

RICHARD K. LEARY CORRESPONDENCE

Mss. 4687

Inventory

Compiled by
Charles F. Thomas
1998

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Revised 2009
Updated 2018

CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

SUMMARY 3
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE 4
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE 4
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS 5
INDEX TERMS 6
CONTAINER LIST 7

Use of manuscript materials. If you wish to examine items in the manuscripts group, please place a request via the Special Collections Request System. Consult the Container List for location information.

Photocopying. Should you wish to request photocopies, please consult a staff member; do not remove items to be copied. The existing order and arrangement of unbound materials must be maintained.

Publication. Readers assume full responsibility for compliance with laws regarding copyright, literary property rights and libel.

Proper acknowledgment of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of this citation is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.

SUMMARY

Size.	1.3 linear ft.
Geographic locations.	Laconia, New Hampshire; Camp Livingston, Louisiana.
Inclusive dates.	1942-1944.
Bulk dates.	1943.
Languages.	English.
Summary.	Primarily World War II correspondence between U.S. Army soldier Richard K. Leary and his wife, with some letters from friends and other relatives. The 420 letters include two photonegatives of Richard Leary and Camp Livingston, Louisiana, and five photographs of family members in New Hampshire.
Source.	Purchased, 1997.
Copyright.	Physical rights are retained by the LSU Libraries. Copyright of the original materials is retained by the creators, or their descendants, of the materials, in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Citation.	Richard K. Leary Correspondence, Mss. 4687, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
Stack location.	UU:245-246.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Richard K. Leary enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1942. He served during World War II as a guard in the 327th Military Police Escort Guard at Camp Livingston, a prisoner of war camp located in Louisiana. His new wife of only 3 months, "Bicky," remained with her family in Laconia, New Hampshire, for the duration of Leary's enlistment.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of 420 letters, mainly between Leary and his wife. Leary's correspondence discusses his duties as a soldier; recreational activities; and the numbers and treatment of prisoners interned at Camp Livingston. Correspondence to Leary relates news from home and local events, and describes the impact of the war upon the town of Laconia.

Five photographs depict members of Leary's family. Two photonegatives show Richard Leary and Camp Livingston.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

I. Letters to Richard Leary, 1942-1943 (2 boxes, .6 linear ft.)

Most of this series consists of letters from Leary's wife, "Bicky." These letters express her love as a newlywed, since they were married in August or September of 1942, only a few months before Leary enlisted. She also relates news from home, her activities to deal with the loneliness, and the effects of the war upon the town of Laconia. Letters from other family relatives and friends congratulate Leary upon his successive promotions from private to sergeant, and discuss other general matters. Five photographs of some of Richard Leary's family are included with Series I. Envelopes are included with each letters, because the postmarks are more reliable chronologies than the dates penned on the letters.

II. Letters from Richard Leary, 1942-1944 (2 boxes, .6 linear ft.)

Richard Leary corresponded with his wife almost daily. His letters vary in content, from expressions of love, to specific details on the numbers and treatment of prisoners of war interned at Camp Livingston. Minute details of his life as a soldier are included frequently. Two photonegatives depict Richard Leary (July 26, 1943) and Camp Livingston. Envelopes are included with each letters, because the postmarks are more reliable chronologies than the dates penned on the letters.

INDEX TERMS

Camp Livingston (La.)
Military prisons--Louisiana
United States--Army--Military life--Louisiana
United States--Army--History--World War, 1939-1945
United States--Army--327th Military Police Escort Guard

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents with dates</u>
			Series I. Letters to Richard Leary
UU:245	1	1-9	November 1942-March 1943
	2	1-8	April-August 1943
			Series II. Letters from Richard Leary
UU:246	3	1-10	December 1942-June 1943
	4	1-10	July 1943-1944