



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

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Dennis Manochio Fireworks Collection
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.0533
<b>Date:</b>	ca. 1920s-1940s.
<b>Extent:</b>	0.5 Cubic feet (2 Boxes)
<b>Creator:</b>	Manochio, Dennis
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Summary:</b>	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.

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## 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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Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

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## Biographical / Historical

Collector of patriotic ephemera and fireworks dealer.

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## 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 particularly 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.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged into one series.

Series 1: Brands

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## 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)

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## 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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