

C. Ernest Edgar III papersMS.0537

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1956-2010

Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

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Unit Date

1956-2010

Language

English

Creator

Edgar, C. Ernest, III, MG (Charles Ernest)

Creator

Virginia Military Institute. Office of the Commandant

Extent

5.5 cubic feet 5 boxes

Physical Location

Manuscripts stacks

Repository

Virginia Military Institute Archives

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The bulk of the collection has no restrictions; however, some files are confidential.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

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Biographical / Historical

Major General Charles Ernest Edgar III served over thirty-four years in active military service following his commissioning in June 1958 as a Distinguished Military Graduate VMI. Prior to his retirement on October 1 1992, he served at every level of the United States Army Corps of Engineers from the individual project to the Corps worldwide military and civil works programs, culminating in his service first as Deputy Commanding General/Deputy Chief of Engineers and then as Commanding General and Acting Chief of Engineers in Washington, D.C. In that capacity, Edgar was also the senior staff engineer for the Army, supervising their worldwide facilities, engineering and environmental activities, and providing advice on combat and topographic engineering.

Prior to his final assignment, Edgar served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Mobilization Planning Requirements). Previously, he was the Commanding General of the Corps' South Atlantic Division, Atlanta, Georgia. His other command assignments include: Commander and Division Engineer, New England Division, Waltham, Massachusetts Commandant of Cadets and Professor of Military Science, VMI, Lexington, Virginia Commander and District Engineer, Little Rock District, Little Rock, Arkansas Commander, 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction), Vietnam Company Commander, 237th Engineer Battalion (Combat), Germany Other staff assignments have included service as Deputy Director and Acting Director of Civil Works, Headquarters, United States Army Corps of Engineers, and as a Staff Officer in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff of Military Operations and in the Office of Personnel Operations, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C., among others.

Following his retirement from the Army, Edgar worked as an executive for several engineering firms, as a consultant, and served on the boards of various non-profit organizations.

Scope and Contents

This collection spans the military and civilian careers of Major General C. Ernest Edgar III. Included are files (arranged chronologically) that document every significant United States Army Corps of Engineers assignment. Included is information about: Overseas service at Heilbronn, Germany with the 237th Engineer Battalion (1958-1961) Vietnam War assignments (United States Military Assistance Command Vietnam, 1965-1966) Commanding Officer, 577th Engineer Battalion Construction (1969-1970) Commander and District Engineer, Little Rock District (1975-1978) Other stateside assignments The collection also includes materials relating to Edgar's post-Army career as an executive and consultant, involvement with non-profit and civic organizations, and subject files documenting his long relationship with VMI, including his service as Commandant of Cadets and on the Board of the VMI Research Laboratories.

Types of records include correspondence, memoranda, military orders and citations, project files, photographs and slides, and printed material.

Keywords

Generals—United States—Biography

Virginia Military Institute—Class of 1958

United States.Army—Corps of Engineers

United States.Army—Engineer Construction Battalion, 577th

United States.Army—Corps of Engineers—Little Rock District

United States—Military Assistance Command, Vietnam

United States.Army—Corps of Engineers—New England Division

United States.Army—Corps of Engineers—Civil Works Directorate

Vietnam War (1961-1975)

United States. Army—Officers—Biography

United States.Army—Office of the Chief of Engineers
Slides (photographs)
Photographs
Correspondence
Memoranda
Orders (military records)
Military decorations
VMI Research Laboratories, Inc.