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U.S. ARMY, 1st ARMY HEADQUARTERS: Records, 1943-55

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The records of the U.S. Army, First Army Headquarters, were sent to the Eisenhower Library by the Modern Military Branch of the National Archives in October 1972.

Linear feet:	2.1
Approximate number of pages:	4,200
Approximate number of items:	60

Literary rights in the official records of the U.S. Army are in the public domain. These records were processed in accordance with the general restrictions on access to government records as set forth by the National Archives.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The United States 1st Army was initially created in France in 1918 to command elements of the American Expeditionary Force during World War I. It was dissolved in 1919, but was reactivated in 1933 and stationed at Governors Island, New York, where it was in charge of U.S. army activities in the northeastern United States.

In October 1943 the headquarters of the 1st Army transferred to England where it began preparations for the invasion of France. On D-Day the First Army, under General Omar Bradley, commanded all U.S. ground forces committed to the Normandy Invasion. For the remainder of the war the First Army participated in the Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns.

After the end of the war in Europe, the First Army returned to the United States where it prepared for reassignment to the Pacific for the planned invasion of Japan. Japan surrendered before the invasion came to pass, and the First Army returned to Governors Island, New York, where it remained stationed during the post-war period.

This collection consists of historical reports describing the activities of the U.S. First Army in Europe during World War II and in the United States during the post-war period. These are duplicate copies of the original reports that are at the National Archives as part of Record Group 338, Records of U.S. Army Commands.

The collection is divided into two series. The first series contains historical reports and miscellaneous material describing the activities of the First Army in Europe during World War II. The material is arranged alphabetically by the type of report. Many of the reports were collected at the end of the war by historians in preparation for a published multi-volume history of the First Army. The Eisenhower Library has an incomplete set of the published history.

The second series contains historical reports describing the activities of the First Army during the post-war period. The reports were compiled by historians assigned to the First Army and are arranged in chronological order. Some of the reports are incomplete.

Additional information on the history of the First Army is in the papers of Courtney Hodges who commanded the First Army from August 1944 to January 1949, and in the papers of Walter Bedell Smith who commanded the First Army from March 1949 to September 1950.

CONTAINER LIST

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- 5 Command Report 1951 Volume I (1)(2) [incomplete; chapters 1-6, 12, 15, 21 and 23 missing]
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