
Guide to the E. Chappell World War II Royal Air Force Diary Collection

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Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives

Title: E. Chappell World War II Royal Air Force Diary Collection

Creator: Chappell, E.

Identifier/Call Number: SC.EC

Extent: 0.21 linear feet

Date (inclusive): 1941-1943

Abstract: E. Chappell, from North Barnsley, Yorkshire, volunteered to serve with British forces during World War II on May 26, 1941, and was called to serve with the Royal Air Force (RAF) on June 30, 1941. He served in the RAF until at least 1943. The collection consists of Chappell's World War II RAF diary, the original diary case and pencil, and assorted pieces of ephemera that were tucked between the diary's pages, and document's Chappell's experiences in the RAF during World War II.

Language of Material: English

Biographical Information:

E. Chappell, from North Barnsley, Yorkshire, volunteered to serve with British forces during World War II on May 26, 1941, and was called to serve with the Royal Air Force (RAF) on June 30, 1941. He served in the RAF until at least 1943.

Scope and Contents

The *E. Chappell World War II Royal Air Force Diary Collection* consists of the original diary case and pencil, and assorted pieces of ephemera that were tucked between the diary's pages. The diary includes Chappell's height, chest measurement, waist measurement, collar, and shirt size, as well as his ID card number and maps of the London Underground. He was stationed near Norwich through most of 1941 and 1942, and often wrote about his boredom ("Not much to do but sit around"); leisure activities including table tennis, draughts, playing cards, playing darts, riding his bicycle, and sleeping through breakfast. He often noted films he went to see, and frequently noted overnight disturbances caused by "Jerry." Other typical entry topics include night flying assignments, leave, air raids, his work in the armory, and medical examinations. In August of 1942, he sailed to Cape Town, South Africa, about which he noted "Lots of fruit here. Everything's cheap." The last pages of the diary contain addresses of family and friends.

General

Other Information:

This collection was purchased with funds generously donated by Gus and Erika Manders.

Conditions Governing Access:

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use:

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchase, 2013.

For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the [Citing Archival Materials](#) guide.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Ephemera

Documents

Box 1, Folder 1	Diary, 1941-1943
Box 1, Folder 2	Diary Case with Pencil
Box 1, Folder 3	Ephemera and Notes