

# Guide to the Harold Jackson Gordon Jr. Papers

MS 246



compiled by Manuscripts and Archives Staff

August 1981

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 246

**CREATOR:** Gordon, Harold J.

**TITLE:** Harold Jackson Gordon Jr. papers

**DATES:** 1916-1978

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 14.33 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script); German (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence from civilians and former army officers in Germany relating to Gordon's dissertation: The Reichswehr and the German Republic, 1919-1926 (Yale University, 1953). The letters from the civilians written between 1946 and 1951 discuss their recollections of the Nazi movement and contemporary economic and political conditions in Germany. The letters on the German army, responding to a questionnaire sent by Gordon are from Germany army officers, a British general, a German member of the French resistance and others with information on the army and foreign office personnel policies. Also included are a biographical card file and correspondence, documents, and writings relating to the Hitler Putsch of 1923, to the Beer Hall Putsch, and to the Hamburg KDP Revolt of 1923.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0246>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0246>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Harold J. Gordon, Jr., 1952. Gift of Nancy M. Gordon 1983 and 2000. Gift of Michael B. Barrett, 2018.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright is retained by the Donor and her heirs and assignees of this collection for materials authored or otherwise produced by Harold J. Gordon, Jr. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Harold Jackson Gordon Jr. Papers (MS 246). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Harold Jackson Gordon (1919-1980): professor and author; history professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1955-1962; United States Army, 1943-1946; United States Army Reserve, 1946-1973; author, *The Reichswehr and the German Republic, 1919-1926*, *Hitler and the Beer Hall Putsch*; also contributor to *Military Affairs*.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence from civilians and former army officers in Germany relating to Gordon's dissertation: *The Reichswehr and the German Republic, 1919-1926* (Yale University, 1953). The letters from the civilians written between 1946 and 1951 discuss their recollections of the Nazi movement and contemporary economic and political conditions in Germany. The letters on the German army, responding to a questionnaire sent by Gordon are from Germany army officers, a British general, a German member of the French resistance and others with information on the army and foreign office personnel policies. Also included are a biographical card file and correspondence, documents, and writings relating to the Hitler Putsch of 1923, to the Beer Hall Putsch, and to the Hamburg KDP Revolt of 1923.

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## Arrangement

Arranged in four accessions.

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**Collection Contents**

**Inventory, 1941-1952**

*1 half archive box*

b. 1, f. 1-4	Grefke and Richter correspondence	1946-1951
b. 1, f. 5-8	Correspondence regarding army personnel	1950-1952, undated
b. 1, f. 9	Proceedings of the committee on personnel policies of the German Foreign Office	1951 December 18
b. 1, f. 10	Research notes on German Foreign Office personnel	Circa 1940-circa 1950

**Accession 1983-M-015: Additional materials, 1922-1978**

Received from Mrs. H. J. Gordon, 1983 Apr 28.

b. 1	Correspondence regarding Reichswehr personnel matters from personnel officers and general staff officers	1922-1978
b. 1	Mss. on Reichswehr	1959-1966
b. 1	Reichswehr 1927-1935	1954-1959
b. 1	Hitler Putsch of 1923	1966-1973
b. 1	Beer Hall Putsch-Police	1960-1968
b. 1	Reichswehr-general	1959-1978
b. 1	General Von Rabenau	1960
b. 1	Hamburg KDP revolt 1923	undated
b. 1	Beer Hall Putsch-RW#2	1959-1971
b. 1	Beer Hall Putsch	1961-1965

**Accession 2000-M-109: Additional materials, 1916-1972**

The addition includes correspondence, testimonies, and other research materials Gordon collected to support his research on Reichswehr Germany. The first folder contains an item level inventory, compiled by Nancy M. Gordon, of all materials in the addition. Folder titles correspond to those used in Gordon's itemized listing.

b. 1, f. 1	Inventory [compiled by Nancy M. Gordon]	
b. 1, f. 2-3	Kapp Putsch	1916-1964
b. 1, f. 4-5	"Most Important Statements (Non-military)" English	1950-1972
b. 1, f. 6-7	Dissertation letters, general	1946-1953
b. 1, f. 8-10	Testimonies of German officers concerning Reichswehr	1951-1956
b. 1, f. 11-12	Gessler, Otto	1951-1953, undated

**Accession 2018-M-0033: Card file, Circa 1945-1978**

This addition consists of index cards containing biographical information of early members of the National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP), Freikorps members, police officers, figures on the political left, and others during the Weimar Republic and later.

The original titles and arrangement used by Gordon have been retained. Within files, cards are arranged alphabetically or divided by sub-topic.

b. 1	Freikorps Personalities: General Data
b. 1	Police Personalities I
b. 2	Police Personalities I
b. 2	Police Personalities II
b. 3	Police Personalities II
b. 3	Police Personalities III
b. 4	Freikorps I
b. 5	Freikorps II
b. 5	Police in Weimar I
b. 6	Police in Weimar I
b. 6	Police in Weimar II
b. 7	Police in Weimar II
b. 7	Police in Weimar III
b. 8	Police in Weimar IV
b. 8	National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) I and II, 1919-1924
b. 9	National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) I and II, 1919-1924
b. 10	National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) I and II, 1919-1924
b. 11	National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) I and II, 1919-1924
b. 11	National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) III and IV, 1925-1933
b. 11	National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) V, 1933-
b. 12	National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) V, 1933-
b. 12	Left Personalities
b. 13	Left Personalities



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## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Subjects

Historians  
National socialism

### Geographic Names

Europe  
Germany  
Germany -- History -- 1918-1933  
Germany -- History -- 1933-1945  
Germany -- History -- 1945-1955  
Germany -- History -- Kapp Putsch, 1920

### Names

Choltitz, Dietrich von  
Erfurth, Waldemar, 1879-1971  
Faber du Faur, Moritz von  
Falkenhausen, Alexander von, Dr.  
Gessler, Dr. (Otto), 1875-1955  
Gordon, Harold J.  
Guderian, Heinz, 1888-1954  
Heinrici, Gotthard, 1886-1971  
Heusinger, Adolf von, 1885-  
Köstring, Ernst, 1876-1953  
Lossberg, Bernhard von, 1900-  
Malcolm, Neill, 1869-  
Margulies, Fritz  
Munzel, Oskar  
Pechel, Rudolf, 1882-  
Rossbach, Gerhard, 1893-  
Tippelskirch, Kurt von  
Young, Desmond

### Corporate Bodies

Germany. Auswärtiges Amt  
Germany. Heer