

**Georges F. Doriot Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2023**

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

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Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms001013>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2001  
Revised 2023 March

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Georges F. Doriot Papers

**Inclusive Dates:** 1917-1985

**ID No.:** MSS75492

**Creator:** Doriot, Georges F. (Georges Frederic), 1899-1987

**Extent:** 3600 items

**Extent:** 18 containers plus 1 classified

**Extent:** 6 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm88075492>

**Summary:** United States Army officer, artist, financier, and professor, Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration. Correspondence, reports, speeches and lectures, diaries, and photographs pertaining primarily to Doriot's military career in the research and development of equipment and supplies during and after World War II.

## 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

Doriot, Georges F. (Georges Frederic), 1899-1987.

### Organizations

United States. Army--Equipment.

United States. Army--Supplies and stores.

United States. Army. Quartermaster Corps.

### Subjects

World War, 1939-1945--Equipment and supplies.

### Occupations

Army officers.

Artists.

Educators.

Financiers.

## Acquisition Information

The papers of Georges F. Doriot, professor, brigadier general, artist, and financier, were given to the Library of Congress by Doriot's estate in 1988.

## Processing History

The papers of Georges F. Doriot were arranged and described by Bradley E. Gerand in 1992. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Georges F. Doriot is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Georges F. Doriot are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Security Classified Documents

Government regulations control the use of classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified items.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Georges F. Doriot Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1899, Sept. 24	Born, Paris, France
1914-1915	Student, Lynton College, Kent, England
1916-1920	Student, University of Paris, Paris, France
1920-1921	Student, Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration, Cambridge, Mass.
1925	Employed by Kuhn, Loeb, and Co.
1926-1941	Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, Cambridge, Mass.
1930, Dec. 20	Married Edna Blanche Allen (died 1978)
1938	L.H.D., Union College, Schenectady, N.Y.
1940, Jan. 8	Naturalized in Boston, Mass.
1941-1942	Chairman of the board, National Can Corp.
1941-1947	Officer, United States Army, Washington, D.C.
1942	M.A., Harvard University
1945, Dec. 18	Awarded Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, C.B.E.
1946-1966	Professor, Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration, Cambridge, Mass.
1947-1972	Officer, American Research and Development Corp., Boston, Mass.
1952	Lowell Technological Institute, Lowell, Mass.
1955	L.L.D., Emerson College, Boston, Mass.
1958	Founded Institut Européen d'Administration des Affaires (France)
1962	L.L.D., Ohio University, Athens, Ohio
1987, June 2	Died, Massachusetts

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Georges Frederic Doriot (1899-1987), university professor, military official, and venture capitalist, span the years 1917-1985, and include correspondence, reports, speeches and lectures, and diaries.

Doriot is perhaps best known for his lengthy and influential career as a professor at Harvard University where he taught from 1926 to 1966, except for a short break during World War II. His papers, however, principally concern his association with the United States Army during and after the war. Joining the armed forces as a lieutenant colonel, Doriot was attached to and later directed the army's equipment and supplies research and development unit, in which he distinguished himself and rose quickly to the rank of brigadier general. After returning to civilian life in 1946, Doriot continued his association with the army as a frequent consultant and an informal adviser to friends and colleagues who remained in the military,

many of them high-ranking officials such as secretaries and assistant secretaries of war and members of the joint chiefs of staff.

Doriot's papers, in the main, document his associations with the army and are arranged accordingly. The [General Files](#), containing correspondence and reports accumulated during his time as a civilian, reflect his interest in business and commerce and largely concern his role as civilian consultant to the military during the postwar and Cold War years. The [War Department Files](#), by contrast, contain correspondence, reports, and photographs accumulated and generated during Doriot's military service in World War II with the army's equipment and supplies research and development unit. These files chronicle the operation, mission, and state of the army's research and development program during the war and its association with similar programs of allied governments. Subjects for which there is ample documentation include procurement, design and development, simplification ("standardization"), and research results and ratings of items in the army's equipment and supplies inventory. Although the correspondence and reports have been organized as separate subseries within the [War Department Files](#), letters-of-transmittal may be found attached to various reports. Subjects of the photographs include Dwight D. Eisenhower, George C. Marshall, Henry Ford, Edsel Ford, Walter P. Chrysler, Thomas A. Edison, and Herbert C. Hoover. Edison, Hoover, and Ford are pictured at the dedication ceremony for the museum at Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Michigan.

## Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in three series:

- [General Files, 1917-1985](#)
- [War Department Files, circa 1929-1953](#)
- [Classified, 1948-1951](#)

## Description of Series

### Container

### Series

BOX 1-5

#### General Files, 1917-1985

Letters to and from friends, family, colleagues, and associates; reports; and speeches and lectures by Doriot concerning his teaching activities at Harvard University, his interest in business and commerce, the applications of research in the public and private sectors, and the defense of the United States.

Arranged by format (correspondence, reports, miscellany) and thereunder chronologically by year, month, and day.

BOX 6-18

#### War Department Files, circa 1929-1953

Letters to and from military officials and staff; reports; work diaries; photographs; and speeches by Doriot concerning the operation of the United States Army's research and development division to which Doriot was attached, the role of research and development in the war effort, and military affairs in general.

Arranged by subject and thereunder chronologically by year, month, and day.

BOX CL1

#### Classified, 1948-1951

Correspondence and reports.

Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

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Container	Contents
BOX 1-5	<p><b>General Files, 1917-1985</b></p> <p>Letters to and from friends, family, colleagues, and associates; reports; and speeches and lectures by Doriot concerning his teaching activities at Harvard University, his interest in business and commerce, the applications of research in the public and private sectors, and the defense of the United States.</p> <p>Arranged by format (correspondence, reports, miscellany) and thereunder chronologically by year, month, and day.</p>
BOX 1	Correspondence 1923-May 1948
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BOX 6-18	<p><b>War Department Files, circa 1929-1953</b></p> <p>Letters to and from military officials and staff; reports; work diaries; photographs; and speeches by Doriot concerning the operation of the United States Army's research and development division to which Doriot was attached, the role of research and development in the war effort, and military affairs in general.</p> <p>Arranged by subject and thereunder chronologically by year, month, and day.</p>
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## War Department Files, circa 1929-1953

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	"Army Forecasted Requirements and Procurement of Special Rations," 1945
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	"Chief of Staff Study on Uniforms and Equipment," 1946
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	"Defense of the R ; D [Research and Development] Budget," 1946
	"Determination of Depot Stock Levels Based on Operating Experience," 1945
	"Dortmund--Work Physiology Research Report" (re Kaiser-Wilhelm Institute fur Arbeits Physiologie in Dortmund, Germany), undated
	"Economic Preparation and Conduct of War Under Nazi Regime," 1946
	"Electric Accounting Machine Test," 1945
	"Equipment Section--Army Supply Program," undated
	"Experience with Equipment and Supplies," 1944

## War Department Files, circa 1929-1953

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	"Final Report and Recommendations," Office of The Quartermaster General Civilian Supply Mission, 1943-1946
	"Footwear Research," 1945
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	"General Principles Governing Selection of Clothing for Cold Climates," 1942
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BOX 12	"Major Problems Confronting the Quartermaster Corps," 1943-1944
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	"The Necessity for Continued Military Responsibility for Equipping the Armed Forces," undated
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	"Quartermaster Requirements Field Liaison," undated
	"Quartermaster Research and Development Lab," 1946
	"Reconnaissance Report on Concentrated Rations of Primitive Peoples," 1946 (2 folders)
	"Report on Compression of Dehydrated Foods," 1943
	"Report on Quartermaster Corps Production Conference," 1942
	"Report on the Technical Subcommittee on Synthetic Textiles," 1943
	"Requirements Study No. 47: Classification and Rebuilding of Worn Shoes for Re-issue [and] Relationship Between Worn Shoes Turned In and Quantities Rebuilt for Re-issue," 1945
	"Research Projects: Food Technology Laboratories," Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Brookline, Mass., 1942-1945 (1 folder)
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	"The Resistance of Light Weight Armor Materials to 20mm Shell Fragments," 1945
	"Some Administrative Techniques Used in Organization of War Assets Administration," 1946
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	"Staff Study on Army Quartermaster General Research Laboratory," 1950



## War Department Files, circa 1929-1953

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	"A Suggested Post-Armistice Training Program for Armed Forces on Overseas Assignments," undated
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	"Survey of AAF [Army Air Force] Flying Clothing," 1944
	Textile Series
	"Report No. 1: Quartermaster Purchases of Wool Clothes and Blankets for World War II," 1946
	"Report No. 43: Summary of Reports, Winter 1946-1947, on Arctic Field Trials, Quartermaster Textiles, Clothing and Footwear, Frigid, Williwaw and Frost," 1947
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