



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Michael J. Leahy films

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Michael J. Leahy films
Date:	circa 1930-1952
Identifier:	HSFA.1977.04
Creator:	Leahy, Michael J., 1901-1979
Extent:	Film reels (black-and-white color silent positive; 4600 feet)
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Michael J. Leahy in 1977.

Provenance

Previously titled "Leahy Footage of Papua New Guinea ca. 1930-1952."

Preferred Citation

Michael J. Leahy films, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Scope and Contents

Footage shot in the Papua New Guinea highlands around Mt. Hagen, Goroka Valley, Kundiawa, and Wahgi Valley. Documentation includes: mining for gold using ground sluicing and sluice boxes at the Kuta site near Mt. Hagen; aerial shots over the Wahgi, Hagen, and Goroka valleys; the Leahy expedition to Wahgi Valley; construction and operation of airstrips at Mt. Hagen, Bena Bena, and Garaina; the Chimbu, Wabag, Bena Bena, Chuake, Waria, and Luluai peoples; local celebrations at Mt. Hagen including *sing-sings* and a "Carry'im leg" ceremony; Wabag gardens and wigmen with flowers in their wigs; Mt. Giluwe and Kainantu areas; villages of Lompri and Kompri in the Kainantu area; and a village in the Arona Valley. Footage also contains various shots of the Leahy brothers and other Australians. Depicted are Robert, Allen ; Kingsbury, ; Leahy, Dan ; Leahy, Michael ; Taylor, Jim ; Griffith, Tom ; Davey, Margaret ; Best, M. ; Best, Jeanette ; Tutley, Richard ; Fisher, Brian ; Huret, Tim ; Huret, Richard ; Huret, Peter ; Fraser, Dorthy ; Best, M. Stan ; Wickham, Christopher Burt ; Ross Father ; Troper Father.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Bibliography

Anderson, Rob and Bob Connolly, directors. *First Contact*. Arundel Productions, 1983.

Local Number

HSFA 1977.4.1

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Courtship
- Enga (Papua New Guinean people)
- Gold mines and mining

Types of Materials:

- silent films

Places:

- Oceania
- Papua New Guinea