

## QUICK FACTS

**Source Library:** MacArthur Memorial Archive and Library, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

**Size:** Approximately 900,000 pages

**Content Types:** Manuscripts, correspondence, government documents, reports, memoranda

**Date Range:** 1941–1972

**Available:** March 2026

**Newly Digitized Materials:** 100% scanning from microfilm

**Disciplines Supported:** Japanese studies, Asian studies, U.S.–Japan relations, U.S. foreign policy, U.S. diplomatic history, international relations, World War II, military history

### Complementary Gale Archives:

- *U.S. Declassified Documents Online*
- *Declassified Documents Online: Twentieth-Century British Intelligence*
- *Chatham House Online Archive*

### Usage Highlights:

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- Enhance student instruction with the Learning Center
- Get better results with recent improvements to navigation and the document viewer in *Gale Primary Sources*
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- As an alternative to searching, browse content at the collection level in the file order in which it was arranged

# ASIA IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: GENERAL MACARTHUR, AND WAR, OCCUPATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION IN THE PACIFIC, 1941–1972



General Douglas MacArthur lands in Leyte Gulf, Philippines. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.

## DELIVER GREATER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The first collection in a new archive series, *Asia in the Twentieth Century*, these papers are focused on an era of immense disruption and change in this pivotal region. *General MacArthur, and War, Occupation, and Reconstruction in the Pacific, 1941–1972* gathers 23 collections sourced from the MacArthur Memorial Archive and Library and the United States National Archives and Records Association (NARA) charting the role of the U.S. and specifically the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, General Douglas MacArthur, in World War II; during the occupation and reconstruction of Japan; and through the postwar period in Korea, the Philippines, and beyond. This collection is essential for understanding the role of the U.S. in the Pacific in this period, how Japan was rebuilt after the devastation of World War II, and the enormous influence of the U.S. in the reconstruction of Japan's, political, and cultural systems, thereby creating a new international order, which still presides today.



Japanese Emperor Hirohito with General Douglas MacArthur during their first meeting in Tokyo, September 27, 1945, after the defeat of the Japanese Empire and its allies in World War II. Gaetano Faillace, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.

## ABOUT THE COLLECTION

This collection includes records from the MacArthur Memorial Archive and Library that chronicle General Douglas MacArthur's time as Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP), as well as the records of SCAP Headquarters, which oversaw the demilitarization and democratization of Japan. Other records cover a wide range of topics including U.S. involvement in guerilla resistance to Japanese forces in the Philippines, the defense of Australia, operational reports on the Korean War, and collections of radiograms on prisoners of war, troop movements, and intelligence.

Other materials in this collection are sourced from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and contain documents from intelligence-gathering in the Pacific area, reports on cultural and political changes made by the U.S. forces in Japan, intercepted Japanese messages, and U.S. Navy case files on the trials of members of the Japanese military for war crimes in the Pacific.

## VALUE OF THE COLLECTION

**A unique source:** Chart pivotal U.S.-led events in the Pacific during and following World War II using firsthand accounts sourced from Gale's partnership with the MacArthur Memorial Archive and Library.

**A map of wartime and postwar history:** Trace the development of Japan from an empire into a liberal democracy, the ways in which other countries in the Pacific region emerged from the upheaval of World War II, and the lasting influence of the U.S. on their present-day political systems.

**Scholarly appeal:** Meets the need for in-depth English-language sources on military, civic, political, and cultural topics in Asian societies, as well as their interactions with Western powers—particularly within the twentieth century.

## TOPICS COVERED

- Modern Japanese history
- World War II
- The Korean War
- The Cold War
- Asia-Pacific history
- Twentieth-Century history
- U.S. –Japan relations
- Military history
- Cultural history
- International relations
- Australia and New Zealand history

## COLLECTIONS INCLUDED

### MacArthur Memorial Archive and Library:

- Records of Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
- Records of General Headquarters, U.S. Army Forces Pacific
- Records of General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers
- Records of General Headquarters, Far East Command
- Records of General Headquarters, United National Command
- Collection of Messages (Radiograms)
- Documents Donated by the General Public
- Papers of Major General Courtney Whitney
- Papers of Brigadier General H. E. Eastwood
- Papers of Major General Charles A. Willoughby
- Collection of Periodicals, Newspapers, News Clippings, and Speeches

- Papers of Lieutenant General Richard K. Sutherland
- Papers of Colonel C. E. Skoglund
- Papers of Weldon B. Hester
- Papers of Paul P. Rogers

### National Archives and Records Association:

- History of Intelligence Activities under General Douglas MacArthur
- Intercepted Japanese Messages: The Documents of MAGIC
- Military Intelligence in the Pacific, 1942–1946; Bulletins of the Intelligence Center, Pacific Ocean Area, and the Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific Ocean Area
- Political Reorientation of Japan
- Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) Historical Monographs
- U.S. Administration of the Ryuku Islands
- U.S. Navy Case Files of Pacific-Area War Crimes
- U.S. Army Center of Military History Historical Manuscripts Collection – The War Against Japan



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