



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to Dennis Manochio Fireworks Collection

NMAH.AC.0533

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Dennis Manochio Fireworks Collection
Date:	ca. 1920s-1940s.
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0533
Creator:	Manochio, Dennis (Collector)
Extent:	0.5 Cubic feet (2 Boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Fireworks packaging, labels, wrappers and boxes. Many of the labels contain illustrations and logos with ethnic imagery, often stereotypical, and a variety of other subjects.

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The collection was donated to the Archives Center, National Museum of American History through Sgt. Leonard Anderson, Office of the Sheriff, Santa Clara County, California on July 11, 1995.

Provenance

The collection was created by Dennis Manochio Sr., a fireworks dealer and was confiscated by law enforcement officials.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, May 2003.

Preferred Citation

Dennis Manochio Fireworks Collection, ca. 1920s, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research and access on site by appointment.

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Biographical / Historical

Collector of patriotic ephemera and fireworks dealer.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of fireworks labels, wrappers, and packaging, part of a crate, and one product catalogue for the Martin's Real Fireworks Displays of Iowa. The majority of the fireworks labels and packaging were made in China or Macao, but some were made in the United States, Canada, and India. The labels are in Chinese, English, French, and German. Many of the labels are for "firecrackers," small noisemaking cylinders that are an inch and a half in length, often strung together with others and fused consecutively. Other types of fireworks include ladyfingers (a small $\frac{3}{4}$ " firecracker), cherry bombs and M-80s (illegal firecracker with a small red sphere an inch in diameter with flash powder), rockets (a cylinder with cone shaped head filled with pyrotechnic materials), shells or bombs (a canister fired out of a mortar), and torpedoes (fulminate of mercury mixed with grit and twisted in a piece of paper). The collection is particular rich in ethnic imagery. Other images include" elephant, birds, cowboys, anchors, pirates, tigers, cats, dogs, camels, cocks, lions, coyotes, dragons, wheels, horses, gorillas, rick shaws, rockets, fishing, and superman to name a few. The collection is divided into one series by fireworks brands and is arranged alphabetically. Information is provided for where the fireworks were manufactured, what company made them and what company distributed them. Most labels are undated.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into one series.

Series 1: Brands

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Anchors
- Birds
- Camels
- Cats
- Circuses (performances)
- Cowboys
- Coyote (*Canis latrans*)
- Dogs
- Dragons
- Elephants
- Ethnic imagery
- Fireworks
- Fishing
- Gorilla
- Hawks
- Horses -- Logos (Symbols)

Lions
Logos (Symbols)
Pirates
Rickshaws
Roosters -- Pictorial works
Swallows
Tigers
Wheels

Types of Materials:

Labels
Packaging

Names:

Little Bo-Peep (Fictitious character)
Sambo (Fictitious character)
Superman (Fictitious character)

Container Listing

Series 1: Brands

Box 1, Folder 1	Anchor Brand, Wang Yick Fireworks Company, Made in Macao, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Auto Wheel Joker, Victory Fireworks & Specialty Company, Elkton, MD, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Bango Martian Firecrackers Les Petards, (some text in French), Made in Hong Kong., Jebesen & Company (Hong Kong), undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Bango Martian Firecrackers Les Petards, (some text in French), Made in Hong Kong, Hand Chemical Industries Limited, Milton, Ontario, Canada, undated
Box 1, Folder 4	Black Jack Pirate Super Charged Flashlight Firecrackers, Made in China, undated
Box 1, Folder 5	Bobcat Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, M & C Fireworks Distributors, Egan, South Dakota, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Bo-Peep Firecrackers, Made in China, Yuen Loong Hong Firecracker Mfg. Company, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Bull Dog, Made in Macao, Li & Fung, Ltd. Hong Kong, undated
Box 1, Folder 8	Burning Schoolhouse, (some text in French). Made in Canada, Hand Chemical Industries Limited, Ontario and Quebec, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Cabin on Fire, New Jersey Fireworks Mfg. Co., Inc., undated
Box 1, Folder 10	Camel Brand Flashlight Crackers, Made in Macao, Wang Yick Fireworks Company and Tung's Fireworks, undated
Box 1, Folder 11	Cane Ammunition, National Fireworks, undated
Box 1, Folder 12	Cherry Salute, Made in the United States, Miller Fireworks & Novelty Company, undated
Box 1, Folder 13	Chinese Firecrackers, (some text in German), Made in China, Import & Export Corporation, Hunan Branch, undated
Box 1, Folder 14	Cock Brand, Made in Macao, Kwan Yick Fireworks Company, undated
	Cock o' the Walk Torpedoes, Unexcelled Mfg. Co., Inc., New York, undated

Box 1, Folder 16	Cowboy, Made in Macao, Liddell Fireworks Company, Shreveport, Louisiana, undated
Box 1, Folder 17	Coyote Brand, Made in Macao, Distributed by Brookings Fireworks Co., Brookings, South Dakota, undated
Box 1, Folder 18	Devil Dog Super Charged Flashlight Firecrackers, Schneitter Fireworks & importing Company, St. Joseph, Missouri, undated
Box 1, Folder 19	Dixie Boy Brand Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, undated
Box 1, Folder 20	Double Lions, Made in Taiwan for New York Pyrotechnic Products Co., Inc., undated
Box 1, Folder 21	Flying Dragon Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, undated
Box 1, Folder 22	Flying Wheel, Made in China, Yick Loong Fireworks Company, undated
Box 1, Folder 23	General Zit Brand Best Flashlight Firecrackers, Made in China, Ti Hang Lung & Company, San Francisco, California, undated
Box 1, Folder 24	Globe Torpedoes, Made in the United States, Victory Fireworks & Specialty Company, undated
Box 1, Folder 25	Gorilla Brand Super Charged Crackers, Baby Gorilla Brand Flashlight lady Crackers, Made in China and Macao, Distributed by Rich Brothers of South Dakota, undated
Box 1, Folder 26	Hawk All Red Shells Flashlight Firecrackers, Made in Macao, Kwong Hing Tai Firecracker Company, undated
Box 1, Folder 27	Jumbo Special Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in Macao, Kwong Hing Tai Firecracker Company, undated
Box 1, Folder 28	Lady Fingers Best Super Charged Lady Crackers, Made in Macao, undated
Box 1, Folder 29	Lady Hawk Super Charged Flash Crackers, Made in China, wong Hing Tai Firecracker Company, undated
Box 2, Folder 1	M-80s Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in Macao, Po Sing Firecracker Factory, undated
Box 2, Folder 2	Martin's Real Fireworks Displays, 1928 (product catalogue), Fort Dodge, Iowa, undated
Box 2, Folder 3	Missile Super Charged Flashlight Firecrackers, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 4	National Cane Torpedoes, undated

Box 2, Folder 5	Navy Brand Black Watch Super, Made in China, Hitt's Flashlight Firecrackers, 1928
Box 2, Folder 6	Peacock Brand Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, Po Sing Firecracker Factory, Made for Schneitter Fireworks & Importing, St. Joseph, Missouri, undated
Box 2, Folder 7	The Phoenix Rising from the Flames Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, The Glorious Firecracker Co., undated
Box 2, Folder 8	Po Ha Crackers, Made in China, 1920
Box 2, Folder 9	All Red Crackers, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 10	Red Lantern Lightning Firecracker, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 11	Red Leaf Black Powder Firecrackers, Made in Macao, Yick Loong Fireworks Company, undated
Box 2, Folder 12	Rocket Brand Super Charged Flash Crackers, Made in Macao, Kwong Yuen Hang Kee Firecracker Factory, undated
Box 2, Folder 13	Robinson Crusoe Supercharged Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, Distributed by Elliott Sales Company, Rome, Georgia, undated
Box 2, Folder 14	San-Tee Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in Macao, Po Sing Firecracker Factory, undated
Box 2, Folder 15	Shot Gun Brand Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 16	Sky Bomb, Made in the United States, Commercial Novelty Co., Inc., undated
Box 2, Folder 17	Smoky Joe/Smoky Sambo Trojan Cigar, undated
Box 2, Folder 18	Super Cat Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in India, The Standard Fireworks Industries, Sivakasi, India, undated
Box 2, Folder 19	Superman Super Charged Lightning Crackers, Made in China, Distributed by Buckeye Fireworks, Deerfield, Ohio, undated
Box 2, Folder 20	Swallow Brand, Made in Macao, Yick Loong Fireworks Company, undated
Box 2, Folder 21	Thunder Bomb, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 22	Thunder Crackers, (some text in German), Made in China, Import & Export Corporation, Hunan Branch, undated
Box 2, Folder 23	Thunder Flashcracka, Made in the United States, Hitt Flashcracka Company, Seattle, Washington, undated

Box 2, Folder 24	Tiger Head Brand Firecrackers, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 25	TNT Bomb, Made in Macao, Kwongyuen Hangkee Firecracker Factory, undated
Box 2, Folder 26	Warrior Brand Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in Macao, Kwongyuen Hangkee Firecracker Factory, undated
Box 2, Folder 27	Woodpecker Firecrackers, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 28	Whale Brand Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in China, undated
Box 2, Folder 29	Yan Kee Boy Super Charged Flashlight Crackers, Made in Macao, Kwong Hing Tai Firecracker Company, undated
Box 2, Folder 30	Zebra Flashlight Firecracker, Made in Macao, Li & Fung Ltd., Hong Kong, undated
Box 2, Folder 31	Unidentified fireworks labels, undated

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