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Robert T. Herz Collection

Creator: Robert T. Herz
Dates: 1918-1919, 1942-1945
Quantity: 1 linear foot
Acquisition: Donated by Mary Senn, August 1, 2011
Identification: PMML ID# 800098, Call# PAPERS 00092, OCLC# 771947084
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Biographical Note

Robert T. Herz served with the United States Army in both World War I and World War II. In July of 1918 he landed in France as a soldier serving with the 136th Field Artillery, a reserve artillery unit in the 4th Army. Herz and his unit served in France through the end of the war, taking up firing positions in Ville au Val and outside of Bouconville and Chaillon before returning to the U.S. in March of 1919.

Herz was back in the Army in 1942, this time as a lieutenant in the Army Air Force. In 1944, he was attached to the 459th Bombardment Group, Heavy and shipped with his unit to Giulia Airfield in Southern Italy. From here, the 459th flew missions over Italy, France, the Balkans, Austria and Germany from 1944-1945. Herz was promoted on September 7th, 1944 and finished the war as a Captain.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The Robert T. Herz collection contains two diaries written by Herz that account for his experiences serving with the 136th Field Artillery in France during WWI and with the

459th Bombardment Group in Italy during WWII. The collection also contains transcripts of the diaries.

Arrangement

The collection as it was received consisted of two diaries and a single transcription document. Loose pages in the diaries that were out of order were placed back in numerical order and the diaries were arranged in chronological order as a series. The transcription was separated into two transcriptions, one for each diary and arranged in chronological order as a series

Series One: Diaries, Box 1

This series contains two diaries kept by Robert T. Herz while serving in the U.S. Army during WWI and WWII. The first diary was written during Herz's service in a reserve artillery unit (136th Field Artillery) in France during the final months of WWI. The second diary was written during Herz's service as an officer in the 459th Bombardment Group, Heavy from 1942-1945. The diary covers Herz's travel from the U.S. to Giulia Airfield in Southern Italy where the 459th was stationed until August of 1945.

It is important to note that Herz's diary is structured to allow five years' worth of entrees to be written on one years' worth of pages. Because of this, each day in the diary may contain multiple entrees from the years 1942-1945. There are also many entrees that do not have a year entered. In these cases, the content of the entry is used to determine the year it was written. If the year could not be determined, the entry is deemed as having no date (n.d.). The contents of each diary are organized by page number; however, blank pages and/or pages with indecipherable entrees are not accounted for.

Series Two: Transcripts, Box 1

This series contains partial transcripts of Herz's diaries that were created by the donor and included in the collection donation. The transcripts were originally donated as one document but have been separated by diary. They have not been altered otherwise and as such the spelling of names and places may or may not be correctly transcribed. Both of the transcripts are only partially completed.

Rights

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Related Collections

Reminiscences of Sgt. Robert J. Flint: "One Doughboy's Experience in the World War of 1917-1918"

Lt. Lawrence Westerman Collection

Francis E. Griffin Collection

Samuel Caplan Collection

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.

Names

Herz, Robert T.

Subjects

United States--Army--Field Artillery Regiment, 136th

United States--Army Air Forces--Bomb Group, 459th

World War 1914-1918--Campaigns--France

World War 1914-1918--Personal narratives, American

World War 1939-1945--Aerial operations, American--Personal narratives

World War 1939-1945--Campaigns--Italy

Container List

Box	Item ID #	Title	Dates
		Series One: Diaries	1918-1945, n.d.
1	800098001	Diary from WWI	1918-1919, n.d.
		Page 1-4 : Personal info, unit information, artillery information	n.d.
		Pages 5-6 : Miscellaneous	n.d.
		Page 13 : Miscellaneous	n.d.

Pages 15-20 : At sea aboard S.S. Titan bound for England	27-Jun-17-Jul-1918
Pages 21-28 : Arrives in Havre, France, moves to Bordeaux	18-Jul-28-Sep-1918
Pages 29-32 : In Mussey, France, works with artillery guns	29-Sep-7-Oct-1918
Page 32 : In Champigneulles, France	8-Oct-18
Pages 33-34 : Poem	n.d.
Pages 35-40 : In Ville au Val, France	9-Oct-29-Oct-1918
Pages 41-58 : Traveling West from Ville au Val to Le Mans	30-Oct-02-Dec-1918
Pages 59-62 : Timeline of Herz's military service	n.d.
Pages 63-80 : Post-Armistice Occupation in Woimbey, France	03-Dec-25-Dec-1918
Pages 81-90 : In Paris on leave	25-Dec-1918-02-Jan-1919
Pages 91-101 : Occupation in Woimbey	03-Jan-03-Feb-1919
Pages 102-121 : Occupation in Chateau-Gontier and travel to coast	04-Feb-11-Mar-1919
Pages 122-126 : Board U.S.S. Vermont and sail back to the U.S.	11-Mar-24-Mar-1919
Pages 127-128 : Unexplained figures and an address	n.d.
Page 158 : Addresses	n.d.
Page 165 : List and math figure	n.d.
Page 166 : Addresses	n.d.
Pages 168-169 : Quotations	n.d.
Pages 172-173 : List of names and numbers	n.d.

	Pages 174-175 : Addresses	n.d.
	Pages 176-179 : List of names and numbers	n.d.
1	800098002 Diary from WWII	1942-1945, n.d.
	Page 1 : Herz's name and address	n.d.
	Pages 3-4 : Publisher info	n.d.
	Page 5 : Identification	n.d.
	Pages 6-11 : Horoscope	n.d.
	Page 12 : Birth stones and flowers, wedding anniversaries	n.d.
	Page 13 : Easter 1930-1960	n.d.
	Pages 14-15 : Population of principal cities	n.d.
	Page 16 : Seven wonders of the ancient world	n.d.
	Page 17 : Rules for spelling	n.d.
	Page 18 : Weights and measures	n.d.
	Pages 20-31 : Preparing to ship overseas	2-Jan-13-Jan, 1944
	Page 26 : Report of Crew bailing from plane	8-Jan-45
	Pages 32-49 : Sails toward Italy	14-Jan-31-1944
	Page 34 : Shea too old to get into school	16-Jan-45
	Page 39 : Regarding German offensive in the Ardennes	21-Jan-45
	Pages 44-48 : Gets sick, short hospital stay	26-Jan-30-Jan- 1945
	Pages 50-51 : Ships fire on air plane	1-Feb-44
	Page 52 : Leaves for Bari	2-Feb-45
	Pages 52-59 : Sails into Italy	2-Feb-9-Feb- 1944
	Page 54 : Describes patients of hospital ward	4-Feb-45

Pages 60-61 : Land at Taranto, Italy	10-Feb-11-Feb-1944
Page 62 : Move to Group HQ at Cerignola	12-Feb-44
Pages 63-83 : Practice Missions, waiting for real mission	13-Feb-01-Mar-1944
Page 64 : Remarks on conference	14-Feb-45
Page 66-75 : Hospital related	16-Feb-25-Feb-1945
Page 84 : No. 1 Mission	2-Mar-44
Page 85 : No. 2 Mission	3-Mar-44
Pages 86-96 : Weather cancels missions	4-Mar-14-Mar-1944
Page 95 : Poem about V-E day	n.d.
Pages 97-98 : Group of bombers accidentally bomb allies at Cassino	15-Mar-16-Mar-1944
Pages 98- : Hospital related	16-Mar-21-Mar-1945
Page 99 : Mission to Vienna, men lost	17-Mar-44
Page 100 : Mission to Maniago goes well	18-Mar-44
Page 104 : Comment on Time article	22-Mar-44
Pages 106-108 : Excerpt from "Mathematics and Imagination"	24-Mar-26 Mar-1945
Page 113 : Hospital related	31-Mar-45
Page 114 : From Letter of Brooklyn boy	n.d.
Page 116 : Becomes Charge of Quarters	2-Apr-43
Pages 118-121 : Drill and graduation related	n.d.
Page 140 : Divorce from old duties	26-Apr-44
Page 142 : Supply situation improves	28-Apr-44
Page 145 : Mentions Time article about pilots	n.d.

Page 163 : Christie story orated	n.d.
Page 167 : Lt. Rose's baby is born	n.d.
Page 180 :Rome falls	4-Jun-44
Page 181 : Leaves for Naples with Ham	5-Jun-44
Page 182 : To Red Cross, D-Day news	6-Jun-44
Page 183 : To Pompei	7-Jun-44
Page 184 : No mission, Ham's captaincy comes through	8-Jun-44
Pages 185-192 : Base related	9-Jun-16-Jun-1944
Pages 192-193 : Combat losses related	16-Jun-17-Jun-1944
Page 196 : German pilotless planes	20-Jun-44
Page 198 : Signs on B-24s	22-Jun-44
Page 213 : Regarding Ted Williams	n.d.
Page 217-220 : Trip to Rome	7-Jul-10-Jull-1944
Page 223 : Explosion kills men	15-Jul-44
Pages 224-228 : Miscellaneous notes	16-Jul-20-Jul-1944
Page 229 : Crash landing	21-Jul-44
Page 232 : Frags stuck in plane	24-Jul-44
Page 234 : Pascal back from North Italy after going down six weeks ago	26-Jul-44
Page 236 : Black Friday-lose men in Ploesti mission	28-Jul-44
Page 248 : Maj. Meagher leaves	8-Aug-44
Pages 249-251 : Miscellaneaous notes	9-Aug-11-Aug-1944

Page 252 : Col. H.K. Mooney takes over	12-Aug-44
Page 255 : Invasion support, Lt. Fox and crew killed	15-Aug-44
Page 256 : Oliver will make a good general	16-Aug-44
Page 257 : Col. Munn officially relieved of command	17-Aug-44
Page 258 : Col. Mooney flies first mission as co-pilot	18-Aug-44
Pages 261-270 : Stay at 34th Field Hospital	21-Aug-30-Aug-1944
Page 262 : Five ships lost in 95th mission, Fred Freedel killed	22-Aug-44
Pages 262-263 : Base-related	30-Aug-31-Aug-43
Page 271 : Fake report of German surrender	31-Aug-44
Page 276 : Romanian collapse, German bombing, men killed	4-Sep-44
Page 278 : Capt. Burnham from a tank destroyer battalion flies mission with them	6-Sep-44
Pages 279-287 : Miscellaneous notes	7-Sep-17-Sep-1944
Page 285 : Captaincy comes through	15-Sep-44
Pages 288-296 : On leave at Naples and Capri	18-Sep-26-Sep-1944
Page 293 : Notified of approval of application for Presidential Citation	n.d.
Pages 297-347 : Miscellaneous notes	27-Sep-13-Nov-1944
Page 336 : New men sworn in	2-Nov-42
Page 338 : Arrive at Fort M., assigned to Tent City	4-Nov-42

Pages 339-357 : Base-related	5-Nov-23-Nov-1942
Page 358 : Scuttling of the French Fleet	24-Nov-42
Page 359 : San Giorgio Hotel	25-Nov-44
Page 360 : Thanksgiving	26-Nov-42
Page 361 : Story of Col. Luper	27-Nov-43
Page 364 : Pay day, Herz applies for O.C.S.	30-Nov-42
Page 366 : Story of rookie at Ft. McPherson	n.d.
Page 367 : Publicity work	1-Dec-42
Page 370 : Mission to Bermuda	4-Dec-43
Pages 373-394 : Miscellaneous notes	n.d.
Pages 394-430 : Names and addresses	n.d.

Series Two: Donor Transcriptions of Diaries

1	Transcripts	
800098003	Transcript of Diary from WWI (9 pages)	n.d.
	Transcript of Diary from WWII	
800098004	Transcript of Diary from WWII (28 pages)	n.d.