Guide to the Joseph L. Ritzinger letters Mss 354


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Guide to the Joseph L. Ritzinger letters, Mss 354

**Title:** Joseph L. Ritzinger letters

**Identifier/Call Number:** Mss 354

**Contributing Institution:** UC Santa Barbara Library, Department of Special Research Collections

**Language of Material:** English

**Physical Description:** 0.83 linear feet (2 document boxes)

**Creator:** Ritzinger, Joseph L.

**Source:** Ritzinger, Lillian A.

**Date (inclusive):** 1934-1942

**Abstract:** 175 handwritten letters from American sailor, Joseph Ritzinger, killed in action in the Pacific during the Second World War.

**Physical Location:** Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library

**Access Restrictions**
The collection is open for research.

**Use Restrictions**
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**Preferred Citation**
[Identification of Item], Joseph L. Ritzinger letters, Mss 354. Department of Special Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Acquisition Information**
Library purchase, 2018.

**Scope and Content**
175 letters written by United States Navy sailor Joseph L. Ritzinger to his wife, Lillian Ritzinger in Philadelphia. Ritzinger was one of 15 soldiers from the USS Porter, which was sunk by Japanese forces off the Solomon Islands on October 26, 1942. Most of the letters are in their original mailing envelopes. Several carry United States Censor stamps. The last letter is dated October 15, a little more than a week before Ritzinger's death.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Correspondence
World War, 1939-1945 -- Campaigns -- Pacific Area -- Personal narratives, American
Ritzinger, Lillian A.
United States. Navy -- Biography

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box 1 Letters after Joseph L. Ritzinger's death undated
box 1 Miscellaneous envelopes undated
box 1 Ephemera and personal items undated
box 1 Letter to Mrs. J.L Ritzinger 1987
box 1 Letters undated
box 1 1934
box 1 1935
box 1 1936
box 1 1937
box 1 1938
box 2 1939
box 2 1940
box 2 1941
box 2 1942