

PRITZKER MILITARY MUSEUM & LIBRARY

104 S Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60603

archives@pritzkermilitary.org

312-374-9333

George L. Korthauer, Sr., Collection

Creator: George L. Korthauer, Sr.
Dates: 1917-1944
Quantity: 0.5 linear feet, 1 box
Acquisition: Cathy Korthauer Lund, November 11, 2016
Identification: PMML ID# 800256, OCLC# 1028237750, Call# PAPERS 00233
Citation: [Document Title]. The George L. Korthauer, Sr., Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Pritzker Military Museum & Library, Chicago, IL
Language: English
Finding Aid: Andrea Martinez, 2017

Archival collections are stored at a remote archival facility. Please contact the Museum & Library at least 48 hours in advance of your visit to view an archival collection.

Biographical Note

George L. Korthauer, Sr. was born August 3, 1894. Before enlisting in the war, Korthauer lived in Bensenville, Illinois.

Korthauer was stationed at Jefferson Barracks, then as part of the 55th Infantry, he was station at Camp MacArthur and Camp Merritt. Korthauer wrote home frequently and told of his time in the war. In August of 1918, Korthauer was stationed in France, and became part of the 103rd Infantry. Towards the end of the war, Korthauer was in the 26th Infantry Division, Yankee Division.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The George L. Korthauer, Sr. Collection includes letters and postcards, military documents, newspaper clippings, and souvenirs from Korthauer's time in the Army during World War I and post-war.

Arrangement

The collection arrived in no discernable order. Arrangement has been imposed by PMML staff during processing. The files are organized by content type, then chronologically.

Rights

Copyrights held by Cathy Korthauer Lund were transferred to the Pritzker Military Museum & Library. All other rights are held by the author or publisher. Users assume responsibility for following copyright laws as established by US Code Title 17.

Separations

Item ID	Call Number	Description	Location
800256001		Anti-Dimming Composition for gas masks, ochre tin	
800256002		Button with the Great Seal of the United States	
800256003		Button with the Great Seal of the United States	
800256004		Button with the Great Seal of the United States	
800256005		Canteen, green with cork top	
800256006		German matchbox holder, crown seal with "Gott Mit Uns"	
800256007		German napkin holder [?], iron cross seal with "Gott Mit Uns"	
800256008		German ring with crown	
800256009		Lighter	
800256010		Money, 1 cent George V Canada coin 1918	
800256011		Money, 1 cent Victoria dei Gratia Regina coin 1876	
800256012		Money, 1 Lira Vittorio Emanuele III coin	

800256013	Money, 2 Francs coin 1919
800256014	Money, 5 Centimes Napoleon III coin
800256015	Money, 5 Centimes Napoleon III coin
800256016	Money, 10 Centimes French Republic coin
800256017	Money, 50 Centimes French Republic coin 1915
800256018	Oriental Order of Humility and Perfection Locket
800256019	Patch, blue Yankee Division
800256020	Patch, blue Yankee Division
800256021	Patch, purple/blue Yankee Division
800256022	Patch, purple/blue Yankee Division
800256023	Patch, private chevron patch
800256024	Patch, private chevron patch
800256025	Patch, private chevron patch
800256026	Patch, corporal chevron patch
800256027	Patch, corporal chevron patch
800256028	Patch, sergeant gold chevron patch
800256029	Pin, small round Yankee Division World War I veteran pin
800256030	Razor handle
800256031	Shell, large engraved with "'Irish' 1943 'Sheff'"
800256032	Shell
800256033	Shell

Key Subjects

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the Library's online catalog. Researchers interested in materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog using these subject headings.

Subjects

World War, 1914-1918.

World War, 1914-1918 — Campaigns and battles - France

World War, 1914-1918 — Personal narrative.

World War, 1914-1918 — Personal narrative, American.

Container List

Box	Folder	Item ID #	Title	Dates
1	1		Correspondence 1918	May-Dec 1918
		800256035	To "Folks at Home" from George: letter that describes travel to and arrival at Jefferson Barracks in Missouri	4-May-18
		800256036	To "Folks at Home" from George: letter about the trip to Camp MacArthur in Texas, the heat, his tent mates, and the camp	10-May-18
		800256037	To Mrs. H.H. Korthauer from George: souvenir fold-out picture booklet of the U.S. Army	14-May-18
		800256038	To "Folks at Home" from George: letter that describes his dinner, who he visited in camp, and a box of cookies that was sent to him	19-May-18

800256039	To "Folks" from George: letter about the letters he has received, his squad being quarantined, how they spend their time and the new men that have arrived	24-May-18
800256040	To "Folks at Home" from George: letter about being quarantined, what they do while quarantined, and the shoes he has [photocopy]	26-May-18
800256041	To "Folks" from George: letter from June 5-8 describes mail that has yet to be received, possibility of going to the Mexican border, hygiene habits, and living in a tent at Camp MacArthur	5-Jun-18
800256042	To Father from George: letter about new tent mates, a seven mile hike for training, payday, the heat, and the town of Waco while at Camp MacArthur	12-Jun-18
800256043	To "Folks at Home" from George: letter about receiving money and other packages that had been missing, a five mile hike for training, the heat, how to wear gas masks, going to Waco, and about a fellow he met at Camp MacArthur	22-Jun-18
800256044	To "Folks at Home" from George: letter about cookies received in mail, his dog tag number, and mail he has received at Camp MacArthur	4-Jul-18
800256045	To "Folks at Home" from George: letter about how they are moving camps, about the plumbers and carpenters working at the camp, and about drills at Camp MacArthur	15-Jul-18
800256046	To Brother from George: letter about leaving Camp MacArthur, the new uniforms they were issued, how glad he is to leave the heat, and being	16-Jul-18

vaccinated

800256047	To "Folks" from George: letter from July 18-22, writes about how they are leaving Waco and describes what the land looks like as they travel, about passing by and stopping in various towns and what they do in those towns	19-Jul-18
800256048	To "Folks" from George: letter about clothing they have been give specifically the caps, packages no longer allowed to be sent, and receiving a box of candy at Camp Merritt in New Jersey	27-Jul-18
800256049	To "Folks" from George: letter about lost mail, leave passes, clothing and uniforms at Camp Merritt	28-Jul-18
800256050	To "Folks" from George: letter about traveling to and arriving in France and describes the things that are different from the US like the freight cars, fences, women's shoes, and buying food	13-Aug-18
800256051	To "Folks" from George: letter about duties, the weather, sleeping in tents, and talking to French people	19-Aug-18
800256052	To "Folks" from George: letter that describes his travels around France including hiking by night and sleeping by day, and receiving mail	3-Sep-18
800256053	To "Folks" from George: letter that describes battle fought on farmland and aftermath of battle, capture of German soldiers, lack of injury, and checking in to see if "folks" could locate a friend	24-Sep-18
800256054	To "Folks" from George: letter about how the war is going for him so far and how the lice are effecting him	10-Oct-18

800256055	To Friend from George: letter about how he is in France, received all of his mail at once, describes the battle he was in and his time in France and the close call he had with a sniper	24-Nov-18
800256056	To "Folks" from George: letter about Thanksgiving and what they ate, a lecture he attended, what he is thankful for, and about all the letters and checks he received	28-Nov-18
800256057	To "Folks" from George: letter about receiving Christmas packages and letters from friends, and trying to find a friend of his	22-Dec-18

1

2

Correspondence 1919

Jan-May 1919

800256058	To "Folks" from George: letter about still being in France and plans to move soon to quarantine before going home, and song about 26th Division	13-Jan-19
800256059	To Friend from George: letter about the women in the town, how much longer they will stay in France, about the US getting close to prohibition and the last time he had beer	19-Jan-19
800256060	To Father from George: letter about receiving a letter, moving locations in France, about friends he finally heard from, getting gassed on accident, and the amount of death in the war	30-Jan-19
800256061	To "Bro." from George: letter about just receiving a letter and the delay of mail in France, about how he has seen his comrades die, their interactions with French people and the towns they have been in, and things captured from the Germans	31-Jan-19

800256062	To Father from George: letter of a ceremony they had on the parade grounds with all the battalions	19-Feb-19
800256063	To Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Korthauer from Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Korthauer: sympathy card	20-Feb-19
800256064	To "Folks" from George: letter about enclosing an invitation to a wedding for Louise and Franklyn Ehlers	24-Feb-19
800256065	To Mother from George: letter about it being Mother's birthday, a souvenir he sent, a German bayonet he sent for his mother to keep for him until he gets back, about going out riding with the Major General, watching a football game, promotions within his regiment, wanting to go to school, and about Chaplain Anderson of his regiment	2-Mar-19
800256066	To "Folks" from George: letter about his ten day leave in the Pyrenees Mountains, describes church murals, about rides up the mountains on burros, spending time at a hotel and meeting women	5-Mar-19
800256067	To Friend from Lillie Nelson: letter about receiving a letter, trying to figure out where her brother is stationed, and how busy tax season is at the bank. A small fold of paper with two gum wrappers, a piece of a cartoon and a small leave enclosed in the envelope also	16-Mar-19
800256068	To "Folks" from George: describes the reception they received arriving in Boston and the gifts they received	7-Apr-19

800256069	To George from multiple family members: written by multiple family members while having a party, all hope for George's safe arrival home and fill him in on things in their lives	13-Apr-19
800256070	To Uncle George from Herman Wede[?]: letter about how the flu is effecting a lot of people, what people in the town are up to and how his truck is being painted. Attached to the letter is a newspaper clipping, "Letters from August L. Broker"	14-Apr-19
800256071	To Irish from Hamlin [?]: letter about how he is, warning him not to drink too much, asks if he's getting married soon, working in D.C. at a creamery	22-May-19
800256072	To Irish From Paul Halbeisleben[?]: letter about how he is now a US citizen, busy with a party, about the landing celebration in Boston, and tells George what he missed	24-May-19
800256073	To Irish from Sewall Brown (Brownie): letter about how he wants to know what happened after leaving the outfit, the places in Europe he has traveled to, and who he has and hasn't heard from since the war ended	31-May-19

1

3

Correspondence 1920-1929

1920-1929, u.d.

800256074	To Irish from Sewall Brown: letter about his life and what is new in it, and about other men from the YD that he wants to get in touch with	20-Jan-20
800256075	To Buddy from Yankee Division Veteran's Association: letter about a reunion trip to France that has been planned	20-Jun-29

800256076	To Comrades 47th Yankee Division from C.R. Edwards: letter of a correspondence from General C.R. Edwards prompting other to join him on the reunion trip to France	25-Jun-29
800256077	To [?] from George: letter that lists out amounts that friends and family have sent him during the war and prompts who received the letter to thank these people for him	u.d.

1	4	Postcard Correspondence	1917-1919
---	---	--------------------------------	------------------

800256078	To George from George Warnecke[?]: postcard that says life is great except he is missing the glasses with the handles	8-Oct-17
800256079	To George from Walter Korthauer: postcard about life at Camp Dodge	2-Mar-18
800256080	To Armin[?] Korthauer from George: postcard about traveling in sleeping cars possibly to Texas	8-May-18
800256081	To Mr. H.H. Korthauer from George: postcard about still being in St. Louis and how it feel like they are on a vacation	9-May-18
800256082	To Eleanor Korthauer from George: postcard about marching through Texarkana and the souvenirs he got	9-May-18
800256083	To Eleanor Korthauer from George: postcard about still being in Waco, Texas	22-May-18
800256084	To "Folks at Home" from George: postcard about the weather, asks for Aunt Regina's address, and about cookies sent to him	10-Jul-18
800256085	To "Folks" from George: postcard about how he is doing	19-Jul-18

800256086	To "Folks" from George: postcard of how he took a bath	20-Jul-18
800256087	To Oliver Korthauer from George: postcard about mail finally getting to him and asked about things at home	31-Jul-18
800256088	To "Folks" from George: postcard that lets parents know he is stationed in France and that he's in good health	15-Feb-19
800256089	Memories of the High Pyrenees Post Card Book	10-Mar-19
800256090	The Mosaics of the Rosary Post Card Book	12-Mar-19
800256091	To Oliver Korthauer from George: postcard about how postcard picture is the place where their final parade will most likely be	8-Apr-19
800256092	To Mrs. Armin[?] Korthauer from George: postcard about how he will be home soon	8-Apr-19
800256093	To Eleanor Korthauer from George: postcard pictures shows how comfortable life can be at the camp	8-Apr-19
800256094	Postcard of Saint-Gervais En-Berlin (Sarthe)- La Gare, French railway station with annotation on back of card about how French trains are	u.d.
800256095	Postcard of Le Mans, French town with annotation on back of card about how they are station fifteen miles away from the town	u.d.
800256096	Postcard of Saint-Gervais-En-Belin, French town and church with annotation on back that says their office is right across from the church	u.d.
800256097	Lourdes Post Card Book	

1	5	Newspaper Clippings	1918-1919
		800256098 "Illinois Heros Tell How 33D Won Honor"	17-Dec-18
		800256099 "'Fighting is Some Mess': George L. Korthauer Enjoys Hearing the Boches Yell 'Kamerad'"	1918
		800256100 "Boobs Abroad in 1919--Every Soldier Just Naturally Becomes an Orator or an Author" Cartoon	1919
		800256101 The Pyrenees Bulletin Vol. 1 No. 1	13-Mar-19
		800256102 "Bensenville Beatitudes"	u.d.
		800256103 "Bensenville Patriotic Meeting and Farewell Big Success!"	u.d.
1	6	Military Ephemera	1918-1919
		800256104 Individual Pay Record Book	3-Dec-18
		800256105 Duty Status Leave Card	10-Mar-19
		800256106 Orders from Commander of Troops on Board U.S.S. America	30-Mar-19
		800256107 Coupon Book for Exception from French Luxury Tax	u.d.
		800256108 Are They Worth It? Pamphlet to Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines about Life Insurance	u.d.
		800256109 Personally Owned Clothing Record Sheet	u.d.
1	7	Personal Items and Souvenirs	1917-1944
		800256110 Prayers for Evangelical Men Booklet	2-May-18
		800256111 Notepad with Diary Entries from March 11 to April 16, 1919, Also Contains Names and Addresses. Entries about the Pyrenees Mountains, Coming	11-Mar-19

Home, and Being Discharged

800256112	One Franc paper bill	12-Dec-16
800256113	Fifty cents paper bill	7-Nov-17
800256114	One Franc paper bill	u.d.
800256115	One Franc paper bill	u.d.
800256116	Paper with "Finis." typed on it	u.d.
800256117	Small Print of U.S.S. Leviathan	u.d.
800256118	The Absolute Truth, photo booklet of destruction and death in World War I	u.d.
800256119	The Home Front Cartoons, booklet of cartoons from World War II	1944
800256120	Explanation of the Great Panorama of Our Lady of Lourdes pamphlet	u.d.
800256121	History of the Yankee Division pamphlet	u.d.
800256122	Songs We Like To Sing Pamphlet from the YMCA	u.d.
800256123	Taps, Typed Song Lyrics	u.d.
800256124	Handwritten Battalion Staff Sheet	u.d.
800256125	Typed Sheet with Poem or Article [?]	u.d.