



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

MS 2004-23 Description and photographs of the Wagi Valley, Papua New Guinea

National Anthropological Archives
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Local Numbers.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 2004-23 Description and photographs of the Wagi Valley, Papua New Guinea
Date:	circa 1945
Identifier:	NAA.MS2004-23
Creator:	Coffee, Richard J. (Collector)
Extent:	19 Pages (11 x 8.5 in.) 2 Items (photographic prints ; black & white; 3.5 x 4.5 in.) 1 Item (photographic print ; black & white; 5 x 3.5 in.)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Provenance

The collection was donated by Barbara Coffee, wife of Richard Coffee.

Citation

MS 2004-23, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Biographical / Historical

Prior to World War II, the territories of Papua and New Guinea were administered by the Commonwealth of Australia under mandates from both the British government and the League of Nations. The Japanese invasion in December 1941 brought an end to civil administration and much of the territory of New Guinea was occupied by Japanese forces before being recaptured by Australian and American forces during the final months of the war. In his manuscript, Carney describes visiting a government settlement that had been re-established by the Australians in early 1944.

Scope and Contents

This collection is comprised of materials concerning Papua, New Guinea, collected by Richard J. Coffee of the United States Air Force. The collection contains a 19-page copy of a typed manuscript entitled "Daily Jottings On a Weeks Visit" by Herschel W. Carney. The manuscript details Carney's visit to the Wagi Valley during his service in the Air Corps. Carney spent a week in the interior of Papua New Guinea during July 1945 and describes the people and environment. The collection also includes three black-and-white photographic prints depicting indigeneous men, women and children.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 2004-23

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Indigenous peoples -- Papua New Guinea
Papuan

Cultures:

Papuan

Types of Materials:

Photocopies
Photographic prints
Photographs
Typescripts

Places:

Papua New Guinea -- Social life and customs