

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY  
ABILENE, KANSAS

ROBERT C. DAVIE: Papers, 1933-94

Accessions 75-34, 75-34/1, 76-28, 76-28/1, 76-28/2,  
77-11, 77-11/1, 77-11/2, 77-11/3, 78-6, 78-6/1, 78-6/2,  
80-3, 86-6, 87-2, 87-2/1, 88-2, 91-2, 94-1, 94-1/1, 95-3

Processed by: TB

Date Completed: May 2001

The papers of Colonel Robert C. Davie were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library by Col. Davie in several shipments between 1975 and 1994.

Linear feet: 1  
Approximate number of pages: 2000  
Approximate number of items: 800

Colonel Davie signed an instrument of gift for the papers on March 4, 1987. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Robert C. Davie in this collection and in all other collections of papers received by the United States have been donated to the public. Under terms of the instrument of gift, the following classes of items are withheld from research use:

1. Papers which constitute an invasion of personal privacy or a libel of a living person.
2. Papers which are required to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and are properly classified.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Robert C. Davie (1911-1997) was a native of Oklahoma. He joined the army in 1933 and served as a private for two years. During this period he attended the Army Finance School in Washington, DC, and worked as a financial clerk at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

Davie re-enlisted in the army in 1940 and became an officer. In 1944 he commanded the 136<sup>th</sup> Finance Disbursing Section in England. On June 7, 1944, the day after the Normandy Invasion, he led the unit ashore on Omaha Beach with \$450,000 in French currency and established the first U.S. Army financial office in France. His unit was responsible for converting British pounds and U.S. dollars into French currency, selling war bonds, safeguarding money which had belonged to deceased soldiers, and issuing money orders for U.S. servicemen so they could send their pay home. In later years Davie kept in touch with members of the unit and frequently contacted U.S. government officials in an effort to gain recognition for the unit and those who had served in it.

After World War II Davie held a variety of financial positions in the Army. From 1950 to 1953 he was on occupation duty in Trieste. In 1953 and 1954 he served as comptroller of Joint Task Force Seven, a military unit which conducted nuclear tests at Eniwetok and Bikini Atolls. In 1955 and 1956 he was comptroller of the Fifth Army. Davie retired from the Army in 1958 and settled in Spokane, Washington where he worked as a securities broker.

The papers of Robert C. Davie were received at the Eisenhower Library in piecemeal fashion over a period of twenty years. The material is arranged alphabetically by subject. The arrangement scheme and the folder titles were devised by the processing archivist. Approximately half of the collection consists of correspondence and subject files relating to Davie's military career. This includes portions of Davie's 201 file and historical documents on the work of the 136<sup>th</sup> Finance Disbursing Section during the invasion of France. The correspondence dates mostly from the 1970s and 1980s, and consists of letters Davie received from veterans of the 136<sup>th</sup> Finance Disbursing Section and government officials. Davie seldom retained copies of his outgoing letters.

The remainder of the collection consists of memorabilia and printed material collected by Davie. Most of the material pertains to World War II, and includes tourist literature, photographs, and samples of foreign currency Davie acquired in Europe. Davie also had an interest in history. He collected information on the history of eastern Washington, including the mining industry and the Hanford plant at Richland, and also articles on the Revolutionary War in which a distant relative, William Davie of North Carolina, had served.

## CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Clippings  Correspondence (1)-(3) [letters from Carl Bue, John Hengesbach, Oliver Pelletier & Percival Russell re World War II experiences]  Correspondence - Phil Dillaber (1)(2) [World War II experiences; 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, 1994]  Memorabilia  136 <sup>th</sup> Finance Disbursing Section (1)(2)  Printed Material (1)(2)  Printed Material - James M. Beck
2	Printed Material - Mining Publications (1)-(3)  Printed Material - <u>Omaha Beachhead</u> [Army historical booklet]  Printed Material - Richland, Washington  Printed Material - Tourist Literature (1)-(3)  Revolutionary War (1)(2)  201 File 1933-35 [Army Finance School; Fort Shafter, Hawaii]  201 File 1940-49 (1)(2) [work of 136 <sup>th</sup> Finance Disbursing Section]  201 File 1952-58 [visit of Turkish officials, April 1955; organization of Joint Task Force Seven]
3	Oversized Items

END OF CONTAINER LIST