

Graff Collection

Accession number: UNK.085

Location: Jackson Barracks Museum

Extent: 1 document box

Arranged and described by: Beverly Boyko, Collections Manager and
Julie M. Moncada, Volunteer Archivist

Access: Access to the Private Personal Information folder should be restricted due to the presence of Social Security numbers.

Background

The collection was donated by Mrs. Bernadine Graff (date unknown, estimated to be between 1983-2003). It mainly contains the papers of her husband, Harold C. Graff (January 26, 1918-July 12, 1971). There is an additional finding aid created in 2003 by Caitlin Cooper available in the collection.

Scope and Content

1943-1983

This collection covers the military career of Sgt. Harold Charles Graff (January 26, 1918 – July 12, 1971). The collection spans 40 years from 1943-1983, primarily focusing on documents of Graff's military service in the 1940s and the 1950s, during and after World War II. It contains military paperwork documentation of discharges and re-enlistments, medical records, promotions, orders, accommodations and certificates and financial documentation. The collection also contains some personal correspondence to his wife.

Biographical Information

After basic training, Harold Charles Graff joined the 503 Parachute Infantry during WWII during which he was interned in Africa for 3 months with the Foreign Legion. Afterwards he traveled to Sicily and then Italy. In Italy, he was captured and spent 22 months as a P.O.W. (Stalag IIIB) along the Germany-Poland border. He was discharged on September 19, 1945 as Staff Sergeant Company "F" Parachute Infantry and on October 8, 1945 re-enlisted in the Enlisted Reserve Corps. He served as a reservist in the US Army Reserve Unit 377.

Box List

1. Military Paperwork (May 1950-December 1953)
 - a. Discharge certificates
 - b. Re-enlistment papers
2. Military Orders (April 1950-September 1969)
3. Certificates and Accommodations (December 1941-September 1968)
4. Financial Documents (July 1952-September 1970)

5. Death Certificate and Medical Records (April 1943-November 1971)
 - a. Life insurance policies and correspondence
 - b. Report of medical Examination
 - c. Reports of medical history
 - d. Death Certificate
 - e. Condolences and correspondence
6. Correspondence (March 1943-June 1951)
7. Publications (February 1952-November 1983)
 - a. Headquarters 377th Theater Army Area Command 35th Anniversary Program – Contains a history of the 377th
8. Blank postcards and forms
9. Private Personal information (March 1969-August 1970)

Related Collections

In addition to this collection a number of Graff's Jackets from the 377th are also available.

JBC222 – M1942 Jacket

JBC223 – Cotton Sateen Shirt

JBC314 – M1942 Jacket