Finding Aid for the Martin Shapiro "To My Unborn Child" Second World War letter collection 2017.237.wc.r

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August 3, 2017
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Content Description
This collection contains a letter titled "To My Unborn Child" from Private first class Martin Shapiro to his son, Eugene Shapiro, who was not born at the time, during the Second World War. Martin, who was in Italy at a former R.R. station, states that he got the idea for writing the letter due to a short from the movies that he saw. He says that "It was full of ideas. I will not tell you such things. I want you to understand these words I am now about to write." Martin addresses his unborn child and has separate statements depending on whether it is a boy or a girl. Both statements tell his child to cherish and love their mother. He gives his son the love he has for his wife and tells his son to always honor her. He tells his daughter that she is lucky to have the best mother and asks her to be close to her. He then says, "The world may seem full of wise people. People who will talk of goodness, or character, of charity, and love. You have not far to reach to find such a person. Mother will be next to you." On the back on this letter reads a note that says "Finder please give this to Red Cross." This letter seems to be a letter for his child in the possible case that Martin was to die in battle. Martin was born in New York City and attended DeWitt Clinton High School. He was also a volunteer with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in the Spanish Civil War.

Arrangement
This collection is arranged by author and date.

Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
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Immediate Source of Acquisition
Gift of Eugene Shapiro

Preferred Citation
- [Item title, Box number, Folder number], Martin Shapiro "To My Unborn Child" Second World War letter (2017.237.w.c.r), Center for American War Letters Archives, Chapman University, CA.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
World War, 1939-1945
Correspondence -- World War, 1914-1918
World War, 1939-1945 -- Italy
United States -- Army -- European Theater of Operations
Shapiro, Eugene