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BRERETON, LEWIS H., Military Associate: Papers, 1918-67

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The papers of Lewis H. Brereton were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library by Mrs. Lewis H. Brereton in April 1969. In May 1970 Mrs. Brereton executed an instrument of gift for these papers.

Linear feet: -1 Approximate number of pages: 800 Approximate number of items: 400 Number of containers: 1

Literary rights in these papers are reserved to Mrs. Lewis H. Brereton during her lifetime and, thereafter, to the people of the United States.

By agreement with the donor the following classes of documents will be withheld from research use:

- 1. Papers relating to family and private business affairs.
- 2. Papers relating to family and private business affairs of other persons who have corresponded with General Brereton.
- 3. Papers relating to investigations of individuals or to appointments and personnel matters.
- 4. Papers containing statements made by or to the donor in confidence unless in the judgment of the Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library the reason for the confidentiality no longer exists.
- 5. All other papers which contain information or statements that might be used to injure, harass, or damage any living person.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The personal papers of Lieutenant General Lewis H. Brereton, pioneer in aviation warfare, consist of personal correspondence, messages, lectures and articles, orders, commissions, commendations, awards and decorations, a military map of WWII, and other material.

Also included are a copy of "General Brereton's Headquarters Diary, Summary of Activities for the Period from 8th December 1941-24th February 1942;" and Lewis H. Brereton's Scrapbook of newspaper and magazine articles and pictures covering the period from 1942 to 1946.

Major subjects covered: The congratulatory message on accomplishment of specific air missions; transfer orders; invitations; holiday greetings; letters pertaining to the publication of his Diary; mail from the general public after retirement; copies of articles on aviation; lectures by Lewis Brereton on aviation and leadership, etc.

The Diary consists of the daily events between December 8, 1941 and February 24, 1942, while Lewis Brereton was Commander of FEAF. It deals with the preparedness of the Far East Air Force for U.S. participation in World War II, giving times (by hour and minute) of phone messages, commands from headquarters, reports of sightings of Japanese planes, bombings, summaries of staff meetings, and other matters. Major correspondents include George C. Marshall, Sir Richard N. Gale, and B.A. Schriever.

Lt. General Lewis H. Brereton (born June 21, 1890; died July 20, 1967) graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1911 and was one of the first graduates of the Signal Corps Aviation School (1913). In WWI, he commanded the 12th Aero Squadron, one of the first American flying units on the front; at the beginning of World War II he was commander of the Far East Air Force in the Philippines; then Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief, Allied Air Forces, in Java (January-June 1942); Commander, Middle East Air Forces (9th Air Force) June 1942-October 1943); Commanding General of the Ninth Air Force in the European Theater (October 1943-August 1944); and Commander of the First Allied Airborne Army (August 1944-May 1945). After the war until his retirement in 1948 he was Chairman of the Military Liaison Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission in Washington, D.C.

The material in this collection was arranged alphabetically by subject by a staff archivist. Note: Photos and books in collection were removed and sent to the photo collection and book collection, respectively.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

1 Biographical sketches and ancestry "General Brereton's Headquarters Diary, Summary of Activities for the Period from 8th Dec. 1941 - 24th Feb. 1942." [typescript] Miscellaneous correspondence and messages, 1931-67 Correspondence and certificates re. commissions, awards, commendations Lectures and articles by Brereton "Roster of Personnel at Bandoeng, Java," Far East Air Force, Feb. 6, 1942 Miscellaneous verses Clippings [loose], 1945 and undated Scrapbook of newspaper and magazine articles and pictures, 1942-46 U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1911, 55th reunion (May 10-13, 1966) Prologue to The Java Captives: A Study of Americans in Adversity, by Samuel Milner Footnotes to The Fall of the Philippines, by Louis Morton "Military Maps" -- World War II, all theaters Lists of books and photographs transferred to audiovisual and book collection END OF CONTAINER LIST