

# UQFL99

## John J Murphy Collection

<b>Size</b>	7 boxes
<b>Contents</b>	Diaries, correspondence, reports and photographs, relating to Murphy's service in the Australian administration of Papua New Guinea in a number of official positions between 1936 and 1969. Includes material relating to John J. Murphy's book, <i>The book of Pidgin English</i> ; also a small amount of family history papers relating to the Campbell, Boyd and Pratt families, including letters from Austin Pratt written after his evacuation from Gallipoli.
<b>Date range</b>	1932 to 1985
<b>Biography</b>	1936: Went to New Guinea as a patrol officer, initially at Salamaua, District of Morobe. 1937: Stationed at Wau as a patrol officer; also served in Chimlau. 1938: Attended a course at Sydney University. 1939: Established and administered the Arung Bay Police Post, New Britain. 1940 – 1941: Attached to Native Labour Office, Rabaul and the Otibanda police post. 1941: Married Marjorie Ward. 1941 – 1943: Assigned to Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit (ANGAU) and the Allied Intelligence Bureau (AIB); provided information to Allied Headquarters about Japanese troop movements and supply depots etc. 1943 – 1945: Captured by Japanese in New Britain and held as prisoner-of-war at Rabaul. 1946: Faced four serious charges at an Army court martial. Very early in this trial, he was acquitted of all charges and was honourably acquitted by the general court martial. 1946: Lectured in Pidgin English at the School of Pacific Administration. 1947: Returned to New Guinea; appointed Assistant District Officer at Higturu. 1951 – 1956: Acting District Officer, Rabaul. 1956: District Commissioner, Daru, Western District. 1960 – 1969: District Commissioner, Kerema, Gulf District. 1969: Retired from Papua New Guinea service and returned to Australia. In his retirement, John Murphy did voluntary work at the Fryer Library, University of Queensland. He assisted with the acquisition of the Library's Papua New Guinea holdings and provided descriptions for many items, especially photographs. 1997: Died in Brisbane.
<b>Note</b>	Unrestricted access

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### Box 1

- Murphy, John Joseph, 1914-1977**  
Book of Pidgin English. Typescript
- Book of Pidgin English. Proof pages.

## Box 2

- 3 Book of Pidgin English. Galley sheets of 9th printing. [Newspaper cuttings [manuscript]/collected by Sheila Kirk]. 1939?-1979?
- 4 – 7 Diaries, 1936 to 1937

## Box 3

- 8 – 14 Monthly reports: Arung Bay police post, 1939 to 1940

## Folders 1 – 4

- 15 Correspondence: personal and administrative, 1937 to 1969

## Box 4

### Folders 5 – 9

- 15 Correspondence: personal and administrative, 1937 to 1969
- 16 Miscellaneous notes and newspaper clippings, etc

## Box 5

- 17 Diary, 1947
- 18 Diary, 1948
- 19 Some papers relating to conditions of service for Australian District Officers in New Guinea (5 items).
1. Kyle, A.F. Assistant District Officer, letter to District Officer, Salamaua, 4 Feb 1937 concerning application for re-classification
  2. Fourteen of the 16 cadets attending the 1938 course at the University of Sydney letter to the Administrator, Territory of New Guinea, Jul 1938 concerning reclassification and conditions of field staff, District Services
  3. Greatheat, G. Telegram to Black, Salamaua 9 Jan 1937 concerning support for reclassification
  4. Extract from diary 1937 concerning classification
  5. Facts for consideration in an application for reclassification and revision of existing salaries and conditions in the Department of District Services and Native Affairs, Apr 1937
- 20 **McMurria, James A.**  
Trial and Triumph : the chronicle of an ill-fated B-24 air crew in World War II in the Pacific. Trial with stone-age Melanesians and the Japanese Kempe Tai Triumph in survival. 192 p. duplicated typescript.

- 21 U.S. Army map of Rabaul, New Britain (photocopy) contains annotations by John Murphy and is headed in Murphy's handwriting : VECCO (Vulcanological Emergency Control & Command Organisation). To accompany plan drawn up by John J. Murphy (District Officer) by direction of the Administrator, Sir Donald Cleland, 1951
- 22 **[Family history research] compiled by John Murphy**  
Clippings etc. relating to Robert and Marion Campbell.
- 23 Address by Rev. Father Harold Campbell at the Campbell Reunion, 25 Apr 1976.
- 24 Papers concerning the Boyd family, 13 Feb 1832 to 21 May 1966. 13 items : ill., ports., maps ; 57 cm. or smaller ; typescript (some photocopies), some ms. emendations; contains newspaper clippings (some photocopied); articles, maps and family poster.
- 25 Papers concerning the Pratt family, 18 Dec 1906 to 26 Jun 1935. 16 items : ill. ; photos ; 35 cm. or smaller ; holograph and typescript, some signed some photocopies) ; contains newspaper clippings (some photocopied), some in albums, diaries, photos, programmes and letters, including two letters by Austin Pratt, written in May and June 1915 after being evacuated to England from Gallipoli. His letter of 29 May 1915 gives an account of his participation in the Gallipoli landing.
- 26 Memoirs of the Roper family and of early Brisbane by "Old Colonist". Typescript, photocopied, [21] l

## Box 6

Photographs of New Guinea

## Box 7

Photographs of New Guinea