

Reference code: GB165-0032

Title: Sir Hugh Boustead Collection

Name of creator: Boustead, Sir John Edmund Hugh (1895-1980) Knight, Colonel, Colonial Administrator

Dates of creation of material: 1940-1941; 1949-1961

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 2 boxes

Biographical history: Boustead, Col Sir (John Edmund) Hugh (1895-1980)

Born 14 April 1895, Royal Naval College, Osborne and Dartmouth; Worcester College, Oxford. Royal Naval service 1913-15; S. African Brigade 1915-19; Gordon Highlanders 1921-24; Sudan Camel Corps 1924-29; Gen. Staff SDF, Khartoum, 1930; Commanded Sudan Camel Corps, 1931; retired from Army 1935 and joined Sudan Political Service; District Commissioner Western Desert, Darfur, 1935-40; service in Ethiopia & Eritrea 1941-45; Resident Adviser, Hadhramaut States and British Agent, East Aden Protectorate, Southern Arabia, Oct. 1949-Oct. 1958; Development Secretary to Sultanate of Muscat and Oman, Oct. 1958-Oct. 1961; British Political Agent, Abu Dhabi, Nov. 1961- May 1965. Unmarried. Died 3 April 1980.

Scope and content: Report on the frontier battalion of the Sudan Defence Force 1940-1941; papers relating to development of the Eastern Aden Protectorate and Muscat and Oman; lecture notes on the Sultan Eisa of Mahra and three Arabian rulers (Sultan Saleh, Zaid and Shakbut); draft autobiography.

Access conditions: Open

Language of material: English.

Conditions governing reproduction: Permission to make photocopies for private research. Anything else to be referred to Dept. of Western Manuscripts, Bodleian Library.

Custodial history: In Boustead's possession. Bequeathed to Bodleian Library, 1980.

Immediate source of acquisition: Transferred as a deposit between June and Nov. 1982.

Related Units of Description:

In MEC Archive

- GB165-0563 Michael Butler Collection – see ‘Al Ain 1968-1970’ which includes a description of Hugh Boustead’s retirement and his friendship with the Butler family.

In other repositories

- Oxford University: Bodleian Library of Commonwealth and African Studies at Rhodes House: Correspondence with Margery Perham. Ref MSS Perham. NRA 33434 Perham.

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Publication note: Boustead, Hugh; *The wind of morning: the autobiography of Hugh Boustead* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1971).

Archivist’s note: Fonds level description created by Clare Brown 12 June 1998 and revised by Debbie Usher 4 Nov 2003, 28 Sept 2012 and 6 May 2013. File and item level description created c1982 and revised by Debbie Usher 15 Dec 2015.

**FILE AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE SIR HUGH BOUSTEAD
COLLECTION**

Box 1

- 1/1 Sudan Defence Force Nov 1940-
“Report on the activities of the frontier battalion of the Sudan Defence June 1941
force” by Col Boustead.
- 1/2 Eastern Aden Protectorate Development 1958
“Memorandum on administrative and agricultural development in Eastern
Aden Protectorate from August 1949 – September 1958” by Col
Boustead. Mukalla
- 1/3 Development Department Muscat and Oman
Three copies of “Review of progress of the Development Department in
the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman, covering the period October 1958 –
October 1961” by Col Boustead.

Box 2

- 2/1 Lecture notes
- (a) “The island of Dragons’ blood and Mahra Sultanate” a talk on Sultan Eisa of
Mahra, his lands and people and the entry of the Hadhramaut Bedouin Legion
into the northern deserts of the Mahra.
- (b) “Three Arabian rulers and their people” Sultan Saleh, Sultan Zaid, Shaikh
Shakbut.
- 2/2 Draft autobiography
Fragmentary draft chapters and notes for Boustead’s autobiography which includes a
TS report ‘Comparative Study of the Sultans and the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman,
and the Qu’aiti State of the East Aden Protectorate in 1961’ and chapters entitled ‘Abu
Dhabi Highlights 1963’, ‘A Study in the Advisory Relationship’ in the East Aden
Protectorate, ‘Phase K 1949-1958 Cameos from the past’, ‘Journey to a new
assignment – July 1949’, ‘The Wahidi Sultanates’ ‘Phase F 1920 – Nov 1924’, ‘Phase
L Oct 1958 – Nov 1961 Development Secretary to the Sultan of Muscat and Oman’,
‘Chapter 20 June 1945 to June 1949’, ‘Phase K Farewell to Mukulla’, a list of
‘Important events in Hadhramaut’ and a chapter entitled ‘Desertion from HMS
Hyacinth’.