

George Sherwin Simonds Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2014

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82040113>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms014061>

Prepared by Trina Ihle
Revised by Brian McGuire

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2014

Collection Summary

Title: George Sherwin Simonds Papers

Span Dates: 1894-1937

ID No.: MSS40113

Creator: Simonds, George Sherwin, 1874-1938

Extent: 16,000 items

Extent: 26 containers

Extent: 10.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82040113>

Summary: Army officer. Correspondence, memoranda, and other records pertaining mainly to the operation of the U.S. Army's 2nd Corps with the British armies during the Ypres-Lys (Ieper) and Somme offensives of 1918, the operation of the American Embarkation Center (Le Mans, France), and the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments, Geneva, Switzerland, 1932-1934.

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

Simonds, George Sherwin, 1874-1938.

Organizations

American Embarkation Center (Le Mans, France)

Army War College (U.S.)

Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments (1932-1934 : Geneva, Switzerland)

Great Britain. Army.

United States Military Academy.

United States. Army--Demobilization.

United States. Army.

United States. Army. Corps, 2nd.

United States. War Department. War Plans Division.

Subjects

Military readiness.

Somme, 2nd Battle of the, France, 1918.

World War, 1914-1918--Campaigns--Belgium.

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

Places

Ieper (Belgium)--History.

Somme (France)--History.

United States--Defenses.

Occupations

Army officers.

Provenance

The papers of George Sherwin Simonds, army officer, were given to the Library of Congress by Florence Page Simonds via the Army War College in 1942.

Processing History

The Simonds Papers were processed circa 1995, and a finding aid was created in 2014.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of George Sherwin Simonds is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of George Sherwin Simonds 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.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1874, Mar. 12	Born in Iowa
1899	Graduated, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.
1899-1902	Served in American-Philippine War
1904-1917	Instructor, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.
1913	Published with Francis C. Marshall <i>A Military Primer; Including an Outline of the Duties and Responsibilities of the Military Profession and an Elementary Discussion of the Principles and Practice of the Service of Security and Information</i> . Columbus, Ohio: Edward T. Miller Co.
1914	Sent to France as observer of World War I
1917	Assigned to General Staff, Headquarters, American Expeditionary Forces
1924	Promoted to brigadier general
1927-1931	Chief, War Plans Division, War Department
1932	Assigned to Army War College
1933	Promoted to major general
1935-1936	Deputy chief of staff, War Department
1938	Died, San Francisco, Calif.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of George S. Simonds (1874-1938) span the years 1894-1937, with the bulk of the material pertaining to the operation of the U.S Army's 2nd Corps with the British armies during the Ypres-Lys (leper) and Somme offensives of 1918, the operation of the American Embarkation Center (Le Mans, France), and the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments, Geneva, Switzerland, 1932-1934. Included are correspondence, memoranda, reports, military orders, speeches, newspaper clippings, other printed matter, photographs, and miscellany. Personal correspondence begins with Simonds as a student and instructor at the United States Military Academy at West Point in the 1890s. Other papers consist of training documents, investigative files, personal records concerning the Army War College and the War Plans Division of the War Department, and background material on maneuvers, assignments, and national defense.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged by topic or type of material as organized and described by Simonds or his staff.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Air Corps, Baker Board (3 folders)
BOX 1	Army War College
BOX 1	General
BOX 1	A-B
BOX 1	C-E
BOX 2	C-E
BOX 2	H-Y (3 folders)
BOX 3	Aircraft
BOX 3	Citations and commendations
BOX 3	Cuba, 1906
BOX 3	“Our needs of National Defense,” 1934
BOX 3	Women’s Patriotic Conference (2 folders)
BOX 3	Newspaper clippings
BOX 3	Miscellany (2 folders)
BOX 4	Roosevelt, Franklin D.
BOX 4	Book reviews and articles
BOX 4	American Embarkation Center (Le Mans, France) (2 folders)
BOX 5	(6 folders)
BOX 6	(1 folder)
BOX 6	First Army, Command Post Exchange
BOX 6	Miscellany (2 folders)
BOX 6	Maneuvers
BOX 6	Fourth Army, maneuvers, reports (1 folder)
BOX 7	(4 folders)
BOX 8	(4 folders)
BOX 9	(4 folders)
BOX 10	(2 folders)
BOX 10	Geneva, Switzerland
BOX 10	“A-W” miscellaneous (5 folders)
BOX 10	Lang, Frank R., divorce case
BOX 11	Maps, memoranda, other
BOX 11	Neely, W. S.
BOX 11	Newspaper clippings
BOX 11	Infantry Association

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 11	Personal correspondence (2 folders)
BOX 11	Disarmament conference
BOX 11	Miscellaneous papers and correspondence
BOX 12	Miscellaneous studies
BOX 12	Nos. 1-10 (3 folders)
BOX 12	Organization studies and tables, other
BOX 12	Foulois, Benjamin D., investigation of
BOX 12	“Study of a Consolidated Department of National Defense” by Colonel S. D. Embick
BOX 13	Mobilization test, 1934 (5 folders)
BOX 14	(4 folders)
BOX 14	Orders, 1917-1919 and Report of the Superior Board, 1919
BOX 15	Personal orders and correspondence (2 folders)
BOX 15	Orders, reports, other
BOX 15	A-J (3 folders)
BOX 16	L-W (2 folders)
BOX 16	Personal orders, 1894-1924 (4 folders)
BOX 16	Panama, Canal Zone, U.S., 1925-1927
BOX 17	Personal correspondence, James and Estelle Justice, 1929-1931
BOX 17	Congratulatory messages
BOX 17	Promotion to major general (3 folders)
BOX 17	Promotion to deputy chief of staff
BOX 18	Radio controversy
BOX 18	2nd Army Corps
BOX 18	Administrative instructions, 1917-1919
BOX 18	Balfour Commission
BOX 18	Casualty reports, 1918
BOX 18	Composition of headquarters, 1918
BOX 18	Report for the “Battle Record” and Order of Battle of the British Army in France, 1918
BOX 19	Decorations Board
BOX 19	Intelligence summaries, other
BOX 19	Memoranda, headquarters
BOX 19	Operations report
BOX 19	Orders
BOX 19	Field orders
BOX 20	From British Fourth Army
BOX 20	General orders
BOX 20	Situation bulletins
BOX 20	Training memoranda
BOX 20	Miscellany

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 20	A-O (7 folders)
BOX 21	O-T (4 folders)
BOX 22	T-W
BOX 22	Battle engagements, 1918
BOX 22	Eighth Cavalry, military exercise report, 1910
BOX 22	Speeches
BOX 22	As general, 1923-1931 (2 folders)
BOX 23	As major general, 1932-1937 (3 folders)
BOX 23	Background material
BOX 23	Semi-automatic rifle
BOX 24	Training documents, Pennsylvania National Guard and jungle combat (2 folders)
BOX 24	War Plans Division
BOX 24	“B-I” miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 25	“L-R” miscellaneous (4 folders)
BOX 25	MacArthur, Douglas
BOX 26	“T-Y” miscellaneous
BOX 26	Deputy chief of staff, newspaper clippings (2 folders)
BOX 26	Nobbleham, Nellie, arrest warrant for, Geneva, Switzerland, 1932
BOX 26	Photographs