Register of the James Conrad Myers letters

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Title: James Conrad Myers letters
Date (inclusive): 1943-1949
Collection Number: 96013
Contributing Institution: Hoover Institution Archives
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 3 manuscript boxes (1.3 linear feet)
Abstract: Letters to family members relating to American military operations in China and India during World War II.
Physical Location: Hoover Institution Archives
Access
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], James Conrad Myers letters, [Box no.], Hoover Institution Archives.
Acquisition Information
Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1996.
Accruals
Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. To determine if this has occurred, find the collection in Stanford University's online catalog at http://searchworks.stanford.edu/. Materials have been added to the collection if the number of boxes listed in the online catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.

1924
October 10
Born in Anaheim, California

1943 June 15
Graduated from Withrow High School, Cincinnati, Ohio

1943 July - December
Stationed at Camp Callan, California

1944 January - March
Stationed at Fort Ord, California

1944 March 5
Deployed to Pacific Theater out of Long Beach, California; ports of call included Perth, Australia and Colombo, Ceylon (Sri Lanka)

1944 March 5 - May
Stationed at Camp Angus (Calcutta, India) as Army private

1944 May 29
Transferred to Kunming Province, China, as a radio operator with the 993rd Signal Service Company

1944 May - December
Stationed in Kunming Province, China, and various parts of the Indo-China border

1944 December
Promoted to Technician 5 with the 245th Signal Operation Company, China Combat Command

1945 January - October
Stationed in various provinces along the Indo-China border, including 2 months with the 18th Army Division

1945 October 30
Relieved of duty; departed from Calcutta, India, to return to the U.S.

1945 December 30
Returned to his hometown near Cincinnati, Ohio, as a civilian
1949  Married Elna (maiden name unknown)
1986  Died in Burlingame, California

Scope and Content of Collection
The James Conrad Myers letters consist of letters (accompanied by cartoons, sketches, and portraits in pencil and water color of Myers, acquaintances, and various locations), postcards, a photograph, and clippings related to American military operations in China and India during World War II. Also includes a copy of a memo from Japanese General Yasuji Okamura to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek on negotiations for the surrender of Japanese forces in China on August 17, 1945.
The majority of the letters in the collection are to Myers' parents and detail his daily routine as a radio operator and Technician 5 with the 993rd Signal Service Company along the Indo-China border. While he does not describe any combat experience in his letters, Myers does give detailed accounts of base operations. He also includes a number of sketches and illustrations of his travels, as well as portraits of relatives and acquaintances back home. The collection is notable for its level of detail and fullness, and it contains nearly one letter for every month of the war from July 1943 to December 1945.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--China.
World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--India.

Biographical File, 1943
Box/Folder 1 : 1

High school commencement announcement, 1943 June 15

Correspondence, 1943-1949
Scope and Contents note
Contains letters from Myers to general recipients (neighbors, female correspondents), his parents, and other family members. Letters cover Myers' basic training in California in 1943 through his deployment and return home to Cincinnati in 1945. The series also includes a letter from Myers to his parents announcing his wedding plans in 1949.

Sent, 1943-1949
Box/Folder 1 : 2-3  General, 1944-1945
1944 August, October
1945 June
Box/Folder 1 : 4  Undated
Parents, 1943-1949
Box/Folder 1 : 5  1943 July-December

Box/Folder 1 : 6-10  1944
Box/Folder 1 : 11-17, 2 : 1-5  1945
Box/Folder 2 : 6-14, 3 : 1-3  1949 August
Box/Folder 3 : 4  Received, 1945
Collected Correspondence, 1945

Scope and Contents note
Contains letters from Myers' sister, Jean, and brother, Gene (Eugene), to their parents. Both individuals describe their travels during the war, as well as their post-war plans. Also contains copy of a memo from Japanese General Yasuji Okamura to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek on negotiations for the surrender of Japanese troops in China, dated 1945 August 17.

Box/Folder 3 : 6-8 Letters, 1945 June-August
Box/Folder 3 : 9 Memo, 1945 August
Printed Matter, undated

Box/Folder 3 : 10 Clipping, undated
Scope and Contents note

Photograph, undated

Box/Folder 3 : 11 James Conrad Myers in uniform, undated