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Guide to MS334 Philip Murillo Prieto papers

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Guide to
MS334
Philip Murillo Prieto papers

1944-1945

1 inch (linear)

Inventory and finding aid by Owen Williamson
May 7, 2019

Citation: Philip Murillo Prieto papers, MS334, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

Historical Sketch

Dr. Philip Murillo Prieto was born on 5 Jun 1917 in El Paso, Texas. Prieto attended the University of Texas Medical School in Galveston, Texas, and graduated in 1943. He enlisted in the U.S. Army immediately upon graduation and served with the 125th Evac. Hospital Unit in Europe at the end of World War II, with a rank of Major. After the War he returned to El Paso and set up a private medical practice. He died in El Paso on 21 November 1981 at the age of 74.

(Adapted from <http://www.findagrave.com/memorial/3327469>.)

“The Gardelegen massacre was a massacre perpetrated by the German local population from Volkssturm, Hitlerjugend and local firefighters with minor direction from the SS during World War II. On April 13, 1945, on the Isenschnibbe estate near the northern German town of Gardelegen, the troops forced 1,016 slave laborers who were part of a transport evacuated from the Mittelbau-Dora Concentration Camp and from the Hannover-Stöcken Concentration Camp into a large barn which was then set on fire. Most of the prisoners were burned alive; some were shot trying to escape. The crime was discovered two days later by F Company, 2nd Battalion, 405th Regiment, U.S. 102nd Infantry Division, when the U.S. Army occupied the area.”
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gardelegen_massacre accessed 8 April 2020.)

Note: Gardelegen is identified in the collection as “Gurdelegen.”

Series Description or Arrangement

These papers consist of two parts. The first folder is a collection of 65 small-format black and white photo prints taken in France and Germany from May through August, 1945. Order of the photos was left as donated. The second folder contains two military-related typescripts.

Scope and Content Note

These papers consist of photographs and typescripts. It appears to include none of Dr. Prieto's own writings.

Of particular significance are photographs of victims of the 1945 Gardelegen Massacre and of the extensive, severe material damage caused by World War II in Europe.

Provenance Statement

Donor not identified.

Restrictions

None.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Philip Murillo Prieto papers must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, Philip Murillo Prieto papers, MS334, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

This collection was previously misidentified as Prieto (R.M.) Papers.

Researchers should be aware that Folder 1 of this collection contains several photos of large numbers of unburied dead bodies.

Container List

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	<p>"56 Photos" [sic].</p> <p>Contents:</p> <p>Sixty-five different black and white photo prints dated from May to August, 1945, mostly of the Magdeburg, Coblenz, Leipzig, Gardelegen and Trier areas of Germany, and also near Rheims, France.</p> <p>Some captions are illegible. Several photos show masses of unburied dead bodies.</p>	May-Aug 1945
1	2	<p>Photocopy-Gurdelegen [sic].</p> <p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Three-page typescript narrative, "Gurdelegen," by "Irvin C. Phillips" [not otherwise identified], May, 1945.b. One-page typescript of motivational speech by General George Patton, evidently before D-Day Invasion, May, 1944.	1944-1945