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**Finding Aid for the Johns Family Second World War correspondence collection  
2016.168.w.r**

Center for American War Letters Archives

Leatherby Libraries

Chapman University

Orange, CA 92866

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URL: <http://www1.chapman.edu/library/archives/>

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**Language of Material:** English

**Contributing Institution:** Center for American War Letters Archives

**Title:** Johns Family Second World War correspondence

**creator:** Johns, Danver, 9/20/1925-9/29/2004

**creator:** Johns, Amy, 1891 to 1973

**source:** Johns, Marie

**Identifier/Call Number:** 2016.168.w.r

**Physical Description:** .5 Linear feet(8 folders)

**Date (inclusive):** November 17, 1943 - March 31, 1946

Leatherby Libraries, Special Collections, CAWL Archives

**Abstract:** This collection contains letters to and from Danver Johns and his parents Moss and Amy Johns during the Second World War. It also contains letters to Amy Johns from various correspondents and seven photographs and newspaper clippings.

**Content Description**

This collection contains 79 correspondence to and from members of the Johns family during and after the Second World War. Private First Class Danver Johns served in the Army Air Corps and wrote letters to his parents Moss and Amy. He served stateside as a mechanic in various bases. This collection also contains 7 photographs and newspaper clippings.

**Conditions Governing Access**

This collection is open for research.

**Conditions Governing Use**

There are no restrictions on the use of this material except where previously copyrighted material is concerned. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain all permissions. For further copyright information, please contact the archivist.

**Arrangement**

This collection is arranged by material type, author, and date. Series 1: Correspondence from Danver Johns -- Series 2: Correspondence to Danver Johns -- Series 3: Correspondence to Amy Johns -- Series 4: Photographs -- Series 5: Biographical Information

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Marie Johns. Legacy collection from Andrew Carroll.

**Preferred Citation**

[Item title, Box number, Folder number] Johns Family Second World War correspondence (2016.168.w.r), Center for American War Letters Archives, Chapman University, CA.

**Biographical / Historical**

Private First Class Danver Johns was born September 20th, 1925, in Spokane, Washington to Moss and Amy Johns. When he was 18, Johns was eligible for a farm deferment, but chose to serve in the Army Air Corps. In December 1943, he was at Buckley Field near Denver, Colorado. He took the cadets test but didn't make it, so he tried to become a mechanic. He was transferred to the 770th squadron. He was moved to an Army Air Base in Salt Lake City, which was part of the 18th Replacement Wing of the Second Air Force. He did not serve overseas, but served on the state side. He went to B-29 school. In April 1946 Johns was given an honorable discharge. Johns attended Washington State College and graduated in 1950 with a BS in Agricultural Engineering. He married Verna Larsen on September 29, 1951. They had four kids: Marie, Luci, Robert, and Karen. Johns died on September 29th, 2004.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

World War, 1939-1945

United States. Army. Air Corps.

Correspondence -- World War, 1939-1945

World War, 1939-1945 -- Homefront

United States. Army.

Johns, Marie

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**Series 1: Correspondence from Danver Johns 1943-11-17-1946-03-27**

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains 75 correspondence from Danver Johns to his parents during his training and service stateside as a mechanic for the Air Forces during and after the Second World War until Johns' honorable discharge. The letters start soon after Johns enlisted and during his basic training. He tries to become a pilot, but he fails the test and he becomes a mechanic instead. Johns talks about his car, other people and their correspondence with him, when he got his parents last letter and why he didn't reply sooner, the weather, and what duties he has to do. There is also mention of some of the people he serves with and some of the problems he has to deal with, such as Kitchen Police duty and the trouble he gets in for skipping out on Kitchen Police duty.

**Series 2: Correspondence to Danver Johns 1946-03-25-1946-03-31**

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains two correspondence to Danver Johns from his mother and a woman named Barbara, whose relationship to Johns is unknown. In the letter from his mother, she mostly talks about their farm and what has happened in her life recently. In the letter from Barbara she talks about the weather, asks when he's coming back, talks about his parents, his farm, his stationary, a dream she had, a show she saw, and her prom.

**Series 3: Correspondence to Amy Johns 1945**

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains two correspondence to Amy Johns from Private First Class Robert L. Flory and Ted Malone. The correspondence from Flory relays why he took so long to respond, the weather, and that there are a lot of coconuts and bananas on the undisclosed island that he is on. The one from Malone relays that he is glad that Amy Johns wrote to him and that he will use what he wrote to him on one of his next radio shows.

**Series 4: Photographs**

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains 7 photographs of a dog, a plane, a plane runway, and men on a boat.

**Series 5: Biographical Information**

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains the biographical information of Danver Johns. This information is provided by the donor, Marie Johns.