

Accession # 2020.017



Louisiana National Guard Archives, Jackson Barracks  
New Orleans, Louisiana, August, 2020

**Accession Number:** 2020.017

**Collection:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Louisiana Volunteers Collection-Spanish-American War 1898-1899

**Location:** Jackson Barracks Museum

**Extent:** 17 letters and correspondence from 1898-1899, 3 discharge papers blank military documents, 4 matted photos, and one framed U.S. flag.

### **Scope and Content Note**

1898-1899

This collection contains seventeen letters written by various officers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> LA Volunteer Infantry who served in the Spanish-American War. Contained in some of these letters are Special Orders. The collection also contains the discharge papers of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant William H. Swett (2 copies) and Private Frank E. Williams. There are four photos in the collection. They show the camp of the 2<sup>nd</sup> LA Volunteers on the Fair Grounds racetrack in New Orleans, American troops leaving Tampa for Porto (sic) Rico, Morro Castle, and the officers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> LA Volunteers. The one oversized item of the collection is a framed, small 46-star (1908) American flag signed by soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> LA Volunteers.

The collection also contains numerous, blank U.S. Army documents including muster rolls, pay rolls, furlough papers, trimonthly field reports, and a large morning reports book assigned to Company A of the 2<sup>nd</sup> LA Volunteers Infantry.

### **Historical Note**

2nd Louisiana Volunteer Infantry (1898-1899) - Organized and mustered into the service of the United States at New Orleans May 11 to 26, 1898, with 46 officers and 960 enlisted men.

Assignments:

- Assigned to Second Brigade, First Division, Fourth Army Corps, June 4
- Transferred to Second Brigade, First Division, Seventh Army Corps, June 25
- Assigned to First Brigade, First Division, Seventh Army Corps, October 23

Movements:

- Left New Orleans May 30; arrived at Mobile, Ala., May 31
- Left Mobile June 28; arrived at Miami, Fla., June 29
- Left Miami August 2; arrived at Jacksonville, Fla., August 3
- Left Jacksonville October 22; arrived at Savannah, Ga., October 23
- Sailed from Savannah, Ga., on steamship "Mobile", December 24; arrived at Habana, Cuba, December 27, 1898
- Sailed from Habana March 20, 1899; arrived at Savannah quarantine March 22 and at Savannah March 24

Mustered out of the service of the United States at Savannah, Ga., April 18, 1899, with 45 officers and 797 enlisted men. Casualties while in service: Officers-died of disease, 3. Enlisted men-died of disease, 13; killed by accident, 1; deserted, 44.

From: Correspondence Relating to the War with Spain, Center for Military History, U.S. Army, Vol 1. The Organization of the Army during the Spanish-American War, page 509 and Organization of Volunteers, page 581  
([http://www.fortwiki.com/2nd\\_Louisiana\\_Volunteer\\_Infantry](http://www.fortwiki.com/2nd_Louisiana_Volunteer_Infantry) accessed Sep 2020)

## Contents

### Discharge Papers

- 2LT William H. Swett, Apr 1899, 2 copies
- PVT Frank F. Williams, no date

### 1898 Letters/Correspondence

- MAJ G.W, Ruthers to AG 7<sup>th</sup> Army Corps, Jacksonville FL, Oct 6, 1898, copy
- COL Elmer E. Wood, Oct 8, 1898
- Order #107 appointing a musician in Company A, Oct 11, 1898
- To PVT Frank E. Williams, Oct 24, 1898
- MAJ Vandegrift to CPT Hague, Nov 21, 1898
- Inventory from Camp Columbia, Havana, Cuba , Dec 31, 1898

### 1899 Letters/Correspondence

- Special Order #35 from W.C. Dufour, Feb 7, 1899
- Special Order #34 from Camp Columbia, Feb 8, 1899
- PVT John M. Spear to CPT Mackie, Feb 16, 1899
- PVT Frank E. Williams to AG, Feb 16, 1899
- CPT Mackie to AG, Feb 19, 1899
- Proceedings of a Board of Survey held Dec 20, 1898, Feb 20, 1899
- Exhibits A & B, CPT Mackie, Dec 21, 1898
- Special Order #36 from 1LT Christy, Feb 9, 1899
- Special Order #58 from LTC Dufour, Mar 14, 1899
- 1LT, Apr 7, 1899
- Special Order #66 from Nord, Apr 9, 1899
- Special Order #15, Jul 11, 1899

### Misc. US Army Documents (blank)

- Field Reports, Furlough, Muster Rolls, Pay Rolls

“Morning Reports Co. A Second Louisiana Volunteers” (blank)

### Photographs

- “Bird’s eye view of U.S. Soldiers camp at Fair Grounds, New Orleans, La” May, 1898
- “American Troops Leaving Tampa for Porto Pico”, 1898

- "War with Spain – Our Boys in Cuba/#13/L.G. Slocum- Morro Castle Looking Toward the Sea"
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Officers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Louisiana Volunteer Infantry, 1898

**Access Restrictions:** There are no known access restrictions to this collection. Access is regulated by the policies of the current *Louisiana National Guard Museums Collections Management Plan*.

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**Preferred Citation:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Louisiana Volunteers Infantry, Spanish-American War, 2020.017, Louisiana National Guard Archives, New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Acquisition:** This collection was gifted to the Jackson Barracks Museum in August 2020 by Jack B. McGuire of New Orleans, LA.

**Provenance and Acquisition:**

Per Jack B. McGuire, these items were purchased by him from a New Orleans area individual whose ancestor probably served in the unit. The flag was purchased from Neal Auction House in New Orleans around 2018.

**Arranged and described by:** Jake Yount, Archival Assistant and Beverly Boyko, Archives and Collections Manager

**Processing**

Papers were organized by document type and date then acid-free foldered and flat-boxed with the four photographs. Metal fasteners were removed and discarded. The framed flag was stored separately.

**Related Materials**

See Museum's Past Perfect inventory: search terms begin with "2nd Louisiana" (Thompson and Hainkel Collections [includes "The Spanish American War of 1898, Louisiana's part in the Accomplishment of the Manifest Destiny of the Nation" published edited by James Fortier, Louisiana State Museum Feb 1939]; 14.02.182 Muster In/Out Document Books; 666874 flag). See also 2014.004.001 Bell Collection.

Other Institutions:

- Spanish American War Index, Louisiana State Archives
- Louisiana State Archives microfilm 314-6-1&2
- Louisiana State Library microfilm L165 Microfilm series 240 from the National Archives is an index to compiled service records during the war with Spain in organizations from the state of Louisiana. Information includes name of soldier, rank and unit in which he served.

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- Online Veterans and Military Documents, Spanish-American War Era
- National Archives, Online Public Access, Washington, DC.
- LouisianaDigitalLibrary.org

### **References**

*Louisiana volunteers in the war of 1898*, N. Wright & C. Shannon (compilers)

*The Spanish American War of 1898, Louisiana's part in the Accomplishment of the Manifest Destiny of the Nation* published edited by James Fortier, Louisiana State Museum Feb 1939

*Correspondence Relating to the War with Spain*, Center for Military History, U.S. Army, Vol 1.