

Middle East Centre Archive

St Antony's College, Oxford

Guide to collections relating to Saudi Arabia

Introduction

Please note that the following Guide is not comprehensive. It has been compiled from the main Guide to the Middle East Centre Archive and only collections in that catalogue that explicitly mention Saudi Arabia have been included. Not included in this Guide are several collections that cover the Middle East as a whole and thus may contain material relevant to Saudi Arabia. For example the Arab Bulletin; British Diplomatic Perspectives on the Middle East; Cairo Conference; Chatham House; Clayton; Crow; A.G.M. Dickson and the Mance papers. For these papers please consult the main Guide to the Middle East Centre Archive.

Where a more detailed description of a collection exists, this is indicated in this Guide by the word 'Handlist'.

Please note TS means typescript. MS means manuscript i.e. handwritten.

**ARAMCO.**

GB165-0013

TS report by William Mulligan on the visit of King Abdul Aziz ibn Saud to ARAMCO (Arabian American Oil Company) in January 1947 which was reproduced in 1961 as a memento for Aramco employees and a two page TS 'Program of the reception for H.R.H. Sa'ud Ibn 'Abdul 'Aziz, the crown prince, at the Saudi Arab Airport' on 22 March 1948. 1 vol.; 2 sheets. Handlist.

**BEAUMONT, Sir Richard Ashton.** (1912-2009).

GB165-0597

Papers mainly relating to Sir Richard Beaumont's service in the Foreign Office, in particular his service as Consul in Jerusalem in 1948 and his role in the Buraimi Oasis dispute with Saudi-Arabia in Jan-Oct 1960. Includes a handwritten chronology of events in Palestine and Jerusalem in the period Feb-Dec 1948, with personal diary notes, and photocopies of documents held by The National Archives, perhaps compiled for research purposes. There is also a small amount of material relating to Lebanon and Syria during World War II, as well as a collection of newspaper clippings, 1979-1995, reporting on events in the Middle East. 1 box. Handlist.

**CHEHAB, Emir Farid** (1908-1985).

GB165-0384

Lebanese intelligence reports and analysis, in Arabic, covering internal Lebanese politics, communist parties in the Middle East and political developments in Syria, Morocco, Turkey, Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan and Israeli and Palestinian politics, 1945-1983. 12 boxes. Handlist.

**CLAYTON, Brig. Sir Iltud Nicholl.** (1886-1955). GB165-0058  
 Memoirs of the siege of Kufa, by Major Norbury; Palestine Command Papers (Balfour Declaration to 1939, bound in hard covers); MS of partial memoirs to 1929; copy of Albert Hourani's "Great Britain and Arab nationalism, 1943"; paper "A future for Palestine" with related correspondence and other correspondence on Palestine, 1944 and later; papers on Lebanon, by Charles Malik, 1944; Musa Alami's Land Development Scheme, with related correspondence, 1946; typescript of Sir G.F. Clayton's *Diary of a mission to Ibn Saud*; anon. typescript "A background to British Council work in Egypt"; paper "Islam"; review of Chaim Weizmann's *Trial and Error*. 2 boxes.

**CORKILL, Dr. Norman Lace.** (1898-1966). GB165-0063  
 Papers relating to the life and work of Dr Norman Corkill, as a Doctor and Health and Hygiene advisor in various parts of the Middle East, including his reports on the health and hygiene situations of Saudi Arabia in 1948, Palestinian refugees in 1951, Eastern Aden in 1953, Iran in 1963 and Abu Dhabi in 1964; his diary and an incomplete draft of his autobiography, correspondence and a printed bound report entitled 'A Nutritional Economic Survey of Wartime Palestine, 1942-1943'. 2 boxes. Handlist. Photographic collection.

**CRANE, Charles Richard.** (1858-1939). GB165-0067  
 Photocopies of letters from Arabia, winter 1926-27; photocopied extracts from Jidda diary, 1931; extracts from unpublished, uncompleted MS by Edgar Snow of a biography of Crane. 59 sheets.

**DICKSON, Lt.-Colonel Harold Richard Patrick.** (1881-1959). GB165-0085  
 Childhood; letters from regiment in Ireland, 1903; Gilgit and Bikaner, 1912-14: letters to mother; Mesopotamia campaign: letters to mother, 1914-15; letters home, 1915; letters from D. force, 1915-16; miscellaneous career papers; Suk esh-Shuyukh: letters to mother, 1915-18; pacification of Muntafik, 1918-19; Iraq, 1917-19: events in Nasiriyeh, conditions of service, administration in Basra and Baghdad vilayets; administration reports of the Kuwait Political Agency, 1918, 1921-32; Bahrain, 1920 - Ibn Saud; diaries of mission in Bahrain, 1919-22; private letters of political interest, mostly from Iraq and the Gulf to India, 1920s (including Sir Percy Cox, A.T. Wilson, Philby, Bertram Thomas); reports from Hillah, 1921-22; Ojair conference papers, 1922; Kuwait and the desert: articles and press-cuttings, 1931-48; Kuwait: notes on trade 1932-33, and trade supplies 1942; Kuwait diaries, 1937-58; Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and U.K.: treaties and conventions; notes on Kuwait/Iraq boundaries, 1938; notes for a biography; presscuttings on the Middle East 1937-41 & 53-55. 17 boxes. Handlist. Photographic collection.

**DICKSON, Dame Violet Penelope.** (1896-1991). GB165-0364  
 Photocopy of a TS account of Violet Dickson's family history; MS description of each photograph album; 12 photograph albums, 1956-1981, mainly covering Kuwait but also including a small amount of photographs taken in Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dubai, Sharjah, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq, Yemen as well as photographs of European countries and Africa. 12 Albums and 13 sheets. Handlist.

**HENNESSEY, Robert Samuel Fleming.** (1905-89). GB165-0143  
 TS account of a visit to Riyadh via Baghdad and Bahrain with the Anglo-American (Palestine) Committee, 16-21 March 1946. 9 sheets.

**HEPWORTH, Charles.** (b.1943). GB165-0410  
 OMAN ARCHIVE: Papers and photographs relating to Charles Hepworth's service in the Sultan's Armed Forces during 1970-1971 including a memoir 'A Walk on God's Carpet Adventures in Oman'; training materials including 'Field Notes on Saudi Arabia 1935'; papers relating to missions, speeches by the Sultan, propaganda leaflets and SAF bulletins. Also includes some maps of Southern Arabia, newspaper clippings and a small amount of correspondence about walking and mapping in Oman, as well as digital copies of 35mm slides including Morocco, Oman, the Hadhramaut (Aden) and a report of a Sandhurst expedition to the Hadramaut 1962-1963 with photographs. 6 boxes. Handlist.

**LAWRENCE, Thomas Edward.** (1888-1935). GB165-0177  
 Photocopied letter to Col. S.F. Newcombe, 17 January 1917; letter to King Hussein of the Hijaz, 25 June 1918, on the state of operations of the Arab Revolt; copy of a letter to J.W.A. Young February 1921 commenting on an article describing a visit to Jidda; letter from Rennell Rodd to Liddell Hart, 5 April 1954, about Lawrence's being offered the Secretaryship of the Bank of England; press-cuttings about *The Secret Lives of Lawrence of Arabia* with a letter from A.W. Lawrence, 1969; TS account of the Lawrence memorial in St. Martin's Church, Wareham; TS list of Lawrence letters at Harvard University. 36 sheets.

**LEACHMAN, Gerard Evelyn.** (1880-1920). GB165-0179  
 Diaries written by Lt-Colonel Gerard Evelyn Leachman from 1900-1910. Three diaries document his first military post with the Royal Sussex Regiment in South Africa during the Boer War. Leachman describes the landscape and places he travels through, the people he meets and the regiment's encounters with the Boer right through to when peace is declared and he is re-posted to India. Two further diaries document Leachman's journey from Iraq (Baghdad) to Syria (Aleppo) and from India to England while on military leave and his first expedition to the Arab Peninsula through Baghdad, for which he was awarded the Gill Medal by the Royal Geographical Society. The final diary consists of newspaper clippings reporting on Leachman's death by English and Arab newspapers, documenting his career and giving details of his murder and burial. 1 box. Handlist.

**LUCAS, Ivor.** (b.1927). GB165-0561  
 TS article 'Reflections on a diplomatic career in the Arab and Muslim worlds 1951-84' by Ivor Lucas covering his work in the British Foreign Service relating to the Gulf, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Libya, Aden and Syria and giving his reflections on the changing face of Islam. 1 file. Handlist.

**MONROE, Elizabeth.** (1905-86). GB165-0207  
 Translation of documents from Tsarist archives on the break-up of the Ottoman Empire, 1914-15; a note on the Arab Bureau, 1916-19; letters from C.J. Edmonds on recollections of Mosul Commission, Kurds and Anglo-Iraq treaty of 1926; letters from Freya Stark, 4 November 1943-18 June 1944, on her mission to America; notes on British policy in Palestine 1945-48 with special reference to Ernest Bevin; letters on Jordan Waters situation, 1951-55; Nasser's propaganda in the Persian Gulf, 1955-57; effects of the Suez crisis on Iraqi politics; letters on developments in 1957 in Iraq and Iran; memo "Saudi Arabia 1970-71"; map of the Hijaz railway; material on Egypt's campaign to spread its influence by dispatch of Egyptian teachers abroad; TS copies of 2 letters from Elizabeth Monroe about her travels in Morocco and Algeria

in 1935. 1 box. Photographic collection.

**PHILBY, Harry St. John Bridger.** (1885-1960). GB165-0229  
Political and personal correspondence, memos, travel diaries, exploration reports, engagement books, published and unpublished literary MSS, c.1915-57, covering Transjordan, Iraq, Palestine, Arabia and including correspondence and minutes of meetings of Sharqieh Ltd. and Mitchell Cotts Ltd. 89 boxes. Handlist. Photographic collection.

**RAPP, Sir Thomas Cecil.** (1893-1984). GB165-0234  
Unpublished TS memoirs covering his service in the Canal Zone, 1920-22, 1924-25, 1950-53; Egypt, 1922-25, 1950-52; Arabia (Hijaz) 1924; Morocco 1926-30; and Persia (Azerbaijan) 1943-44 including some details of the wartime supply route to Russia and the Kurdish Republic of Mahabad. 1 box. Handlist.

**RENDEL, Sir George William.** (1889-1979). GB165-0238  
“Notes on the proposed Greek participation in the War” TS report written while First Secretary in the British Legation, Athens during the First World War; TS correspondence between Rendel, Abdul Aziz ibn Saud, Amir Saud, Yusuf Yassin and Hafiz Wahba following Rendel's visit to Saudi Arabia, June-July 1937; correspondence with Sir Colin Crowe, December 1964, about his papers, with recollections of Ibn Saud and Saudi Arabia; TS note, 1965, on the modification of the Syria-Iraq frontier, 1929-31; TS note, 1966, on the transfer of the Residency from Bushire to Bahrain; TS note, 1966, on the Kuwait oil concession; photocopied MS diary of his visit to Saudi Arabia, February-March 1937 1 box. Photographic collection.

**RYAN, Sir Andrew.** (1876-1949). GB165-0248  
Papers relating to the Levant Consular Service in Turkey, Rabat and Jidda, 1897-1958; personal and official correspondence; autobiographical notes; MS and TS of autobiography *Last of the Dragomans*; literary papers; scrapbooks. 6 boxes. Handlist. Photographic collection.

**SMITH, John Allan.** (1894-1966). GB165-0510  
Papers relating to the life and work of John Allan Smith at Gellatly, Hankey and Co (Sudan) Ltd consisting of a newspaper article entitled ‘J.A. Smith leaves’, along with a 4 sheet extract from a history of the firm that mentions John Allan Smith and his work at Gellatly, Hankey and Co. Souvenir photographs showing the Hajj before the end of Ottoman rule, that were sent to John Allan Smith in 1923 by a friend who had been on the pilgrimage. 2 files. Handlist. Photographic Collection.

**TOD, George** (b.1914) GB165-0349  
Photocopy of ‘From Pillar to Post. The family and autobiography of George Tod’ who worked in the oil industry, including material on Iraq 1940-1965, Lebanon 1950-1953, Syria 1953-1956 and South East Arabia 1956-1962. 1 box

**WOOD, Barbara** (b.1926) GB165-0375  
Mainly consisting of copies of a diary of life in Saudi Arabia kept during the 1960s and 1970s, typed up by their creator in the 1990s. Additional papers, comprising of an introduction to events leading up to the beginning of the diaries, and a key to the pseudonyms used in the typed version of the diary, augment the major papers. Further to this there are also 14 sheets of photocopied

photographs which were taken in around the same period as the original diary. Handlist. 1 box. Photographic collection.

**YOUNG, J.W.A.**

GB165-0310

TS and MS memoirs "A Little to the East: Experiences of an Anglo-Egyptian Official, 1899-1925"; TS accounts of 3 months in Jidda, 1916, and a journey to Baghdad before the First World War; TS memoir of his Egyptian syce, El Usta Mohammed; TS dramatised account of the appointment and punishment of Egyptian village omdas and sheikhs; off-print of an account of a journey to survey the Khedive's estates in Dalaman Valley, Anatolia, published in *The Cairo Scientific Journal* no.38, vol.III, Nov. 1909. 1 box.

South Arabia/Arabian Peninsula**CAMERON WATT, Prof. Donald.** (b. 1928)

GB165-0296

Press-cutting collection from British newspapers covering: oil; the Arabian peninsula; Middle East (in general); Egypt; Cyprus; Malta; Eisenhower Doctrine; Iran; Lebanon; Libya; Iraq Revolution; Israel; Jordan; Syria; Turkey; Sudan; French North Africa; Somaliland; the Suez Crisis; some maps. 11 boxes. Handlist.

**HOLMES, Richard J.** (1928-77).

GB165-0149

Correspondence, reports, memoranda, case notes, etc. relating to Aden, 1942-67; papers of the Anglo-Yemeni conference, 1950; East African Currency Board correspondence, 1967-68; correspondence and memoranda on constitutional development in the UAE, 1968-72; "Britain and South Arabia": MS of a constitutional history of South Arabia during the pre-independence period (284 pp.). 5 boxes. Handlist. Photographic collection.