Finding Aid for the Wendell B. Thomson First World War correspondence collection 2017.112.w.r

Center for American War Letters Archives
Leatherby Libraries
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URL: http://www1.chapman.edu/library/archives/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Center for American War Letters Archives
Title: Wendell B. Thomson First World War correspondence
creator: Thomson, Wendell Bretney, 1893-1979
source: Eiswald, Jim
Identifier/Call Number: 2017.112.w.r
Physical Description:.05 Linear feet(2 folders)
Date (inclusive): 1917-1919
Abstract: This collection contains 7 letters and postcards written by Wendell Bretney Thomson to his sister and mother during World War I. Thomson served with the US Army and, according to information from the donor, rose to the rank of PFC. There is also one additional letter from Sgt. Howard Welch which appears to be addressed to the husband of Thomson's sister.

Leatherby Libraries, Special Collections, CAWL Archives
Storage Unit: WWI 3
Storage Unit: 9-10
Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research.
Immediate Source of Acquisition
Gift of Jim Eiswald, grandson of letter/postcard recipient.
Arrangement
This collection is arranged by material type, author, and date. Series 1: Correspondence from Wendell B. Thomson – Series 2: Other correspondence
Biographical / Historical
According to information provided by the donor, Thomson was born on January 25, 1893 in Zenia, Ohio. He enlisted on June 20, 1917 at age 24. He served with the American Expeditionary Forces in France as a Private First Class and with the United States Army Ambulance Service.
He was honorably discharged on April 7, 1919.
Information from the donor indicates that Thomson died on December 25, 1979 in Cincinnati, OH.
Preferred Citation
[Item title, Box number, Folder number], Wendell B. Thomson First World War correspondence (2017.112.w.r), Center for American War Letters Archives, Chapman University, CA.
Content Description
This collection contains seven letters that Wendell Bretney Thomson wrote to his sister and mother while he served with the US Army in France during World War I (American Expeditionary Forces, United States Army Ambulance Service). There is also a letter from a Sergeant Howard Welch that appears to be addressed to the husband of Thomson's sister.
The letters describe Thomson's trip to France and events and places in France. Letters of interest include a letter written on November 11, 1918 in which Thomson writes about the end of the war. Another letter from September 5, 1917 has portions cut out by a censor.
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.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Correspondence -- World War, 1914-1918
World War, 1914-1918--France
Eiswald, Jim
Series 1. Correspondence from Wendell B. Thomson 1917-1919

Physical Description: .025 Linear Feet (1 folder)

Scope and Contents
This series contains letters written by PFC Wendell B. Thomson to his mother and sister while he served with the Army in France during World War I.

Letters of interest include a letter written on November 11, 1918 in which Thomson writes about the end of the war. Another letter from September 5, 1917 has portions cut out by a censor. In the September 5, 1917 letter, Thomson also writes about a baseball game between Yale and Harvard.

Series 2. Other correspondence 1918-12

Physical Description: .025 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents
This series contains a single postcard that was written by Sgt. Howard Welch to Mr. I. W. Delp, which appears to be the husband of Wendell Thomson's sister. It is unclear if there is a connection between Welch and Thomson.