

# Walter B. Beals album on Roald Amundsen, 1906-1929

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Compiler</b>	Beals, Walter B
<b>Title</b>	Walter B. Beals album on Roald Amundsen
<b>Dates</b>	1906-1929 (inclusive) 1906 1929
<b>Quantity</b>	16 photographs in 1 album ( 1 box) ; 13 x 16 inches
<b>Collection Number</b>	PH0782
<b>Summary</b>	Hand made album of photographs of Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections</a> Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 <a href="mailto:speccoll@uw.edu">speccoll@uw.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Permission of Visual Materials Curator required to view originals. Contact Special Collections for more information.
<b>Languages</b>	English

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## Biographical Note

Walter Burges Beals was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1876. Beals's family traveled west in 1897, and Beals enrolled in the newly founded University of Washington Law School; he and his future wife Othilia Carroll were members of the first graduating class of the school in 1901.

Beals served as a military officer in France during World War I and afterwards helped organize and found the American Legion. His legal career flourished in the 1920s, and in 1926, he accepted a position as judge of the Superior Court of King County. Beals became a member of the Washington State Supreme Court in 1928, a position he held until his retirement in 1950, twice holding the position of Chief Justice. Beals is perhaps best known for his work, in 1946-1947, as Presiding Judge at the International Military Tribunal in Nuremburg, the Nazi war trial known as the "Doctors' Trial."

Walter Beals was an avid collector of books, manuscripts, such as liturgical and religious manuscripts, and signatures, particularly those of European royalty. Beals also began creating albums as a young man, a hobby he continued throughout his life, collecting and soliciting signatures, manuscripts and other materials which he would mount on paper or vellum and bind into albums, often with leather covers. In his time, Beals was considered the greatest private collector of manuscripts and books in the Pacific Northwest.

## Content Description

The album consists of 16 photographs, one letter and one essay mounted on hand made paper and bound inside leather covers. The album also contains an insert of treated airplane linen, possibly from one of Amundsen's aircraft. Some of the photographs are accompanied by captions typed on separate pieces of paper and glued into the album. Several of the photographs were taken by the Lomen Bros. studio or by Carl J. Lomen. The photographs are dated between 1906 and 1929.

All but one of the photographs depict polar explorer Roald Amundsen, or one of his means of travel, including the airship *Norge*, with which Amundsen flew over the North Pole on his way from Svalbard to Alaska in 1926, and the sailing ships *Gjoa*, with which Amundsen became the first man to sail through the Northwest Passage, and the *Maud*. The album also includes photographs of Amundsen with others, particularly with members of the Lomen family, including Judge G.J. Lomen, his wife Julie Joys Lomen, his sons, Carl Joys, Harry, George and Ralph, and his daughter Helen. The album also includes a letter from Amundsen to "Consul Lomen" (probably Judge G.J. Lomen) and an essay by 16-year-old Rose Mary Lomen.

The album also includes one photograph of Arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson, with a personal inscription to Beal and his wife.

The last page of the album bears the inscription "Gualterus fecit Anno XLIII." With "Gualterus" the Latin form of Walter, this is probably the date Beals completed the album, 1943.

## Use of the Collection

### Alternative Forms Available

[View selections from the collection in digital format.](#)

### Restrictions on Use

Restrictions may exist on reproduction, quotation, or publication. Contact Special Collections, University of Washington Libraries for details.

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The album was probably received among donations of Beals' papers made by Mrs. Walter Beals in the 1960s.

### Processing Note

Processed by Jody Hendrickson; processing completed in 2008.

Mylar sheets were inserted to separate leather covers and treated linen inserts from album pages.

# Detailed Description of the Collection

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Page	Item		
1	1	Airship <i>Norge</i> landing at Teller, Alaska <a href="#">[view]</a> Roald Amundsen flew in the <i>Norge</i> over the North Pole	1926
2	2a	Ship <i>Gjoa</i> near Nome <a href="#">[view]</a> C.J. Lomen (photographer)	September 2, 1906
2	2b	Ship <i>Maud</i> <a href="#">[view]</a>	circa 1920
2	2c	Ship <i>Maud</i> near Nome <a href="#">[view]</a> Lomen Bros (photographer)	1920
3	3	Letter from Roald Amundsen to "Consul Lomen"	October 5, 1926
4	4	Portrait of Roald Amundsen in fur lined parka <a href="#">[view]</a> Lomen Bros (photographer) This studio portrait is printed on paper with Arctic themed pen and ink drawings printed in the margins and is autographed by Amundsen.	circa 1920s
5	5	Portrait of Arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson <a href="#">[view]</a> Inscribed "For Judge and Mrs. Walter Burgess [sic] Beals reminding them of the 1901 looks of their friend Viljalmar Stefansson, Christmas 1940."	December 1920
6	6	Portrait of Roald Amundsen <a href="#">[view]</a> Lomen Bros (photographer) Autographed	1920
7	7	Portrait of Roald Amundsen standing <a href="#">[view]</a> Lomen Bros (photographer) Autographed	1920
8	8a	Amundsen writing at table <a href="#">[view]</a> "Amundsen wintering at Wainwright, Alaska preparatory to intended flight, Alaska to Spitzbergen. A crash of the plane prevented the flight."	circa 1920s

Container(s)		Description	Dates
8	8b	Amundsen, Carl J. Lomen and Captain Oscar Wisting, Nome <a href="#">[view]</a> "At Nome, following the completion of the Northwest Passage in the <i>Maud</i> ."	circa 1920
8	8c	Roald Amundsen with dog sled at Nome <a href="#">[view]</a>	circa 1920s
9	9	G.J. and Ralph Lomen and Roald Amundsen on beach in Nome <a href="#">[view]</a> "Judge Lomen and his son Ralph meeting Roald Amundsen when he landed on the beach at Nome, coming from Teller, Alaska, where he first stopped following his flight across the North Pole in the 'Norge'."	circa 1926
10	10a	Amundsen and others in horse-drawn cart in Nome <a href="#">[view]</a> Lomen Bros (photographer) "At Nome, following the completion of the Northwest Passage in the "Gjoa." Mrs. G.J. Lomen, front seat. Second seat, Roald Amundsen and Lieutenant Hansen, second in command of the "Gjoa." Rear seat, Helen Lomen (Mrs. Clinton Austin), Mrs. R. T. Tyng (wife of the consul of Norway) and Mr. Bolander, of Chicago."	September 2, 1906
10	10b	Amundsen and pilot near plane on beach, Wainwright, Alaska <a href="#">[view]</a>	circa 1920s
11	11a	Men on deck of the <i>Gjoa</i> in Nome <a href="#">[view]</a> C.J. Lomen (photographer) "Ralph Lomen, lower of the two men in the rigging at left. Harry Lomen, standing at left of mast. George Lomen, second of the three men at left."	September 1, 1906
11	11b	Amundsen and Leonhard Seppala with dog team on trail near Nome <a href="#">[view]</a>	1923
12	12	Essay about Roald Amundsen by 16 year old Rose Mary Lomen	May 1929

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Airships--Alaska--Photographs  
Sailing ships--Alaska--Photographs  
Seaplanes--Alaska--Photographs

### Personal Names :

Walter B. Beals album on Roald Amundsen, 1906-1929  
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv96200>

Amundsen, Roald, 1872-1928--Photographs  
Stefansson, Vilhjalmur, 1879-1962--Photographs

**Geographical Names :**

Nome (Alaska)--20th century--Photographs

**Form or Genre Terms :**

Group portraits  
Photograph albums  
Photographic prints  
Photographs

**Other Creators :**

**Corporate Names :**

Lomen Bros  
(creator)

## Names and Subjects

**Subject Terms :**

Visual Materials Collections (University of Washington)

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