



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Forrest C. Pogue Oral History Interview, 1986

Finding aid prepared by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives
Washington, D.C.
Contact us at osiaref@si.edu

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Administrative Information | 1 |
| Historical Note..... | 1 |
| Introduction..... | 1 |
| Descriptive Entry..... | 2 |
| Names and Subjects | 2 |
| Container Listing | 3 |

Collection Overview

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Repository: | Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu |
| Title: | Forrest C. Pogue Oral History Interview |
| Identifier: | Record Unit 9589 |
| Date: | 1986 |
| Extent: | 1 audiotape (Reference copy). |
| Creator:: | Pogue, Forrest C., interviewee |
| Language: | English |

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 9589, Forrest C. Pogue Oral History Interview

Use Restriction

Restricted. Contact SIHistory@si.edu to request permission.

Historical Note

Forrest C. Pogue (1912-1996), military historian, received the A.B. from Murray State College in 1931, M.A. from the University of Kentucky in 1932, and Ph.D. from Clark University in 1939. He taught for several years before joining the historical section of the United States Army during World War II. He pioneered the use of oral history interviews to compile battlefield histories. He was appointed Director of the George C. Marshall Research Center in 1956 and later directed the Marshall Library and Marshall Research Foundation until 1974. During this time, he began a four volume biography of General George C. Marshall. In 1974, Pogue was named Director of the newly established Eisenhower Institute for Military Research at the Smithsonian and continued in that position until his retirement in 1986.

Introduction

The Smithsonian Institution Archives began its Oral History Program in 1973. The purpose of the program is to supplement the written documentation of the Archives' record and manuscript collections with an Oral History Collection, focusing on the history of the Institution, research by its scholars, and contributions of its staff. Program staff conduct interviews with current and retired Smithsonian staff and others who have made significant contributions to the Institution. There are also interviews conducted by researchers or students on topics related to the history of the Smithsonian or the holdings of the Smithsonian Institution Archives.

Pogue was interviewed for the Oral History Collection because of his distinguished career in military history and pioneering role in the field of oral history.

Descriptive Entry

This interview of Pogue by University of Maryland student James Tapley in 1986 covers his education, military service, research and administrative careers. The collection consists of 1.0 hours of audiotape recording and 28 pages of transcript.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- History
- Interviews
- Military historians
- Military history
- Oral history

Types of Materials:

- Audiotapes
- Transcripts

Names:

- Eisenhower Institute for Military History
- George C. Marshall Library
- George C. Marshall Research Center
- George C. Marshall Research Foundation
- International Commission of Military History
- Marshall, George C. (George Catlett), 1880-1959
- National Museum of American History (U.S.)
- Pogue, Forrest C.
- Smithsonian Institution. National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board
- Tapley, James, interviewer
- United States. Army

Container Listing

Interviews

Interviews

Interview 1: 1986

Interviews

Interview of Pogue discusses his education, military service, and career, including: Decision to join the Smithsonian staff; education; military service; research on General George C. Marshall; career at the Marshall Research Center and Library, and at the Eisenhower Institute; the role of the Institute within the Smithsonian Institution and National Museum of American History; the history of the National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board; and his work with the International Commission for Military History.

[Digital Content: Forrest C. Pogue, 1960. \(Image no. 92-3526\)](#)

[Digital Content: Forrest C. Pogue Receiving Oral History Award from Benis M. Frank, December 1979, By Dane Penland. \(Image no. 79-13443-12A\)](#)

[Digital Content: Forrest C. Pogue, 1978, by Richard K. Hofmeister. \(Image no. 78-7624-30\)](#)

Interviews

Transcript, pp. 1-28, of audiotape recording, 1.0 hour.

Interviews

Audio Recordings of Interview: Total Recording Time: 1.0 hour

Note:

- Original Master: 1 5" reel-to-reel analog audiotape
- Preservation Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes, 3 digital .wav files
- Reference Copies: 1 cassette audiotape, 2 digital .mp3 files