The Middle East Centre

What is the Middle East Centre Archive?
The Middle East Centre Archive was created in 1961 by two Oxford academics, Elizabeth Monroe and Albert Hourani. The purpose of the Archive is to preserve and make available to researchers the papers - both official and personal - of individuals who have served in the Middle East, as for example senior Government representatives, members of the armed forces, businessmen, missionaries or travellers. The Archive currently holds the papers of over 500 individuals or organisations, covering the period from 1800 to the present day including a substantial photographic collection of over 80,000 images covering all areas of the Middle East from the 1850s to the 1970s.

What type of material does the MEC Archive collect?
- Personal and official papers.
- Material dating from 1800 to the present day.
- Material relating to Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.
- Material in any medium including paper, video, film and various photographic formats.
- Mainly English language material.

How can I add material to the MEC Archive?
- Material can be given to the Archive or in some special cases placed on loan.
- In some special cases restrictions can be placed by the donor on access to the material for a specified period of time.
- Please contact the Middle East Centre Archivist to discuss any donation or loan of material.

Miss Debbie Usher
Middle East Centre Archive,
St Antony’s College,

Email: debbie.usher@sant.ox.ac.uk
Tel: 44 1865 284706
Tel UK: 01865 284706
Web: http://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/mec/meca.shtml

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