



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## Guide to the Robert W. Grant papers and photographs, 1943-1945

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April 1976

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Robert W. Grant papers and photographs
<b>Date:</b>	1943-1945
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.1975-30
<b>Creator:</b>	Grant, Robert W.
<b>Extent:</b>	13 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Related Materials

Grant donated several artifacts to the Smithsonian Institution which appear in the photographs in the notebooks. Reference is made to them in his accompanying commentary.

Additional documents relating to Micronesia and the Central Pacific may be found in the A.F. Whiting Collection at the National Anthropological Archives.

### Processing Information

Processed by Karen Griffith, April 1976

Encoded by Zac Greenfield February 2018

### Preferred Citation

Robert W. Grant papers and photographs, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

The Robert W. Grant papers and photographs are open for research.

Access to the Robert W. Grant papers and photographs requires an appointment.

### Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

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## Biographical Note

These photographs and related materials reflect the efforts of Robert W. Grant during his tour of duty with the United States Army Air Force from 1943 to 1945. As Photographic Interpreter with the 9th Photographic Intelligence Detachment, Grant was stationed at the 7th Army Air Force Headquarters in the Central Pacific.

Although he was not an anthropologist, Grant took an interest in the natives who populated the islands to which he was posted and spent his free time photographing them. As Grant himself states in the introduction to his comments,

"...what I obtained during my tour in the Central Pacific was not the product of a scientific expedition but of an adventure, resulting not from design, but caprice."

### **Chronology of Grant's Tour of Duty in the Central Pacific**

<i>November 1943</i>	Arrived 7th AAF Headquarters, Funafuti, Ellice Islands.
<i>January 1944</i>	Set up operations on Tarawa, Gilbert Islands.
<i>March 1944</i>	Set up operations on Kwajalein, Marshall Islands.
<i>October 1944</i>	Set up operations on Guam, Marianas Islands.
<i>July 1945</i>	Arrived Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands.

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## **Scope and Contents**

The collection consists of several notebooks containing photographs and descriptive comments which also explain some of the cultural aspects of life on the particular islands to which the photographs relate; aerial photographs used for military intelligence which Grant acquired "from an unknown source" while acting as Declassification Officer on Okinawa in 1945; clippings from American newspapers and magazines regarding events which were taking place during the time period covered by the collection; maps of many of the islands of the Central Pacific and some Japanese islands; color slides of some of the prints included in the notebooks; and negatives of some of the prints included in the notebooks. There are also negatives included for 6 of the aerial photographs of Guam.

While the photographs in the notebooks depict native life, dress, handicrafts, etc., the aerial photographs, in most cases, are strictly of the military intelligence variety showing targets, reconnaissance, coastline, enemy installations, harbors, and airfields. In some instances, however, towns, villages, plantations, and vegetation show up clearly in the aerial views. Also among the aerial photographs will be found target status reports indicating kind and number of targets and extent of damage. Scattered throughout the collection are intelligence documents for some of the islands containing such information as map coordinates, climatological data, geographical description, etc. Where these items exist, notation has been made in the series description.

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 National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

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## **Arrangement**

The bulk of the collection is arranged by major island group. For example, photographs of the Hall Islands will be found under the Caroline Islands - the major island group of which the Hall Islands are a part. Similarly, photographs of Guam are found in the series covering the Marianas Islands - the major island group of which Guam is a part.

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## **Names and Subject Terms**

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

Places:

East Asia  
Oceania

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Caroline Islands, 1944-1945

Language: English.

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by island.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs. The notebook contains aerial photographs of Truk and one photograph of Marcus Island plus bomb damage reports for both. Also included is one intelligence document for Kusaie Island. Several of the photographs show views of villages, buildings, and harbors, e.g. Pingelap and Ponape. Additional Material can be found in series 14, 15, and 16.

Box 1, Folder 1	East Fayu
Box 1, Folder 1	Fais
Box 1, Folder 1	Gaferut
Box 1, Folder 1	Hall
Box 1, Folder 1	Kusaie
Box 1, Folder 1	Lae
Box 1, Folder 1	Lib
Box 1, Folder 1	Losap
Box 1, Folder 1	Mokil
Box 1, Folder 1	Murilo Atol
Box 1, Folder 1	Olimarao
Box 1, Folder 1	Oroluk
Box 1, Folder 1	Palau
Box 1, Folder 1	Pingelap
Box 1, Folder 2	Ponape
Box 1, Folder 2	Puluwat
Box 1, Folder 2	Rongelap

Box 1, Folder 2	Satawan
Box 1, Folder 3	Truk
Box 1, Folder 3	Ujelang
Box 1, Folder 3	Woleai
Box 1, Folder 3	Yap

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## Series 2: China, 1944

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by area.

Scope and Contents: Aerial Photographs. These are mainly views of airfields and populated areas. Additional material can be found in series 14 and 15.

Box 1, Folder 4	Chiang Wan Airfield, Shanghai
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Box 1, Folder 4	Ta Ch'ang Airfield, Shanghai
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Box 1, Folder 4	Wu-sung, Shanghai
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## Series 3: Ellice Islands, 1943

*1 Notebook*

*Box 1, Folder 5*

Arrangement: Arranged loosely by subject.

Scope and Contents: Included are Grant's introduction to the collection, comments on the photographs which show natives, their dress, homes, villages, Army installations, and scenery. There are also several photographs of similar subjects taken on Fiji. Additional Material can be found in Series 16, 17, and 18.

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## Series 4: Formosa

*3 Photographs*

*Box 1, Folder 6*

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by area.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs. Additional materials can be found in series 14.

Contents:

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## Series 5: Gilbert Islands, 1944

### *2 Notebooks*

#### *Box 2*

Arrangement: Arranged loosely by subject.

Scope and Contents: Volume I consists of five parts: Grant's introduction to the collection, a discussion of the culture of the Gilbertese and the effects of the missionary effort in the area, comments on the photographs in Volume II, an account of an excursion to the Catholic Mission in the islands entitled "Gilbertese Sisters at Tea," an article - "St. Michael's School" - which includes photographs of the school and students. Volume II includes aerial views of Tarawa as well as photographs of such activities as fishing, dancing, and sports. Also, everyday activities, ornamentation, dress, homes, villages, shells, weaving, and musical instruments. The comments in Volume I relating to the photographs in Volume II also mention some of the cultural habits of the Gilbertese as told to Grant by a native. Additional Material can be found in series 16,17, and 18.

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## Series 6: Japan, 1944

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by island.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs. Includes many photographs of Iwo Jima during and after the battle along with target status reports. There is also a ten page intelligence document covering the southern Nanpo Shoto or southern islands which include the Bonin and Kazan groups. The two notebooks contain information about Okinawa. Volume I includes Grant's comments on that island and his impressions of life there. There are numerous photographs of landscapes plus some of dancing and music, family life, everyday chores, children, burial customs, calligraphy and calligraphers, dress, homes, villages, markets, sports, games, fishing, boats, shrines, crafts, war damage, the U.S. military, and delegates to the surrender ceremony. Additional material can be found in series 14, 15, 16, and 18.

Box 3, Folder 7	Bonin Islands: Chichi Jima, 1944
Box 3, Folder 8	Bonin Islands: Haha Jima, 1944
Box 3, Folder 9	Bonin Islands: Muko Shima, 1944
Box 3, Folder 9	Nishino Shima, 1944
Box 3, Folder 9	Yome Jima, 1944
Box 3, Folder 10	Iwakuni Airfield, 1944
Box 3, Folder 11	Iwo Jima, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Kajicki, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Kurume, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Kagoshima Kyushu, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Matsuyama, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Minami Iwo Jima, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Nagasaki, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Nakajima Aircraft Company, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Nakakoshihi, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Nanpo Shoto, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Nobeoka, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Omuta, 1944

Box 3, Folder 12	Takao, 1944
Box 3, Folder 12	Taramizu, 1944
Box 3, Folder 13	Ryukyu Islands: Okinawa, 1944
Box 3, Folder 13	Ryukyu Islands: Tori Shima, 1944
Box 4	Okinawa, Volume I, 1944 1 Notebook
Box 5	Okinawa, Volume II, 1944 1 Notebook

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## Series 7: Marianas Islands, 1944-1945

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by island.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs. Also included are six negatives which correspond to six prints of Guam - these show more ocean and parts of other airplanes than the island itself, several pages of intelligence reports for Guam, Rota, Saipan, and Tinian islands. Volume I of the notebooks contains military information, a history of the Lizama family with whom Grant became acquainted, comments on the social life and customs of the Chamorro people and photographs of the Lizama family, daily chores, vegetation, games (Chunka, with instructions for playing), and some aerial photographs of Tumon Bay. Volume II includes military photographs, photographs of pre-war Guam, schools, homes, natives, villages, ornamentation, and dancing. Volume III contains letters from Maj. Oliver Franklin regarding the obtaining of merchandise in Hawaii for the Lizama family, letters from members of the Lizama family to Grant, a few photographs, magazine clippings regarding Guam, and a translation from Spanish to English of a school text entitled *The History of Guam* which was used in Chamorro schools. Additional material can be found in series 14, 15, and 18.

Box 5, Folder 14	Agrihan, 1944-1945
Box 5, Folder 14	Aguyan, 1944-1945
Box 5, Folder 14	Alamagan, 1944-1945
Box 5, Folder 14	Asuncion, 1944-1945
Box 5, Folder 14	Farallon de Medilinilla, 1944-1945
Box 5, Folder 14-15	Guam, 1944-1945 Notes: Folder 14 contains prints and folder 15 contains negatives.
Box 6	Guam, volumes II & II, 1944-1945 2 Notebooks
Box 7	Guam, volume III, 1944-1945 1 Notebook
Box 7, Folder 16	Maug, 1944-1945
Box 7, Folder 16	Pagan, 1944-1945
Box 7, Folder 16	Rota, 1944-1945
Box 7, Folder 16	Saipan, 1944-1945
Box 7, Folder 16	Tinian, 1944-1945

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## Series 8: Marshall Islands, 1943-1944

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by island.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs. The notebook contains material about Kwajalein and is divided into four parts: military, natives, Hell's Angels, and entertainment. The military section shows the condition of the island as of 22 December 1943. Hell's Angels refers to the Army Nurse Corps. The entertainment section contains clippings regarding personalities who performed on the island, e.g. Carole Landis, Betty Hutton, and Jack Benny. Also included are several pages of intelligence reports on Jaluit, Maloelap, Mille, and Wotje. Additional material can be found in series 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. N.B.: There is some question as to whether or not Marcus Island belongs to the Marshall group. It was included here in order to preserve original order.

Box 7, Folder 17	Ailinglapalap, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 17	Ebon, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 17	Jaluit, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 17	Maloelap, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 17	Marcus, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 17	Mille, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 17	Namu, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 17	Pakin, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 18	Roi, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 18	Ujae, 1943-1944
Box 7, Folder 18	Wotje, 1943-1944
Box 8	Notebook on Kwajalein, 1943-1944 1 Notebook

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## Series 9: Nauru Island, 1944

*Box 8, Folder 19*

Arrangement: Unarranged.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs for military intelligence. Additional material can be found in series 14 and 16.

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## Series 10: Ocean Island, 1944

*8 Photographs*

*Box 8, Folder 20*

Arrangement: Unarranged.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs for military intelligence.

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## Series 11: Philippine Islands, 1944

*Box 8, Folder 21*

Arrangement: Unarranged

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs for military intelligence. Additional material can be found in series 14, 15, 16, and 18.

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## Series 12: Singapore, 1945

*Box 8, Folder 22*

Arrangement: Unarranged.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs for military intelligence. They show harbors and ships accompanied by six pages of statistical information concerning them.

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## Series 13: Wake Island, 1944

*Box 8, Folder 23*

Arrangement: Unarranged.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs for military intelligence. Additional material can be found in series 14, 15, and 16.

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## Series 14: Oversize Materials, 1944

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by island.

Scope and Contents: Aerial photographs for military intelligence. Some show villages, harbors, and vegetation. Also included herein are intelligence reports for Palau, Ponape, Truk, Yap, and Tinian Island.

### Caroline Islands:

Box 9, Folder 24 Farallon de Pajaros, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Hall Islands, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Palau, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Ponape, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Pulo Anna, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Puluwat, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Sonsoral, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Truk, 1944

Box 9, Folder 24 Yap, 1944

Box 9, Folder 25 China: Shanghai, 1944

Box 9, Folder 26 Formosa, 1944

### Japan:

Box 9, Folder 27 Bonin Islands: Chichi Jima, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27 Bonin Islands: Haha Jima, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27 Bonin Islands: Muko Shima, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27 Kazan Islands: Iwo Jima, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27 Ryukyu Islands: Okinawa, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27 Machinato Airfield, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27 Te Shima Airfield, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27 Yatabe Airfield, 1944

Box 9, Folder 27	Yonten Airfield, 1944
	Marianas Islands:
Box 9, Folder 28	Guam, 1944
Box 9, Folder 28	Guguan, 1944
Box 9, Folder 28	Maug, 1944
Box 9, Folder 28	Pagan, 1944
Box 9, Folder 28	Saipan, 1944
Box 9, Folder 28	Tinian, 1944
	Marshall Islands:
Box 9, Folder 29	Jaluit, 1944
Box 9, Folder 29	Maloelap, 1944
Box 9, Folder 29	Mille, 1944
Box 9, Folder 29	Wotje, 1944
Box 9, Folder 30	Nauru, 1944
Box 9, Folder 31	Philippine Islands, 1944
Box 9, Folder 32	Wake Island, 1944

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## Series 15: Maps, 1944

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by island.

Scope and Contents: Mainly military maps showing target locations, views of the islands as seen when approached from different directions by air, etc.

Caroline Islands:	
Box 9, Folder 33	Kusaie, 1944
Box 9, Folder 33	Palau, 1944
Box 9, Folder 33	Ponape, 1944
Box 9, Folder 33	Woleai, 1944
Box 9, Folder 33	Yap, 1944
China:	
Box 9, Folder 33	Shanghai, 1944
Japan:	
Box 9, Folder 34	Bonin Islands: Chichi Jima, 1944
Box 9, Folder 34	Bonin Islands: Haha Jima, 1944
Box 9, Folder 34	Bonin Islands: Muko Jima, 1944
Box 9, Folder 34	Kazan Islands: Iwo Jima, 1944
Box 9, Folder 34	Ryukyu Islands: Okinawa, 1944
Marianas Islands:	
Box 9, Folder 35	Guam, 1944
Box 9, Folder 35	Pagan, 1944
Box 9, Folder 35	Rota, 1944
Box 9, Folder 35	Saipan, 1944
Box 9, Folder 35	Tinian, 1944
Box 9, Folder 35	Marianas Island Group, 1944

Marshall Islands:

Box 9, Folder 36	Jaluit, 1944
Box 9, Folder 36	Mille, 1944
Box 9, Folder 36	Wotje, 1944
Box 9, Folder 36	Pacific Ocean, 1944

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## Series 16: Miscellany, 1943-1945

Arrangement: Unarranged.

Scope and Contents: Contains one letter to Grant from an unidentified correspondent, one post card from Okinawa, examples of Grant's personalized stationery, a label from a Japanese military uniform, one public relations release, clippings from magazines and newspapers regarding the war effort in the Pacific, and two intelligence documents entitled, *Enemy Bases: Central Pacific Area* and *The Power of the Heavies in the 'Galvanic' Operation: (Central Pacific Area) D-7 to D-Day*.

Box 10, Folder 37          Clippings, etc.

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## Series 17: Slides, 1944

Arrangement: Arranged by island.

Scope and Contents: Contains photographs of seascapes, villages, village life, natives, native crafts, boats, the Army Chapel on Kwajalein, and the Hell's Angels. Many slides are duplicates of photographs in the notebooks.

Box 11 Ellice Islands

Box 11 Gilbert Islands: Tarawa

Box 11 Marshall Islands: Kwajalein

Box 11 Hell's Angels

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## Series 18: Negatives, 1943-1945

### *Box 11*

Arrangement: Arranged by size.

Scope and Contents: Includes negatives for most of the prints in the notebooks (except those without print numbers). Some of the negatives were not printed. Refer to the accession file for the complete list of negatives for which there are prints in the collection.

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