



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Preliminary guide to the Robert T. Smith Papers

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Robert T. Smith Papers
Date:	1943-1969
Identifier:	NAA.MS2014-06
Extent:	0.25 Linear feet (papers) 1 Linear foot (Framed painting)
Language:	Multiple languages .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the National Anthropological Archives by Sue Minahan and Donna Ewing in 2014.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical / Historical

Robert T. "Smitty" Smith was stationed in the Pacific in WWII at Guadalcanal, Bougainville (Piva-Torokina), and New Guinea in 1943-1944. He stayed after the end of the war in New Guinea working to recover the remains of downed aircraft crews. and became fluent in Tok Pisin.

Scope and Contents

The collection primarily relates to Smith's time in New Guinea. It includes sketches of people and the natural environment, watercolors, one framed painting, photographs, hand and type-written folktales, and letters including correspondence with Dr. C.A. Schmitz. Much of the written material is in Tok Pisin.