



U.S. Air Force photo by Bill Madsen

Henry Soderberg, third from left, presents some of his collection of documents on World War II to Duane Reed, second from left, and Donald J. Barrett, right, of the Cadet Library. At left is retired Air Force Lt. Gen. A.P. Clark, former Academy superintendent.

Library receives valuable documentation of World War II

By Duane Reed
Academy archivist

A collection of documents about prisoners of war during World War II has been presented to the Cadet Library. Henry Soderberg, a Y.M.C.A. representative to allied POW camps in Nazi Germany during World War II, gathered the materials during his service in the war.

The collection of photographs, diaries, manuscripts and official reports and documents depict Mr. Soderberg's support of the Y.M.C.A.'s mission to provide humanitarian aid to both allied and German POWs during and immediately following the war.

Among the POW camps routinely visited by Mr.

Soderberg was Stalag Luft III, the allied camp made famous by the book and movie, "The Great Escape."

The Cadet Library contains a substantial collection of unique materials donated by retired Air Force Lt. Gen. A.P. Clark, former Academy superintendent, and other POWs, and has been designated as the official repository for records gathered by the Stalag Luft III Historical Association.

Mr. Soderberg's collection will be housed within the Special Collections Branch of the library, and will be made available to cadets and historians researching the history of the POW experience during World War II.