

Cora Conner Collection, 1905-2002

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Conner, Cora Mae Jenkins, 1929-2016
Title	Cora Conner Collection
Dates	1905-2002 (inclusive) 1905 2002
Quantity	1 linear feet, (1 box)
Collection Number	shl032
Summary	Cora Conner worked as a telephone operator in Bly in 1945. Collection contains materials related to the 1945 Japanese balloon bomb explosion in Bly, Oregon, its victims and aftermath. It also covers the 50th anniversary commemorative visit to Bly of the Japanese women who participated in the making of the bombs in 1945. The collection consists of memorabilia, personal letters, newspaper clippings, reports on the 1995 visit of the Japanese delegation to Bly, letter of appreciation to the Bly community, reports on the Mitchell Memorial to the victims, books, calendars and photographs.
Repository	Oregon Institute of Technology Libraries, Shaw Historical Library Oregon Institute of Technology Libraries 3201 Campus Drive Klamath Falls, OR 97601 Telephone: 541-885-1772 Fax: 541-885-1777 libtech@oit.edu
Access Restrictions	The collection is open for research.
Languages	English

Historical Note

Cora Mae Jenkins Conner, 1929-2016, was a longtime Klamath Basin resident. She lived in the Bly and Klamath Falls areas for over 70 years. Cora Conner was involved in one of the region's most significant historical events. On May 5, 1945 she was on duty at the Bly telephone office, when six people were killed by accidentally detonating a Japanese balloon bomb. These deaths were the only ones caused by enemy action in the United States during World War II. Cora and her husband Paul led a very active life. Paul was in the Army, and then worked as a campus electrician at the Oregon Institute of Technology. Cora volunteered with the Klamath County Historical Society, Crater Lake Century, Klamath County Museum, Baldwin Hotel Museum, and as a Cub Scout leader. She and Paul enjoyed skydiving, canoeing, mountain climbing, racing, and white water rafting.

Content Description

The collection consists of memorabilia, personal letters, newspaper clippings, reports on the visit of the Japanese delegation to Bly, letter of appreciation to the Bly community, Balloon Bombing report by USFS employee, books: "Ohkuno Island: Story of the Student Brigade", and "Retaliation: Japanese Attacks and Allied Countermeasures of the Pacific Coast in WWII", 1996 Japanese Tour Report, newspaper Herald and News, Reader's Digest, balloon paper in a plastic bag, 1998 Commemorative Calendar, Mitchell Monument Vicinity Map, and a black and white photo of a young woman who might be Cora Conner.

Administrative Information

Detailed Description of the Collection

Container(s)	Description
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Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

War memorials -- Oregon

World War II - Japan

World War II (1939-1945)

Personal Names :

Conner, Cora Mae Jenkins, 1929-2016

Geographical Names :

Bly Ranger District (Or.)

Finding aid prepared by Alla Powers

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