

Reference code: GB165-0428

Title: Eric Lowe Collection

Name of creator: Lowe, Eric (b. 1928)

Dates of creation of material: 1998-2005

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 1 file

Biographical history: Lowe, Eric (b.1928)

Eric Lowe was born 1928 in Derby and attended elementary schools until the age of fourteen before gaining a scholarship for Derby School of Art. In 1946, he was conscripted into the British Army and posted to Palestine in January 1947 as a clerk in a Royal Army Ordnance Corps depot near Haifa, working alongside Arab and Jewish civilians. In January 1948 Eric Lowe left Palestine. On leaving the army he worked as an artist for Rolls-Royce in the Publicity and Publishing Dept. Six years later he left Rolls-Royce to join the Derby Evening Telegraph when he discovered that Rolls-Royce were selling fighter plane engines to Israel and Egypt. After working on the advertisement sales side of various regional newspapers throughout Britain his last job was as the Advertisement Controller for Thomson Regional Newspapers. In 1985 he ran his own marketing and publishing business. Following Israel's triumphalist 50th anniversary in 1998 Eric Lowe published *Palestine Scrapbook* Issue 1 free of charge for former members of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (RAOC) who served in Palestine. Unlike a county regiment the RAOC veterans were scattered all over the country. Eric Lowe wrote letters to national newspapers, advertised on Teletext and in Saga Magazine offering the magazine to any former soldier who was in the RAOC in Palestine. Eventually Eric Lowe had over 100 paying subscribers. *Palestine Scrapbook* came out every 3 months for 15 issues. The Royal Artillery veterans had also formed an association. The founder of that Association suggested combining their list of veterans to form the Palestine Veterans Association. That association now has approximately 1,220 members. For fifty years the veterans had carried memories of Palestine and watched silently the events there unfolding over the years. The Palestine Police, much smaller in number, were organised from the time they left Palestine. Some of the memories from subscribers to *Palestine Scrapbook* form part of the basis of Eric Lowe's book *Forgotten Conscripts – Prelude to Palestine's Struggle for Survival*.

Scope and content: *Palestine Scrapbook* issues 1-15 consisting of a 'journal for those who served in the RAOC [Royal Army Ordnance Corps] in Palestine' containing a variety of articles remembering life and service in Palestine as well as extracts from letters of *Palestine Scrapbook* subscribers, news of events for veterans' and information to help veterans to get in touch with each other. DVD video of an interview of Eric Lowe in June 2005 covering his service in Palestine, the interviewer was Philip Knightly and the presenter Lady Michelé Renouf.

Access conditions: Open

Language of material: English

Physical Condition: The interview video was recorded in a digital format using Cyberlink Power DVD. A DVD player or computer is necessary to view the interview. Please ask the Archivist in advance to access this material.

Conditions governing reproduction: No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns

Immediate source of acquisition: Received as a gift from Eric Lowe on 18 Jun, 1 Jul 2008

Related Units of Description:

In MEC Archive

The MEC Archive has many collections relating to the Palestine Mandate. Collections containing memories looking back on service in Palestine include the Palestine Police Oral History interviews as well as the following Collections:

- **GB165-0282 Thames Television:** Photocopied transcripts of research interviews with British officials, Jews and Arabs, used in the three-part series *Palestine*, produced by Richard Broad and transmitted by Thames Television, 27 June-11 July 1978. 2 boxes.
- **GB165-0224 Palestine Police Old Comrades' Association:** Records of the PPOCA including newsletters, membership certificates; personal papers of Palestine Policemen; mandate period material including training manuals, official publications and newspapers 1920-1948; material compiled by Edward Horne. c50 boxes.

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Publication note: Lowe, Eric., *Forgotten Conscripts. Prelude to Palestine's Struggle for Survival* (Trafford publishing, Second Edition 2007).

Archivist's note: Fonds level description created by D. Usher 4 Jul 2008. Biographical Information provided by Eric Lowe.

**SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE ERIC LOWE
COLLECTION**

1 Palestine Scrapbook

1/1	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 1 (Photocopy)	1998	1 booklet
1/2	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 2	1999	1 booklet
1/3	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 3 (Print out from a scan)	1999	1 booklet
1/4	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 4	2000	1 booklet
1/5	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 5 (Photocopy)	2000	1 booklet
1/6	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 6 (Photocopy)	2000	1 booklet
1/7	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 7 (Photocopy)	2000	1 booklet
1/8	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 8	2001	1 booklet
1/9	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 9	[2001]	1 booklet
1/10	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 10 (Photocopy)	[2001]	1 booklet
1/11	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 11 (Photocopy)	2002	1 booklet
1/12	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 12 (Photocopy)	2002	1 booklet
1/13	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 13 (Photocopy)	2002	1 booklet
1/14	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 14	2002	1 booklet
1/15	Palestine Scrapbook Issue 15 (Photocopy)	2003	1 booklet

2 Eric Lowe Interview

2/1	DVD video of an interview of Eric Lowe covering his service in Palestine, the interviewer was Philip Knightly and the presenter Lady Michelé Renouf. Physical Condition: A DVD player or computer is necessary to view the interview. Please ask the Archivist in advance to access this material.	Jun 2005	1 DVD
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