



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to *Through the Gates of Splendor*, circa 1960

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	<i>Through the Gates of Splendor</i>
Date:	circa 1960
Identifier:	HSFA.1994.23
Creator:	Saint, Nathaniel, 1923-1956 Elliot, Elisabeth
Extent:	Film reels (37 minutes; color sound)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from the National Center for Film and Video Preservation at the American Film Institute in 1994.

Preferred Citation

Through the Gates of Splendor, 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

Edited film documenting ill-fated 1956 missionary expedition to the country of the Aucas, an Amazonian tribe located near the border of Peru and Ecuador. Five men were killed by the Aucas after attempting to make friendly contact. The film is narrated by Betty Elliott, wife of one of the unfortunate men, and is based on her books "Through Gates of Splendor" and "The Savage My Kinsman". In 1958, Elliott established friendly contact with the Aucas and began missionary work there with another of the widows. Film includes footage of travel scenes in Quito, a journey to missionary base camp and life at the base camp; arial shots of Auca territory and the Auca camp, footage of initial contact with Aucas, as well as scenes of Elliott in Auca camp, and scenes of Elliott's young daughter playing with Auca children.

Legacy Keywords: Children American Indian Peru Ecuador ; Culture contact Peru Ecuador ; Settlements missionary religious Peru Ecuador ; Settlements Auca Quechua Peru Ecuador ; Urban life Quito Peru Ecuador

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and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.

Local Number

HSFA.1994.23

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Missionaries
Ssabella Indians | Ssabela | Sabela | Huaorani | Wao

Cultures:

Ssabella Indians | Ssabela | Sabela | Huaorani | Wao

Types of Materials:

Sound films

Places:

Ecuador
Peru
South America