



Louisiana National Guard Archive, Jackson Barracks
New Orleans, Louisiana, March, 2018

Major General James Ezekiel Edmonds Collection

Accession number: # 2016.002.141

Collection: James Ezekiel Edmonds Collection

Location: Jackson Barracks Museum

Extent: 1 document box, legal size

Access Restrictions: There are no access restrictions to this collection.

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Preferred Citation: [item], James Ezekiel Edmonds Collection 2016.002.141, Louisiana National Guard Archives, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Arranged and described by: Harold Wilson, Volunteer and Beverly Boyko, Collections Manager

Processing: Each item, or similar group of items, was sorted and sleeved in clear polyester envelopes then foldered and boxed in acid-free materials. One group of badly water damaged items were left untouched and will require conservation treatment to separate.

Acquisition: This collection was found as an unlabeled box of mixed documents in the archive collection of the Jackson Barracks Museum in 2012. It was in the possession of the museum or library in 2005 when both were heavily impacted by Hurricane Katrina flooding. The sketch portrait (folder 5), due to its similar water damage and subject matter, was found separate from the documents, but is thought to have originally been part of this collection. No records concerning the transfer of these materials to the museum or library have been found.

Scope and Content:

1910s-1960s

The collection contains documents, a photo, a sketch and correspondence related to the service of James Ezekiel Edmonds from 1912 through 1943. The majority of the military documents are circa 1920's. They include a "fit for purpose" report for Camp Beauregard and a report related to the 1927 Mississippi River flood.

On the personal side, there are documents between Edmonds, his wife (circa 1901), many letters from his son, James to family members. Included are a few household documents.



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Major General Edmonds' collection also includes several letters to BG Sir James Edward Edmonds, RE [Royal Engineers, World War I], who may be a cousin.

Historical Background:

- Major General Edmonds was born in Louisiana 17 December 1879 and died 16 July 1969 in North Carolina.
- Edmonds attended the University of Mississippi between 1896 and 1900 although his graduation status is unclear.
- In September of 1902 he entered the Louisiana National Guard as a private (trooper) and served on the Mexican border.
- Served in WWI as a field artillery officer, instructor, then as Assistant Director at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.
- In 1921, as a Colonel, was assigned to a board assessing sites for National Guard units in Southern States.
- During his time serving in the Louisiana National Guard, Edmonds conducted "fit for purpose" inspections of Camp Beauregard.
- Was a Managing Editor for the "Item" and others of that line of the Times Picayune newspapers in New Orleans, LA.
- Edmonds was assigned to the 108th Cavalry Regiment starting in February of 1927 as the Commanding Officer.
- Reported upon service of troops (108th Cavalry) in support of relief efforts related to the 1927 Mississippi River flooding.
- Commanding General of the 23rd Cavalry Division starting in October of 1939.
- In January 1941 was Commanding General of Camp Lee Virginia.
- Major General James Ezekiel Edmonds retired from the U.S. Army having reached the Army's age limitation on 16 December 1943.

File Folders:

6 folders – Major General James E. Edmonds career – includes: 219 documents.

1. Military correspondence (1910's – 1940's), Principally the 1920's (116 documents)
2. Family and family business correspondence (15 documents)
3. Correspondence from son [James E. Edmonds] (79 Documents)
4. Correspondence with BG Sir James E. Edmonds regarding United Kingdom (7 documents)
5. Pencil sketch by James E. Edmonds, New Year's Eve 1899-1900 of his father. Photo print of James E. Edmonds, 8x10 (Object # 2013.005.100)
6. Documents requiring conservation due to water damage (unknown number)

Related Materials:

Objects in Jackson Barracks Museum Collection:

1. Photo (panoramic) 108th Cavalry Dated: August 1930, Object # 2012.003.471



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2. Photo (panoramic) 108th Calvary Dated: August 1925, Object # 2012.003.472

Publications:

1. *As Lincoln Wanted It*, by James Ezekiel Edmonds, 1964, May be found in the Jackson Barracks Museum library, LA E185.61.E23, 1964
2. *Fighting (with) Fools*, 1938, This book is not in the Jackson Barracks Museum collection

Other Collections:

James E. Edmonds Collection, Archives and Special Collections, J.D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi.

http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/general_library/archives/finding_aids/MUM00118.html

1896 Typhoid Fever Outbreak in Oxford, Mississippi: A New Letter from James Ezekiel Edmonds <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/630237>