences.
1919	Promoted to Regimental Sergeant Major.
1935	Elected chairman of the Downtown Athletic Club and conceived of the idea for the Heisman Memorial Trophy.

Scope and Content Note

Consists principally of maps, some annotated, of France and of individual territories and regions of France during World War I. In addition, there are postcards, photocopied aerial views (many negatives) of ancient cities and fortresses, as well as various letters and a wartime diary. Materials related to his work with the Downtown Athletic Club and the Heisman Trophy are available.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1.	War Diary, Willard B. Prince. June 1917 - December 1918 Field Book 360 1. The Vosges, St. Mihiel. Argonne-Meuse and East of the Meuse offenses.
BOX 2.	Field Book 2. September 30, 1918 Headquarters Detachment of 5th Division. G-2-C Intelligence Section. Guide regarding aeroplane photographs. Confidential: Asst. Chief of Staff-GA, 5th Division.
BOOK 3.	Fifth Regular Division Book. Presented to Willard B. Prince by the 5th Division Society. Includes maps by Willard B. Prince. See pages 6, 364, 424.
FOLDER 4.	"Told from the Inside by former Regimental Sergeant Major W.B. Prince, 5th Division Headquarters." Six pages. Handwritten.
FOLDER 5.	Reminiscence of a Topographical Man in the U.S. Army. Four pages. U.S. Army Headquarters, 5th Division, American Expeditionary Force. Luxembourg.
FOLDER 6.	Headquarters Fifth Division. November 21, 1918 21 pages. American Expeditionary Force, France. Report of the Part Taken by Fifth Division in Operations of the First Army from September 26 to November 11, 1918. Report by Commanding Major General H.E. Ely. Presented to Willard B. Prince by G.E. Office.
FOLDER 7.	Newspaper photo of the Mauretania. 1918 From annotation: "The Mauretania as she looked in war time. My berth was six high in the smoking room. Left. N.Y. June 4, 1918 with no convoy, as she was a fast ship and considered able to avoid submarines. Land[ed] in Liverpool thence to France."
FOLDER 8.	"Battle maps of Napoleon, Foch and Pershing by Willard B. Prince, Formerly Regt. Sgt. Major, G-2-6, A.E.F. A Story." In tan folder.
FOLDER 9.	Collection of eight photographs. 1918 General Hanson Ely. Seven soldiers - U.S. Official - W.B. Prince, farthest to the right. U.S. Official 28294. Signal Corps picture of farm house and wagon. U.S. Official 40045. Note on verso: "Just before Armistice, Nov. 11, 1918. I slept in the French Chateau." Three soldiers studying a map. Bombed out church interior with soldier in center. U.S. Official 31344. Pontoon bridge over a small river with a soldier. U.S. Official 40070. Field and small town in background. U.S. Official 40098. Bridge with two horses and eight soldiers. U.S. Official 85386.
FOLDER 10.	Map on cardboard. November 2, 1918 Taken November 2, 1918. Annotation: "November 4-5 1918, Fifth Division crosses here."

Container List

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	Annotation: "This aeroplane photograph taken while Germans still held town. They can be seen in the streets between A-B. November 6, 5th Division, HQ, Red Cross hospital (2), shell holes, bridges destroyed in all places. Dun-sur-Meuse, church on the hill. Note shadow of plane."
FOLDER 11.	5th Division Crest Design by Willard B. Prince. Color and black and white. Used in World War II.
FOLDER 12.	First Reunion of 5th Division. List of 5th Division's units.
FOLDER 13.	Field Order No. 1. May 15, 1919 Last Division Order: "Who won the war?"
FOLDER 14.	Three French Maps. 1918 Enemy Order of Battle Showing German Divisions Engaged by the 5th Division. Sgt. W.B. Prince, G-2. Map. 6th Infantry at Treves by W.B. Prince. West of the Meuse, October 12 - November 4; East of the Meuse. November 4 - 11, 1918
FOLDER 15.	Scrapbook page. Enlisted June 1917, Beverly, MA, before draft. Joined field hospital #30. Later transferred to HQ of 5th Division.
FOLDER 16.	Scrapbook page. Annotation: "I was the first man in the American Army to be trained in aeroplane photography and work under the French..."
FOLDER 17.	Scrapbook page. Two photographs with notes.
FOLDER 18.	Scrapbook page. Document granting Willard B. Prince advancement to Sergeant Major.
FOLDER 19. and 20.	Scrapbook page. Awarding of Verdun Medal to W.B. Prince.
FOLDER 21.	Scrapbook page. Letter from King George to American soldiers.
FOLDER 22.	[Aerial photograph composite] Taken from a German Dugout South of Metz. September 13 - 18, 1918 German title: Bodenstaendig an die abloesende Truppe abgeben.
FOLDER 23.	A.B.C. Railway Guide. Railway Guide Map, Scotland.
FOLDER 24.	Map showing route of the Fifth Division from the Base Ports to the Training Areas, then to the Front and lastly to the "Army of Occupation" Zone. Manuscript map by Willard B. Prince.
FOLDER 25.	Four letters and one memorandum. October 15, 1918 Related to the discharge of Sgt. W.B. Prince. Photograph of front lines.
FOLDER 26.	(Manuscript) Maps to Show the Movements and Locations of the 5th Division in France. 1918 Map showing route of the 5th Division. The Anould Sector Held by the 5th Division. July 14 - 15, 1918 The St. Die Sector Held by the 5th Division. July 16 - August 23, 1918 Map of Frapelle. Map Operations of the Fifth Division in St. Mihiel Offensive. September 12 - 17, 1918 Trench lines in defense of the 5th Division sector.

Container List

Container

Contents

	Operations of the 5th Division West of the Meuse, Meuse-Argonne Offensive. Map 1. October 12 - November 4, 1918
	Operations of the 5th Division West of the Meuse, Meuse-Argonne Offensive. Map 2. November 4 - 11, 1918
	Area Occupied by the 5th Division in Belgium and Luxembourg. 8a. Enemy Order of Battle in the Argonne-Meuse Offensive.
	St. Mihiel Offensive.
	Meuse-Argonne Offensive. November 1918
	German map showing troop positions. May - June, 1918
FOLDER 27.	Letter from Charles Weber to Willard B. Prince. August 29, 1918
	Handwritten letter.
BOX 28.	"Permanent Record and Data" book by Willard B. Prince. 1905 - 1936
	Comments on Prince's role in the establishment of the Heisman Memorial Trophy by the Downtown Athletic Club.
FOLDER 29.	Downtown Athletic Club Journal. October 1949
	Portrait of Willard B. Prince on the cover and article dedicated to the memory of Willard B. Prince on page 1.
FOLDER 30.	Confidential Memo, HQ, 5th Division. September 30, 1918
	Annotation: "Maps to be distributed before an attack..."
FOLDER 31.	Liberty. March 24, 1928
	"Balloon Buster of Arizona..." Illustration annotated by W.B. Prince.
FOLDER 32.	"Post Cards of Europe and the War. W.B.P."
	293 postcards.