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NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE, Modern Military Records Division:
Inventories of SHAEF holdings, 1941-45
(Microfilm)

Accession 69-25
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The microfilm copy of the inventory of SHAEF records at the National Archives was sent to the Eisenhower Library by the Modern Military Records Division in September 1968.

Number of reels of microfilm: 2

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) was a joint U.S.-British military organization which commanded most of the Allied Forces in Western Europe during the last two years of World War II. Planning for the joint operation was begun in 1942 but SHAEF was not formally activated until February 1944 when General Dwight D. Eisenhower was appointed supreme allied commander. After the conclusion of hostilities in May 1945, SHAEF staff began to close down its activities and SHAEF was formally dissolved in July 1945. A small joint U.S.-British organization, the Combined Administrative Liquidating Agency (CALA), was created to finish disbanding the SHAEF organization.

Because both the U.S. and British governments had an interest in SHAEF, arrangements were made so that both countries could have copies of the SHAEF records. The Combined Chiefs of Staff decided that all the original records of SHAEF would be given to the U.S., while microfilm copies of the records would be given to the British. A similar arrangement was later made regarding the records of the Allied Force Headquarters (AFHQ), the joint U.S.-British headquarters which commanded operations in North Africa and the Mediterranean. In the case of AFHQ, however, the U.S. received a microfilm copy while the original records went to the British.

After SHAEF was dissolved, a special office, named the Documents Section, was created in CALA to care for the SHAEF records. All existing SHAEF records were brought together in the Documents Section. The files were organized by office of origin and there under by whatever filing scheme had been used in the office. In most cases this was a decimal filing system similar to the one used by the U.S. War Department. After the arrangement was complete, inventories were prepared of all the files. These were usually lists of file titles and contained no information on individual documents or the administrative nature of the office which created the files. The files were then microfilmed, except for a few routine items and some personnel files. The film was sent to the British government while the records and the duplicate copy of the film were sent to the U.S. government.

Once the records were acquired by the U.S., they were held for several years by the Departmental Records Branch (DRB) of the Adjutant General's office. The DRB staff prepared some additional inventories which provided more detail than those compiled by the CALA staff. In the mid-1950s the records were turned over to the National Archives and accessioned into Record Group 331, Records of Allied Operational and Occupation Headquarters.

The two reels of microfilm in this collection were prepared by the National Archives. They contain the inventories compiled by the Documents Section at CALA, and portions of one inventory compiled by the DRB staff. The inventories are arranged by the SHAEF office to which the records pertain. The Eisenhower Library has acquired copies of the microfilm of two of the office files. One is the Secretary of the General Staff [reel 1, frames 1-83]. The other is the file of General Harold Bull, SHAEF G-3 [reel 2, frames 719-725]. Separate finding aids have been compiled for these collections. The remaining office files which are described by the inventories are at the National Archives in Washington, DC, and are not available at the

Eisenhower Library. Researchers needing further information about the records are advised to contact the Archives.

Duplicate copies of a few SHAEF records can be found in the SHAEF Selected Records collection, Dwight D. Eisenhower's Pre-Presidential Papers, the Walter Bedell Smith Collection of World War II Document, and the Eisenhower Library Collection of Twentieth Century Military Records.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Reel No.</u>	<u>Contents [frame numbers]</u>
1	1	SHAEF, SGS Division, [1-83] [Secretary, General Staff] SHAEF, AG Division, 1944 [85-193] [Adjutant General's office] SHAEF, AG Division, 1945 [195-274] SHAEF, AG Division, 1944-45 [276-296] SHAEF, G-1 Division, [298-350] SHAEF, G-2 Division, [352-447] SHAEF, G-3 Division, [449-615] SHAEF, G-4 Division, 1944 [617-707] SHAEF, G-4 Division, 1945 [709-819] SHAEF, G-4 Log Plans [821-867] SHAEF, G-5 Division [869-1085] SHAEF, Public Relations Division [1087-1137] SHAEF, Psychological Warfare Division [1139-1199] SHAEF, Signal Division [1201-1296] SHAEF, Medical Division [1298-1308] SHAEF, Engineer Division [1310-1319] SHAEF, Air Defense Division [1321-1329] SHAEF, European Allied Contact Section [1331-1335] SHAEF, Air Staff [1337-1465]
	2	1 st Allied Airborne Army and Headquarters, Berlin District [1-22]

2nd Tactical Air Force – Air Staff (British) [24-34]

A.N.C.X.F. (Navy) [36-48] [Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief, Expeditionary Forces]

21st Army Group [50-60]

12th Army Group [62-203]

12th Army Group (Supplemental Listing) [205-223]

6th Army Group [225-398]

SHAEF, Mission to France (Guide & Inventory) [400-557] [inventory compiled by Departmental Records Branch, U.S. Adjutant General's Office, July 1952]

SHAEF Mission – France [559-590]

USFET Mission to France [592-672]

Headquarters, Allied Information Service Group [628-630]

Headquarters, US Air Command, Berlin [631-633]

Air Component, US SHAEF Mission to France [634-640]

Headquarters, US Components, Air Staff [641-643]

SHAEF Mission – Netherlands [645-651]

SHAEF Mission – Belgium [653-676]

SHAEF Mission – Norway [678-682]

SHAEF Mission – Denmark [684-689]

Miscellaneous Additional Lists [691-717] [files from various SHAEF offices including G-2, G-3, G-5, Signal, Engineer and SOE/SO material]

SHAEF, G-3, Files of General Bull [719-725]

SHAEF, G-1, Files of General Barker [727-749]

CALA and CCALA [779-801] [Combine Administrative Liquidating Agency and Combined Civil Affairs Liquidating Agency]

Pre-invasion Planning [803-820]

Miscellaneous Logs as of 25 February 1945 [822-840]

END OF CONTAINER LIST