

Robert Lee Bullard Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Finding aid encoded by Library of
Congress Manuscript Division, 2011

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms011024>

Collection Summary

Title: Robert Lee Bullard Papers

Span Dates: 1881-1955

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1898-1941)

ID No.: MSS14290

Creator: Bullard, Robert Lee, 1861-1947

Extent: 3,200 items; 17 containers plus 1 oversize; 5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and Moro

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Army officer. Correspondence, diaries, notebooks, speeches, writings, printed matter, maps, photographs, memorabilia, legal documents, and other material relating chiefly to Bullard's military career, activities as president of the National Security League, and work as an author.

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

Baker, Newton Diehl, 1871-1937--Correspondence.

Bullard, Robert Lee, 1861-1947.

Bullard, Robert Lee, 1861-1947. Fighting generals 1944.

Pershing, John J. (John Joseph), 1860-1948--Correspondence.

Organizations

National Security League.

United States. Army--Biography.

United States. Army--History--Punitive Expedition into Mexico, 1916.

United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces.

United States. Army. Army, 2nd.

Subjects

Generals--United States.

Lanao Moro dialect.

Morale.

Political science.

Strategy.

Tactics.

World War, 1914-1918.

Places

Mexico--Foreign relations--United States.

Philippines--History--Philippine American War, 1899-1902.

United States--Foreign relations--Mexico.

Occupations

Army officers.

Authors.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Robert Lee Bullard, army officer, were given in various installments to the Library of Congress in 1954-1955 and in 1961 by his wife, Ella Bullard. Additional material was transferred from the National War College in 1957 and 1958.

Processing History

The papers of Robert Lee Bullard were arranged and described in 1955. The collection was expanded and revised in 1958. Material received in 1961 was interfiled into the collection. The finding aid was revised in 2011

Additional Guides

An acquisition note on the papers appeared in the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* 14, no. 9 (28 Feb. 1955).

Transfers

Two volumes of *Don Quixote de la Mancha* (Paris, 1832) inscribed to Bullard were transferred to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Robert Lee Bullard 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 Lee Bullard 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.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1861, Jan. 5	Born, Youngsboro, Ala.
1885	Graduated, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y. Married Rose D. Brabson
1898	Colonel, Third Alabama Infantry Regiment (volunteer)
1899	Colonel, Thirty-ninth Infantry, United States Volunteers, service in Philippine insurrection
1902	Major (permanent rank), Twenty-eighth Infantry, Moro Province, Mindanao
1903-1904	Civil governor, District of Lanao, Moro Province, Mindanao

1906-1909	Political aide to the American provisional governor of Cuba and secretary of public instruction and fine arts, Cuba
1911	Graduated from National War College, Washington, D.C.
1915-1916	Commanded Twenty-sixth United States Infantry and National Guard Brigade on Mexican border
1917	Brigadier-general, commanded First Division American Expeditionary Force, then Third Corps
1918-1919	Major-general and lieutenant general, commanded Second Army American Expeditionary Force in France
1919-1925	Commander, Second Corps Area, Governor's Island, New York
1925	Retired
1927	Married Ella R. Wall
1925-1941	President, National Security League
1947, Sept. 11	Died, New York, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Robert Lee Bullard (1861-1947) span the years 1881-1955, with the bulk concentrated in the period 1891-1941. The majority of the collection documents the main events in Bullard's military career from the Philippine American War through World War I until his retirement in 1925 and his subsequent activities as president of the National Security League. The papers are incomplete in documenting Bullard's activities; every few years he reviewed his papers and destroyed some portions (see volume 16 of the diaries in Container 3, 1937, Jan. 1-1945, Sept. 19, pages 42 and 70). Among those specifically mentioned as being destroyed were the files showing his part in the confirmation by the Senate of Leonard Wood, as major general of the United States Army in 1903-1904. In addition, some papers relating to the Philippines and the post-World War I period were thrown away. The papers are in English and Moro and are organized into the following series: [Diaries](#), [Notebooks](#), [Correspondence](#), [Speeches and Writings](#), [Miscellany](#), [Addition](#), and [Oversize](#).

The [Diaries](#) document Bullard's military service including the campaign against Philippine insurgents, his confidential mission to Mexico in 1911, the Mexican border campaign from 1915-1916, and as commander of the Second Army in the American Expeditionary Force in World War I. The [Diaries](#) and [Notebooks](#) include sketches of military personalities. Also included in the [Notebooks](#) are observations on strategy, tactics, morale, and civil government.

The [Correspondence](#) series contains only a few letters relating to Bullard's early career and includes letters of John J. Pershing and Newton Diehl Baker. The [Speeches and Writings](#) contain articles, speeches, and material relating to Bullard's unpublished autobiography. Other published writings of Bullard are filed in the [Miscellany](#) series. Drafts, correspondence, and photographs relating to *Fighting Generals* are located in the [Addition](#) series. Also filed in [Miscellany](#) are family papers and memorabilia, and letters, photographs, and a dictionary pertaining to the Moros and the Moro language.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Diaries, 1899-1947](#)
- [Notebooks, 1907-circa 1920](#)
- [Correspondence, 1900-1955](#)
- [Speeches and Writings, 1900-1945](#)
- [Miscellany, circa 1901-1955](#)
- [Addition, 1944](#)
- [Oversize, 1881-1939](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-3	<u>Diaries, 1899-1947</u> Diaries also containing correspondence, military orders, maps, photographs, and memorabilia. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 4	<u>Notebooks, 1907-circa 1920</u> Military notebooks containing observations on strategy, tactics, morale, civil government, and other topics. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 5-6	<u>Correspondence, 1900-1955</u> Letters, telegrams, and invitations sent and received by Bullard and his wife, Ella R. Bullard. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 6-9	<u>Speeches and Writings, 1900-1945</u> Articles, speeches, and unpublished autobiographical material. Arranged by type and therein chronologically.
BOX 10-15	<u>Miscellany, circa 1901-1955</u> Family and military documents, files relating to Moros and the Moro language, printed matter, photographs, books and book material, scrapbooks of letters, maps, clippings, and related material, and miscellaneous personal and family memorabilia. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 16-17	<u>Addition, 1944</u> Drafts, photographs, and other material relating to the writing and publication of <i>Fighting Generals</i> Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
BOX OV 1	<u>Oversize, 1881-1939</u> Diplomas and commissions Arranged chronologically.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-3	Diaries, 1899-1947 Diaries also containing correspondence, military orders, maps, photographs, and memorabilia. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1	1899-1913 (6 folders)
BOX 2	1913-1922 (5 folders)
BOX 3	1922-1947 (5 folders)
BOX 4	Notebooks, 1907-circa 1920 Military notebooks containing observations on strategy, tactics, morale, civil government, and other topics. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 4	Vols. 2-27, 1907-circa 1920 (26 vols.)
BOX 5-6	Correspondence, 1900-1955 Letters, telegrams, and invitations sent and received by Bullard and his wife, Ella R. Bullard. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 5	1900-1947
BOX 6	1947-1955
BOX 6-9	Speeches and Writings, 1900-1945 Articles, speeches, and unpublished autobiographical material. Arranged by type and therein chronologically.
BOX 6	Articles and speeches
BOX 6	1900-1910
BOX 7	1910-1939
BOX 8	1939-1945
BOX 9	Unpublished autobiography, notes, drafts of chapters, and related material, circa 1930
BOX 10-15	Miscellany, circa 1901-1955 Family and military documents, files relating to Moros and the Moro language, printed matter, photographs, books and book material, scrapbooks of letters, maps, clippings, and related material, and miscellaneous personal and family memorabilia. Arranged by type of material.

Miscellany, circa 1901-1955

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 10	Davis, Emma B. (sister), estate, 1941
BOX 10	Diplomas and commissions, 1881-1939 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 10	Military documents received, 1947
BOX 10	Moro letters and dictionary of the Moro language compiled by Bullard
BOX 10	Photographs
BOX 10	Moros and Philippines, unpublished
BOX 11	Miscellaneous, including many of Bullard
BOX 12	Printed matter and clippings, 1942-1947
BOX 13	Published books by Bullard and contracts with publishers
BOX 14	Scrapbooks and memorabilia, including letters, notations, clippings, maps, and related matter (3 vols.)
BOX 15	Personal and family memorabilia, including programs, invitations, <i>Bullard's Indians</i> , medals, and citations
BOX 16-17	Addition, 1944 Drafts, photographs, and other material relating to the writing and publication of <i>Fighting Generals</i> Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
BOX 16	<i>Fighting Generals</i> (1944), 1944
BOX 16	Drafts and correspondence
BOX 17	Photographs
BOX OV 1	Oversize, 1881-1939 Diplomas and commissions Arranged chronologically.
BOX OV 1	Miscellany
BOX OV 1	Diplomas and commissions, 1881-1939 (Container 10)