

# Guide to the Microfilm Edition

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## **RG-7: RECORDS OF GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, UNITED NATIONS COMMAND (UNC), 1950-1951**

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*Filmed from the holdings of the  
MacArthur Memorial Archives  
Norfolk, Virginia*

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## Biographical Essay—Douglas MacArthur

Douglas MacArthur was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on January 26, 1880, to Captain (later Lieutenant General) Arthur MacArthur and Mary Pinkney Hardy MacArthur of Norfolk, Virginia. Douglas was the youngest of three sons. The eldest, Arthur, went to the U.S. Naval Academy and died in 1923, a captain in the Navy; Malcolm died in childhood in 1883 and is buried in Norfolk.

Douglas and his family lived on various military posts from New Mexico to Fort Leavenworth to Washington, DC. In 1899 he was appointed to the U.S. Military Academy from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After graduating first in his class from West Point, where he held the highest rank in the Corps of Cadets, MacArthur was commissioned second lieutenant, Corps of Engineers, on June 11, 1903. (For a complete list of MacArthur's military promotions see page vi.) Ironically, his first duty assignment was to the Philippines, where only recently his father had served as military governor. Filipino insurrectionists provided Douglas with his first experience in military violence.

Until 1914, MacArthur served in Army engineering positions in the United States and abroad. The single exception was the one year that he spent as aide to his father (1905-06) on an extensive tour of the Far East, including Japan and recent battlefields of the Russo-Japanese War. Douglas also played a notable role in the 1914 military expedition to Vera Cruz, Mexico. Returning to Washington, he served on the General Staff until joining the 42d Infantry Division in 1917.

Responsible for much of the organization and training of the 42d Division, MacArthur was credited with naming it the Rainbow Division because it was made up of National Guard units from all over the United States. He served as divisional Chief of Staff; commander of the 84th Infantry Brigade; and, briefly, as division commander. His activities with the division in France and Germany earned him two Distinguished Service Crosses, a Distinguished Service Medal, and six Silver Stars, not to mention two wound stripes (later honored by Purple Heart Medals) and promotion to brigadier general in the National Army.

After returning to the States in 1919, MacArthur became superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy. From 1922 to 1930 he served two tours of duty in the Philippines, as well as in various cities in the United States. In 1928 he led the U.S. Olympic team to Amsterdam. Also, during the 1920s, MacArthur was married to and divorced from Louise Cromwell Brooks.

In 1930, President Herbert Hoover appointed Douglas MacArthur Chief of Staff, U.S. Army. President Franklin D. Roosevelt retained him in this post until the fall of 1935, when MacArthur returned to the Philippines as military advisor to the newly established Philippine Commonwealth. MacArthur's principal task was to organize and train a Philippine army. Although he retired from the U.S. Army at the end of 1937, General MacArthur remained military advisor to the Philippine Commonwealth and was named field marshal of its army.

Meanwhile, in April 1937, the General married Tennessee-born Jean Faircloth. Arthur MacArthur IV, the couple's only child, was born in Manila on February 21, 1938.

Due to the spread of the war in Europe and the accelerating Japanese expansion in the Far East, the U.S. Army Forces, Far East were created, and President Roosevelt recalled General MacArthur to active duty to command these forces. The president also

directed that the Philippine army be called up to serve with U.S. troops. Mobilization, planning, organization, training, re-equipping, and supplying his command occupied the General's attention until December 8, 1941. Although built up considerably prior to the outbreak of war, especially in their air strength, the U.S.-Philippine units were no match for the combined naval-air-ground assault by the Japanese. Having fallen back on the Bataan Peninsula and the fortress islands blocking Manila Bay, most notably Corregidor Island, the Americans and Filipinos, under General MacArthur, brought the Japanese to a standstill.

Since no significant reinforcement could reach Bataan and Corregidor—and the disease-ravaged, ammunition-short Filipinos and Americans could not be expected to hold out much longer—on February 23, 1942, President Roosevelt ordered General MacArthur to leave the Philippines and to proceed to Australia. The General, his family, and a nucleus staff left Corregidor in a torpedo boat for Mindanao; from there they flew to Australia. For his dogged, brave defense of the Philippines, MacArthur was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor; almost eighty years after his father had won the medal for his bravery on Missionary Ridge, Chattanooga.

From April 1942 to October 1944, General MacArthur trained, organized, planned, and led his Southwest Pacific Area (SWPA) Command through New Guinea, New Britain, the Bismarcks, and Morotai to an enormously successful landing in Leyte in the central Philippines. In January 1945 he landed with his forces at Lingayen Gulf and marched on Manila and Bataan.

With the surrender of the Japanese on the USS *Missouri* on September 2, 1945, General MacArthur assumed his authority as Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP). Unlike historical occupation commanders, MacArthur took a benevolent approach toward the Japanese and personally oversaw the rebuilding and democratization of Japan. An early equitable peace treaty with Japan was a major goal. A new constitution, a radical departure from Japan's prewar constitution, was readied in months. New laws resulted in the first universal suffrage election in early 1946. And, even today, the reforms in land holding are still in effect. Trade and manufacture were fostered, education and local government reforms were instituted, and freedom of the press and the right to form and belong to trade unions were established.

In June 1950, with the North Korean invasion of the Republic of Korea, General MacArthur was directed to assist the South Koreans with his resources, including ground forces. Named commander in chief, United Nations Command, in July, MacArthur directed the naval, air, and ground forces of the United States, South Korea, and the United Nations in stopping and turning back the Communist invaders. On September 15, 1950, the General personally directed U.N. forces in a daring amphibious attack at Inchön. This assault on the North Korean rear so neutralized the Communist positions in South Korea that U.N. forces were able to move quickly into North Korea and to the Manchurian border.

Although some Chinese Communists had been located in North Korea as early as late October, it was not until almost the end of November that massed Chinese "volunteers" openly intervened in the Korean War. MacArthur retained control of sea and air, but the massive Chinese ground forces could not be held back by the United Nations. A withdrawal commenced that gave up all of North Korea and a portion of the Republic

of Korea. By late March 1951, U.N. troops again pushed across the 38th parallel north of Seoul, South Korea's capital.

On April 11, 1951, President Truman, because of policy differences with General MacArthur, relieved him of his commands. MacArthur returned to the United States to a hero's welcome. In a famous speech, he addressed a joint session of Congress, outlining his views concerning world conditions. Although the General never again held a military command, he remained in public view until his death. He toured the United States after his congressional address, appeared before a congressional investigative committee, and gave the keynote address to the 1952 Republican National Convention. He became chairman of the board of Remington-Rand (later Sperry-Rand). In 1961 he took a sentimental tour of the Philippines and in 1962 gave his final address to the cadets at West Point. From 1962 to 1964 he wrote and published his *Reminiscences*.

On April 5, 1964, Douglas MacArthur died at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, DC. After lying in state in New York and Washington, the General was interred in the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia.

### **MacArthur's Military Promotions**

Second Lieutenant (Corps of Engineers)	July 11, 2003
First Lieutenant	April 23, 1904
Captain	February 27, 1911
Major	December 11, 1915
Colonel (National Army)	August 5, 1917
Brigadier General (National Army)	June 26, 1918
Brigadier General (Regular Army)	January 20, 1920
Major General (Regular Army)	January 17, 1925
General (temporary)	November 21, 1930
Major General	October 1, 1935
Lieutenant General (temporary)	July 27, 1941
General (temporary)	December 18, 1941
General of the Army	December 18, 1944

## Introduction to the Collection

The decision of the United Nations to come to the defense of South Korea following the North Korean invasion of June 25, 1950, necessitated the creation of the United Nations Military Command. The United Nations Command for the Korean War was created on July 8, 1950, with General of the Army Douglas MacArthur designated as commander in chief.

These papers were selected for this collection by the staff of the Far East Command. The collection contains correspondence, including that with Syngman Rhee; reports to the United Nations; letters of condolence to next-of-kin; daily operations reports; and operations plans and orders, as well as daily strength reports.

**RG-7: RECORDS OF GENERAL  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED NATIONS  
COMMAND (UNC), 1950-1951**

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**Reels 708-724**



Reel	Box	Folder	Description
708	1	1	Commander in Chief, Correspondence, July 1950-April 1951
		2	Correspondence with Syngman Rhee, July 1950-April 1951
		3	UNC Relief and Rehabilitation in Korea, February 18, 1951
		4	Telegrams, June-December 1950
		5	General Orders, July 1950-April 1951
		6	Action in Korea under Unified Command, July 25, 1950
		7	Operations, Special Report, November 3, 1950
		8	Press Releases, January-April 1951
		9	Miscellaneous Press Releases, August 1950-April 11, 1951
	2	1	Commander in Chief Communiqués, Nos. 1-15, July-December 1950
		2	X Corps Communiqués, Nos. 1-13, September 23-October 5, 1950
		3	Eighth Army Communiqués, Nos. 14-120, August 1-October 5, 1950
		4	Korean Press Releases, Nos. 127-253, July 23-August 15, 1950
709		5	Korean Press Releases, Nos. 254-352, August 15-31, 1950
		6	Korean Press Releases, Nos. 353-509, August 31-September 29, 1950
		7	Korean Press Releases, Nos. 510-602, September 30-October 31, 1950
		8	Korean Press Releases, Nos. 604-689, October 31-December 1, 1950 [Note: No. 603 is missing]
		9	Korean Press Releases, Nos. 690-801, December 1, 1950-January 10, 1951
		10	Communiqués, Nos. 802-849, February 22-April 10, 1951
	3	1	Letters of Condolence: "A" Correspondence, 1950-1951
710		2	Letters of Condolence: "B" Correspondence, July-October 1950
		3	Letters of Condolence: "B" Correspondence, November 1950-January 22, 1951
		4	Letters of Condolence: "B" Correspondence, January 23, 1950-April 1951
711		5	Letters of Condolence: "C" Correspondence, July-November 1950
		6	Letters of Condolence: "C" Correspondence, December 1950-April 1951
	4	1	Letters of Condolence: "D" Correspondence, 1950-1951
712		2	Letters of Condolence: "E" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		3	Letters of Condolence: "F" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		4	Letters of Condolence: "G" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		5	Letters of Condolence: "H" Correspondence, July 1950-January 17, 1951

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
713	5	1	Letters of Condolence: "H" Correspondence, January 18, 1951-April 5, 1951
		2	Letters of Condolence: "I" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		3	Letters of Condolence: "J" Correspondence, 1950-1951
714		4	Letters of Condolence: "K" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		5	Letters or Condolence: "L" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		6	Letters of Condolence: "M" Correspondence, November 30, 1950-January 17, 1951
715		7	Letters of Condolence: "M" Correspondence, July 1950-November 30, 1950
	6	1	Letters of Condolence: "M" Correspondence, January 23- April 5, 1951
		2	Letters of Condolence: "N" Correspondence, 1950-1951
716		3	Letters of Condolence: "O" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		4	Letters of Condolence: "P" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		5	Letters of Condolence: "Q" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		6	Letters of Condolence: "R" Correspondence, October 2, 1950-April 5, 1950
717		7	Letters of Condolence: "R" Correspondence, July-September 30, 1950
	7	1	Letters of Condolence: "S" Correspondence, July-December 1, 1950
		2	Letters of Condolence: "S" Correspondence, December 1950-April 5, 1951
718		3	Letters of Condolence: "T" Correspondence, 1950-1951
	8	1	Letters of Condolence: "U-V" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		2	Letters of Condolence: "W" Correspondence, October 27, 1950-April 5, 1951
719		3	Letters of Condolence: "W" Correspondence, July-October 1950
		4	Letters of Condolence: "X,Y,Z" Correspondence, 1950-1951
		5	Letters or Condolence: "A-Z" Correspondence, April 6-10, 1951
		6	Letters of Condolence (with replies)
		7	<i>Aid and Comfort to the Enemy: Trends in Korean Press Reports</i> by Major General Charles A. Willoughby (copy 1)
		8	<i>Aid and Comfort to the Enemy: Trends in Korean Press Reports</i> by Major General Charles A. Willoughby (copy 2 & 3)
	9	1	Defensive Installations, Inchon Area, September 3, 1950
		2	FEC Operations Order No. 1, July 21, 1950/UNC Operations Order No. 1, August 30, 1950
		3	X Corps Operations Order No. 1, August 28, 1950
		4	COMNAVFE, Operations Plan No. 108-50, September 5, 1950
720		5	Commander, 7th Fleet, Operations Plan No. 9-50, September 3, 1950
		6	Embarkation Order No. 1-50, August-September 1950

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
720 <i>contd.</i>		7	Administrative Procedures for Map Maneuver, August 27, 1950
		8	<i>Sargasso II: Detailed Plan for Movement of GHQ in Event of an Emergency</i>
	10	1-4	UNC, G-3 Daily Operations Reports Nos. 1-68, June 1950-August 31, 1950
	11	1	UNC, G-3 Daily Operations Reports Nos. 69-83, September 1-15, 1950
721		2-5	UNC, G-3 Daily Operations Reports Nos. 84-136, September 16-November 7, 1950
	12	1-3	UNC, G-3 Daily Operations Reports Nos. 137-175, November 8-December 16, 1950
722		4	UNC, G-3 Daily Operations Reports Nos. 176-194, December 17, 1950-January 4, 1951
	14	1-4	UNC, G-3 Daily Operations Reports Nos. 248-291, February 27-April 11, 1951 <b>[filmed out of order]</b>
723	13	1-4	UNC, G-3 Daily Operations Reports Nos. 195-247, January 5-February 26, 1951
	15	1	Messages: Operations Reports, July 21, 1950-January 30, 1951 <b>[filmed out of order]</b>
		2-19	UNC, Operations Reports Nos. 1-18 to Security Council by the U.S. Government, July 7, 1950-April 1, 1951
		20	UNC, Operations Order No. 2, October 2, 1950 (with changes)
		21	Personnel Annex to CINCUNC Operations Order No. 5, December 15, 1950
724	16	1-4	Far East Command, Personnel Daily Summaries Nos. 1-177, July-December 1950
	17	1-4	Far East Command, Personnel Daily Summaries Nos. 178-276, January-April 1951
		5	Messages: U.N. Resolutions on Korea