

JOHN HART CAUGHEY COLLECTION

ACCESSION NUMBER 284

Processed March 2006

GEORGE C. MARSHALL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

COLLECTION SUMMARY SHEET

COLLECTION: John Hart Caughey Collection

ACCESSION NUMBER: 284

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1944 – 1949

DONOR: Betty Caughey

RESTRICTIONS: None

DATE OF GIFT: August 2002

LOCATION:

SIZE: 2 linear feet

COLLECTION GUIDE

AVAILABLE: Yes

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL FEATURES: John Hart Caughey was born January 19, 1912 in Bellevue, Pennsylvania. He graduated from West Point in 1935 and was stationed at several posts in the United States and in Honolulu before World War II. After attending the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, he was appointed to the War Department General Staff in Washington in 1942. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptional conduct while performing his duties at the War Department. In 1944 he was sent to India but was transferred to the China theater shortly thereafter to serve on the staff of Lieutenant General A.C. Wedemeyer, commander of U.S. forces in China. Upon General Marshall's arrival in Chungking, China in 1945, Caughey was hand selected by Marshall to serve on his staff. Caughey greatly admired General Marshall and frequently praised the General's attributes in his letters home. Caughey returned to the U.S. in 1947 and continued his military career attaining the rank of Major General. He died July 2, 1994.

SUBJECT: The China Theater in 1944; General Marshall's peacekeeping mission to China, 1945-1947; Chinese culture.

FORMS OF MATERIAL: The collection consists of official and personal correspondence with Chinese and American military leaders; four scrapbooks of personal correspondence and memorabilia; examples of Chinese writing on invitations and certificates; Chinese and Japanese currency; newspaper clippings; and photographs of George Marshall and sights around China. Caughey wrote of his time with Marshall, "I am right here and history is in the making."

AUTHOR/DONOR: Betty Caughey was married to J. Hart Caughey on December 28, 1939 in Bellevue, Pennsylvania. They had two daughters, Patricia and Nancy. Mrs. Caughey currently resides in Atlantic Beach, Florida

ARRANGEMENT: 5 document boxes/ 1 oversize folder

JOHN HART CAUGHEY COLLECTION #284
CONTAINER LIST

BOX/FOLDER

CORRESPONDENCE

Selected

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Byroade, Henry A. |
| | 2 | Carter, Marshall S. |
| | 3 | En Lai, Chou |
| | 4 | Kai-Shek, Chiang |
| | 5 | Kai-Shek, Madame Chiang |
| | 6 | McCarthy, Frank |
| | 7 | Marshall, George C. |
| | 8 | Marshall, Katharine T. |
| | 9 | Wedemeyer, A.C. |

Miscellaneous

- | | | |
|--|----|--------------------------|
| | 10 | 1945 |
| | 11 | 1946, January – March |
| | 12 | 1946, April – June |
| | 13 | 1946, July – September |
| | 14 | 1946, October – December |
| | 15 | 1947, January – March |
| | 16 | 1947, April – June |
| | 17 | 1947, July – September |
| | 18 | 1947, October – November |
| | 19 | 1949 – 1964 |
| | 20 | Undated |

Personal

- | | | |
|--|----|-------------|
| | 21 | 1944 – 1946 |
|--|----|-------------|

CHINA

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| | 22 | Journal, September – November, 1945 |
| | 23 | Press Release, Military reorganization for Chinese Army, 1947 |
| | 24 | End of China Mission, list of documents to be destroyed, April 1947 |
| | 25 | Newspaper clippings |
| | 26 | Notes on Chinese culture |
| | 27 | Currency, Chinese and Japanese |

Box 1 (cont.)

MISCELLANEOUS

- 28 Invitations
- 29 Christmas cards
- 30 General Orders, 1943 – 1947
- 31 Awards and promotions
- 32 Personal
- 33 Thesis, "A New Concept of Warfare," Armed Forces Staff College, 1948
- 34 Thesis, "Russia and the Turkish Straits," Army War College, 1951
- 35 U.S. Army publication, National Security Act of 1947, H.R. 2319
- 36 Speeches by George C. Marshall
 - "World War II – Conclusions," December 1946
 - Address at the National War College, June 1947

SCRAPBOOKS (Photocopy for research use)

- 2 1-2 Scrapbook, China, September 1944 – November 1944
(see summary of scrapbook in appendix a)
- 3-5 Scrapbook, China/India, November 1944 – July 1945
(see summary of scrapbook in appendix b)
- 6-8 Scrapbook, China, General Marshall's arrival, September 1945 – May 1946 (see summary of scrapbook in appendix c)
- 9-11 Scrapbook, China, General Marshall's mission to China, May 1946 – January 1947 (see summary of scrapbook in appendix d)

SCRAPBOOKS (Original)

- 3 1-3 Scrapbook, China, September 1944 – November 1944
- 4-8 Scrapbook, China/India, November 1944 – July 1945
- 9 Photo album, empty
- 4 1-5 Scrapbook, China, September 1945 – May 1946
- 6-10 Scrapbook, China, May 1946 – January 1947

PHOTOGRAPHS

- 5 1 General Marshall's arrival in Japan
- 2 General Marshall's house in China
- 3 General Marshall's Memorial speech
- 4 Japanese POW camp
- War Area Service Corps (WASC) building
- 5 Visit to Kuling

Box 5 (cont.)

PHOTOGRAPHS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 6 | Yangtze River boat trip with General Marshall and Admiral Murray |
| 7 | Personal photos |
| 8 | 23 George C. Marshall photographs (most are duplicates of photos in the Marshall Photograph collection) |

OVERSIZE FOLDER

- Certificate of Award from the National Government of the Republic of China presented to Caughey on 5 May 1948
- Newspaper clippings—parade in Washington, D.C. honoring General Eisenhower, *Pittsburgh Press*, June 18, 1945
- Newspaper—*The China Lantern*, August 7, 1945, (published for U.S. Armed Forces in China)
- Newspaper—*The Ceylon Observer* (provincial edition), April 8, 1945

**CHINA SCRAPBOOK
SEPTEMBER 1944 – NOVEMBER 1944**

This scrapbook is the first in a series of four books that contain letters and memorabilia that Caughey sent home to his family. It primarily contains letters and a few newspaper clippings. Most of the subject matter is of a personal nature and is filled with Caughey's rich descriptions of his surroundings. Interspersed among the letters are sketches drawn by Caughey.

SUMMARY OF SCRAPBOOK CONTENTS

Letters:

- Arrival in Ceylon, India
- Description of a visit to Calcutta
- Lengthy description of a Buddhist temple
- Description of India's street sounds, sights and customs
- Promotion of Caughey to Colonel
- Comment on the 1944 election
- Caughey's move to Chungking, China

Newspaper clippings:

- General Wedemeyer
- Elephants being used for work

Miscellaneous:

- "Transients" information booklet for the North Atlantic Wing

**CHINA/INDIA SCRAPBOOK
NOVEMBER 1944 – JULY 1945**

This scrapbook primarily contains letters written home and are arranged chronologically. Some of the content of the letters was cut out by the censors. There are also a few newspaper clippings and photos. During this period Caughey was transferred from India to China to serve as an aide to General Albert C. Wedemeyer. Caughey had an artistic flair and his sketches of what he observed are interspersed throughout the scrapbook.

Summary of Scrapbook Contents

Letters:

- description of Indian culture
- description of Chinese culture, customs, and daily life (i.e., foot binding, rice paddies, burial practices)
- trip to Kunming and Sian
- praise of Chiang Kai-Shek
- description of a Buddhist temple
- Caughey awarded the Legion of Merit
- Comments on FDR's death and Truman as president
- V-E Day celebration
- General Simpson's visit
- Cholera outbreak
- Celebrations of the end of war in China
- Japanese surrender

Newspaper clippings:

- articles on General Wedemeyer
- articles on Patrick J. Hurley, U.S. ambassador to China

Photos:

- Chungking and its surrounding area
- Sian
- Temple ruins
- General Wainwright soon after his release as a POW

CHINA SCRAPBOOK
10 SEPTEMBER 1945 – 4 MAY 1946

This scrapbook is one of the larger ones containing primarily letters Caughey wrote home to his wife Betty. Documented in this scrapbook is General Marshall's arrival in China and Caughey's rich description of Chinese customs and culture. A few photographs and newspaper articles are in this scrapbook as well.

SUMMARY OF SCRAPBOOK CONTENTS

Letters:

- Comments on ex-POWs and their treatment by the Japanese
- Japanese surrender
- Dinner with Pulitzer Prize winner Douglas S. Freeman
- Chinese customs and superstitions (i.e., symbolic colors, street scenes and sounds, daily life, Chinese New Year's celebrations, Mongolian eating habits, Chinese dress, contact with locals)
- Description of sites in Japan (Tokyo, Hiroshima)
- Preparing for the arrival of General Marshall and later, Mrs. Marshall
- Eisenhower's visit
- Trip to Yen-an
- Move of offices to Nanking from Chungking
- Comments on Mao Tse-Tong, Chou En-Lai, and Chiang Kai-Shek
- Awarded oak leaf cluster to Legion of Merit
- Visits to the Chinese ballet and opera
- Comments on Marshall's attributes and work schedule
- Descriptions of meetings between Marshall and his Chinese counterparts
- Various sketches done by Caughey illustrating Chinese street scenes

Newspaper Articles:

- Marshall's arrival
- Newspaper photo of Marshall, Chou En-Lai, and Chang Chun
- Political situation in China
- Marshall's influence

Photographs:

- General Wedemeyer
- Various army officers

Miscellaneous:

- Thanksgiving menus
- Draft of a letter from General Marshall to Colonel Byroade
- Russian currency
- Symphony program in English and Chinese
- Invitations in English and Chinese

**CHINA SCRAPBOOK
9 MAY 1946 – 8 JANUARY 1947**

This scrapbook contains letters written home and are arranged chronologically. During this period Caughey lived in the former German ambassador's residence in Nanking and gives a rich description of the Chinese people and their culture in his letters. The scrapbook also contains newspaper clippings about the China mission as well as political cartoons; one photograph of General Marshall with Walter Robinson; a small play bill; a dinner place card; and a piece of Chinese writing symbols.

SUMMARY OF SCRAPBOOK CONTENTS

Letters:

- Eisenhower visiting
- Communist activity around Nanking
- Japanese occupation
- Conferences between Marshall and Chou En-Lai
- Madame and Chiang Kai-Shek
- Descriptions of Nanking and the resort town of Kuling
- Commentary on the peace process
- German atrocities during World War II
- Caughey's distaste for visiting U.S. congressmen

Photographs:

- Boat trip with Marshall and staff on the Yangtze River

Miscellaneous:

- General Marshall's remarks at a Memorial Day service, May 30, 1946

Throughout his letters, Caughey gives glowing praise of General Marshall's character, personality, and intellect. He writes about working conditions under Marshall and how much he stands in awe of the General. He also frequently writes on Mrs. Marshall and her relationship with the General. It was during this time that her book *Together* was published. Caughey was with General Marshall on the trip back to the U.S. when Marshall was notified of his appointment as Secretary of State. The last letter in the scrapbook dated January 8, 1947 describes this event.