



## Department of Military Science/ROTC records UA.3.17.1

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University Archives and Historical Collections

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University Archives and Historical Collections
<b>Creator:</b>	Michigan State University. Department of Military Science/ ROTC
<b>Source:</b>	Michigan State University. Department of Military Science/ ROTC
<b>Title:</b>	Department of Military Science/ROTC records
<b>ID:</b>	UA.3.17.1
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1885-1986
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	1930-1986
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.2 Cubic Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information:  
"Item title, Collection title, Collection Identifier, Michigan State University Archives &  
Historical Collections, East Lansing, Michigan."

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## Historical Note

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The Department of Military Science was founded in the 1884-1885 school year with the appointment of an Army officer as Professor of Military Science and Tactics. Military training had previously existed on campus as a result of the 1862 Morrill Act, which gave each state land on which to build a college. Colleges founded as a result of the Morrill Act were required to provide military instruction.

In 1888, Military Science was a required course for all male students except seniors. In 1916, a National Defense act created the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and a year later the Military Science Department became part of the ROTC. In 1927, Demonstration Hall was

constructed to be the home of the Department. In 1962, the ROTC became voluntary for male students. In 1966, the first woman enrolled in an ROTC class.

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## Scope and Contents

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The collection consists of records relating to the Michigan State University Military Science Department/ROTC. The class materials folder contains a receipt listing the uniform items issued to students, a syllabus for MS 102 chronologically listing the subjects covered in the class and chapters in the ROTC manual, and a list of basic concepts and their definitions. There is also a folder of correspondence relating to the creation of a trophy for the top member on the MSU rifle team to be named after Julian W. Smith. Smith was an education professor and member of the National Rifle Association Board of Directors. There is one issue of the newsletter the Cadet Bulletin from 1959, Spartan Guardian newsletter for 1983-1985, ROTC horse show programs, speech by General Ralph Palladino from the 1963 ROTC convocation, event programs, and a folder of memos, press releases, and forms from 1942-1944. Other material included reports about compulsory ROTC programs at MSU as well as the United States Department of Army's position on the issue. Also included is an oversize certificate of cadet appointment.

The photographs in the collection consist of images from 1880-1959 and the 1980s of cadets, training, drills, rifle teams, military bands, World War II trainees, trucks, tanks, maneuvers and training exercises, as well as social events and ceremonies. There is also a image of the 605 Michigan Infantry from 1920 with one soldier identified as Lloyd Houghton.

Labeled and unlabeled slides include images of camps, maneuvers, vehicles, images for slide presentations and slides produced by the U.S. military.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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## Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish material from this collection must be obtained from University Archives & Historical Collections, Michigan State University.

## Conditions Governing Access

**Legal Status:** Donor(s) have transferred any applicable copyright to Michigan State University but the collection may contain third-party materials for which copyright was not transferred. Copyright restrictions may apply. Property Rights: Michigan State University.

## Custodial History

Portions of the collection were donated by William H. Combs and Evelyn H. Scholl.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials

Division of University Services Records (UA 22.2)

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Military education -- Michigan -- East Lansing
- Annual reports
- Photographs
- Letters (correspondence)
- Newsletters

- Programs (Publications)
- Smith, Julian W.
- Michigan State University. Department of Military Science/ROTC
- United States. Army. Reserve Officers' Training Corps
- Michigan State University. Department of Military Science/ROTC

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## Collection Inventory

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Records		
Title/Description	Instances	
Class materials, 1957, 1958	drawer F.D.	folder 1
Correspondence, 1975	drawer F.D.	folder 2
<i>Cadet Bulletin</i> , 1959	drawer F.D.	folder 3
Military Science/ROTC. 1942-1944; Civil Defense/War Bond Information	drawer F.D.	folder 4
Third Regiment Competitive drill event program, 1940	drawer F.D.	folder 5
Correspondence, 1936	drawer F.D.	folder 6
MSC Military Band brochure, 1930	drawer F.D.	folder 7
The Case for the Required ROTC Programs, 1959	drawer F.D.	folder 8
Coronation Ball and Military Ball dance programs, 1958, 1986	drawer F.D.	folder 9
Summary of Arguments Regarding ROTC, 1959	drawer F.D.	folder 10
Commissioning Programs, 1955, 1959	drawer F.D.	folder 11
ROTC Horse Show programs, 1925, 1932	drawer F.D.	folder 12
<i>Spartan Guardian</i> newsletter, 1983-1985	drawer F.D.	folder 13
Spartan Battalion newsletter, September (Fall) 2023	drawer F.D.	folder 16
Speech – General Ralph Palladino – ROTC convocation, 1962	drawer F.D.	folder 14
Telegram – Dept. of Army position on compulsory ROTC training, 1959	drawer F.D.	folder 15
Oversized		
Certificate of cadet appointment	drawer OS	30

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## Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
Collection Photographs		
Airplanes	box 2037	folder 1
Athletics	box 2037	folder 1-4
Athletics - Prints with negatives	box 2037	folder 5
Blood drives	box 2037	folder 6
Ceremonies	box 2037	folder 7-15
Classes	box 2037	folder 16-17
Contact Sheets	box 2037	folder 18
Firing Range	box 2037	folder 19
Helicopters	box 2037	folder 20
Inductions	box 2037	folder 21
Inductions and Commissions	box 2037	folder 22
Maneuvers and training exercises	box 2037	folder 23-30
Maneuvers and training exercises - prints and negatives	box 2037	folder 31
Maps and charts	box 2037	folder 32
Monuments, signs, flags, badges	box 2037	folder 33
MSU. Scenes	box 2037	folder 34
Negatives unmatched to prints	box 2037	folder 35-36
People. Bush, George	box 2037	folder 37
People. Groups	box 2037	folder 38-42
People. Individuals	box 2037	folder 43-47
People. Reagan, Ronald	box 2037	folder 48
Physical Training	box 2037	folder 49-50
Scenes. Unidentified	box 2037	folder 51
Speakers	box 2037	folder 52
Social Events	box 2037	folder 53
Tanks	box 2037	folder 54
Trucks	box 2037	folder 55
605 Infantry, 1920	drawer OS 5	

Photographs - Michigan State University Collection

drawer  
Photos-MSU

<b>Military Science</b>	
<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
1880-1899. Cadets	
1880-1899. Cadet Officers	
1880-1899. Drill	
1880-1899. Rifle Team	
1900-1919. Cadets	
1900-1919. Cadet Officers	
1900-1919. Drill (2 folders)	
1900-1919. Instructors	
1900-1919. Rifle Team	
1900-1919. Training (3 folders)	
1920-1939. Armistice Day Programs	
1920-1939. Cavalry	
<b>1920-1939. Cadets</b>	
1920-1939. Commissioning of Officers	
1920-1939. Drill	
1920-1939. Horse Shows	
1920-1939. Instructors	
1920-1939. Training	
1940-1959	
1940-1959. Awards	
1940-1959. Cadets	
1940-1959. Commissioning of Cadets and Awards	
1940-1959. Corp Sponsors	
1940-1959. Drill (5 folders)	
1940-1959. Instructors	
1940-1959. People. Groups	
1940-1959. Pistol Team	
1940-1959. Rifle Team	



## 1940-1959. Social Events

## 1940-1959. Tanks

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1940-1959. Training (4 folders)

## 1940-1959. Training. Aircraft

1940-1959. Trucks

1940-1959. World War II Army Trainees (2 folders)

## Bands

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Classes

Student Club Officers. 1927

Music. Bands. Cadet Band

Slides

Unlabeled	box 2111H
Basic Camp	box 2111H
Air Assault	box 2111H
Fall 1988	box 2111H
Mini Camp 1989	box 2111H
Spartan Fury, 1989	box 2111H
Unlabeled	box 2112H
	box 2111H
Branch Insignia	box 2112H

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## Annual Reports

Title/Description	Instances
Published in State Board Reports	

volume Bd.  
of Ag.

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1885

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1886

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1887

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Department of Military Science/ROTC records UA.3.17.1

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Unpublished	box Annual Reports
1949-1950	

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1954-1955

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1956-1957

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1957-1958

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Circa 1958-1959

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1959-1960

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1962

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1964-1965

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Circa 1965-1966

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Circa 1966-1967

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1968-1969

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