

Historical Publications

U.S. Government
Information Division
Oklahoma
Department of Libraries



A Century of Service

The U.S. Government Information Division became a depository for publications from the U.S. government in 1893. We have received many interesting titles through the years. This is a list of some of the interesting publications, arranged chronologically.

Regulations to be Received and Observed for the Discipline of Infantry, in the Army of the United States

U.S. Department of War. Adjutant General's Office. 1814. vii, 112p., plates. Sudocs classification number: W 3.2:1 3 x

This manual would have been used by our army in the War of 1812. It includes instructions on how soldiers should be drilled in forming columns and marching, performing the manual of arms, and firing. Instructing recruits about the proper methods of firing must have been difficult in those days because "In like manner it was found, that in the tumult of action, the rear of the three ranks killed more men of their own front rank than fell by the balls of the enemy..." (page 106).

How to Feed an Army

U.S. Department of War. Subsistence Department. 1901. 171 p. Sudocs classification number: W 5.2:Ar 5

You're the cook and you need to feed 750 hungry soldiers. What do you feed them? An Army Wagon Box for 750 complete rations includes 200 lbs. of salt

pork, 140.62 lbs. bacon, 200 lbs. of salt beef, 112 lbs. of beans, 112.5 lbs. of sugar, 7.5 gallons of vinegar, 1.875 lbs. pepper, etc.

Geology and Water Resources of Oklahoma

U.S. Geological Survey. 1905. 178 p. Sudocs classification number: I 19.13:148

Written by Dr. Charles Gould, professor of geology at the University of Oklahoma, this is the first comprehensive survey of the territory's geology and water supply. It contains many maps, charts, and photographs, including photos of caves near Weatherford and Devils Canyon near Mangum. According to Dr. Gould, the varied topography of our state -- there are eleven ecoregions in Oklahoma-- is due to the fact that the territory "...is part of a region which was formerly a plain which was worn down nearly to sea level, then elevated, and again eroded" (page 12).



Interstate Migration. Part 5, Oklahoma City Hearings, September 19 and 20, 1940

U.S. House Select Committee to Investigate the Interstate Migration of Destitute Citizens. 1941. vi, 441 p. Sudocs classification number: Y 4.In 8/12:M 58/pt. 5

When this hearing was held about the conditions of the Dust Bowl in the 117 counties of the Great Plains, Leon Phillips, then Governor of Oklahoma, reported that our state had lost 74,679 residents and 33,274 farms. This Congressional hearing contains photos of the Elm Grove and May Avenue community camps in Oklahoma City, and contains this statement from then Mayor Robert A. Hefner, “[holding up the novel *Grapes of Wrath*] ...that on account of this book that was written, Oklahoma gets the credit for all this floating population; they seem to call them ‘Okies’ all over the country” (page 1759).

Hearings Relating to Various Bills to Repeal the Emergency Detention Act of 1950

U.S. House Committee of Internal Security. 1970. vi, 954 p. Sudocs classification number: Y 4.In 8/i5:Em 3

The Emergency Detention Act of 1950 was written during the Korean War to deal with espionage and sabotage activities within the U.S. by a supposed Communist “fifth column.” Title II of this act authorized the relocation of supposed dissidents into six national detention centers during wartime. Critics of the Act called these centers “concentration camps.” One of the centers was to be at the El Reno Reformatory. Four buildings were reserved to house dissidents. This contains an interview with the warden and a look at the site.

Oklahoma City Bombing

U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations. 1996. iv, 66p. Sudocs classification number: Y 4.Ap 6/2:S.hrg. 104 - 337.

The tragedy of the terrorist bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building continues to haunt us. This Congressional hearing examined the destruction. According to the testimony of Roger Johnson, Administrator of the General Services Administration, “...if there is any bright spot coming out of this situation, it has to do with the response of the people... a man that I visited in the hospital in the intensive care unit who was riddled head to foot with glass and metal, had a crushed leg and a crushed arm, yet he wrote questions, and they were all about how his fellow workers were...” (page 3).

U.S. Government Information

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**U.S. Government
Information Division**

**Oklahoma Department
of Libraries**

200 NE 18th Street,
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405-521-2502 or
800-522-8116 (tollfree statewide)

Reference Staff:

Steve Belev
Karen Fite

e-mail: sbelev@oltn.odl.state.ok.us or
kfite@oltn.odl.state.ok.us

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