Robert Kleiman Papers

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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
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http://lccn.loc.gov/mm2009085471

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Collection Summary

Title: Robert Kleiman Papers
Span Dates: 1935-1983
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1943-1945)
ID No.: MSS85471
Creator: Kleiman, Robert, 1918-2004
Extent: 5,000 items ; 15 containers plus 1 classified and 9 oversize ; 8 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English and Japanese, with Burmese, Kachin, and Shan
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Journalist. Correspondence, memoranda, propaganda material including leaflets, newspapers, printed matter, and ephemera, interrogations of prisoners of war, reports, newsletters, newspaper clippings, and other papers relating chiefly to Kleiman's service with the United States Office of War Information during World War II and pertaining to psychological warfare and the use of propaganda in the Far East, with a much smaller portion reflecting his work as a journalist before and after the war.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Fisher, Francis McCracken, 1907-2000. Yenan reports. 1944-1945.
Kleiman, Elnora H., 1917-1998--Correspondence.
Kleiman, Robert, 1918-2004.
MacArthur, Douglas, 1880-1964.
Marquardt, Frederic S. (Frederic Sylvester), 1905- --Correspondence.
Monroe, Barbara R.--Correspondence.
Rickenbacker, Eddie, 1890-1973.
Shulman, Marshall Darrow--Correspondence.

Organizations
Allied Forces. South West Pacific Area.
China. Lu jun.
United States. Army. Army, 6th.
United States. Army. Forces in China-Burma-India Theater.
United States. Office of War Information.
Zhongguo guo min dang.

Subjects
Chinese--Philippines--Luzon.
Guerrillas--Philippines--Luzon.
Japanese--Philippines.
Journalism.
Kachin (Asian people)--Burma.
Propaganda, American--Asia.
Propaganda, American--Europe.
Propaganda, American--Philippines.
Propaganda, American.
Propaganda, Japanese--Philippines.
Psychological warfare.
Reconstruction (1939-1951)--Burma.
World War, 1939-1945--Burma.
World War, 1939-1945--China.
World War, 1939-1945--East Asia.

World War, 1939-1945--India.
World War, 1939-1945--Japan.
World War, 1939-1945--Oceania.
World War, 1939-1945--Prisoners and prisons.
World War, 1939-1945--Propaganda.
World War, 1939-1945--Psychological aspects.
World War, 1939-1945--Refugees.
World War, 1939-1945--United States.

Places
Assam (India)--History.
Burma--History--1824-1948.
China--History--1937-1945.
Europe--Colonies--Asia.
Europe--Foreign relations--1945-
Europe--Foreign relations--United States.
India--History--British occupation, 1765-1947.
Leyte Island (Philippines)--History.
Manila (Philippines)--History.
New Guinea--History--20th century.
Philippines--History--1898-1946.
Philippines--History--Japanese occupation, 1942-1945.
Philippines--Newspapers.
United States--Foreign relations--1945-1989.
United States--Foreign relations--Europe.
Yan'an Shi (China)--History.

Titles
Free Philippines (Manila, Philippines : Airborne ed.)
Leyte shimbun.
Leyte-Samar bulletin.
Leyte-Samar free Philippines.
Manila free Philippines.
Voice of freedom (Radio program)
Voice of victory.

Occupations
Journalists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Robert Kleiman, journalist, were given to the Library of Congress by his wife, Mary Temple Kleiman, in 2009 and 2011.

Transfers

Photographs and two lithographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Robert Kleiman in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Robert Kleiman 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 security classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified materials.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	***Event***
1918, Oct. 1	Born, New York, N.Y.
1936-1939	Part-time reporter, editorial writer, and night editor, *Michigan Daily*, student newspaper, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
1939	A.B., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
1939-1940	Reporter, *Washington Post*
1941	Reporter, Washington Bureau, New York *Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin*, covering White House and government, Washington, D.C.
1941-1942	Head of the Far Eastern desk, Press and Radio Division, Foreign Information Service, Office of the Coordinator of Information, Washington, D.C.
1942	Married Elnora Fleurette Haynie (divorced) Syndicate news and feature writer, Office of War Information, Bureau of Overseas Publications, Washington, D.C.
1942-1943	White House correspondent, *Voice of America*, Office of War Information, Washington, D.C.
1943-1945	Served in the Overseas Branch, Office of War Information, in Australia, Burma, China, India, New Guinea, Philippines, and Territory of Hawaii; chief, Psychological Warfare Team, attached to combat units and headquarters of General Joseph Warren Stilwell, China-Burma-India Theater, 1943-1944; chief of leaflet operations, Hollandia, New Guinea, Tacloban, Leyte Island, Philippines, and Manila, Philippines, attached to U.S. Sixth Army, Psychological Warfare Branch, Southwest Pacific Area, and to the headquarters of General Douglas MacArthur, 1944-1945; attached to Central Pacific Theater, based in Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii, 1945
1945-1962	Editor, *U.S. News & World Report*; associate editor in Washington, D.C., writing on foreign affairs, 1945-1948; Central European editor and bureau chief, West Germany, 1948-1951; Western European editor and Paris Bureau chief, Paris, France, 1951-1962
1947	Covered Moscow Council of Foreign Ministers, Soviet Union, for *U.S. News & World Report*; toured Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Austria

pre-1953	Married Jane Eakin (divorced)
1962-1963	Bureau chief and commentator, Columbia Broadcasting System News, Paris, France
1963-1985	Editorial Board member, *New York Times*, writing about international affairs, principally about United States-European relations
1964	Published *Atlantic Crisis: American Diplomacy Confronts a Resurgent Europe*. New York: W. W. Norton
1986	Married Mary (Nisbet) Temple
2004, Mar. 22	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Saul Robert Kleiman (1918-2004) span the years 1935-1983, with the bulk of the material dating from 1943 to 1945. The papers are mostly in English and Japanese, with Burmese, Kachin, Shan, and other ethnic Asian languages. The collection is arranged largely according to the groupings established by Kleiman: biographical information, correspondence, Office of War Information files, research files, submissions for awards, and writings, and therein alphabetically by type of material or topic.

The largest portion of the papers relates to Kleiman's service with the United States Office of War Information (OWI) during World War II and pertains to psychological warfare and the use of propaganda in the Far East. The Office of War Information files contain correspondence, memoranda, propaganda in various languages with English translations including leaflets, newspapers, printed matter, broadsides, and ephemera, interrogations of prisoners of war, reports on the effectiveness of propaganda, newsletters, newspaper clippings, and Japanese propaganda in the Philippines. The files also contain personal papers relating to Kleiman's duties and his daily diary. The personal correspondence from the war years also contains information relating to his propaganda activities. Kleiman's writings contain drafts of articles and a radio program he wrote during the war.

On April 3, 1943, Kleiman arrived in New Delhi, India, and was attached to the China-Burma-India Theater (CBI), until June 1, 1944. His papers, however, were grouped under Burma-India. In May-June, 1943, he traveled to Burma and Assam, India, to make a study of the area of CBI-projected operations, to establish liaisons with the American and British military commanders in the area, and to arrange distribution channels for CBI-projected leaflets and other propaganda. Kleiman's multipage report discusses opium distribution in Burma, plans for Burman reconstruction, interviews with British and American military officials, events in the Hukawng Valley and attitudes of the Kachins, propaganda strategy, and the vegetable seed program that dropped seed packets by airplane. He also submitted an intelligence report detailing the speeches and activities of Eddie Rickenbacker during the captain's tour through the Assam area. Also chronicling some of Kleiman's activities in the CBI is his daily diary dating from March 1944 through May 1944. The diary discusses design and production of leaflets, use of Nisei to translate leaflets into Japanese, scheduled drops of leaflets, a radio broadcasting project, use of a public address system to broadcast propaganda, problems with supplies, resettlement of Kachin refugees, and meetings with military personnel. Further material on the CBI is under the heading of leaflets produced in other areas.

Even though China was part of the CBI, Kleiman's files on Yenan, actually Yan'an, were kept separately. Material on this area consists of leaflets and reports. The reports are comprised of intelligence reports on the Eighteenth Group Army of the Chinese that was a combination of the Eighth Route Army of Chinese communists and the New Fourth Army, and a series of "Yenan Reports" submitted by Francis McCracken Fisher, chief of the China Division, OWI, covering psychological warfare findings at and about Yenan from 1944 to 1945.

From June 2, 1944, until May 13, 1945, Kleiman was attached to the Southwest Pacific Area. He surveyed the New Guinea combat zones in June and July, and in early September 1944 arrived in Hollandia, New Guinea, to set up a psychological warfare operation at the headquarters of General Douglas MacArthur and the Sixth Army. There Kleiman was in charge of all forward operations for the OWI in the Southwest Pacific Area and director of leaflet production for the Sixth Army. On

October 20, 1944, soon after General MacArthur's landing, Kleiman also landed at Red Beach on Leyte Island in the Philippines. He put on the first *Voice of Freedom* radio broadcast from the *Apache* (radio broadcasting ship). Propaganda operations were then moved inland to Tacloban. The close timing of his arrival in New Guinea and his landing on Leyte Island is probably why Kleiman combined the two areas in his files. Material consists of leaflets, correspondence, reports, interrogations of prisoners of war, radio broadcasts, and the basic military plan for psychological warfare in the Southwest Pacific Area. Under the heading of Leyte Island, Philippines, are propaganda newspapers and bulletins produced in the Philippines including the *Leyte Shimbun*, *Leyte-Samar Bulletin*, *Leyte-Samar Free Philippines*, and the *Voice of Victory*.

On February 8, 1945, Kleiman flew into the Philippine capital of Manila where he stayed until May 13. Material relating to his efforts there includes leaflets and the newspapers *Manila Free Philippines* and *Airborne Edition Free Philippines*. Of interest among the usual reports on the effectiveness of the leaflets and Japanese morale is a report on Chinese guerrilla organizations on Luzon and their activities.

The Office of War Information files also contain a group of uncategorized material, scrapbooks, and propaganda from the Asian and European theaters of war. Items in the uncategorized material, consisting of documents either designated by Kleiman as miscellaneous or found loose, are the same type of material housed in the categorized files. In all probability, the loose items were originally part of the categorized material. The scrapbooks were presented to personnel who had worked in propaganda in the Far East and contain runs of propaganda leaflets and newspapers. Propaganda from both theaters of war include leaflets, broadsides, magazines, pamphlets, and ephemeral items (called novelties by Kleiman) that include matchbooks, matchboxes, leaves of soap, and sewing kits, all marked with propaganda.

A large part of the personal correspondence relates to Kleiman's activities during World War II. There are letters to and from his first wife, Elnora H. Kleiman, with friends serving in the war and at home, and with his colleagues in the OWI. The correspondence with his colleagues is the same type Kleiman filed in the Office War Information files and often discusses propaganda and the war. Of interest are discussions on how to phrase propaganda so that conquered peoples understand that the Americans are freeing them from the Japanese and not from their European colonial masters. Correspondents include Frederic S. "Fritz" Marquardt, Barbara R. "Bobbe" Monroe, and Marshall Darrow "Marsh" Shulman.

Rounding out the collection are clippings of articles written by Kleiman from 1935 to 1955, biographical material, and his research files for articles written after the war concerning United States-European relations.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material or topic and therein alphabetically by type of material or topic.

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BOX 6	*Leyte-Samar Free Philippines*, 1944, Oct. 29-1945, Feb. 15 *See Oversize*
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BOX 10	United States Fifth Army, *Functions of the 5th Army Combat Propaganda Team*, 1944
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