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

Wynter Salazar

Center for American War Letters Archives

August 3, 2017

Leatherby Libraries

Chapman University

Orange, CA 92866

speccoll@chapman.edu

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

Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: Center for American War Letters Archives

Title: Martin Shapiro "To My Unborn Child" Second World War letter

source: Shapiro, Eugene

creator: Shapiro, Martin

Identifier/Call Number: 2017.237.wc.r

Physical Description: .08 Linear feet(1 folder)

Date: 1944-10-03

Abstract: This collection contains a letter from Pfc (Private first class) Martin Shapiro during the Second World War. Leatherby Libraries, Special Collections, CAWL Archives

Storage Unit: WWII 3

Storage Unit: 34

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 notes 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

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.

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
