

Reference code: GB165-0386

Title: Victor Cannings Collection

Name of creator: Cannings, Victor Henry Douglas (1919-2016) Cricketer, Palestine Policeman

Dates of creation of material: 1936-2006

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 1 box

Biographical history: Cannings, Victor Henry Douglas (1919-2016)

Born at Bighton, Near Alresford, Hampshire on 3 April 1919. Educated at Old Alresford, Preston, Candover & Farnham West School and from there gained a scholarship to Guildford Technical College. Worked on high speed lathe until joining the Palestine Police early in 1939. Cricket and soccer has more or less dominated my life. Whilst at Guildford played cricket for 'Young players of Surrey'. This XI included the Bedser twins of which Alec became later one of the mainstays of the England XI. While in Palestine met many men who later became big names in England's Cricket XI, including Yardley, Laicer, Appleyard and Lindsey Hassett who later captained Australia. He was in A.A. Battery in Haifa and we became very good friends. At cricket I toured Egypt (twice) and Lebanon. At soccer I toured Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. I came home in May 1946 and later that year signed on for Warwickshire County Cricket Club. Married in 1947 and have two sons. In 1950 left Warwickshire for Hampshire County Cricket Club. In ten years at Hampshire I coached cricket during the winter in South Africa, Pakistan, Argentina and Trinidad. I came as head coach to Eton College in 1960 and retired in 1984. The following year I was asked back to coach the boys in their 1st year. I did this for another nine years, during which representing Berkshire they won the All England Cricket Cup beating Cheshire and Trent Bridge. Died 27 Oct 2016.

Scope and content: Papers relating to service in the Palestine Police including a Police identity card, Criminal Code Ordinance for 1936, Palestine Police Magazines 1939-1947, 3 photographs of the Palestine Police Cricket Team, Certificate of Discharge from the Police and an oral history interview carried out in 2006 covering Cannings' service in the Palestine Police. Also including a booklet on Jerusalem promoting the work of the Jewish Agency and press cuttings covering bombings and deteriorating security in Palestine 1944-1946 and an essay on Canning's later Cricket Career, 1958.

System of arrangement:

- 1 Palestine Police, 1933-2006
- 2 Jerusalem Booklet and Newspaper Cuttings, 1936-1946
- 3 Cricket Career, 1958
- 4 Photographs, 1939-1948

Access conditions: Open

Language of material: English

Physical Condition: The digital sound file for the interview is available for listening to in the Archive reading room, as part of our digital collections.

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 Victor Cannings on 28 Feb 2006

Related Units of Description:

In MEC Archive

For other Palestine Police papers and photographs, please see the Guide to collections relating to the British Mandate Palestine Police

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Archivist's note: Fonds and file and item level description created by Debbie Usher 14 Mar 2006 and last revised 13 Sept 2022. Biographical history supplied by Victor Cannings.

**FILE AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE VICTOR CANNINGS
COLLECTION**

1 Palestine Police, 1933-2006

1/1 Palestine Police Identity Card, 1939

‘Palestine Police Force Certificate of Appointment’ used 20 Apr 1939 1 item
as an Police identity card.

1/2 Criminal Code Ordinance 1936

Criminal Code Ordinance No. 74 of 1936 (Supplement Dec 1936 1 book
No. 1 to the Palestine Gazette Extraordinary no. 652 of
14th December, 1936).

1/3 Palestine Police Magazines, 1933-1947

1/3/1	Palestine Police Magazine.	Nov 1933	1 booklet
1/3/2	Palestine Police Magazine.	Apr 1939	1 booklet
1/3/3	Palestine Police Magazine.	Jan 1940	1 booklet
1/3/4	Palestine Police Magazine.	Apr 1940	1 booklet
1/3/5	Palestine Police Magazine.	Jul 1940	1 booklet
1/3/6	Palestine Police Magazine.	Jan 1941	1 booklet
1/3/7	Palestine Police Magazine.	Apr 1941	1 booklet
1/3/8	Palestine Police Magazine.	Jun 1947	1 booklet

1/4 Group photographs of the Palestine Police Cricket Team, 1940s

1/4/1	Palestine Police Cricket Team with Cunnings 5 th from front right.	c1942-1943	1 item
1/4/2	Palestine Police Cricket Team including: Standing (left to right): Pearce, Edy, Reeves, Kinton, Cattering, Cannings, Kent. Seated (left to right): Harwood, Johnson, Swain, Fletcher, Spelman.	c1942-1943	1 item

1/4/3	Palestine Police Force Cricket Team and an Australian Team. Cannings front row second from right.	1940s	1 item
<u>1/5</u>	<u>Palestine Police Certificate of Discharge, 1946</u>		
	'Palestine Police Force Certificate of Discharge' giving dates of service and comments on good service.	20 Mar 1946	1 booklet
<u>1/6</u>	<u>Oral History Interview of Palestine Police Service, 2006</u>		
1/6/1	Questions for oral history interview of Palestine Police Service with answers in the form of MS notes by Victor Cannings.	Feb 2006	6 sheets
1/6/2	Oral History Interview of Victor Cannings. Physical Condition: The digital sound file is available for listening to in the Archive reading room, as part of our digital collections. Please ask the Archivist for further details.	27 Feb 2006	87 minutes (.wav file)
1/6/3	Transcript of oral history interview of Victor Cannings.	27 Feb 2006	29 sheets
<u>2</u>	<u>Jerusalem Booklet and Newspaper Cuttings, 1936-1946</u>		
<u>2/1</u>	<u>Jerusalem booklet, 1936</u>		
	Booklet 'Jerusalem' published by the Keren Hayesod to encourage support for the Jewish Agency including a map, images of Jerusalem and a brief history of the city and it's development.	1936	1 booklet
<u>2/2</u>	<u>Press cuttings, 1944-1946</u>		
	'Press cuttings of some of the recent outrages in Palestine & Other "interesting" notes'. The press cuttings mainly cover bombings and deteriorating security conditions with one Irgun propaganda notice.	1944-1946	1 book

3 Cricket Career, 1958

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|-----|---|------|----------|
| 3/1 | Photocopy of a printed essay 'V.H.D. Cannings An Appreciation' by John Arlott giving an account of Cannings Cricket career. | 1958 | 8 sheets |
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4 Photographs, 1939-1948

Access: The photographs are available for viewing via contact sheets

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|-------|---|----------|----------|
| 4/1 | At Port Said on our way to join P.P. in April 1939
L[left] to R[right].
Davidson-Chapman-Cannings-Early. | Apr 1939 | 1 item |
| 4/2 | 1939 Christmas at Central Station. I am sixth up on right hand side of table. | 1939 | 1 item |
| 4/3 | <u>Parade with Australian and Black Watch Bands</u> | 1940s | 4 items |
| 4/3/1 | No1 Shows the Parade headed by the band of the Black Watch. | | |
| 4/3/2 | No 2 The first batch of the Aussies and the last line of the Black Watch Band. | | |
| 4/3/3 | No 3 The Australian Band with the usual crowd of kids and sightseers. | | |
| 4/3/4 | No 4 The end of the Aussies Band and the rest of the Parade. | | |
| 4/4 | <u>Mobile Police Striking Force (M.P.S.F)</u>
Photographs of the Mobile Police Striking Force walking through the hills. | 1940s | 11 items |
| 4/4/1 | B/Sgt McLean who usually with me led the others. He took all the pictures. | | |
| 4/4/2 | B/C Cannings on the March with Mobile Police Striking Force. | | |
| 4/4/3 | M.P.S.F [Mobile Police Striking Force] (Ramallah)
Walking 15 to 30 K's, 3 times a week through the hills.
The dog is 'Sheila' who came nearly every time with us. | | |

4/4/4	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah) on the march.		
4/4/5	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah) on the march.		
4/4/6	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah) on the march.		
4/4/7	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah) on the march.		
4/4/8	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah) on the march.		
4/4/9	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah) on the march.		
4/4/10	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah).		
4/4/11	Mobile Police Striking Force (Ramallah).		
	B/Sgts Morrison, Duffel & McLean.		
4/5	<u>Inspection by Prince Henry</u>	1940s	7 items
4/5/1	Prince Henry inspecting members of the force at Mt Scopus. Insp Gen at his side. Behind in Kaldak, Supt Kyle.		
4/5/2	Mobile Police Striking Force (M.P.S.F) at Mt Scopus inspected by Prince Henry.		
4/5/3	Mobile Police Striking Force (M.P.S.F) at Mt Scopus inspected by Prince Henry.		
4/5/4	Camelry Corps at Mt Scopus being inspected by Prince Henry.		
4/5/5	Mobile Police Striking Force (M.P.S.F) at Mt Scopus inspected by Prince Henry.		
4/5/6	Mobile Police Striking Force (M.P.S.F) at Mt Scopus inspected by Prince Henry.		
4/5/7	Mounted Police at Mt Scopus at inspection by Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester.		
	Copyright H. Orushkes New Russian Bldg, Jaffa Road, Jerusalem.		
4/6	Taken in the Turkish-Syrian frontier in Nov 1942. (Palestine Police who escorted German nationals in exchange for British.	Nov 1942	1 item

4/7	Force XI v Australians (Haifa) led out by Lindsay Hasset who later played for Australia in 1948 and then became Captain on next tour.	1948	1 item
4/8	Cricket ? at Force v Aus [Australians] at Mt Scopus L[left] to R[right] Deval, Australian, Lewis, Eldridge Copyright H. Orushkes New Russian Bldg, Jaffa Road, Jerusalem.	?1948	1 item