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PAPERS OF GRAF HELMUTH CARL BERNHARD VON MOLTKE, 1800-1891

Introduction

Personal handwritten papers of General Field Marshall Helmuth Carl Bernhard, Graf von Moltke (1800-1891), dating from 1839-1891, formerly held by the Heeresarchiv Potsdam (*Lager* No. 60-931). Microfilmed by NARA in 1952, the original records are now in the custody of the German Bundesarchiv. The papers are organized into numbered sections (*Stücke*), many of which were missing when filmed, so the collection can only be regarded as incomplete. A typed inventory, prepared at the Heeresarchiv in 1938, is included at the beginning of the first roll and at the start of some sections. No frame numbers were used in filming.

Moltke spent his entire adult life in the Prussian army, rising to the rank of General Field Marshall. As Chief of the German General Staff, he was the architect of the victorious wars of German unification against Denmark (1864), Austria (1866) and France (1870-1871).

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- 3 S. 34—correspondence filed under “B” (Ba-BI) including some printed material, plans for the new (1884) Hamburg Rathaus with a letter from Alexander Birt, and a letter from Edward W. Bok asking for a memorial testament from Moltke for the late Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, March 14, 1887.
- 4 S. 34—“B” correspondence continued (Bo-Bra), including letters from Edward W. Bok asking for Moltke’s autograph, newspaper clippings, testimonials, telegrams, etc.
- 5 S. 35—correspondence filed under “M” (Ma-Mu)
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- 6 S. 37—brief, handwritten operational concept for the 1866 war with Austria, along with a typed version prepared later by the Heeresarchiv
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- S. 48—family photographs, including some of the Kreisau estate in Silesia
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- S. 50—typed inventory of items in the Schlossarchiv Triesch, 1941

- S. 51—published speech, Moltke: Persönlichkeit und Werk, by Wolfgang Foerster (1941)
- S. 52—published book, Moltke als Topograph, by Norbert Fischer of the Prussian State Library (1944), with Moltke's hand drawn maps of Turkish towns and fortresses, 1828-1844, two letters to his brother Ludwig, 1852, and other letters.