



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Daniel P. Biebuyck papers

Lea Sellon

October 2024

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	2
Scope and Contents	2
Arrangement	3
Names and Subjects	
Selected Bibliography	3
Container Listing	
Land tenure and the IRSAC, 1945-1972, undated	5
Bembe, 1948-1999, undated	9
Lega, 1924-1991, undated	13
Nyanga, 1949-2004, undated	16
Object studies, 1931-2004, undated	26
Field photographs, 1926-1960, undated	32
Sound recordings, 1960-1972, undated	35
Writings, 1949-2004, undated	43
Teaching materials, 1953-1994, undated	46
Maps, 1888-1972, undated	47

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Daniel P. Biebuyck papers
Date:	1888-2004 (bulk 1948-1960)
Identifier:	NAA.2022-27
Extent:	41.07 Linear feet
Language:	English , French , Swahili , Dutch; Flemish .
Summary:	Daniel P. Biebuyck was a leading figure in the field of African anthropology. He conducted extensive field work among communities in the then Belgian Congo researching language, social structure, sociopolitics, art, and mythology. The collection mainly consists of materials related to Biebuyck's work with Bembe, Lega, and Nyanga communities, land tenure, and object studies on African art.

Administrative Information

Processing Information

Materials in the Daniel P. Biebuyck papers were received by the NAA in boxes mostly arranged by topic. The collection was rehoused into acid free folders and boxes. The arrangements of and within series were created by the archivist. Much of Biebuyck's material was already arranged in folders or separated in bags with labels. Original folder titles were retained and the original labels on separated materials were used for folder titles. Originally loose material grouped by the archivist or folders without original titles are denoted by bracketed titles. Some content written on original folders was illegible or was unable to be translated from its original language; these folders were photocopied and placed inside the new folders. Biebuyck would often title folders with "DB", this refers to his name.

Photographs and slides were rehoused in acid free envelopes or archival sleeves. Some of the photographic material originally housed in photograph albums were removed and put in new folders but were kept in their original order. Some photocopies were made of fragile album pages and are located with them for reference. Index cards in series 2, 3, and 4 were originally grouped by rubber bands or bags in no clear order or reason for separation. The index cards were rehoused, and original groupings are now separated by paper dividers in their new boxes.

Processed by Lea Sellon, October 2024

Preferred Citation

Daniel P. Biebuyck papers, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

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Biographical / Historical

Daniel P. Biebuyck, born in 1925 in Deinze, Belgium, is considered a leading figure in African anthropology for his work with communities in the then Belgian Congo and later the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the Bembe, Lega, and Nyanga peoples. Biebuyck began his academic career at Ghent State University in Belgium, where he studied law, classics, and anthropology. He earned his Master's in Classical Philology from Ghent in 1948 before doing postgraduate studies on social anthropology and Bantu linguistics at the University College London for a year. Biebuyck's research focused on African social structure, language, art, sociopolitics, and mythologies. He earned his PhD from Ghent in 1954 for his research on Bembe social structure.

Biebuyck conducted a vast amount of fieldwork during the early stages of his career, much of which was sponsored and funded by the Institut pour la Recherche Scientifique en Afrique centrale (IRSAC), from 1949-1961. This was during a tense political time of transition from the Belgian control of the Congo to the territory's independence, creating the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 1960. His initial position as a research fellow funded by the IRSAC from 1949-1952 focused on Zyoba and Bembe communities. Biebuyck continued to work under the IRSAC until 1961, conducting fieldwork with over forty communities in the Congo, mainly the Bembe, Zyoba, Lega, and Nyanga peoples. Of particular note is Biebuyck's work from 1957-1961 as one of a three-member commission studying Belgian Congo land tenure sponsored by the IRSAC and the Gouvernement Général of Belgian Congo, Léopoldville. During this project, Biebuyck studied relationships between land tenure, sociopolitical structures, and administrative interferences. Additionally, during his fieldwork in the 1950s, Biebuyck made sound recordings of musical and cultural ceremonies with communities such as the Lega Bwami association and the Nyanga peoples.

Biebuyck was also heavily involved in museum related work and the study of African art, starting with the study of the Central African collections at the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium in 1947. He continued to work with the Royal Museum's collections throughout his career and donated ethnographic materials collected from his fieldwork to their collections. Additionally, Biebuyck did consultation work for the Fowler Museum at the University of California, Los Angeles (1963) and for the Smithsonian Institution (1965). He was also the first Curator of African collections at the newly created Laboratory of Ethnic Arts and Technology at UCLA (1965-1966).

Teaching was central to Biebuyck's career and he held positions at various universities from 1953-1995. Before moving to the United States, Biebuyck held teaching positions at the école Coloniale, Brussels (1953-1954), Liège University (1956-1958), the University of Lovanium (1957-1961), and London University, University College (1960). Once in the United States, he began teaching at the University of Delaware in 1961 where he eventually retired as the H. Rodney Sharp Professor of Anthropology and the Humanities in 1989. Additionally, during this time Biebuyck also held teaching positions at the University of California, Los Angeles (1964-1966), Yale University (1968-1970, 1976-1977) and New York University (1971-1972). After retiring from the University of Delaware, he worked as the Arthur Golding Eminent Scholar in African Art at the University of Southern Florida from 1993-1995.

Biebuyck received numerous grants and honors for his research on African art, language, social structure, land tenure, sociopolitics, and mythologies, such as the Laureate of the Concours Annuel of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences (1955), the Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowship (1979-1980), and the Conover-Porter Award from the African Studies Association (1988).

Daniel Biebuyck passed away at the age of 94 on December 31, 2019, in Newton, Massachusetts.

For more information on Daniel Biebuyck and his research, see: <https://danielbiebuyck.com>

Scope and Contents

The Daniel P. Biebuyck papers document Biebuyck's fieldwork in the then Belgian Congo and later Democratic Republic of the Congo. Much of the material is also associated with Biebuyck's land tenure research. Additionally, there is a large amount of material related to Biebuyck's African art research and his study of museum objects. Of

particular interest is his documentation of objects in the collections of the Belgium Royal Museum for Central Africa, some of which were collected in the field and donated to the museum by Biebuyck.

This collection also includes a large number of index cards with research notes on various Bembe, Lega, and Nyanga languages. His linguistic research is also documented through sound recordings. A notable part of this collection is Biebuyck's work with his Nyanga interlocutor, Sherungu, whose autobiography and stories were translated into multiple languages. Biebuyck was fluent in Dutch, French, German, and English, and through his fieldwork he also learned to speak the Bantu languages of Swahili, Bembe, Lega, and Nyanga. This knowledge of language is reflected throughout his archives.

Much of the material in this collection is in Dutch, French, Swahili, or other Bantu languages; most of his teaching materials and some translations are in English but a fluency in some of the above languages is needed to read most of Biebuyck's papers.

This collection includes field notes, index cards, journals, manuscript material, research articles, teaching material, correspondence, sound recordings, photographs, slides, and maps.

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.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into 10 series: 1) Land tenure and the IRSAC, 1945-1972, undated; 2) Bembe, 1948-1999, undated; 3) Lega, 1924-1991, undated; 4) Nyanga, 1949-2004, undated; 5) Object studies, 1931-2004, undated; 6) Field photographs, 1926-1960, undated; 7) Sound recordings, 1960-1972, undated; 8) Writings, 1949-2004, undated; 9) Teaching materials, 1953-1994, undated; and 10) Maps, 1888-1972, undated.

Selected Bibliography

1956. *Bibliographie sur la Tenure et les Problèmes Fonciers*. Léopoldville: Gouvernement Général, 1956.

1958. with J. Bolle, E. Schaefer, H. Brandt, and H. Sielman *Les Seigneurs de la Forêt*. Brussels: établissements Malvaux, 1958.

1969. with Kahombo Mateene *The Mwindo Epic from the Banyanga*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1969.

1973. *Lega Culture: Art, Initiation, and Moral Philosophy among a Central African People*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1973.

1984. with Nelly Van den Abbeele *The Power of Headdresses: A Cross-Cultural Study of Forms and Functions*. Ghent, Belgium: Snoeck-Ducaju & Zoon, 1984.

1987. with Brunhilde Biebuyck *We Test Those Whom We Marry: An Analysis of Thirty-Six Nyanga Tales*. Budapest: African Research Program, Loránd Eötvös University, 1987.

2002. *Lega: Ethics and Beauty in the Heart of Africa*. Ghent, Belgium: Snoeck-Ducaju & Zoon, 2002.

2013. *Sherungu Muriro, Mémoires d'un Nyanga*. Paris: Geuthner, 2013.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Bembe (Congolese (Brazzaville) people)
- Lega (African people)
- Nyanga

Cultures:

- Bembe (Congolese (Brazzaville) people)
- Lega (African people)
- Nyanga

Places:

- Africa
- Belgian Congo

Container Listing

Land tenure and the IRSAC, 1945-1972, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents: This series contains materials related to Biebuyck's communications with and reports for the IRSAC, who funded much of Biebuyck's research from 1949-1961. In addition to his general IRSAC material, this series focuses on his work studying land tenure in the Congo commissioned by the IRSAC from 1957-1961. It mainly consists of reports, field notes, and research including genealogies.

Box 1, Folder 1	Katanga, Songye, Yeke, and Luba-Kasai, 1945-1957, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Administrative reports [1 of 3], 1949-1958
Box 1, Folder 3	Administrative reports [2 of 3], 1956-1959, undated
Box 1, Folder 4	Administrative reports [3 of 3], 1955-1957
Box 1, Folder 5	Foncière: Shi Ngweshe, Shi general, 1950-1959
Box 1, Folder 6	IRSAC reports [1 of 2], 1951-1956
Box 2, Folder 1	IRSAC reports [2 of 2], 1952-1958
Box 2, Folder 2	Foncière: Lese-Komo, Leka-Wuum, Mabinza [1 of 2], 1952-1953, undated
Box 2, Folder 3	Foncière: Lese-Komo, Leka-Wuum, Mabinza [2 of 2], 1958, undated
Box 2, Folder 4	D. Biebuyck Ethnologue IRSAC, 1953
Box 2, Folder 5	[IRSAC correspondence], 1953
Box 2, Folder 6	Administrative correspondence, 1954-1968, 1978
Box 2, Folder 7	Congo Kivu demographics, 1954
Box 2, Folder 8	Foncière: Shi-Ninja, Shi general, 1954-1960
Box 2, Folder 9	Foncière: Teke, Kongo [1 of 2], 1954-1959, undated
Box 2, Folder 10	Foncière: Teke, Kongo [2 of 2], 1959-1960, undated
Box 3, Folder 1	Foncière: Lendu, Ndoko, Zande, Lugbara, Aluur, 1955-1958, undated
Box 3, Folder 2	Foncière: Tiri, Kano, Konjo..., 1955-1956, undated

Box 3, Folder 3	Historique, 1955-1958, undated
Box 3, Folder 4	[Hunde], 1955, undated
Box 3, Folder 5	Shi-Kabare Foncière: Dossier Wouters A.T. [1 of 2], 1955-1959
Box 3, Folder 6	Shi-Kabare Foncière: Dossier Wouters A.T. [2 of 2], 1959
Box 3, Folder 7	Aperçu des Principaux Critères à Observer..., 1956
Box 3, Folder 8	Commission Foncière, 1956-1959
Box 4, Folder 1	Foncière: Havu, Hunde, Mbuba, Nande [1 of 2], undated
Box 4, Folder 2	Foncière: Havu, Hunde, Mbuba, Nande [2 of 2], 1956, undated
Box 4, Folder 3	Foncière: peoples of Léopoldville province before 1960, synthesis of articles [1 of 2], 1956
Box 4, Folder 4	Foncière: peoples of Léopoldville province before 1960, synthesis of articles [2 of 2], 1956
Box 4, Folder 5	Syntheses on specific groups, 1956, undated
Box 4, Folder 6	[Fonciers Bibliographie] [1 of 2], 1957
Box 4, Folder 7	[Fonciers Bibliographie] [2 of 2], 1957
Box 5, Folder 1	[Le Probleme Foncier Synthèse et Propositions III], 1957
Box 5, Folder 2	[Les Données du Probleme Foncier... Administratif I], 1957
Box 5, Folder 3	[Les Données du Probleme Foncier... Ethnologique II], 1957
Box 5, Folder 4	[Notes et Documents Divers], 1957
Box 5, Folder 5	Textes D. Biebuyck [Foncière], 1957-1960, undated
Box 5, Folder 6	[Notes for Léopoldville governor], 1958
Box 5, Folder 7	Secteur Ruwenzori, Mayogo, Kongo-Sekembanza, Rutshuru - territory, 1958-1959, undated
Box 5, Folder 8	[Notes de Synthèse], 1959
Box 5, Folder 9	[Notes Diverses], 1959

Box 5, Folder 10	[Reforme Fonciere au Mayumbe], 1959
Box 5, Folder 11	Land tenure field research [1 of 5], undated
Box 6, Folder 1	Land tenure field research [2 of 5], 1957-1959, undated
Box 6, Folder 2	Land tenure field research [3 of 5], undated
Box 6, Folder 3	Land tenure field research [4 of 5], 1960, undated
Box 6, Folder 4	Land tenure field research [5 of 5], 1960, undated
Box 6, Folder 5	Kivu: Sango-Fizi, Ngengele Kindu, Lengola, and others, 1972, undated
Box 6, Folder 6	[Du Groupement de Seke-Banza by Crochelet and Remy], undated
Box 7, Folder 1	[Enquetes Preliminaires a la Reconnaissance... Leopoldville], undated
Box 7, Folder 2	[Equateur], undated
Box 7, Folder 3	[Etude Socio- Fonciere du Groupement Singini (Mayumbe) I], undated
Box 7, Folder 4	[Etude Socio- Fonciere du Groupement Singini (Mayumbe) III], undated
Box 7, Folder 5	[L'etude du Probleme Foncier rapport miscellaneous], undated
Box 7, Folder 6	[Land tenure draft], undated
Box 7, Folder 7	Land tenure [from Nyanga notes], undated
Box 7, Folder 8	[Legislation Generale sur les Terres], undated
Box 7, Folder 9	[Recensions], undated
Box 7, Folder 10	Foncière: Lugbara, Lendu, Meegye..., undated
Box 7, Folder 11	Foncière: Mongo-Boende, Ekota, Bakucu, undated
Box 8, Folder 1	[Les Donnees du Probleme Foncier... Juridique et Administratif], undated
Box 8, Folder 2	Syntheses 1, undated
Box 8, Folder 3	Syntheses 2 [1 of 2], undated

Box 8, Folder 4

Syntheses 2 [2 of 2], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Bembe, 1948-1999, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged in 2 subseries: 2.1) Field notes and journals, 1948-1999, undated; and 2.2) Language cards, undated.

Scope and Contents: This series consists of research materials related to fieldwork with Bembe communities. This contains some of Biebuyck's earliest fieldwork.

Field notes and journals, 1948-1999, undated

Arrangement: This subseries is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents: This subseries contains field notes and journals from research with Bembe communities conducted by Biebuyck and his assistants. It consists of notes, journals, genealogies, surveys, and translations. Additionally, it contains Biebuyck's dissertation on Bembe social structure, completed in 1954.

Box 8, Folder 5	Alunga, Kalunga Association, policing and judiciary notes, 1951
Box 8, Folder 6	Bembe Atende Association, undated
Box 8, Folder 7	Basikasingo statuettes Buhu/we, undated
Box 9, Folder 1	[Bembe cults and rituals] [1 of 3], 1950, undated
Box 9, Folder 2	[Bembe cults and rituals] [2 of 3], undated
Box 9, Folder 3	[Bembe cults and rituals] [3 of 3], undated
Box 9, Folder 4	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 1], undated
Box 9, Folder 5	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 2], 1949-1950
Box 9, Folder 6	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 3], undated
Box 9, Folder 7	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 4], 1951
Box 9, Folder 8	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 5], undated
Box 9, Folder 9	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 6], 1951
Box 9, Folder 10	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 7], 1951
Box 9, Folder 11	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 8], 1951
Box 9, Folder 12	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 9], undated
Box 10, Folder 1	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 10], undated

Box 10, Folder 2	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 11], 1950, undated
Box 10, Folder 3	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 12], undated
Box 10, Folder 4	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 13], 1950, undated
Box 10, Folder 5	[Culture and linguistic notes by assistants 14], undated
Box 10, Folder 6	Dissertation [1 of 2], 1953-1954
Box 10, Folder 7	Dissertation [2 of 2], 1953
Box 10, Folder 8	DB diss[ertation] [1 of 2], 1954, undated
Box 11, Folder 1	DB diss[ertation] [2 of 2], undated
Box 11, Folder 2	[French translation on Bembe], 1954, undated
Box 11, Folder 3	[Fuliiru language vocab and grammar], undated
Box 11, Folder 4	[Geneologies], undated
Box 11, Folder 5	[Geneologies notebook], undated
Box 11, Folder 6	[Guy Weyn - La Longue Marche...], 1999
Box 11, Folder 7	Kivu province villages [geneologies and surveys], 1948-1951, undated
Box 11, Folder 8	[Lyuba clan chart], undated
Box 11, Folder 9	[Bembe notebook], undated
Box 11, Folder 10	[The Seniority Principle in the Bembe Marriage System], undated
Box 11, Folder 11	Bembe texts, undated
Box 11, Folder 12	[La Terminologie classificatoire des Babembe], undated
Box 11, Folder 13	[De Classificerende Terminologie der Babembe], undated
Box 11, Folder 14	[Village notebook], undated
Box 12, Folder 1	[Notes on villages and organizations 1], 1951, undated
Box 12, Folder 2	[Notes on villages and organizations 2, 1 of 2], 1950, undated
Box 12, Folder 3	[Notes on villages and organizations 2, 2 of 2], 1950, undated

Box 12, Folder 4	[Notes on villages and organizations 3], undated
Box 12, Folder 5	[Notes on villages and organizations 4], undated
Box 12, Folder 6	[Notes on villages and organizations 5, 1 of 3], undated
Box 12, Folder 7	[Notes on villages and organizations 5, 2 of 3], undated
Box 12, Folder 8	[Notes on villages and organizations 5, 3 of 3], undated
Box 13, Folder 1	[Notes on villages and organizations 6], undated
Box 13, Folder 2	[Notes on villages and organizations 7], 1950-1951
Box 13, Folder 3	[Notes on villages and organizations 8], undated
Box 13, Folder 4	[Notes on villages and organizations 9], undated
Box 13, Folder 5	[Notes on villages and organizations 10], undated
Box 13, Folder 6	[Notes on villages and organizations 11], undated
Box 13, Folder 7	[Notes on villages and organizations 12], undated
Box 13, Folder 8	[Notes on villages and organizations 13], undated
Box 13, Folder 9	[Notes on villages and organizations 14], undated
Box 13, Folder 10	[Notes on villages and organizations 15], undated
Box 14, Folder 1	[Notes on villages and organizations 16], undated
Box 14, Folder 2	[Notes on villages and organizations 17], undated
Box 14, Folder 3	[Notes on villages and organizations 18], undated
Box 14, Folder 4	[Notes on villages and organizations 19], undated
Box 14, Folder 5	[Notes on villages and organizations 20], undated

Language cards, undated

Arrangement: The notecards in this subseries were kept in their original groupings and arrangement.

Scope and Contents: This subseries contains research notes on Bembe language recorded on index cards.

Contents:

Box 15 [Bembe cards 1], undated

Box 16	[Bembe cards 2], undated
Box 17	[Bembe cards 3], undated
Box 18	[Bembe cards 4], undated
Box 19	[Bembe cards 5], undated
Box 20	[Bembe cards 6], undated
Box 21	[Bembe cards 7], undated
Box 22	[Bembe cards 8], undated
Box 23	[Bembe cards 9], undated
Box 24	[Bembe cards 10], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Lega, 1924-1991, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents: This series consists of research materials related to Lega communities. It contains field notes, research articles and writings, journals, and language notes. Also see series 5 for material on Lega object studies.

Box 14, Folder 6	[Alexis Bonew - Patines], 1974
Box 14, Folder 7	Anthropomorphic figurines - ivory, bones, 1954-1988
Box 14, Folder 8	[L'Art Lega, M. de Kun], 1966
Box 14, Folder 9	Bwami Association, undated
Box 25, Folder 1	Grade in the Bwami Association, undated
Box 25, Folder 2	[Characters notecards], undated
Box 25, Folder 3	Lega cultural data, undated
Box 25, Folder 4	Encyclopédie Lega, undated
Box 25, Folder 5	Lega essays II, 1924-1971
Box 25, Folder 6	[Ethnic conflict in North Kivu], undated
Box 25, Folder 7	Lega ethnography [1 of 3], 1951-1968, 1988
Box 25, Folder 8	Lega ethnography [2 of 3], 1959-1979, 1987
Box 25, Folder 9	Lega ethnography [3 of 3], 1950-1955
Box 25, Folder 10	Lega - ethnography II [1 of 2], 1958, 1972, undated
Box 25, Folder 11	Lega - ethnography II [2 of 2], 1952-1953
Box 26, Folder 1	Lega examples [essay], undated
Box 26, Folder 2	Kavimbira, Uvira, Zyoba [1 of 2], 1958
Box 26, Folder 3	Kavimbira, Uvira, Zyoba [2 of 2], 1949-1950
Box 26, Folder 4	Early notes - Lumbeku [1 of 2], 1953
Box 26, Folder 5	Early notes - Lumbeku [2 of 2], undated

Box 26, Folder 6	[Lega field notebook 1], 1949-1950
Box 26, Folder 7	[Lega field notebook 2], 1952
Box 26, Folder 8	[Lega field notebook 3], 1952
Box 26, Folder 9	[Lega field notebook 4], undated
Box 26, Folder 10	[Lega field notebook 5], undated
Box 26, Folder 11	[Lega field notebook 6], undated
Box 26, Folder 12	[Lega field notebook 7], undated
Box 27, Folder 1	[Lega field notebook 8], undated
Box 27, Folder 2	[Lega field notebook 9], 1952
Box 27, Folder 3	[Lega field notebook 10], undated
Box 27, Folder 4	[Lega field notebook 11], undated
Box 27, Folder 5	[Lega field notebook 12], undated
Box 27, Folder 6	[Lega field notebook 13], undated
Box 27, Folder 7	[Lega field notebook 14], undated
Box 27, Folder 8	[Lega field notebook 15], undated
Box 27, Folder 9	[Lega field notebook 16], undated
Box 27, Folder 10	[Lega field notebook 17], undated
Box 27, Folder 11	[Lega field notebook 18], undated
Box 28, Folder 1	[Lega field notebook 19], undated
Box 28, Folder 2	[Lega grammar notes by Kinyalolo], 1991
Box 28, Folder 3	Lega articles, 1959-1961, 1981, undated
Box 28, Folder 4	Lega articles [notes], undated
Box 28, Folder 5	[Lega research notes], undated
Box 28, Folder 6	Masks - horned, 1954-1977

Box 28, Folder 7	Miscellaneous Lega [notes and correspondence], 1950, 1971, undated
Box 28, Folder 8	[Lega miscellaneous notes 1], undated
Box 28, Folder 9	[Lega miscellaneous notes 2], undated
Box 28, Folder 10	[Lega miscellaneous notes 3], undated
Box 28, Folder 11	[Lega miscellaneous notes 4], undated
Box 29, Folder 1	[Lega miscellaneous notes 5], undated
Box 29, Folder 2	[Lega miscellaneous notes 6], undated
Box 29, Folder 3	[Lega miscellaneous notes 7], undated
Box 29, Folder 4	[Lega miscellaneous notes 8], undated
Box 29, Folder 5	[Lega miscellaneous object research] [1 of 3], undated
Box 29, Folder 6	[Lega miscellaneous object research] [2 of 3], undated
Box 30, Folder 1	[Lega miscellaneous object research] [3 of 3], undated
Box 30, Folder 2	Mutanga and kinship [1 of 2], undated
Box 30, Folder 3	Mutanga and kinship [2 of 2], undated
Box 30, Folder 4	Nubila epic Lega, undated
Box 30, Folder 5	Lega synthesis, undated
Box 30, Folder 6	Animals and plants: identifications, undated
Box 30, Folder 7	Lega zoology and plants [1 of 2], 1951, undated
Box 30, Folder 8	Lega zoology and plants [2 of 2], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Nyanga, 1949-2004, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged in 3 subseries: 4.1) Field notes and journals, 1949-2004, undated; 4.2) Language cards, undated; and 4.3) Sherungu, 1952-1955, 2001, undated.

Scope and Contents: This series contains materials related to fieldwork and research with Nyanga communities conducted by Biebuyck and his assistants.

Field notes and journals, 1949-2004, undated

Arrangement: The beginning of this subseries is arranged alphabetically by topic, then it is arranged by translator's name, followed by miscellaneous notes at the end of the series.

Scope and Contents: This subseries contains materials related to field notes and journals documenting the study of Nyanga communities. This research was conducted by Biebuyck and his Nyanga assistants who worked to collect and translate texts, notably, Amato Buuni and Stefano Tubi. It contains field notes, translations, journals, and research notes.

Box 30, Folder 9	Burkira Ikobo women [1 of 2], undated
Box 30, Folder 10	Burkira Ikobo women [2 of 2], 1952
Box 30, Folder 11	Fieldnotes: Busura and Bukurusi, undated
Box 30, Folder 12	Le Chien translations, 1955
Box 31, Folder 1	Codes of conduct, undated
Box 31, Folder 2	Fieldnotes: cosmology, undated
Box 31, Folder 3	Nyanga dictionary, undated
Box 31, Folder 4	[Nyanga vocabulary notes], 1955-1957, undated
Box 31, Folder 5	Divinities [1 of 4], undated
Box 31, Folder 6	Divinities [2 of 4], undated
Box 31, Folder 7	Divinities [3 of 4], undated
Box 31, Folder 8	Divinities [4 of 4], undated
Box 31, Folder 9	Nyanga fieldnotes: epic texts, undated
Box 31, Folder 10	Fieldnotes: fishing, undated
Box 31, Folder 11	Fieldnotes: case studies of gift giving, undated
Box 31, Folder 12	Hunting, trapping, dogs, undated

Box 31, Folder 13	Inventory field book, undated
Box 31, Folder 14	Nyanga notebooks inventories, undated
Box 32, Folder 1	Fieldnotes: learning Inyanga, undated
Box 32, Folder 2	Alex Minembwe notes [kinship], undated
Box 32, Folder 3	Fieldnotes: kinship, undated
Box 32, Folder 4	Kinship, names, concepts, material culture, social structure [1 of 4], undated
Box 32, Folder 5	Kinship, names, concepts, material culture, social structure [2 of 4], undated
Box 32, Folder 6	Kinship, names, concepts, material culture, social structure [3 of 4], undated
Box 32, Folder 7	Kinship, names, concepts, material culture, social structure [4 of 4], undated
Box 32, Folder 8	Kivu province [notes and research articles] [1 of 2], undated
Box 32, Folder 9	Kivu province [notes and research articles] [2 of 2], undated
Box 32, Folder 10	Thoughts on animals and land tenure, undated
Box 32, Folder 11	Fieldnotes: marriage and Busiku, 1956, undated
Box 33, Folder 1	Matene [Nyanga research] [1 of 4], 1965, 1984, undated
Box 33, Folder 2	Matene [Nyanga research, Mwindo epic] [2 of 4], 1969
Box 33, Folder 3	Matene [Nyanga research] [3 of 4], undated
Box 33, Folder 4	Matene [Nyanga research] [4 of 4], 1965-1975, undated
Box 33, Folder 5	Medicine [1 of 4], undated
Box 33, Folder 6	Medicine [2 of 4], undated
Box 33, Folder 7	Medicine [3 of 4], undated
Box 33, Folder 8	Medicine [4 of 4], undated
Box 33, Folder 9	Fieldnotes: migrations and origins, undated
Box 33, Folder 10	Mongo readings (preliminary to departure to Congo), 1949-1950
Box 33, Folder 11	Notes - Mukumo, 1956

Box 33, Folder 12	Fieldnotes: Mukumo circumcision rites, undated
Box 34, Folder 1	Numbi 1 - tales, proverbs, riddles, 1951
Box 34, Folder 2	Numbi 2 - tales, proverbs, riddles, 1951
Box 34, Folder 3	Numbi 3 - tales, proverbs, riddles, 1951
Box 34, Folder 4	Omens - good and bad, undated
Box 34, Folder 5	[Nyanga political organization draft], undated
Box 34, Folder 6	Nyanga proverbs analysis, undated
Box 34, Folder 7	Nyanga proverbs, undated
Box 34, Folder 8	Fieldnotes: ritual, undated
Box 34, Folder 9	[Shebakungu essay drafts], undated
Box 34, Folder 10	Fieldnotes: songs, 1952, undated
Box 34, Folder 11	Fieldnotes: suicides, 1956
Box 34, Folder 12	Nyanga tales, characters, activities, concepts, and institutions [1 of 5], undated
Box 34, Folder 13	Nyanga tales, characters, activities, concepts, and institutions [2 of 5], undated
Box 34, Folder 14	Nyanga tales, characters, activities, concepts, and institutions [3 of 5], undated
Box 34, Folder 15	Nyanga tales, characters, activities, concepts, and institutions [4 of 5], undated
Box 34, Folder 16	Nyanga tales, characters, activities, concepts, and institutions [5 of 5], undated
Box 35, Folder 1	Folktales translated [1 of 2], 1952, undated
Box 35, Folder 2	Folktales translated [2 of 2], 1952, undated
Box 35, Folder 3	French translations of Nyanga tales by DB, 2004-2010
Box 35, Folder 4	Nyanga tales introduction [1 of 2], 2004
Box 35, Folder 5	Nyanga tales introduction [2 of 2], 2004
Box 35, Folder 6	Nyanga tales [notes], 1952, undated
Box 35, Folder 7	[English introduction to Nyanga tale], undated

Box 35, Folder 8	Terminologies: V.D. Abbeele, undated
Box 35, Folder 9	Nyanga texts translated by Amato Buuni vol. I [English], 1952
Box 36, Folder 1	Nyanga texts translated by Amato Buuni vol. II [English] [1 of 2], 1952
Box 36, Folder 2	Nyanga texts translated by Amato Buuni vol. II [English] [2 of 2], 1952
Box 36, Folder 3	Amato Buuni Nyanga tales and other texts [1 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 4	Amato Buuni Nyanga tales and other texts [2 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 5	Amato Buuni Nyanga tales and other texts [3 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 6	Amato Buuni Nyanga tales and other texts [4 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 7	Amato Buuni Nyanga tales and other texts [5 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 8	Amato Buuni - Swahili translations [1 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 9	Amato Buuni - Swahili translations [2 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 10	Amato Buuni - Swahili translations [3 of 5], 1952
Box 36, Folder 11	Amato Buuni - Swahili translations [4 of 5], 1952
Box 37, Folder 1	Amato Buuni - Swahili translations [5 of 5], 1952
Box 37, Folder 2	Amato Buuni transcriptions of texts collected in the field [1 of 3], 1952
Box 37, Folder 3	Amato Buuni transcriptions of texts collected in the field [2 of 3], 1952
Box 37, Folder 4	Amato Buuni transcriptions of texts collected in the field [3 of 3], 1952
Box 37, Folder 5	Tubi Buuni and DB ethno notes [1 of 2], 1952-1953
Box 37, Folder 6	Tubi Buuni and DB ethno notes [2 of 2], 1952-1953
Box 37, Folder 7	Tubi and Buuni various [1 of 2], undated
Box 38, Folder 1	Tubi and Buuni various [2 of 2], undated
Box 38, Folder 2	Stefano Tubi Swahili translations [1 of 4], 1952
Box 38, Folder 3	Stefano Tubi Swahili translations [2 of 4], 1952
Box 38, Folder 4	Stefano Tubi Swahili translations [3 of 4], undated

Box 38, Folder 5	Stefano Tubi Swahili translations [4 of 4], undated
Box 38, Folder 6	Stefano Tubi tales, teachings, etc [1 of 5], 1952
Box 38, Folder 7	Stefano Tubi tales, teachings, etc [2 of 5], 1952
Box 38, Folder 8	Stefano Tubi tales, teachings, etc [3 of 5], 1952
Box 38, Folder 9	Stefano Tubi tales, teachings, etc [4 of 5], 1952
Box 38, Folder 10	Stefano Tubi tales, teachings, etc [5 of 5], 1952
Box 38, Folder 11	Stefano Tubi tales [1 of 2], 1952
Box 38, Folder 12	Stefano Tubi tales [2 of 2], undated
Box 38, Folder 13	Stefano Tubi folktales, undated
Box 39, Folder 1	Nyanga texts translated by Stefano Tubi vol. I [English] [1 of 3], 1952
Box 39, Folder 2	Nyanga texts translated by Stefano Tubi vol. I [English] [2 of 3], 1952
Box 39, Folder 3	Nyanga texts translated by Stefano Tubi vol. I [English] [3 of 3], 1952
Box 39, Folder 4	Nyanga texts translated by Stefano Tubi vol. 2 [English] [1 of 2], 1952
Box 39, Folder 5	Nyanga texts translated by Stefano Tubi vol. 2 [English] [2 of 2], 1952
Box 39, Folder 6	Eugene texts Nyanga [1 of 5], 1952
Box 39, Folder 7	Eugene texts Nyanga [2 of 5], undated
Box 39, Folder 8	Eugene texts Nyanga [3 of 5], undated
Box 39, Folder 9	Eugene texts Nyanga [4 of 5], undated
Box 39, Folder 10	Eugene texts Nyanga [5 of 5], undated
Box 39, Folder 11	Eugene Swahili translations [1 of 4], undated
Box 39, Folder 12	Eugene Swahili translations [2 of 4], undated
Box 40, Folder 1	Eugene Swahili translations [3 of 4], undated
Box 40, Folder 2	Eugene Swahili translations [4 of 4], undated
Box 40, Folder 3	Analysis of Nyanga tales by Alice Simmons [English] [1 of 2], 1982, undated

Box 40, Folder 4	Analysis of Nyanga tales by Alice Simmons [English] [2 of 2], 1982, undated
Box 40, Folder 5	Nyanga fieldnotes: important questions and correspondence, 1953-1965
Box 40, Folder 6	Nyanga fieldnotes and other populations, undated
Box 40, Folder 7	Nyanga notes by D. Biebuyck 1, undated
Box 40, Folder 8	Nyanga notes by DB 2, undated
Box 41, Folder 1	Nyanga notes by DB 3, undated
Box 41, Folder 2	Nyanga notes by DB 4, undated
Box 41, Folder 3	Nyanga notes by DB 5, undated
Box 41, Folder 4	Nyanga notes by DB 6, undated
Box 41, Folder 5	Nyanga notes by DB 7, undated
Box 41, Folder 6	Nyanga notes by DB 8, undated
Box 41, Folder 7	Nyanga notes by DB 9, undated
Box 42, Folder 1	Answers to various questions [book 1], 1956
Box 42, Folder 2	Answers to various questions [book 2], 1956
Box 42, Folder 3	Answers to various questions [book 3], 1956
Box 42, Folder 4	Answers to various questions [book 4], 1956
Box 42, Folder 5	Answers to various questions [book 5], 1956
Box 42, Folder 6	Answers to various questions [book 6], 1956
Box 42, Folder 7	Answers to various questions [book 7], 1956
Box 42, Folder 8	Answers to various questions [book 8], 1956
Box 42, Folder 9	Answers to various questions [book 9], 1956
Box 42, Folder 10	Answers to various questions [unnumbered book], 1956
Box 42, Folder 11	Questions, musical recordings, objects, early notes [1 of 2], undated
Box 42, Folder 12	Questions, musical recordings, objects, early notes [2 of 2], undated

Box 42, Folder 13 [Nyanga miscellaneous notes 1], undated

Box 42, Folder 14 [Nyanga miscellaneous notes 2], undated

Language cards, undated

Arrangement: The notecards in this subseries were kept in their original groupings and arrangement.

Scope and Contents: This subseries consists of language index cards titled "Nyanga dictionary" by Biebuyck.

Contents:

Box 43 Nyanga dictionary [1], undated

Box 44 Nyanga dictionary [2], undated

Box 45 Nyanga dictionary [3], undated

Box 46 Nyanga dictionary [4], undated

Box 47 Nyanga dictionary [5], undated

Box 48 Nyanga dictionary [6], undated

Box 49 Nyanga dictionary [7], undated

Box 50 Nyanga dictionary [8], undated

Box 51 Nyanga dictionary [9], undated

Box 52 Nyanga dictionary [10], undated

Box 53 Nyanga dictionary [11], undated

Box 54 Nyanga dictionary [12], undated

Box 55 Nyanga dictionary [13], undated

Box 56 Nyanga dictionary [14], undated

Sherungu, 1952-1955, 2001, undated

Arrangement: This subseries is arranged by topic.

Scope and Contents: This subseries contains autobiography and folktale transcripts and translations from Biebuyck's Nyanga interlocutor Sherungu. This research was later used by Biebuyck to write his book, *Sherungu Muriro: Mémoires d'un Nyanga* (2013).

It contains journals, translations, drafts, and language cards.

Box 42, Folder 15	[Sherungu autobiography book 1], undated
Box 42, Folder 16	[Sherungu autobiography book 2], undated
Box 57, Folder 1	[Sherungu autobiography book 3], undated
Box 57, Folder 2	[Sherungu autobiography book 4], undated
Box 57, Folder 3	[Sherungu autobiography book 5], undated
Box 57, Folder 4	[Sherungu autobiography book 6], undated
Box 57, Folder 5	[Sherungu autobiography book 6 copy], undated
Box 57, Folder 6	[Sherungu autobiography book 7], 1955
Box 57, Folder 7	[Sherungu autobiography book 7 copy], 1955
Box 57, Folder 8	[Sherungu autobiography book 8], undated
Box 57, Folder 9	[Sherungu autobiography book 8 copy], undated
Box 57, Folder 10	[Sherungu autobiography book 9], undated
Box 58, Folder 1	[Sherungu autobiography book 10], 1955
Box 58, Folder 2	[Sherungu autobiography book 11], 1955
Box 58, Folder 3	[Sherungu autobiography book 12], 1955
Box 58, Folder 4	[Sherungu autobiography book 13], 1955
Box 58, Folder 5	[Sherungu autobiography book 14], 1955
Box 58, Folder 6	[Sherungu autobiography Swahili translation book 1], undated
Box 58, Folder 7	[Sherungu autobiography Swahili translation book 2], undated
Box 58, Folder 8	[Sherungu autobiography Swahili translation book 3], undated
Box 58, Folder 9	[Sherungu autobiography English translations], 1952
Box 58, Folder 10	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 234-299], undated
Box 58, Folder 11	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 300-400], undated
Box 58, Folder 12	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 401-500], undated

Box 58, Folder 13	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 501-600], undated
Box 59, Folder 1	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 601-631], undated
Box 59, Folder 2	[Sherungu Swahili translations possible pages 632-703], undated
Box 59, Folder 3	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 1046-1100], undated
Box 59, Folder 4	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 1101-1200], undated
Box 59, Folder 5	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 1201-1300], undated
Box 59, Folder 6	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 1301-1400], undated
Box 59, Folder 7	[Sherungu Swahili translations pages 1401-1422], undated
Box 59, Folder 8	Sherungu tales: English [notes and drafts], undated
Box 59, Folder 9	Sherungu memoirs English summary, undated
Box 59, Folder 10	Sherungu tales [English drafts], 2001
Box 59, Folder 11	Sherungu memoires Franciase, undated
Box 60, Folder 1	Epic tales [1 of 8], undated
Box 60, Folder 2	Epic tales [2 of 8], 1955
Box 60, Folder 3	Epic tales [3 of 8], undated
Box 60, Folder 4	Epic tales [4 of 8], undated
Box 60, Folder 5	Epic tales [5 of 8], undated
Box 60, Folder 6	Epic tales [6 of 8], undated
Box 60, Folder 7	Epic tales [7 of 8], 1955
Box 60, Folder 8	Epic tales [8 of 8], 1955
Box 60, Folder 9	[Sherungu's tale edits], undated
Box 61, Folder 1	Sherungu hunting book [1 of 2], undated
Box 61, Folder 2	Sherungu hunting book [2 of 2], undated
Box 61, Folder 3	Hunting book Sherungu book 4, undated

Box 61, Folder 4	Hunting book Sherungu book 5, 1955
Box 61, Folder 5	Hunting book translation [English] [1 of 3], undated
Box 61, Folder 6	Hunting book translation [English] [2 of 3], undated
Box 61, Folder 7	Hunting book translation [English] [3 of 3], undated
Box 61, Folder 8	[Sherungu proposal], undated
Box 61, Folder 9	Songs by Sherungu, undated
Box 62, Folder 1	[Sherungu rough edits and drafts], undated
Box 62, Folder 2	Notes for Sherungu [1 of 2], undated
Box 62, Folder 3	Notes for Sherungu [2 of 2], undated
Box 63	[Sherungu text cards 1], undated
Box 64	[Sherungu text cards 2], undated
Box 65	[Sherungu text cards 3], undated
Box 66	[Sherungu text cards 4], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Object studies, 1931-2004, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged in 2 subseries: 5.1) Research notes, 1931-2004, undated; and 5.2) Photographs, 1940-2002, undated.

Scope and Contents: This series contains research concerning African art, material culture, and museum collection research.

Research notes, 1931-2004, undated

Arrangement: This subseries is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents: This subseries consists of research notes concerning object studies. It contains notes, journals, and inventories. Of particular note is Biebuyck's research of the Royal Museum of Central Africa's collections, located in Tervuren, Belgium. These materials are referred to by Biebuyck as "Tervuren" or the "Tervuren collection" and generally relate to Lega material culture.

Box 62, Folder 4	African art non published documents, 1987, undated
Box 62, Folder 5	[Narrative report: Art of Central Africa], undated
Box 62, Folder 6	Balega Art and Artifacts, 1962
Box 62, Folder 7	[Bembe statuary plates], undated
Box 62, Folder 8	Berlin museum, undated
Box 62, Folder 9	[Biebuyck donations], 1989, undated
Box 62, Folder 10	[British museum notebooks], 1971, undated
Box 62, Folder 11	Congo museum collections, 1957, undated
Box 62, Folder 12	[Congoese sculpture for Biebuyck], 1976
Box 62, Folder 13	Kölm [museum collection], undated
Box 67, Folder 1	Lega collection Tervuren notes, 1953, 2002, undated
Box 67, Folder 2	[Lega object notebook 1], 1970
Box 67, Folder 3	[Lega object notebook 2], 1975
Box 67, Folder 4	Lega elephants and ivory, 1987, undated
Box 67, Folder 5	Number collection Tervuren [Lega], 2002, undated
Box 67, Folder 6	[Lega objects], 2004

Box 67, Folder 7	Collection Tervuren inventory [Lega], undated
Box 67, Folder 8	Art objects meaning [Lega], undated
Box 67, Folder 9	Lega inventory [Tervuren], undated
Box 67, Folder 10	Original inventories - Lega collection Tervuren, undated
Box 67, Folder 11	Object notes - Zimba, Wynats [Lega], undated
Box 68, Folder 1	Lega art [notes], undated
Box 68, Folder 2	[Frans M. Olbrechts: Etnografisch Museum], 2001
Box 68, Folder 3	[Shrines: Bembe and Nyanga], undated
Box 68, Folder 4	Smithsonian metropolitan, 1931-1935, 1965-1978
Box 68, Folder 5	Inventories - Tervuren collection, 1970
Box 68, Folder 6	Tervuren collection notes [1 of 3], 1958-1966, undated
Box 68, Folder 7	Tervuren collection notes [2 of 3], undated
Box 68, Folder 8	Tervuren collection notes [3 of 3], undated
Box 68, Folder 9	Vienna museums, 1972
Box 68, Folder 10	Plates book - Southwest Zaire, undated
Box 69, Folder 1	Ethnic objects collections for musea, 1953, undated
Box 69, Folder 2	[Museum collection notes] [1 of 3], undated
Box 69, Folder 3	[Museum collection notes] [2 of 3], undated
Box 69, Folder 4	[Museum collection notes] [3 of 3], undated
Box 69, Folder 5	[Museum collection notebooks 1], undated
Box 69, Folder 6	[Museum collection notebooks 2], undated
Box 69, Folder 7	[Museum collection notebooks 3], 1972, undated
Box 69, Folder 8	[Museum collection notebooks 4], undated
Box 70, Folder 1	[Museum collection notebooks 5], undated

Box 70, Folder 2	[Museum collection notebooks 6], 1971, undated
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Photographs, 1940-2002, undated

Arrangement: This subseries is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents: This subseries contains photographs documenting objects in museum collections. It includes photographic prints and slides.

Box 70, Folder 3	Bami in action: various collections, wooden masks, undated
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Box 70, Folder 4	Bembe doubles, undated
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Box 70, Folder 5	Pre Bembe figurines - staffs, animals, undated
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Box 70, Folder 6	Other museums, Bembe - pre Bembe II, undated
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Box 70, Folder 7	Tervuren, DB, and other collections - Bembe masks, Alunga-Elanda, undated
------------------	---

Box 70, Folder 8	Bembe statuary, undated
------------------	-------------------------

Box 70, Folder 9	Bembe Tervuren Biebuyck collection, undated
------------------	---

Box 71, Folder 1	[Congo photography notes and research], 1988, 1996-1997, undated
------------------	--

Box 71, Folder 2	Various objects DR Congo, 1988, undated
------------------	---

Box 71, Folder 3	North west and east Congo, undated
------------------	------------------------------------

Box 71, Folder 4	Congo varia addenda [1 of 2], undated
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Box 71, Folder 5	Congo varia addenda [2 of 2], undated
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Box 71, Folder 6	Home collection, undated
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Box 71, Folder 7	Kanyok: masks, figurines, bowls, staffs, etc., undated
------------------	--

Box 72, Folder 1	Kasai, undated
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Box 72, Folder 2	Kuba I: people, Ndop, masks, drums, figurines, undated
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Box 72, Folder 3	Kuba II: Knives, necklaces, pipes, etc., undated
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Box 72, Folder 4	Kuba III: cups, miscellaneous pieces, undated
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Box 72, Folder 5	Kuba IV: figurines, paraphernalia, undated
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Box 72, Folder 6	Lega collection Tervuren, 1 to 51 [1 of 2], 1953
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Box 72, Folder 7	Lega collection Tervuren, 1 to 51 [2 of 2], 1953
Box 73, Folder 1	Lega collection Tervuren, 52 to 111 [1 of 3], 1953
Box 73, Folder 2	Lega collection Tervuren, 52 to 111 [2 of 3], 1953
Box 73, Folder 3	Lega collection Tervuren, 52 to 111 [3 of 3], 1953
Box 73, Folder 4	Lega collection Tervuren from 112 to 153 [1 of 3], 1953
Box 73, Folder 5	Lega collection Tervuren from 112 to 153 [2 of 3], 1953
Box 73, Folder 6	Lega collection Tervuren from 112 to 153 [3 of 3], 1953
Box 73, Folder 7	Tervuren - Lega I: 12003-38621, undated
Box 74	Tervuren - Lega II: 38.6.22-38.7.20, undated
Box 74	Tervuren/Lega III: 38721-51.44.2, undated
Box 74	Tervuren DB collection III: Lega spoons and other objects, undated
Box 75, Folder 1	Tervuren/Lega V: 56.3.11/74.22.11, undated
Box 75, Folder 2	Tervuren collection - Lega, 1956, 1966, undated
Box 75, Folder 3	Lega exhibition, krediet bank: Brussels, 2002
Box 75, Folder 4	Lega varia, 1975, undated
Box 75, Folder 5	Lega: fakes, undated
Box 75, Folder 6	Lega: miscellaneous collections, ivory statuettes [1 of 2], undated
Box 75, Folder 7	Lega: miscellaneous collections, ivory statuettes [2 of 2], undated
Box 75, Folder 8	Lega: various collections, undated
Box 76, Folder 1	Lega: wooden statues, undated
Box 76, Folder 2	Luba [objects], undated
Box 76, Folder 3	Luba: arrow stands, drums, ceramics, staffs, etc., undated
Box 76, Folder 4	Luba: figurines, undated
Box 76, Folder 5	Luba: stools - miscellaneous, undated

Box 76, Folder 6	Luluwa people: figurines, pipes, headrests, etc., undated
Box 76, Folder 7	Mangbetu, Mayogo, Meegye, Mamvu, Zande, 1940, undated
Box 77, Folder 1	Mbola, Metoko, Lengula, Komo, Pere, undated
Box 77, Folder 2	Mbuun mbala: adzes, figurines, misc., undated
Box 77, Folder 3	Ngbaka: musical instruments, pipes, masks, undated
Box 77, Folder 4	Pende: Kibwadi statues, figurines, cups, staffs, etc., undated
Box 77, Folder 5	Pende: masks in context, undated
Box 77, Folder 6	Pende miscellaneous and unidentified Ikhuku ivory masks, undated
Box 77, Folder 7	Rwanda Shi Burundi [objects], undated
Box 77, Folder 8	Salampasu: masks, instruments, figurines, undated
Box 77, Folder 9	[Sculptures collected by Biebuyck], undated
Box 78, Folder 1	Songye Bwanga, undated
Box 78, Folder 2	Songye: masks, walking sticks, staffs, etc., undated
Box 78, Folder 3	[Miscellaneous objects], 1986, undated
Box 78, Folder 4	Miscellaneous objects doubles [1 - 6], undated
Box 78, Folder 5	Miscellaneous objects doubles [7 - 13], undated
Box 78, Folder 6	[Object doubles with tribes] [1 of 3], undated
Box 78, Folder 7	[Object doubles with tribes] [2 of 3], undated
Box 78, Folder 8	[Object doubles with tribes] [3 of 3], undated
Box 78, Folder 9	[Object print outs with notes], undated
Box 79	[Object lantern slides] 1, undated
Box 79	[Object lantern slides] 2, undated
Box 79	[Object lantern slides] 3, undated
Box 79	[Object lantern slides] 4, undated

Box 79

[Object lantern slides] 5, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Field photographs, 1926-1960, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents: This series contains Biebuyck's photographs taken in the field. Of particular note is his personal field album which contains a collage of prints, notes, and drawings. The series consists of photographic prints, slides, and related notes.

Box 80, Folder 1	Bahonga-Vira-Komo, Bahonga-Vira-Bashi, undated
Box 80, Folder 2	Bembe etc, undated
Box 80, Folder 3	Bembe photos: A. De Rijke, 1947-1951
Box 80, Folder 4	Bembe-Mbote-Zoba-Bwari [1 of 3], undated
Box 80, Folder 5	Bembe-Mbote-Zoba-Bwari [2 of 3], undated
Box 80, Folder 6	Bembe-Mbote-Zoba-Bwari [3 of 3], undated
Box 80, Folder 7	Notes on Bembe field photographs, undated
Box 80, Folder 8	[Congo field photographs], undated
Box 80, Folder 9	Peoples of the Congo I [1 of 2], undated
Box 80, Folder 10	Peoples of the Congo I [2 of 2], undated
Box 80, Folder 11	Peoples of the Congo II, undated
Box 80, Folder 12	Katanga etc, undated
Box 80, Folder 13	Kuba Lugbara, undated
Box 81, Folder 1	[Landscapes] [1 of 2], undated
Box 81, Folder 2	[Landscapes] [2 of 2], undated
Box 81, Folder 3	DB field photos Lega, 1954, undated
Box 81, Folder 4	Lega Bwami field photographs [1 of 3], 1951-1953
Box 81, Folder 5	Lega Bwami field photographs [2 of 3], 1951-1953
Box 81, Folder 6	Lega Bwami field photographs [3 of 3], 1951-1953
Box 81, Folder 7	Lega: Bwami, Nyindu, undated

Box 81, Folder 8	Notes on Lega I field photographs, undated
Box 81, Folder 9	Notes on Lega II, Nyindu, Songola field photographs, undated
Box 81, Folder 10	Field slides: Pende, Lega, undated
Box 82, Folder 1	Lendu, undated
Box 82, Folder 2	Lubai [people], 1945-1946, undated
Box 82, Folder 3	Lunda, undated
Box 82, Folder 4	Lunda, Pende, Chokwe, Asalampasu, 1953-1954, undated
Box 82, Folder 5	Mongo people, 1960, undated
Box 82, Folder 6	Ngbaka people, undated
Box 82, Folder 7	[Nyanga 1-100], undated
Box 82, Folder 8	[Nyanga 101-200], undated
Box 82, Folder 9	[Nyanga 201-319], undated
Box 82, Folder 10	[Nyanga field photography], 1957, undated
Box 82, Folder 11	Notes on Nyanga field photographs, undated
Box 82, Folder 12	[Nyanga Sherungu], 1954-1956
Box 83, Folder 1	[Personal field album] [1 of 4], 1949-1951
Box 83, Folder 2	[Personal field album] [2 of 4], 1950-1957
Box 83, Folder 3	[Personal field album] [3 of 4], 1954-1960
Box 83, Folder 4	[Personal field album] [4 of 4], 1954-1960
Box 83, Folder 5	[Personal field album copy], 1949-1960
Box 83, Folder 6	Pygmies - Remba, undated
Box 83, Folder 7	Remba, undated
Box 83, Folder 8	Rwanda, undated
Box 84, Folder 1	Rwanda Shi Burundi, 1926-1934, 1952, undated

Box 84, Folder 2	The Salampasu, undated
Box 84, Folder 3	Northeastern Congo: Zaire, undated
Box 84, Folder 4	Field notes on films and photos, undated
Box 84, Folder 5	[Various ethnographic photographs], 1951, 1958, undated
Box 84, Folder 6	[Ethnographic slides], undated
Box 84, Folder 7	[Field doubles with tribes] [1 of 2], undated
Box 84, Folder 8	[Field doubles with tribes] [2 of 2], undated
Box 84, Folder 9	Miscellaneous field doubles [1-4], undated
Box 84, Folder 10	Miscellaneous field doubles [5-8], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Sound recordings, 1960-1972, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged by topic.

Scope and Contents: This series consists of sound recordings. It mainly contains performances, lectures, music, and linguistic subjects.

Processing Information: Some of these tapes have short descriptions but are illegible and mainly in French or Bantu languages. Titles may not be correct. Numbered tapes were kept in numerical order. Some of the tapes in this series are acetate.

Box 85	Nyanga texts, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Comm design hearing, Dr. Biebuyck and questions J.L.D., 1970 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Recital I [African poetry and performances], undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Recital II [African poetry and performances], undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	BRT 50.004 B, Inventory Tervuren 61.3.10, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	BRT 50.005 A, Inventory Tervuren 61.3.11, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	BRT 50.005 B, Inventory Tervuren 61.3.12, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Inventory Tervuren 61.3.13, BRT 50.006, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Inventory Tervuren 61.3.14, BRT 50.007 A, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Inventory Tervuren 61.3.15, BRT 50.007 B, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	BRT 50.008, Inventory Tervuren 61.3.16, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Lecture Hampton, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Field NE Zaire, undated

	1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	DB [... report], undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Short test past Mwindo - Nateene, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Mukumu of Nyanga, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Nateene: tone exercises in Nyanga, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Lega, texts Amato, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Biebuyck - Lega, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	Naiemujaars greoeten, 1961-1962 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	[Miscellaneous field 1], 1960 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	[Miscellaneous field 2], 1960 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	[Miscellaneous field 3], undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	[Public radio recordings 1], undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 85	[Public radio recordings 2], undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 1, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 2, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 3, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 4, undated

	1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 5, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 6, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 7, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 8, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 9, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 10, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 11, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 12, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 13, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 14, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 15, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 16, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 17, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 18, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 19, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 86	[Field recording] 20, undated

	1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 32, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 33, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 34, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 35, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 36, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 37, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 38, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 39, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 40, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 41, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 42, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 43, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 44, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 45, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 46, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 47, undated

	1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 48, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 49, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 50, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 51, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 52, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 53, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 54, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 55, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 56, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 87	[Field recording] 58, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 1, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 2, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 3, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 4, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 5, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 6, undated

	1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 7, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 8, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 9, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 10, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 11, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 12, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 13, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 14, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 15, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 16, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 17, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 18, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 88	Tervuren copy 19, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 20, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 21, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 22, undated

	1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 23, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 24, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 25, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 26, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 27, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 28, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 29, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 30, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 31, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 32, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 33, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 34, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 35, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 36, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 89	Tervuren copy 37, undated

1 Sound tape reel

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Writings, 1949-2004, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged alphabetically with publications at the beginning of the series followed by manuscripts, drafts, and notes.

Scope and Contents: This series contains Biebuyck's published works and some of his manuscript and draft materials. It contains books, articles, reviews, manuscripts, draft articles, notes, correspondence, and journals.

Box 90, Folder 1	[Biebuyck publications], 1952-1953, 1981-1992, undated
Box 90, Folder 2	[Biebuyck reviews] [1 of 2], 1957-1989
Box 90, Folder 3	[Biebuyck reviews] [2 of 2], 1971-1988
Box 90, Folder 4	Le Bulega Face aux Defis de la Modernite, 2004
Box 90, Folder 5	Cahiers de litterature orale number 16, 1984
Box 90, Folder 6	Compte-Rendu des Travaux du Seminaire D'Anthropologie Sociale [IRSAC], 1952
Box 90, Folder 7	Congo Tribes and Parties, 1961
Box 90, Folder 8	Elombe mwindo, 1969
Box 90, Folder 9	[Encyclopedia of Africa manuscript], undated
Box 90, Folder 10	Frans M. Olbrechts: In Search of Art in Africa, 2001
Box 91, Folder 1	Influence de L'Organisation Administrative Coloniale sur L'Organisation Administrative Coutumiere Chez les Atetela, 1961
Box 91, Folder 2	Lega: Ethics and Beauty in the Heart of Africa, 2002
Box 91, Folder 3	[Nyanga Biebuyck publications], 1955-1976, 2004, undated
Box 91, Folder 4	[On a Treasure Hunt in the Heart of Africa], 1957
Box 91, Folder 5	The Power of Headdresses, 1984
Box 91, Folder 6	Les Seigneurs de la Forêt, 1958
Box 91, Folder 7	[Social change in Africa, Boston University], 1962
Box 91, Folder 8	Working Papers in the Traditional Arts 2&3 [2 copies], 1977
Box 91, Folder 9	[Bazyoba, Feshi territory], undated
Box 92, Folder 1	[Captions for ethnographic films], undated

Box 92, Folder 2	[Congo press], 1954, 1959
Box 92, Folder 3	[Creation of the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology], undated
Box 92, Folder 4	[Daryll Forde correspondence], 1967
Box 92, Folder 5	[Epic tale drafts], undated
Box 92, Folder 6	[Ethnologue database], 1995
Box 92, Folder 7	[Kivu province: Bembe, Elanda, Bahumbwa], undated
Box 92, Folder 8	Itombwe: chiefs, kinship, village organization, undated
Box 92, Folder 9	Lake region social structure, 1950, undated
Box 92, Folder 10	Lulenge region: social structure and kinship, undated
Box 92, Folder 11	Lulenge social structure, 1950-1952, undated
Box 92, Folder 12	Musical recordings [notes], 1956
Box 92, Folder 13	Nganeya area: Eonde, undated
Box 92, Folder 14	Ngbaka essays, undated
Box 93, Folder 1	Secret societies including Kitawala, undated
Box 93, Folder 2	[Fourth Triennial Symposium on Traditional African Art], 1976
Box 93, Folder 3	[Lake Tanganyika field work report], 1949-1950
Box 93, Folder 4	[Lake Tanganyika region field journals] [1 of 2], undated
Box 93, Folder 5	[Lake Tanganyika region field journals] [2 of 2], undated
Box 93, Folder 6	Village structure Kivu province [1 of 3], undated
Box 93, Folder 7	Village structure Kivu province [2 of 3], undated
Box 93, Folder 8	Village structure Kivu province [3 of 3], 1951, undated
Box 93, Folder 9	[Story notes], undated
Box 94, Folder 1	Not published studies [1 of 2], 1956, undated
Box 94, Folder 2	Not published studies [2 of 2], 1957-1963, undated

Box 94, Folder 3

[Unidentified notes], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Teaching materials, 1953-1994, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents: This series consists of teaching materials, primarily from Biebuyck's teaching positions at the University of Delaware. It contains notes, syllabi, and lectures.

Box 94, Folder 4	Funny presentation, 1953-1955
Box 94, Folder 5	[Dzing, Nzadi, Ngue, Yansi, and Mbala], 1972-1973
Box 94, Folder 6	Ethno survey Fall 81-82, 1981-1982
Box 94, Folder 7	[Course syllabi and notes] [1 of 4], 1964-1975, undated
Box 95, Folder 1	[Course syllabi and notes] [2 of 4], 1977-1988, undated
Box 95, Folder 2	[Course syllabi and notes] [3 of 4], 1986
Box 95, Folder 3	[Course syllabi and notes] [4 of 4], 1988, undated
Box 95, Folder 4	[African Art], 1993, undated
Box 95, Folder 5	African Arts unpublished USF course: Timmons recording, 1993-1994
Box 95, Folder 6	[Ancestors and Nkisi studies], undated
Box 96, Folder 1	[Artworks], undated
Box 96, Folder 2	[Congo notes], undated
Box 96, Folder 3	[Lega lecture notes], undated
Box 96, Folder 4	[Nkisi, Nolori, and divination], undated
Box 96, Folder 5	[Seminar lecture], undated
Box 96, Folder 6	[Sociocultural anthropology III], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Maps, 1888-1972, undated

Arrangement: This series is arranged by topic.

Scope and Contents: This series contains research maps of the Congo, many of which denote community territories. Most of these maps have additional hand-written notes on them and some are hand-drawn. It contains maps, notes, and map inventories.

Box 96, Folder 7	[Territory maps], 1944-1949
Box 96, Folder 8	[Map booklets], 1953-1955
Box 96, Folder 9	[Province map books] [1 of 2], 1956
Box 96, Folder 10	[Province map books] [2 of 2], 1956
Box 97, Folder 1	[IRSAC maps], undated
Box 97, Folder 2	[Map inventories], undated
Box 97, Folder 3	[Map notes], undated
Map-folder 1	[Bembe], undated
Map-folder 2	[Congo maps] [1 of 3], 1888, 1906-1972
Map-folder 3	[Congo maps] [2 of 3], 1933, 1954, undated
Map-folder 4	[Congo maps] [3 of 3], 1955, 1959, undated
Map-folder 5	[Land tenure] [1 of 3], 1959, undated
Map-folder 6	[Land tenure] [2 of 3], 1953, undated
Map-folder 7	[Land tenure] [3 of 3], undated
Map-folder 8	[Lega], 1956

[Return to Table of Contents](#)