World War II Research Subject Guide Louisiana State Archives



Introduction:

This guide was made by archival staff at the Louisiana State Archives as an introduction to some of the materials we have on the Second World War for the state of Louisiana. Most of these collections pertain to Louisiana during the Second World War. The listings are arranged according to the Table of Contents listed below and then alphabetically within each section. For further information on this topic, or to view our collections, please visit the Louisiana State Archives Research Library or contact the Research Library staff at 225.922.1207 or via email at archives@sos.la.gov.

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Manuscripts

Bill Dodd Collection, 1944-1991, Photographs, newspaper clippings, campaign posters, and military service files of Bill Dodd. He served in public life from 1934 until 1991. Positions he held included teacher, legislator, state superintendent of public education, state auditor, Lieutenant Governor, and army officer. Dodd was born on November 25, 1909 in Liberty, Texas and died in Baton Rouge, November 16, 1991. Inventory is available. Collection No. N1992-032

Claire Chennault Collection, 1920-1958, Reports, family letters, newspaper clippings, photo negatives, magazines, photographs, military memorabilia, correspondence, and other materials pertaining to the life and career of Major General Claire Chennault. Inventory available. Collection No. N1991-005

Diane McMurray Collection, 1944-1945, A diary written by a clerk in the 602 Tank Destroyer Battalion during the period of March 29, 1944 to May 7, 1945 during World War II. Collection No. N1999-015

Henry J. Senac Collection, 1971-1997, Henry J. Senac is a native of Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, and lived in Baton Rouge, Louisiana after World War II. He was an airplane radio mechanic over communications for General Claire Chennault's Flying Tigers in the China-Burma-India theatre during World War II. Collection consists of a taped oral history magazine of the Flying Tigers Alumni (1971-1997) and photos taken during and after the war; plus a cap, a shirt, certificate, medals, and pins.

Collection No. N1997-008

Jones Louise Levinson Parker Collection, 1899-1995, Collection includes miscellaneous papers and printed items, correspondence, and photographs of Mrs. Jones Levinson Parker, a prominent member of the American Legion Auxiliary and the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary from the 1930s to the 1950s in Louisiana and Arkansas. Includes several scrapbooks containing correspondence of her husband, Mr. George Parker. Inventory available. Collection No. N2003-009

Lee Ray Broussard Collection, 1944-1945, World War II items saved by Broussard from his service in the U.S. Navy, 1944-1945. Includes identification card, photos, Japanese flags (3), ship log entries, and a copy of Japanese Instruments of Surrender, September 2, 1945.

Collection No. N1999-003

Pamela Sulzer Collection, 1900-1983, Records of the Campbell family of Morganza, Louisiana, from 1900 to 1983, which includes: Correspondence to and from soldiers from the area during World War II; correspondence from friends through the post office, Episcopal Church, Masonic Lodge and veterans; family business; publications; papers of brother-in-law, J.B. Robertson; maps, photographs, postcards, scrapbooks and clippings. Inventory available. Collection No. N1992-038

Sanders Collection, 1866-1988, Information pertaining to the lives of Louisiana Representative, Lieutenant Governor, Governor, and U.S. Representative J.Y. Sanders, III, and his son, Louisiana Representative, Louisiana Senator, and U.S. Representative J.Y. Sanders IV, and their ancestors. These men were referred to throughout their political careers as J.Y. And J.Y., Jr. The collection includes photographs, correspondence, maps, newspaper articles, speeches, political fliers, buttons, and memorabilia. Detailed inventory available.

Collection No. N1982-124

Newspapers, Journals, and Magazines

The Echelon Newspaper, 1943-1945, Paper-bound copy of two years of the World War II newspaper, *The Echelon*, published in Baton Rouge, Louisiana by the Harding Field Air Base. It was dedicated on September 28, 1941. Includes information on the executive office located at the Old State Capitol under the command of Colonel L. L. Koontz. Begins with Volume III and covers June 28, 1943 to January 29, 1945. 17" x 22."

Collection No. P1996-040

Elizabeth R. Holloway Collection, 1876-2002, Collection contains historic newspapers including the assassination of Louisiana Senator Huey P. Long, death of King George, Monarch of England, *New Orleans Item* sports section, dated Friday, June 11, 1937, etc., John F. Kennedy's burial, *Morning Advocate*, dated Tuesday, November 26, 1963, Franklin D. Roosevelt's death, the *Times-Picayune*, dated Friday, April 13, 1945, Hitler's Russian campaign, *New Orleans States*, dated December 22, 1942.

Collection No. N2002-012

Newspapers, **1941-1945**, World War II newspapers from the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* and Baton Rouge *State Times*. The papers pertain to major headlines and special editions of the war, proclaimed peace, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Collection No. N1995-022

Robert Wiegand II Newspaper Collection, 1911-1977, Newspaper front page headlines, dating from 1911 to 1977, collected by Robert Wiegand II. Includes headlines from events such as President John F. Kennedy's assassination, the moon landing, snow in New Orleans, etc. The collection is composed of the *Times-Picayune*, *The State Times*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Herald Tribune*, *The Sunday Times*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Houston Post*, and *The Atlanta Georgian*. See inventory.

Collection No. P2000-036

Pat Leeper Collection, 1939-1993, Newspaper front page headlines dating 1939 to 1993, collected by Pat Leeper. Includes presidential headlines of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush, and Bill Clinton; headlines from events like World War II, first man on the moon, etc.; and locally important people like Governor Edwards. Also includes a Louisiana World Exposition official theme poster (28"x42"). Inventory is available.

Collection No. N1993-004

Military Records

Edith Blush Higgins Boat Collection, 1940s-1990s, This collection consists of a wooden cutout of a Higgins boat measuring 39"X7" and two round wooden cutouts of the U.S. Navy PT Boat Squadron RON22 measuring 15" in diameter. Additionally, the collection includes a box of assorted items, primarily documents and photographs, relating to the Higgins Boat Company of New Orleans.

Collection No. N2003-019

Louisiana State Guard Records, 1943-1945, Lieutenant Colonel J. Perry Cole Collection consisting of orders, memorandums, strength reports, training schedules, and correspondence pertaining to the Louisiana State Guard, including a card file of officers and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings. Each company has a folder filed under the city or town where the company was organized and is arranged in alphabetical order. Inventory available.

Collection No. P1977-116

United States Army Louisiana Troops Collections, 1943, Collection consists of printed material and photographs from the World War II era. Third Army troops from Leesville, Louisiana and Camp Claiborne at Forest Hill, Louisiana; five photographs of maneuver area, Camp Polk at Leesville, Louisiana; and two (2) unidentified group photos taken in camp. Collection No. P1985-173

Veterans Affairs, 1941-1978, Office of Veterans Affairs files from 1941 to 1978, which includes receipts of war bonds, legislative resolutions, guide to veterans benefits, meeting minutes, correspondence, news releases, convention and conference materials, scrapbooks, educational opportunities, info on deaths and burials related to World War II, memos, requisitions, financial statement, materials relative to Louisiana war veterans home, etc.

World War II Fighting Men of Louisiana, 1946, This collection consists of biographies on the fighting men of Louisiana and the history of World War II, prepared by the Louisiana Historical Institute of Shreveport, La. in 1946. The biographies are arranged by parish and not alphabetically. Index included on the film was done by Judy Riffel in 1981. This film contains two of three known versions. See Collection N2001-20 for a third version.

World War II Ration Books, 1943, Samples of war ration book No. 2 and book No. 3 issued during World War II by the Office of Price Administration in the 1940s.

Collection No. N1976-037

Collection No. P1986-131

Collection No. P1993-104

Photographs

Aerial photograph of Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, 1941, Collection contains one aerial photo of Camp Claiborne in Forest Hill, Louisiana dated 1941. Donated by Anoka County Historical Society in Minnesota. This oversized photograph is a black & white print. It measures 12"X19.75." It is labeled lower left, "Photo- Spencer & Wyckoff - Detroit, Copyright 1941." Sites around camp are labeled on the aerial photo in white lettering, including camp headquarters, hospital, troop units, and warehouses.

Collection No. P1986-138

Microfilm

Fighting Men of Louisiana and a History of WWII, 1941-1945, Collection contains microfilm copy of one of three known versions of this book prepared by the Louisiana Historical Institute of Shreveport in 1946. It contains biographies of soldiers from Louisiana who served in WWII. Arranged by parish. An index is at the beginning of reel. See also Collection P1986-131 for two different versions of this book.

Collection No. N2001-020

Louisiana WWII Service Men and Women Books Microfilm, 1939-1945, Four books on microfilm listing service men and women of World War II from Avoyelles, DeSoto, Natchitoches, Sabine, Webster and Acadia Parishes in Louisiana. Photographs included for two of the books. See listing on first microfilm frame.

Collection No. N2003-006

World War II Bonus & Index, no date, Collection contains records of bonuses given to veterans after World War II, filmed by bonus number. Index is alphabetical by surname and lists bonus number. Information included in the bonus file is the discharge and a copy of the check. Look for bonus number on index microfilm by name, bonus information is filmed by bonus number. Collection No. P1989-037

Miscellaneous

New Orleans DAR Collection WWII, 1990s, Miscellaneous items donated by the New Orleans Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Includes information pertaining to this chapter's affiliation of World War II, 50th Anniversary reprints of World War II photos, World War II flag, informational and commemorative pamphlets, World War II bookmarks, World War II fact sheets, and National Geographic World War II maps.

Collection No. N1996-022