Howard Ramon Morrow Papers  
(CG0039)

Collection Number: CG0039

Collection Title: Howard Ramon Morrow Papers

Dates: 1914, 1918-1935

Creator: Morrow, Howard R., 1894-1959

Abstract: The Howard R. Morrow Papers includes World War I correspondence to and his parents in Bellevue, Pennsylvania, from 1918 to 1919. This collection also includes six issues of the 320th Infantry's newsletter "The Battalion" Review" from January to February 1919.

Collection Size: 0.2 cubic feet  
(8 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau. If you would like more information, please contact us at capegirardeau@shs.mo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Howard Ramon Morrow Papers (CG0033); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Cape Girardeau].

Donor Information: The collection was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Robert C. Morrow on July 16, 2019 (Accession No. CGA0038).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Howard R. Morrow Papers can be found in the following collection:

Vandivort Family Papers (CG0025)

Processed by: Processed by Garret B. Kremer-Wright, July 23, 2019
Historical Note:

Howard Ramon (Ray) Morrow was born on May 5, 1894 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a son of Robert A. and Margaret Morrow. His family moved to Bellevue, a suburb of Pittsburgh, before the outbreak of World War I. He worked for Pressed Steel Car Company before enlisting in the army. He entered the armed service on April 5, 1918, where he served in the Headquarters Company, 320th Infantry Regiment, 80th Division as a motorcycle dispatch carrier. He spent time six weeks in boot camp at Camp Lee, Virginia, before heading overseas to France in May 1918. He was present at the battles of St. Mihiel, Somme, and Meuse-Argonne Offensive. Though never wounded he did spend a few months in the hospital battling influenza in November 1918. His unit was sent stateside in 1919 where he was honorably discharged on June 12, 1919, at Camp Dix in Wrightstown, New Jersey.

He married Rosella Margaret Falkenstein in Wellsburg, West Virginia, on June 18, 1921. They had three children: Robert Ivan, Richard Martin, and Marion Jean. The Morrows were in East Palestine, Ohio, by 1930 and later moved to Columbus around 1942. While in Columbus he worked as a distributor for Stamford, Connecticut, based Globe Slicing Machine Company. His son Robert married Nancy Vandivort of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in 1946.

Morrow died on April 25, 1959, in Franklin County, Ohio, he has a military memorial stone next to his wife, Rosella, in New Lorimier Cemetery in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged in one series.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains correspondence from Howard Ramon Morrow to his parents Robert A. and Margaret Morrow during his time serving in the Headquarters Company, 320th Infantry Regiment, 80th Division in basic training at Camp Lee, Virginia, and later overseas in France from April 1918 to June 1919. There are also a few letters from his mother that are included and these letters give a unique perspective of the life on the home front during the war. Howard’s letters detail life of a private in the headquarters company of the unit. He describes his daily routines, war news, meals, his unit movements, and being ready to come back stateside. The army censored both incoming and outgoing letters so he was not able to describe specific locations to protect his unit’s movements from the enemy.

This collection also includes other military papers including Morrow’s liberty passes, photograph of him in military uniform, receipt for personal supplies, list of American divisions overseas and the number of enemy and field pieces captured, Morrow’s chevron awards, map of Meuse-Argonne Offensive, and post-war employment and compensation card. Non-military related items included in this collection are a description of the Lion Film Manufacturing Company where Morrow served as President (1914), his lease of a vehicle in Pennsylvania (1920), and his wife, Rosella Morrow vehicle tag registration in Ohio (1935). Finally, in an oversize folder, there are six issues of the 320th Infantry Regiment, First Battalion publication “The Battalion Review” in January and February 1919.
Container List:

Box 001  f. 1  Camp Lee, Virginia, correspondence, 1918
         f. 2  France correspondence, May-August 1918
         f. 3  France correspondence, September-December 1918
         f. 4  France correspondence, 1919
         f. 5  Postcard correspondence, 1918-1919
         f. 6  Howard R. Morrow assorted military papers, 1918-1919
         f. 7  Lion Film Manufacturing Company and vehicle papers, 1914, 1920, 1935
         f. 8  320th Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion “The Battalion Review”, 1919

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