

# PRITZKER MILITARY MUSEUM & LIBRARY

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## Ray Wallace Karraker and David George Karraker Collection

**Creator:** Ray Wallace Karraker, David George Karraker  
**Dates:** 1917-1946  
**Quantity:** 1 linear foot, 2 boxes  
**Acquisition:** Emily Owens, May 16, 2016, June 7, 2016  
**Identification:** PMML ID: 800348, OCLC: 1129586753, Call Number: PAPERS 00330  
**Citation:** [Document Title]. The Ray Wallace Karraker and David George Karraker Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Pritzker Military Museum & Library, Chicago, IL.  
**Language:** English  
**Finding Aid:** JT de la Torre, 2019

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### Biographical Note

Second Lieutenant Ray Wallace Karraker served in the Quartermaster Corps in the United States Army during World War I. Born July 11, 1891 to David Wesley Karraker and Cora H. Karraker (née Harreld), he lived in Jonesboro, IL, working as a lawyer before entering the Armed Forces. He was stationed at various training camps including Camp Johnston, Fort Sheridan, Camp Grant, and Camp Meigs. He left the Port of Embarkation in Hoboken, NJ in March 1918 to serve in the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France as part of the Unassigned, Casual Officers Detachment.

His overseas assignments included: Division Wagon Train, Company 1; First Reserve Supply Train (Wagon); Wagon Company 101; Department Quartermaster, Wood Supply Branch; and assistant to the Quartermaster at Pontanezen Barracks. He also served as a Judge Advocate in a General Court Martial in June 1918.

He left France on USS *Pretoria* in July of 1919 and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army at Camp Dix, NJ on July 14, 1919.

Ray Wallace Karraker died August 15, 1960 in Jonesboro, IL.

Technician Fourth Grade David George Karraker served in the United States Army Signal Service Corps during World War II. He was born August 17, 1923 in Anna, IL to Ray Wallace Karraker and Margaret Emily Karraker (née Browne) in Anna, IL. He attended Southern Illinois Normal University before enlisting on June 18, 1943 at Camp Grant, IL. Karraker trained at Camp Grant, IL and Camp Hood, TX before attending the Army Specialized Training Program at LeHigh University in Bethlehem, PA where he studied electrical engineering, graduating with honors and earning a blue star. He attended Army Service Forces, Central Signal School at Camp Crowder, MO where he completed a Wire Chief course. He also completed a program at the Noncommissioned Officer School at Camp Crowder. Karraker then attended the Army Service Forces, Military Intelligence School at Yale University in New Haven, CT where he studied Mandarin Chinese. Karraker shipped out of the New York Port of Embarkation on September 2, 1945 to serve in the China Burma India Theatre as a Wire Chief, translator, and Military Policeman. He served in India, China and Formosa (Taiwan). In Formosa, Karraker assisted the Chinese Army in repatriating Japanese soldiers. Karraker was honorably discharged at Jefferson Barracks, MO May 14, 1946.

His assignments included: 132nd Army Specialized Training Battalion, Company B; 143rd Army Specialized Training Battalion, Company B; 3309th Army Specialized Training Unit, Company A; 847th Signal Training Battalion, Company L; 847th Signal Training Battalion, Company E; 3189th Signal Service Battalion, Company A; 35th Signal Training Battalion, Company B; and Formosa Liaison Group.

Honors and awards include: American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and one Overseas Bar.

David George Karraker died February 27, 2015 in Aiken, SC.

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## **Scope and Content of the Collection**

The Ray Wallace Karraker and David George Karraker collection consists of military records, miscellaneous documents and correspondence related to their military service. Ray Wallace Karraker served in the Quartermaster Corps during World War I and David George Karraker served in the Signal Service Corps during World War II. The collection contains materials dating from 1917-1946. The collection also contains artifacts and photographs, including a footlocker, patches, and medals, that have been separated from the collection.

## Arrangement

The collection arrived in no discernable order. PMML staff have organized the collection by individual into two series:

### Series One:

Series one consists of military records, miscellaneous documents related to Ray Wallace Karraker's service, and correspondence with his mother, father and sister Frances Harris. Arranged by subject within each subseries and then chronologically therein. Documents range from 1917-1919.

### Series Two:

Series two consists of David George Karraker's military records and correspondence with his family. Includes letters to his mother and father as well as his sisters Jane and Dee, and brothers Robert and Gordon (sometimes referred to as "Gordie" or "G-boy"). Documents range from 1943-1946.

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## Separations

Item ID	Call Number	Description	Location
		<b>Artifacts</b>	
800348001	REALIA 05081	American Campaign Medal ribbon bar, David George Karraker	
800348002	REALIA 05082	Technician Fourth Grade shoulder insignia, David George Karraker	

- |           |                 |  |
|-----------|-----------------|--|
| 800348003 | REALIA<br>05083 | 86th Infantry Division shoulder sleeve insignia, likely Ray Wallace Karraker |
| 800348004 | REALIA<br>05084 | 15th Army Air Forces patch (likely a bullion patch), unknown owner           |

### **Artifacts, Footlocker**

- |           |                 |   |
|-----------|-----------------|---|
| 800348005 | REALIA<br>05085 | Footlocker "R.W. Karraker. 2nd LT. Q.M.C Jonesboro. ILL." |
| 800348006 | REALIA<br>05086 | Bayonet with scabbard (possibly P1907)                    |
| 800348007 | REALIA<br>05087 | Olive drab trousers (likely WWII issue)                   |
| 800348008 | REALIA<br>05088 | Olive drab boxer shorts (likely WWII issue)               |
| 800348009 | REALIA<br>05089 | Olive drab pair of socks (likely WWII issue)              |
| 800348010 | REALIA<br>05090 | Olive drab tank top (likely WWII issue)                   |
| 800348011 | REALIA<br>05091 | Olive drab draw string bag, David George Karraker         |
| 800348012 | REALIA<br>05092 | Burgundy shorts   |
| 800348013 | REALIA<br>05093 | Japanese Good Luck Flag (yosegaki hinomaru)               |
| 800348014 | REALIA<br>05094 | Red leather wallet  |
| 800348015 | REALIA<br>05095 | Shoe brush  |

### **Photographs**

- |           |                |   |
|-----------|----------------|---|
| 800348016 | PHOTO<br>04928 | Undated black and white photograph: Ray Wallace Karraker in uniform and wearing long wool winter coat and hat, with "Ray Wallace Karraker" handwritten on verso, c.1918 |
|-----------|----------------|---|

800348017 PHOTO 04929 Undated black and white photograph: portrait of David George Karraker

### Negatives

800348018 PHOTO 04930 Undated black and white negative: group of men in uniform on steps of building (possibly a barracks), c.1918

800348019 PHOTO 04931 Undated black and white negative: landscape with palm trees and large group of people in uniform

800348020 PHOTO 04932 Undated black and white negative: landscape with various trees

800348021 PHOTO 04933 Undated black and white negative: man in uniform in front of tree (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker)

800348022 PHOTO 04934 Undated black and white negative: man in uniform standing at the base of a hill with trees behind him

800348023 PHOTO 04935 Undated black and white negative: group of uniformed men on steps of building (possibly a barracks), c.1918

800348024 PHOTO 04936 Undated black and white negative: long pier with men at far end

800348025 PHOTO 04937 Undated black and white negative: two children

800348026 PHOTO 04938 Undated black and white negative: group of soldiers in casual clothes during rest, c. 1918

800348027 PHOTO 04939 Undated black and white negative: group of soldiers in uniform and winter coats, c.1918

800348028 PHOTO 04940 Undated black and white negative: beach landscape

800348029 PHOTO 04941 Undated black and white negative: group of men, women, and children on steps of building

800348030	PHOTO 04942	Undated black and white negative: soldier in uniform with winter coat (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker), c.1918
800348031	PHOTO 04943	Undated black and white negative: soldier in uniform with winter coat (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker), c.1918
800348032	PHOTO 04944	Undated black and white negative: soldier in uniform with winter coat (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker), c.1918
800348033	PHOTO 04945	Undated black and white negative: soldier in uniform standing in front of a tent holding riding crop, c.1918
800348034	PHOTO 04946	Undated black and white negative: 4 tents with single uniformed soldier standing between two flags in front of one tent
800348035	PHOTO 04947	Undated black and white negative: uniformed soldier on horse in front of two tents (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker)
800348036	PHOTO 04948	Undated black and white negative: Ray Wallace Karraker in uniform and wearing long wool winter coat and hat, c.1918 (corresponding photo positive Item ID#800348016)
800348037	PHOTO 04949	Undated black and white negative: two men sitting on brick wall by stairs, one in uniform and the other in a suit and tie, c.1918
800348038	PHOTO 04950	Undated black and white negative: group of men in uniform holding spears with uniformed soldiers in background, c.1918
800348039	PHOTO 04951	Undated black and white negative: empty street with palm trees on each side. Part of a "Coca-Cola" sign can be seen on one building
800348040	PHOTO 04952	Undated black and white negative: group of men and women in dress clothes on porch, with man in middle of back row in uniform

800348041	PHOTO 04953	Undated black and white negative: docked naval ship in distance behind buildings
800348042	PHOTO 04954	Undated black and white negative: trees in foreground with group of buildings (possibly barracks) and people in background
800348043	PHOTO 04955	Undated black and white negative: man in suit and tie with group of cows in front of building
800348044	PHOTO 04956	Undated black and white negative: uniformed soldier with hat in hand (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker), c.1918
800348045	PHOTO 04957	Undated black and white negative: seated group of men and women in dress clothes. Damaged and torn
800348046	PHOTO 04958	Undated black and white negative: group of men, women and children seated on steps of a home with uniformed soldier on far left of front row (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker). Damaged and torn
800348047	PHOTO 04959	Undated black and white negative: group of men, women and children in dress clothes seated on steps of a home. Damaged and torn
800348048	PHOTO 04960	Undated black and white negative: four children standing in a grassy field. Damaged and torn
800348049	PHOTO 04961	Undated black and white negative: man and woman behind two children standing in a grassy field. Damaged and torn
800348050	PHOTO 04962	Undated black and white negative: four children standing in a grassy field. Damaged and torn
800348051	PHOTO 04963	Undated black and white negative: man and woman standing with uniformed soldier (possibly Ray Wallace Karraker), c.1918

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## 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

United States. Army--Officers  
United States. Army--Records and correspondence  
United States. Army--Supplies and stores  
World War, 1914-1918--France  
World War, 1939-1945--China

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Item ID #	Title	Dates
<b>Series One: Ray Wallace Karraker</b>				
<b>Military Records</b>				1917-1919, u.d.
1	1	800348052	Special Orders No. 78: list of 2nd Lieutenants, Quartermaster Corps, that are to report to the Commanding General, Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois. Karraker's name is misspelled as "Ray W. Harraker."	8/15/1917
1	1	800348053	Special Orders No. 90: list of 2nd Lieutenants, Quartermaster Corps, that are to report to the Commanding Officer, Camp Joseph Johnston, Jacksonville, Florida	12/7/1917
1	1	800348054	Special Orders No. 45: list of 2nd Lieutenants that are relieved from duty at Camp Joseph Johnston with instructions to proceed to the Port of Embarkation in Hoboken, New Jersey but will stop at Camp Meigs, Washington D.C. first for temporary duty	2/14/1918



1	1	800348055	Special Order No. 58: 1. instructing officers listed in Special Orders No. 45 to proceed in compliance without further delay; 2. instructing 2nd Lt. Charles Henry Reed to proceed in compliance as instructed in Special Orders No. 49 without further delay; 3. listing officers that are instructed to not follow the above orders but rather report to Headquarters based on Special Orders No. 58	2/28/1918
1	1	800348056	Special Order No. 58: 1. instructing officers listed in Special Orders No. 45 to proceed in compliance without further delay; 2. instructing 2nd Lt. Charles Henry Reed to proceed in compliance as instructed in Special Orders No. 49 without further delay; 3. listing officers that are instructed to not follow the above orders but rather report to Headquarters based on Special Orders No. 58 *DUP	2/28/1918
1	1	800348057	Special Orders No. 59: list of 2nd Lieutenants that are to report to the Quartermaster, Port of Embarkation for transportation to France and then upon arrival in France will report to Commanding General, American Expeditionary Forces	3/6/1918
1	1	800348058	Letter from Office of the General Superintendent, U. S. Army Transport Service, Transportation Division, Passenger Branch: listing information for overseas travel including vessel number, pier number, side of port, and time and date, also includes instructions for baggage	3/7/1918
1	1	800348059	Letter from Office of the Quartermaster, Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, New Jersey: indicating the change in sailing date to one day later than previously directed	3/9/1918

1	1	800348060	Special Orders No. 82: list of Casual Officers who recently arrived from US to proceed from the base to the indicated destinations	3/27/1918
1	1	800348061	Special Orders No. 29: instructing Ray W. Karraker to proceed to Headquarters, Intermediate Section (Nevers) for duty in the connection with the organization of wagon companies, Division Supply Train *DUP	4/13/1918
1	1	800348062	Special Orders No. 29: instructing Ray W. Karraker to proceed to Headquarters, Intermediate Section (Nevers) for duty in the connection with the organization of wagon companies, Division Supply Train *DUP	4/13/1918
1	1	800348063	Order No. 13(?): listing officers that have reported to Headquarters, Division Supply Train and with new attachments indicated	4/15/1918
1	1	800348064	Special Order No. 106: listing officers that are assigned to the Division Supply Train for duty in connection with the organization of Wagon Companies	4/16/1918
1	1	800348065	Special Orders No. 152: detail of the court listed for General Court-Martial to be held at headquarters on June 2, 1918	6/1/1918
1	1	800348066	Officers Record Book, unattached service dates and remarks from Lt. Col. J. A.(?) Benjamin dated 6/12/1918, Capt. Clyde Widitetir(?) dated 4/21/1919, and J. G.(?) McAlbrist(?) dated 6/14/1919	6/12/1918, 4/21/1919, 6/14/1919
1	1	800348067	Special Orders No. 163: list of officers that are relieved from duty with the 1st Reserve Supply Train, Quartermaster Corps and are now assigned to Wagon Company No. 101, Quartermaster Corps	6/12/1918

1	1	800348068	Special Orders No. 204: informing 2nd Lt. R. W. Karraker of his transfer from Wagon Company No. 101, QMC to the Quartermaster Corps at Large for duty as assistant to the Deputy Quartermaster	10/2/1918
1	1	800348069	Special Order No. 165: instructing Lieut. Ray W. Karraker to proceed from Dijon (Cote d'Or) to Is-sur-Tille (Cote d'Or) for duty and then to return to Vereux (Haute Saone) following the completion of his duties	10/26/1918
1	1	800348070	Special Orders No. 273: instructing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker to proceed to Champlitte (Haute Saone) and other towns in vicinity and to return to his proper station following completion of his assigned duties	11/9/1918
1	1	800348071	Special Orders No. 296: authorizing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker, one interpreter, and one chauffeur to make trips during December to listed locations needed to carry out the instructions of the Wood Supply Officer	12/1/1918
1	1	800348072	Special Orders No. 6: authorizing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker, his interpreter, and his chauffeur to visit points in the Advance Section, S. O. S. during the month of January and instructing him to return to his proper station following the completion of his duties	1/6/1919
1	1	800348073	Special Orders No. 10: granting 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker a 7 day leave with permission to visit Nice (Alpes Maritimes) and vicinity, with handwritten note in French on verso	1/10/1919
1	1	800348074	Special Orders No. 10: granting 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker a 7 day leave with permission to visit Nice (Alpes Maritimes) and vicinity, with handwritten note	1/10/1919

1	1	800348075	Special Orders No. 10: granting 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker a 7 day leave with permission to visit Nice (Alpes Maritimes) and vicinity	1/10/1919
1	1	800348076	Special Orders No. 10: granting 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker a 7 day leave with permission to visit Nice (Alpes Maritimes) and vicinity *DUP	1/10/1919
1	1	800348077	Special Orders No. 32: authorizing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker to have 3-day class "C" leave with permission to visit Paris (Seine), signed	2/1/1919
1	1	800348078	Special Orders No. 32: authorizing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker to have 3-day class "C" leave with permission to visit Paris (Seine)	2/1/1919
1	1	800348079	Special Orders No. 32: authorizing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker to have 3-day class "C" leave with permission to visit Paris (Seine) *DUP	2/1/1919
1	1	800348080	Special Orders No. 32: authorizing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker to have 3-day class "C" leave with permission to visit Paris (Seine) *DUP	2/1/1919
1	1	800348081	Special Orders No. 97: instructing 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker and his chauffeur to proceed to listed locations throughout April as necessary to carry out the instructions of the Wood Supply Officer	4/9/1919
1	1	800348082	Special Orders No. 102: instructing Capt. D. L. Romig and 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker to proceed to Brest (Finistere) for duty as assistants to Quartermaster Pontanezen Barracks	4/12/1919
1	1	800348083	Special Orders No. 195: honorably discharging 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker from service *DUP	7/14/1919
1	1	800348084	Special Orders No. 195: honorably discharging 2nd Lt. Ray W. Karraker from	7/14/1919

service \*DUP

### Miscellaneous

1917-1919,  
u.d.

- |   |   |           |   |                    |
|---|---|-----------|---|--------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 800348085 | Set of loose notes: related to quartermaster regulations, June 1918 Court-Martial and Order of Procedure General Court-Martial, roster for 2nd Section Wagon Company 101 Quartermaster Corps, journal entries from June 1918 and April 1919 | 1917-1919,<br>u.d. |
| 1 | 2 | 800348086 | Handwritten account of chauffeur driving with Lt. R. W. Karraker with details of hitting a French boy near Romain on March 11, 1919   | c. March<br>1919   |
| 1 | 2 | 800348087 | Small handwritten note with names and addresses: "R. M. Rogers, Fort Brady, Mich." and "John J. Endicott, Army Building, 39 Whitehall St., New York City"   | u.d.               |
| 1 | 2 | 800348088 | Small handwritten note with names and locations: "James Waltor, Fort Sheridan, Ill." and "C. D. Harris, Anna, Ill."   | u.d.               |
| 1 | 2 | 800348089 | 4 pages of English words with their French translation  |                    |
| 1 | 2 | 800348090 | Envelope from H. and W. B. Drew Company (originally contained photograph negatives, Item ID#s: 800348018-800348051)   | u.d.               |

### Correspondence

1917-1919

- |   |   |           |   |          |
|---|---|-----------|---|----------|
| 1 | 3 | 800348091 | To Father from Ray W. Karraker: how they spend their days at camp and staying close by, went to Jacksonville for New Years, weather has been cold, enclosed December pay for him to deposit and requests a draft and his bank balance, hasn't received his mother's Christmas box yet, wishes them a happy New Year | 1/1/1917 |
|---|---|-----------|---|----------|

1	3	800348092	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received her mail and the \$25 draft, his plans for future pay checks and deposits, received letters from Cy and Clyde, went to Jacksonville with a new friend, enclosed pictures of the men who are in the top floor of the barracks	1/19/1917
1	3	800348093	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received the letters from him and Mama, update on weather, discussion of his bank balance and change in where his pay checks will be sent, no immediate prospects of being sent to France, visited Jacksonville, FL	1/24/1917
1	3	800348094	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received the letter from his parents, thoughts on government stamps and having to pay income tax for the first time, heard from someone in New York about financiers inventing ways to avoid the tax, enclosing pictures, had a paratyphoid prophylaxis injection, heard Cy has the mumps, wish his parents could visit	2/5/1917
1	3	800348095	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received word to be ready to report to New York and telegraphed them requesting funds, not sure what his work will be, instructs them to hold his mail until he sends them his new address	2/13/1917
1	4	800348096	To Mrs. D. W. Karraker from Ray W. Karraker: Postcard with picture of Chicago City Hall and Court House, arrived in Chicago on time and will go to Fort soon	5/12/1917
1	4	800348097	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: new address at Fort Sheridan, details about Officer's Reserve Training Camp and his captain, made it to Chicago and stopped at the Palmer House before heading up to Lake Forest and Fort Sheridan, got vaccinations, details items he received and will soon get a uniform, thinks he will	5/14/1917

like Army life, description of Lake Forest and the men at Fort Sheridan, asks if he left his collar button box at home

1	4	800348098	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: writing before drills, sorry to hear about the offices, details of what the government will pay for and what he is responsible for, update on weather, suggests father get someone to help take care of their place, list of men at Fort Sheridan from near home	5/24/1917
1	5	800348099	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: postcard stating he was transferred and listing new address	6/18/1917
1	5	800348100	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received father's letter before leaving to spend the weekend in Chicago, glad to hear about his deposits, discussion of his father's cases, asks about a previously mentioned Liberty bond, asks father to pay insurance out of deposit, update on his next pay, had a pleasant visit to cousin Lou's, work is different than artillery and a little harder	7/2/1917
1	5	800348101	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received her letter and how much he enjoys them, glad to hear about the garden and asks about the crops, spent the weekend at Perry's, Field Artillery branch is hard work but he doesn't mind it, details of the work and classes, his picture has been in the paper but he hasn't seen it yet	7/4/1917

1	5	800348102	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: how he spent his birthday, visited Chicago on Sunday and ran into a friend, thanks her in advance for the money she said she sent, father made a mistake in paying an installment for a Liberty bond but he will straighten it out, received the insurance papers and blank checks, will be home August 15th	7/11/1917
1	5	800348103	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received her letter and thanks her for the present, spent the weekend in Lake Forest, weather has been rainy and they haven't accomplished much today, a lot of guys were kicked out last week, discussion of Presidential order that exempts municipal officials from the draft, wrote to get his exemption since he failed to claim it on his registration card	7/16/1917
1	5	800348104	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received her letter, his thoughts on Cy and Ed's trip to Buffalo, camp will close August 12, unsure if he will receive commission, camp full of excitement and nervous tension, weather has been hot, work hasn't been bad, visited Perry last weekend, all night march on Wednesday and will march in a parade in Chicago on Saturday	7/31/1917
1	6	800348105	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: thanks father for half of the firm receipts and discussion of a case, marched in a parade on Saturday, paid Liberty bond, will know by Saturday if he is an officer in the new National Army, doesn't know his commission or if he will be able to go home	8/6/1917
1	6	800348106	Postcard of New Cook County Hospital, Chicago to Mrs. D. W. Karraker from Ray W. Karraker: arrived ok and leaving for Rockford, IL tomorrow	8/28/1917



1	6	800348107	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: arrived at Camp Grant and temporarily settled in, life at Fort Sheridan the camp is chaotic, description of camp, lots of dust due to drought, asks to forward a package he ordered from New York	8/30/1917
1	6	800348108	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received the letter and package, waiting for regular duty assignment, in finance class but might change, can't leave camp without permission of Brigade Commander and not allowed to visit Chicago, read the boys from home are going to Louisville, finally got some rain, details on the men who sleep near him, wants to visit a friend at Fort Sheridan but can't get away	9/10/1917
1	6	800348109	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received a letter from Ira about the J. C. stocks, discussion of his bank balance and the stocks, asks if they received his receipt for the Liberty bond, still waiting for an active duty assignment, might go to Florida for training, winter is coming and they don't have heat or hot water. Second letter to Father from Ray W. Karraker enclosed: suggests father sell farm or take shares, asks to send deed	9/12/1917
1	6	800348110	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received her letter, busy the last few days receiving enlisted men, descriptions of the diversity of the men coming to the camp, several men arrived drunk, confiscated liquor, check-in process, rumors about what will happen to the G. M. department men who are unassigned, update on where Cy is going, read about a few people getting typhoid fever, visited Chicago Sunday and saw Lou	9/23/1917

1	7	800348111	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received the sweater and cap, how the weather has been cold, enclosed the deed and is satisfied with the deal, discussion of cases, change in his barracks and his address, had steam heat and hot water for a few days in another barrack, details about his work, more men have been arriving to camp but not taking part in the inspection, satisfied with the apple deal and instructs father to deposit the funds, instructions on what to do with his share if the land deal goes through	10/5/1917
1	7	800348112	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received the apples, lists his suggestions for next year's orchard, thinks Cy could look over the orchard for easy money, discussion of finances and plans to buy another Liberty bond, saw Berth Wiley Veach, has holes in his teeth and needs to go to the dentist, noting his new address	10/17/1917
1	7	800348113	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received letters from him and Cy, asks about father's plans for the Tripp(?) School House, rumors again about going to Florida and wouldn't mind because Rockford is cold, enclosed clipping from Rockford newspaper, apples father sent are gone and everyone enjoyed them, Mrs. Scott sent a knitted muffler, planning to visit Chicago Saturday for football game, visited dentist	10/31/1917
1	7	800348114	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: spent Sunday at church and with Dr. Harrison, unoccupied at camp and hoping to go to Florida, details visit to Chicago last Saturday, camp life same as usual, weather is good, wishes he could help father with work, went to Fort Sheridan while in Chicago	11/11/1917

1	7	800348115	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: his opinion about Cy enlisting, discussion of sacrifice for the good of the country and thinks this is a great opportunity for him, his opinion on how the war has changed, proud of Cy but knows she worries, wondering how they will handle the big place on their own but glad Ed is there to help, had snow earlier, has a friend in Rockford he plans to spend Thanksgiving with, asking for Cy's address	11/27/1917
1	7	800348116	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received their letters and glad to hear from them, has orders to report to Jacksonville and instructing them not to write or forward mail to him	12/8/1917
1	7	800348117	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: arrived in Jacksonville, FL, describes delays in the trip, describes Jacksonville, about eight of them at the hotel, will go to camp in morning, will let them know when he gets a permanent address	12/13/1917
1	7	800348118	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: work and assigning quarters, description of weather, the drive to camp, comparison of cost of goods at Camp Grant, camp's location, starting classes on Monday, description of barracks, listing his new address and asking to forward any mail that came	12/14/1917
1	8	800348119	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received package, had feast with everyone, spent Saturday evening with Jennings family, received letter and draft from father, rumors when the course will end, not sure if he will advance rank, sent pictures, Kodaks have been banned from camp so he probably won't send more	2/10/1918

1	8	800348120	<p>To Sister (envelope addressed to Mrs. Clyde D. Harris) from Ray W. Karraker: arrived in Camp Meigs in Washington DC, sightseeing before reporting to camp, not sure how long he will be there, instructions to forward mail to Camp Meigs, description of crowded Washington, DC, Quartermaster General of Panama Canal is addressing them tomorrow, new address</p>	2/21/1918
1	8	800348121	<p>To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: description of camp, knows Washington, DC well now, went to Baltimore last Sunday, preparing to ship out but not sure when</p>	2/27/1918
1	9	800348122	<p>To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: received letter from Frances, enjoyed Washington, DC, Army hasn't been hard on him and he's gotten a lot of travel experience, arrived in New York City this afternoon and staying in a hotel for the before going to the YMCA, not sure how long he will stay there and won't be able to tell her when he sails, will take about fifteen days to sail overseas, about 100 men but only sixteen from Camp Meigs, might miss some of her letters that were sent to old address, listing his new address and informing her mail will be forwarded</p>	3/1/1918
1	9	800348123	<p>To Frances (envelope addressed to Mrs. C. D. Harris) from Ray W. Karraker: staying at Columbus Circle YMCA, received her letter the day he left Washington, DC, no duties, will visit New York City, bought American Express traveler's checks, can't say anything about his plans but will write daily, troop transport service is safe, saw Helen Gear while in Washington, saw President Wilson while at the theater</p>	3/3/1918

1	9	800348124	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: still in New York City, sharing a double room with Lt. Dempsey, how they spend their time, sent some R. R. ticket stubs home, instructions for what to do with the checks he sent and for how to handle his deposits, weather is good, believes his experience in the Army is invaluable, hasn't heard from anyone since he left Camp Meigs, asks for Cy's address	3/5/1918
1	9	800348125	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: still in New York City and finally receiving some mail from them, glad to hear about her trip, will write Cy, discussion of their agricultural pursuits, description and of New York City and Hoboken, NJ, can't tell them how or when he is leaving	3/7/1918
1	9	800348126	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: instructions for how send him money, feels the same as her about the South and Florida, thinks it would be nice for her and his father to escape the cold and go to Florida in the winter but suggests somewhere like Tampa	3/8/1918
1	9	800348127	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: received mother's telegram and their letters, weather has been rainy, listing new address	3/14/1918
1	9	800348128	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: enjoyed New York City, ran into Arthur Lewis one night, storm second night on boat, monotony of travel is causing unrest, hard to eat with rough seas, studying French and Army orders and plays cards. Continuation dated 3/24/1918: good weather, enjoying trip, list of things on boat, received letter before leaving, hopes Cy gets in Paymasters Corps, new address	3/23/1918- 3/24/1918

1	9	800348129	To Mrs. D. W. Karraker from Ray W. Karraker: Postcard with pre-printed message of arriving safely overseas	c.3/1918
1	9	800348130	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: in France for a week, description of town where they landed, speaking French, billeted with a private family temporarily, French people are kind and polite, no work, physical exercises and drills, gossip from those who have been to the front, description of his room. Letter to Family from Ray W. Karraker, dated 4/10/1918: description of current location, moving to barracks soon, impact of war has on price of cotton goods, detail of his allotment, praises YMCA, details of the Officer's Club and the Officer's room at the barracks, nothing to do, French customs	3/31/1918, 4/10/1918
1	9	800348131	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 3) moved again, new assignment, sharing tent with another Lt., left Sunday and arrived Monday, tent has stove and is talk of camp, description of nearby town, still far from the front, description of German prisoners, change in footwear, food is satisfactory and officers have a private mess hall, orderly helps take care of their tent, acted as a mail censor at his last station	4/15/1918
1	9	800348132	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 4) list of letters he received, will send some French money home, instructions for how to pay insurance, details about his pay, description of his expenses, will be mounted officer but doesn't have a permanent horse, riding lessons, someone injured from a horse, preparing to turn in their horses and equip the train with mules, update on the weather, American band plays in the park on Sundays but has to stay at camp as Officer of the Day, hung up a Liberty bond	4/28/1918

poster, might be moving soon

1	10	800348133	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 5) received letters, buying more Liberty Loans, horses were turned over and they got mules from Missouri, comparison of horses and mules, his job while the mules were in another camp, his French has improved, might visit nearby town	5/9/1918
1	10	800348134	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 6) update on weather, how rain affects camp, hopes that a new train will be organized and he will get a permanent job, satisfied with wagon train work, success of Liberty Loan campaign, upcoming local elections, learning a lot and doing well	5/12/1918
1	10	800348135	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 7) received letters from home, patriotism of Liberty Loan campaign, discussion of his allotment and enclosing a PO order to cover insurance, mailing address, details schedule, enclosed a snapshot	6/2/1918
1	10	800348136	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 8) received orders yesterday, not transferred to Wagon Company #101, mail will be forwarded, received copies of the Talk and the Gazette, asks for the Literary Digest and Saturday Evening Post, appointed Judge Advocate of a general court martial, enclosing some pictures, sent a PO for \$80 in his last	6/13/1918

letter

1	10	800348137	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 9) transfer to new company, details of marching program schedule and notes from his trip, new camp has YMCA and Officer's Club	6/26/1918
1	11	800348138	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 10) received a lot of mail and birthday telegram cheered everyone up, built up their camp, in charge of other detachment, horseback riding	7/18/1918
1	11	800348139	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 11) received mail, glad his PO order was received and plans on sending more money home, asks for copies of newspapers, war news is very encouraging, wood supply, how his tent is set up, update on the weather, describes nearby town, hopes Cy gets a commission in the Army, asks his father to prepare an income tax report	8/14/1918
1	11	800348140	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 12) following up on his income tax report, enclosed power of attorney, lists mail and magazines he has received, update on weather, happy about news from the front	8/24/1918
1	11	800348141	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 13) forgot to include the PO order in letter this morning	8/24/1918



1	12	800348142	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 14) moved camps and burned the accumulated letters, gets paid in Francs, unsure of location in the country but far from the front, hauling wood to railroad depots, missing the friends he made in the small village near camp, French language is difficult, will receive a gold "V" to put on his uniform for six month of service	9/11/1918
1	12	800348143	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 15) still far front, hauling wood, moved camp about 40 miles and preparing for winter, staying in old French buildings, description of his room and other areas of camp, lucky to have these winter quarters	10/4/1918
1	12	800348144	To Clyde from Ray W. Karraker: brought one of his men into the town in an ambulance and staying at the Red Cross Hotel, comments on how the American Army conducts troop movement, can't go out by train because he has no travel order and isn't registered, received another copy of Literary Digest and has copies of the Talk, still hauling wood, dealing with mud, description of his duties	10/26/1918
1	13	800348145	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 16) moved from the company to headquarters, wasn't happy in the company and requested transfer, now in the wood supply department, update on weather, thoughts on how soon the war will be over, description of his wooden barracks	11/6/1918
1	13	800348146	To Brother (envelope addressed to Mr. Edward L. Karraker from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 17) war is over but doesn't know what the government has planned, doesn't expect to be home before next summer, France is nice and has a good home with French family, town	11/13/1918

			reactions to armistice, entertained at home of wealthy doctor last night, hog hunting with a group of Frenchmen	
1	13	800348147	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 18) President Wilson is coming to France, asked for a seven-day leave to visit Paris, thinks he will be in France until spring or summer, now with the Wood Supply Branch, Depot Quartermaster and acts as a travelling representative, details of his duties	11/28/1918
1	13	800348148	To Father and Mother: (Letter No. 19) hopes that this reaches them in time to wish them a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, his present location, lists the towns he visited since censorship was lifted	12/9/1918
1	13	800348149	To Blenda Kjellgren from Ray W. Karraker: reassigned to the Wood Supply Department, will return to the headquarters tomorrow and will likely be reassigned, how he spent his Christmas, his French has improved, plans to visit Paris, Nice, and Lyons during leave	12/21/1918
1	13	800348150	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter No. 20) received her package, finished his work at Champlitte, waiting for new assignment, Christmas dinner with officers from the depot yesterday, update on weather, attended show at YMCA, muddy camps	12/26/1918
1	13	800348151	To Mrs. D. W. Karraker (misspelled Mrs. D. V. Karraker) from Ray W. Karraker (misspelled R. V. Karraker): telegram wishing them a "Merry Xmas".	c.12/1918

1	14	800348152	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: (Letter "X") moved to new location to fill in for someone on leave, will go on leave around beginning of February, responds to father's comment about seeing battlefields, travel is difficult, hopes they are improving from "Spanish flu", update on weather, spent two days with an old friend on his route to his new location, details of his new living and work situation	1/17/1919
1	14	800348153	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: visited Nice, Italy and Monte Carlo, went to a dance last night, details about Nice, how French women compare to American women, description of YMCA and Officer's Club, visiting Paris	2/6/1919
1	14	800348154	To Mrs. D. W. Karraker from Ray W. Karraker: postcard with picture of L'Eglise Notre-Dame in Nice.	c.2/1919
1	14	800348155	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: visited Paris, details items he purchased, asks them to send some of the items to certain people	2/13/1919
1	14	800348156	To Father from Ray W. Karraker: confirmation they received his money in September and will send another \$100 for father to invest, details of his allotment for the new fiscal year, leaving for Beaumont to take charge of wood work	2/18/1919
1	14	800348157	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: sent them a helmet and machine gun bullets yesterday, stationed in St. Thiebault or Beaumont since his leave, details about his housing and meals, problems with Henry's car and hitting a French boy the day before, his thoughts on Henry, his job as the wood supply officer in Zone 3, location of his village, rumors of him acquiring a mademoiselle	3/12/1919

1	14	800348158	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: received letters, his chauffeur got into an accident, will be in France for some time but ready to return home, visiting some people he had stayed with and they wrote him a history of Champlitte. Includes three-page typed copy of "History of the District of Champlitte"	3/30/1919
1	15	800348159	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: transferred to Quartermasters at Brest, will probably be in France until at least the end of July, mail he received, affidavit his father sent requesting he be sent home will probably be denied, arrived in Paris yesterday and will continue on to Brest tonight, did some sightseeing in Paris	4/22/1919
1	15	800348160	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: his trip to through St. Michel and Verdun before he left the Wood Supply department, travel to Brest, reported for duty at Camp Pontanezen, in charge of 90 men, visited people from his old Wagon Co. #101, enclosed a money order	4/28/1919
1	15	800348161	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: still in Brest and details his duties, unsure if he is descending or ascending in the Army, his request to go home was not approved because his services cannot be spared, camp will be closing in 2 months	5/14/1919
1	15	800348162	To Family from Ray W. Karraker: his father's attempts to get him home are unnecessary and futile, should be on his way home in about three weeks, instructs them not to write anymore unless he tells them otherwise	5/15/1919
1	15	800348163	Loose envelope to Judge David W. Karraker from Ray W. Karraker. There appears to be no matching letter included in the collection	c. 1919

1	15	800348164	To Mother from Ray W. Karraker: has returned to the United States, delayed about a month in Brest, sailed home on the U.S.S. Pretoria that was originally a German ship, spent twelve days on the ocean, will be demobilized tomorrow at Camp Dix in NJ and should be home by August 1st	7/13/1919
1	15	800348165	Mrs. D. W. Karraker from Ray W. Karraker: Western Union telegram stating that he leaves for home tonight	u.d.

**Series Two: David George Karraker**

**Military Records**

1944-1946

2	1	800348166	Memorandum No. 18: list of enlisted men who earned honors at Army Specialized Training Program at LeHigh University in Bethlehem, PA	2/10/1944
2	1	800348167	Inverted color copy of Honorable Discharge certificate with Enlisted Record and Report of Separation for David G. Karraker	5/14/1946
2	1	800348168	Inverted color copy of Separation Qualification Record for David G. Karraker	5/14/1946

**Correspondence**

1943-1946

2	2	800348169	To Folks from David G. Karraker: settled at Camp Grant, took a variety of classification tests, buying \$18.75 in bonds per month, Hackney has been accepted to the medical school, has high blood pressure that might be from a lack of sleep, food is good, list of schools where other men are from	6/21/1943
2	2	800348170	To Folks from David G. Karraker: getting shipped but not sure of where they are going, had a layover in Chicago, will send another card when he gets to his permanent station	6/28/1943

2	2	800348171	To Folks from David G. Karraker: arrived at Camp Hood, how the camp compares to Camp Grant, his battalion is only one of its kind at camp, where the guys in his barracks are from	7/1/1943
2	2	800348172	To Folks (Jane, Robert, and Dad in particular) from David G. Karraker: received letters, camp has no radio or newspapers, rumor about what happens after basic and not sure how he feels about the five-year post-war commitment, four men from his battalion have died, his upcoming schedule, got his appetite back, laundry detail, his thoughts on his platoon commander	7/9/1943
2	2	800348173	To Mother: thanks for laundry tips, asks for underwear, asks about family and friends back home, not sure President Roosevelt should run for another term, heard Invasion of Sicily successful, rifle marksmanship training, first aid training, aircraft identification training, chemical warfare training, criticizes officers	c.7/1943
2	2	800348174	To Folks (Jane and Mother in particular) from David G. Karraker: adjustment to schedule since so many people are passing out, someone passed out and died after a march, rifle cleaning and inspection today, will be at camp for 13 weeks minimum, update on more camp fatalities	c. 7/1943
2	2	800348175	To "G-Boy" (Gordon Karraker) from "Uncle Dave" (David G. Karraker): postcard with cartoon and caption "Taps for Soldier" suggesting G-Boy get in the Army and recommends the Air Corps	7/12/1943
2	2	800348176	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received letters, passed an inspection, restrictions lifted so they can go anywhere in the camp, last night went to a show and the	7/18/1943

service club, food is getting better and he is getting used to the water, comment on 1944 election

2	2	800348177	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received their letters, Army is boring, men have been knocked out by the heat, working on rifle marksmanship and preparing to go on the range next week, tear gas drills, yesterday had to walk across field with exploding gas bombs, interviewed for West Point but left when he heard you have to commit eight years in the Army, went to a dance	7/21/1943
2	2	800348178	To Dee from David G. Karraker: received her letter, passed his inspection, had a regimental parade on Saturday, got a tetanus shot, saw a show Saturday night, going to rifle range tomorrow	7/25/1943
2	2	800348179	To Jane from David G. Karraker: received her letter and appreciated all the gossip, long and hard days at the rifle range, practiced in the mud and rain this morning and then moved inside for dry firing, received all the items that were sent, boys wish they were back in North Africa, whole outfit is tired	7/29/1943
2	3	800348180	To Folks from David G. Karraker: able to clean a rifle in his sleep, learning about tactics, dug fox holes, how many men passed out from heat, might try to go to Austin with Champlin, appreciates the letters, thinks Brudge should try the Air Corps	8/3/1943
2	3	800348181	To Mother from David G. Karraker: details about his first pay, details on the number of men at Camp Hood, description of what he did the week prior, saw a show at the Service Club on Saturday night, items he wants for his birthday	8/8/1943

2	3	800348182	<p>To the Home Folks from David G. Karraker: thanks for the letters and candy they sent, ten-mile hike this morning, already worn out his shoes, update on the weather, wondering how the feud with the Wilson clan started, getting moved to new barracks, rumors that they are getting shipped out but expects seven more weeks of infantry training, passes were cancelled so he isn't going to Austin this weekend</p>	8/12/1943
2	3	800348183	<p>To Folks from David G. Karraker: description of new drill ground, got to see a show Sunday night, opinions on officers, getting laundry service now, got a new rifle, received his last tetanus shot, instruction on camouflaging, compares Air Corps with soldiers, Jack Teagarden is coming but he might not be able to go</p>	8/18/1943
2	3	800348184	<p>To Folks (Dee and Jane in particular) from David G. Karraker: visited Waco last weekend, went to a show Sunday night, learned about the Army Specialized Training Program and is planning to apply for electrical engineering, given the opportunity he would do Officer Candidate School, has KP duty tomorrow</p>	8/30/1943
2	4	800348185	<p>To Folks from David G. Karraker: classified by the STAR board and accepted into electrical engineering, more tests to confirm his placement, will ship out by middle of 11th week, probably won't get a furlough before Christmas, getting paid next week, still hasn't gotten his expense check, machine gun practice, bayonet training</p>	9/6/1943
2	4	800348186	<p>To Mother from David G. Karraker: training has been easy this week, got paid and passed his inspection but didn't get a pass to go to Waco, next Sunday they go to the infiltration course and the following</p>	9/12/1943



Sunday they go on a bivouac, spent yesterday at the Service Club, three weeks left of basic training

2	4	800348187	To Folks from David G. Karraker: battle conditioning course, ten more days of basic, won't get a furlough, received everyone's letters	c.9/1943
2	4	800348188	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received letters, happiest day will be turning in the rifle, description of battle rations, four-day bivouac next week	9/24/1943
2	5	800348189	To Folks from David G. Karraker: train ride to LeHigh University, paid before leaving Camp Hood and bought a bond he will send to them, KP the night before leaving, description of LeHigh University, will stay in a fraternity house once they are settled but staying in a dorm now	10/6/1943
2	5	800348190	To Folks from David G. Karraker: first week of school, asking them to send his Chemistry handbook, his thoughts on the USO	10/18/1943
2	5	800348191	To Folks from David G. Karraker: test results, thinks Don is right about no room for advancement and how Officer Candidate School is practically closed, ranks of the men in his section, update on weather, went to the USO on Saturday	10/27/1943
2	5	800348192	To Mother from David G. Karraker: received letters, visited New York City, update on his grades, description of Bethlehem and its relationship with the steel industry	[11/5/1943]
2	5	800348193	To Folks from David G. Karraker: comments on his father's political views, grades improving, heard from his friend from Camp Hood that went to the Air	11/15/1943

Corps, asks for clothing, comment on LeHigh's athletics, requests a letter from Jane

2	5	800348194	To Jane from David G. Karraker: comment on the grades of some of the men in his section, details Officer of the Day duty	11/17/1943
2	5	800348195	To Folks from David G. Karraker: only gets one day off for Christmas so he is going to New York, should get a furlough between terms so he can visit then, will be drill sergeant for his section during a military drill, plans to stay away from the USO for awhile	11/24/1943
2	6	800348196	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received clothes, should get a furlough the following week, heard from Don but can't tell where he was shipped off to, telling them not to worry about Brudge at J. B. and his opinion on the camp, Charge of Quarters duty, update on his grades, advice to them for Brudge's first few weeks in the Army	12/3/1943
2	6	800348197	To Folks from David G. Karraker: busy with tests and unable to write, welding class	12/10/1943
2	6	800348198	To Jane from David G. Karraker: LeHigh school paper wrote an editorial on Army Specialized Training Program students cheating on exams and his response to the situation	12/13/1943
2	6	800348199	To Folks from David G. Karraker: update on his upcoming furlough, plans to go to Harrisburg, items he wants for Christmas, saw a show and then went bowling, might go to see another show today, has government tests tomorrow	12/20/1943

2	6	800348200	To Folks from David G. Karraker: how he spent Christmas, one week left in the term, had a regimental party and all the companies gave programs, received the big box they sent, hasn't heard from Brudge since he left for the Army	12/27/1943
2	7	800348201	To Folks from David G. Karraker: list of courses for the term, went to a dance at Cedarcrest, got the shirts and asks if they can send the records, list of his grades from last term	1/17/1944
2	7	800348202	To Folks from David G. Karraker: how he is feeling about still being at LeHigh University, update on classes from this term, went home with a roommate last weekend to Valley Forge	1/24/1944
2	7	800348203	To Mom from David G. Karraker: received the records, having a dance next Saturday, was failing all of his classes but now is passing all but one, all of his roommates are transferring to the Air Corps, expecting to stay for about three months past his next furlough	2/7/1944
2	7	800348204	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received a Blue Star honor, there was a panic when they called guys for shipment on Monday, but it wasn't him	2/11/1944
2	7	800348205	To Mrs. R. W. Karraker from David G. Karraker: loose envelope	2/24/1944
2	7	800348206	To Folks from David G. Karraker: visited New York City, grades, his friends have failed out and thinks that about six more will get kicked out soon, thinks that the Army Specialized Training Program is getting more Semitic, met someone on the train who was on furlough before going to France	3/7/1944

2	7	800348207	To Folks from David G. Karraker: kicked out of the Army Specialized Training Program, dodging details, washing walls of the barracks, going to the dance on Saturday, not sure when they are shipping out but thinks they will stay until the end of term, possibilities of where he could be sent	3/16/1944
2	7	800348208	To Folks from David G. Karraker: still waiting to ship out, John A. Bowles is discouraged about not getting in the casual company, went to Charles Volk wife's house, got a new issue of clothes because the laundry burned, will wire home for money if there is delay in his pay, will probably ship early next week	3/24/1944
2	7	800348209	To Folks from David G. Karraker: postcard stating transferred to Ft. Monmouth for the Signal Corps	3/30/1944
2	8	800348210	To Folks from David G. Karraker: arrived at Camp Crowder after leaving Fort Monmouth, in temporary battalion while they get classifications, has barracks orderly detail tomorrow, saw Henry Williams at Camp Edison, description of Camp Crowder's location and the camp, saw on a poster they are part of the 2nd Army, will be able to come home if he gets a three-day pass	4/5/1944
2	8	800348211	To Folks from David G. Karraker: thanks for money, classified as a Wire Chief, made expert on Thompson submachine gun, anti-aircraft range tomorrow, impression of the Signal Corps, comments on the draft, may get a furlough after Wire Chief school	4/13/1944
2	8	800348212	To Folks from David G. Karraker: thought they would have been shipped to school by now but will probably be there for another couple of weeks, finished	4/19/1944

processing today and didn't qualify firing the carbine, didn't qualify with the rifle, updates on weather, passed the overseas physical

2	8	800348213	To Folks from David G. Karraker: took tests yesterday and supposed to start school today, first course called Common Battery Circuits, afternoon drills, turned down for a three-day pass and won't get a pass or furlough until after school around August 22	4/26/1944
2	8	800348214	To Jane from David G. Karraker: Charge of Quarters tonight, catching up on letters	4/26/1944
2	9	800348215	To Folks from David G. Karraker: finished his first course and starting his second, his circuits looks like a mess of spaghetti, how much money his friends owed after getting paid, John A. Bowles knows someone on flood duty and while he doesn't want to do that he likes the idea of being near home, Signal Corps Poem with note that it is propaganda	5/4/1944
2	9	800348216	To Mom from David G. Karraker: enclosed silhouette, visited Carthage, MO, going to see a movie	5/7/1944
2	9	800348217	To The R. W. Karrakers from David G. Karraker: Signal Corps trying to act like soldiers, day of dirty fighting, update on school, thought about applying to Officer Candidate School but doesn't really want to go, would like Technician Grade 5 for the increase in pay	5/26/1944
2	9	800348218	To Folks from David G. Karraker: night at the Service Club and not going to Joplin, IL, description of his inspection, got through with their switchboard, his opinion on the news from Italy and the war, discussion about the Signal Corps, talk of shipping them to the infantry	5/28/1944

2	10	800348219	To Folks (but means Dear Mother) from David G. Karraker: writing while listening to "Uncle Frank's" post invasion speech and an argument on the Infantry Drill Regulations (IDR), new Commanding Officer started today, finished another course, everyone complaining about KP, will probably ship out on Saturday	6/10/1944
2	10	800348220	To Folks from David G. Karraker: transferred to a new company and his opinion of the unit, he and Vic are still together but John A. Bowles went somewhere different, his current course is overcrowded, received a letter from Gordie, update on weather, story of German prisoners watching him during his subsistence detail while still in Company L	6/15/1944
2	10	800348221	To Folks from David G. Karraker: celebrated one year in the Army with Vic at a USO dance, imagines he will be shipped out soon, description of the Post Exchange near his barracks, thinks he will be home in a month, asks for money	6/18/1944
2	10	800348222	To Folks from David G. Karraker: he and Vic met John A. Bowles at the Service Club, Vic shipped back to Company L, almost done with his last course and expecting a furlough by next week, thinks he will be shipped out of Company E soon, hasn't done any hard work since his transfer	6/29/1944
2	10	800348223	To Folks from David G. Karraker: finished school, reasons his furlough was denied, his new assignment, thinks he will be released next week and should be able to make it home, thinks the outfit is a "gold brick outfit"	7/6/1944

2	11	800348224	To Folks from David G. Karraker: about arriving safely at Camp Crowder, MO, being assigned KP duty, attending a USO dance in Joplin, IL, sharing a room with Vic, Vince, Staff Sergeant Hank Scott, Technical Sergeant Howard Waldron, Technical Sergeant Larry Maynard, asks for a loan of five dollars since he will not be paid until the 10th, complains that he has no assignment and is currently spending the day "horsing around" with dynamite which gave him a headache	8/1/1944
2	11	800348225	To Mother from David G. Karraker: thanks his mother for sending him five dollars, says he enjoyed his Saturday night visit to Neosho, MO, working six hours a day at CPX while trying to avoid any kind of labor, says John A. Bowles returned from furlough complaining that civilians all expected the war to end in two weeks, asks his mother to send him his rain coat	8/9/1944
2	11	800348226	To Folks from David G. Karraker: paid on the 10th and received \$6.50 in check-rations while on furlough, has included \$5 to repay his previous loan, on Sunday the battalion went through gas training but he was on KP duty, still working at CPX, on Monday will begin team tug, expects to finish training two weeks after completing team training, will take night classes this week on hand grenades and rifle grenades and will practice throwing and firing grenades the following Saturday	8/16/1944
2	11	800348227	To Folks from David G. Karraker: thanks the family for sending money, complains that officers training him in rifle grenades and hand grenades lack knowledge, threw grenade at a Second Lieutenant who ran scared, went to Joplin, MO for his birthday with Vince and Vic, assigned Barracks Orderly, guard duty, made "coach" for rifle grenade training, trained with live hand	8/20/1944

grenades, gas chamber training tomorrow, discusses upcoming election and hopes war will end with "cooperative peace" rather than "forced peace"

2	11	800348228	To Folks from David G. Karraker: thanks the family for sending him money and cookies, as team chief giving two lectures a week on various subjects, his team installed a switchboard	8/30/1944
2	12	800348229	To Folks from David G. Karraker: complains his team lieutenant is incompetent, enjoyed recent trip to Pittsburg, KS where he attended a dance, received vaccines for typhoid and tetanus	9/11/1944
2	12	800348230	To Folks from David G. Karraker: one more week of team training, promoted to Technician Fifth Grade with increase in base pay to \$66 per month, trained with Springfield rifle, received vaccine for smallpox, thanks family for sending money that he used to clean his uniform and have service stripes sewed on shoulder	9/21/1944
2	12	800348231	To Folks from David G. Karraker: finished team tug training, visited Joplin, MO with John A. Bowles, begins Non-Commissioned Officer school next week, complains about "90 day wonders," some of the men in the company wanted to complain to UTC command but were denied by the Commanding Officer, accidentally signed for his pay as previous rank of Private First Class and did not receive correct pay, asks for advice on the upcoming election writing that he does not want Roosevelt to win another term, plans	[10/4/1944]



to vote for several socialists

2	12	800348232	To Folks from David G. Karraker: writes that he is off for the weekend from Non-Commissioned Officer school, reports tomorrow for week of tug training, will try to visit after completing Non-Commissioned Officer school	[10/14/1944]
2	13	800348233	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received \$44 in pay, more money than he knows what to do with, details purchases, many of the men in camp received orders to report overseas, begins driver school this week learning to drive 2.5 and 1.5 ton trucks, heard Eddy had been demoted from Sergeant, Charles Volk made Technician Fifth Grade, voted for Dewey for president	11/1/1944
2	13	800348234	To Folks from David G. Karraker: learned very little in driving school besides washing cars, complains about officers, complains about military bureaucracy, Charge of Quarters last weekend, hitchhiked to Pittsburg, KS Saturday night and returned two hours late for duty next day, company had party in Joplin, MO on Monday, some men did not return yet from the trip, wishes his Commanding Officer would stay on leave, laments that Mary Jo has married	11/8/1944

2	13	800348235	To Folks from David G. Karraker: refereed a basketball game, sorry to hear David was wounded but Aunt Winnie must be relieved, supposes entire family except Aunt Frances dislike President Roosevelt, visited Pittsburg, KS, someone at camp was given six months in stockade for three robberies totaling \$14.50, team will install another switchboard if they can find enough cable	11/17/1944
2	13	800348236	To Folks from David G. Karraker: denied two-day pass, drilled in the rain, bought a \$10 war bond, visited Pittsburg, KS on Saturday and saw film, doubts he will receive another stripe because he told Commanding Officer and team officer they were stupid, jokingly offers to send home his Thompson submachine gun to help with the family's local feud	11/28/1944
2	14	800348237	To Folks from David G. Karraker: told he is being transferred for "an undesirable attitude," will not be able to visit until January, requests tie and socks, bought a \$7.50 war bond in order to receive a furlough, denied furlough, met a soldier returned from overseas who served in Merrill's Marauders in Burma and had stories about China-Burma-India theatre, team's latest project using borrowed, stolen or hand-made equipment	12/5/1944
2	14	800348238	To Folks from David G. Karraker: spent last week playing basketball, weather cold and snowy, hiked ten miles in freezing rain, duties reduced to a minimum, spent most of his time playing basketball and reading, saw a film, suspects that the company may receive orders to ship out soon, laments poor training of company's officers	12/12/1944

2	15	800348239	To Folks from David G. Karraker: visited Pittsburg, KS, leaving for Company A on Wednesday, lot of free time, some men in his company have shipped out, the barrack is cold because he broke two windows next to his bunk. Includes a copy of his denied request for a furlough pass	1/2/1945
2	15	800348240	To Folks from David G. Karraker: arrived at Company A, had a clothing check, overseas physical and contemptuous interview, transferred to Company B, unsure of when he will receive orders to ship out, the men of Company A filed a complaint with the Inspector General and were disciplined by the Major, the men of Company A filed another complaint with the Inspector General, will attend driver's school next week	1/9/1945
2	15	800348241	To Folks from David G. Karraker: returned to Camp Crowder this morning, Charles Volk in the hospital with a cold, will train with Thompson submachine gun tomorrow	1/26/1945
2	15	800348242	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received mother's letter, received Brudge's letter, returned Wednesday night, Friday and Saturday fired Thompson submachine gun and anti-aircraft gun, Saturday night had fireman duty, had KP duty, will fire Springfield rifle tomorrow, Charles Volk is in the hospital and did not sign payroll so will not get paid until 10th	1/30/1945
2	16	800348243	To Folks from David G. Karraker: enjoyed most recent letter, weather has been cold, KP duty, ash and trash duty, parking and washing trucks in Motor Pool, disappointed in military, did not ship out to Camp Beale as rumored, new transfers into company, more ash and trash duty, injured himself jumping off moving truck	2/6/1945

2	16	800348244	To Folks from David G. Karraker: sorry for not writing sooner, KP duty, visited Joplin, MO two nights, Charles Volk received orders to ship out, received family's package, KP duty, visited Pittsburg, KS	2/18/1945
2	16	800348245	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received mother's letter, KP duty, made appointment with a Major to ask for orders to ship out, John A. Bowles and Victor on furlough so not much to do except read and go see movies, had a date with a USO girl on Wednesday, fumigating barracks tomorrow, Charles Volk will not ship overseas due to previous injuries,	2/23/1945
2	16	800348246	To Folks from David G. Karraker: studying Chinese, not sure why transferred on short notice, transfer order rumored to be related to Intelligence Service, did not get paid last month	2/28/1945
2	17	800348247	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received \$10 from father, continuing classes, staying in room of Yale student, studying language to become interpreter in Military Intelligence Service, does not believe transfer was due to meeting scheduled with Major Patton, staying at Berkeley College at Yale University, received several letters from friends and family including USO girl he dated, expects to receive orders to ship out to China in August	3/6/1945
2	17	800348248	To Folks from David G. Karraker: got paid today and will repay \$10 loan from father, cut from Berkeley College basketball team	3/8/1945
2	17	800348249	To Folks from David G. Karraker: school is demanding, visited Boston and attended a dance, visited Bud and fiancée in Watertown, MA on Sunday, John A. Bowles and Vic shipped out	3/15/1945

2	17	800348250	To Folks from David G. Karraker: Chinese language classes are getting more difficult, went to a dance last Saturday, learning to sing baritone in a barbershop quartet, had dinner at a Chinese restaurant with two female Chinese interpreters, had tea at Master's house for section to meet Colonel	3/22/1945
2	17	800348251	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received mother's letter and letter from Bill Casper from overseas, sounds like war is going well in Germany, enjoyed some good food, classes are very intense, company had a party on Saturday with dancing	3/29/1945
2	18	800348252	To Folks from David G. Karraker: has plenty of money and clean clothes, does not expect war to end soon, believes that pockets of resistance will drag out war in Southern Germany, man in company who lived in Germany says that German Army has enough supplies in Southern Germany to last five years, Army estimates two million men for occupation force, planning to visit Charles Volk in Bethlehem, PA, men who graduated from course sent to Fort Devens, thinks Junior will earn some "gold bars on his shoulder"	4/6/1945
2	18	800348253	To Folks from David G. Karraker: visited Charles Volk in Catasauqua, PA, received letter from Adolph from France who is "disgusted" with the war, received letter from Technical Sergeant Perry of the 3189th stating that PoWs and French civilians were working for the military, war in Europe appears near end, expects Pacific theatre to continue, made the Honor Roll	4/12/1945

2	18	800348254	To Folks from David G. Karraker: enjoyed recent letters, not very busy, visited Savin Rock amusement park in New Haven, CT, went to dinner with two female Chinese interpreters, had five-mile hike, death of Roosevelt, death of Ernie Pyle in Okinawa, believes Pyle responsible for change in civilian attitude toward Infantry as well as increases in pay and awards, expects to spend two years overseas after Yale	4/18/1945
2	18	800348255	To Folks from David G. Karraker: life at Yale the same, Chinese vocabulary up to several hundred words, learning to write next month, received stitches from an injury in boxing class, received letter from Charles Volk saying he likes Camp Beale, will not be able to visit during his time off next week, plans to visit several places in Massachusetts and maybe Maine or Rhode Island	4/26/1945
2	19	800348256	To Folks from David G. Karraker: visiting Boston this weekend to see Bud, Edward and Jim O., visited Hartford, CT last weekend, lip has healed from boxing injury	5/2/1945
2	19	800348257	To Folks from David G. Karraker: all is well, visited Boston and stayed with Bud, attended a few classes at Harvard with Bud, returned Saturday, stopped in Providence, RI, received several letters, happy about VE Day, wonders what happened to Hitler, predicts that the <i>American Weekly</i> will have articles related to Hitler's fate	5/9/1945
2	19	800348258	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received letter and newspaper clippings, made Honor Roll again, visited Bridgeport, CT last weekend and visited USO, continuing classes, congratulations to Jane for graduating, unsure about getting a	5/16/1945

furlough

2	19	800348259	To Jane: belatedly remembered her graduation, gives humorous advice	5/23/1945
2	19	800348260	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received letters, will try to vote for Democrats in upcoming judicial election, visited New York City with John Swanson on Sunday and saw a baseball game, attended a USO dance, Dad's ulcer sounds bad, visited dental hygienist	5/25/1945
2	19	800348261	To Folks from David G. Karraker: CQ duty, received letter from Dee, moved from Berkeley College to Wright Hall, graduating class gave a program in Chinese, forgot what he was supposed to send home, attended a party in the dining hall last weekend	5/31/1945
2	20	800348262	To Folks from David G. Karraker: enjoyed Robert's letter, jokes that the family's penmanship has led to increased typewriter sales, New Haven daily newspaper had a story about the Military Intelligence Service school at Yale, visited Hartford, CT last weekend, visited Meriden, CT and Waterbury, CT on Sunday	6/7/1945
2	20	800348263	To Folks from David G. Karraker: spent the weekend in Hartford, CT and attended a USO dance, has Saturday afternoon detail as punishment for leaving lights on, glad to hear about mother, plan to visit New York City or Hartford, CT this weekend	6/14/1945
2	20	800348264	To Folks from David G. Karraker: sorry for late letter, helping to write graduation play, expects to get furlough within 10 days of July 1st, ask father for money,	6/21/1945

2	20	800348265	To Folks from David G. Karraker: transferred to Fort Devens, MA, attended a party for graduates of Yale Chinese School, attended a banquet for instructors on Thursday, practiced for graduation exercises, graduated Saturday morning and left for Fort Devers in the afternoon, visited Boston for the weekend and saw a baseball game, fired rifle and earned Sharpshooter rating, transferred to Camp Beale, will visit home soon	7/4/1945
2	20	800348266	To Folks from David G. Karraker: ate at restaurant on postcard, will visit home soon	7/7/1945
2	21	800348267	To Folks from David G. Karraker: dislikes California, will stay at Camp Beale until receives orders to ship overseas, arrived Monday to Camp Beale, had physical examination Tuesday and received equipment including combat boots, finds combat boots uncomfortable, many of the company dislike the Commanding Officer, refers to the Commanding Officer as a racial slur, has guard duty tomorrow, hopes to leave camp for the weekend if he can avoid detail	8/2/1945
2	21	800348268	To Folks from David G. Karraker: KP duty, shoveled gravel, cleaned barracks, surprised he received a weekend pass, received Gordie's letter, played bridge, visited San Francisco, CA and Sacramento, CA, war appears to be over but does not expect his orders to change	8/12/1945
2	21	800348269	To Folks from David G. Karraker: all is well, do not need money	8/22/1945



2	21	800348270	To Folks from David G. Karraker: been on ship for 25 or 26 days, expects to land at end of week, had been shipped to Camp Myles Standish, then boarded ship in Boston, ship is a Navy transport manned by the Coast Guard, had lifeguard duty for first 16-17 days of journey, passed by the Azores, Gibraltar, and coast of North Africa, saw several wrecked ships along coast west of Alexandria using the ship's telescope, ship stopped at Port Said, traveled through Suez Canal, put on detail chipping paint off deck, says Navy is even "more stupid" than the Army, had detail storing canned goods in the hold, has a lot of free time reading, playing cards and watching movies, currently off the coast of Ceylon	9/27/1945
2	21	800348271	To Folks from David G. Karraker: sea travel was 27 days long, news from home, ship crew did not like the enlisted men, currently 40 miles from Calcutta, expects to be stationed in India, Burma or Siam instead of China	9/30/1945
2	22	800348272	To Folks from David G. Karraker: currently in India, received several shots, rumored that he may ship out to Karachi, Assam, China, Calcutta or the United States, received several letters from home, playing bridge	10/2/1945
2	22	800348273	To Folks from David G. Karraker: currently in Kanchrapara, India, Red Cross sells hamburgers for five annas, worked all night stapling papers, no orders to ship out to China yet, may get to see Berger and John A. Bowles, received letters from home	10/18/1945
2	22	800348274	To Folks from David G. Karraker: rained most of week, received no mail since Sunday when he received a letter from the USO girl from Saint Louis, MO, the	10/24/1945

			camp has many men who served in China, need a haircut, expect to travel to Calcutta in a week	
2	22	800348275	To Mrs. R.W. Karraker: cartoon reading "Thanksgiving Greetings from the India-Burma Theatre"	10/29/1945
2	22	800348276	To Folks from David G. Karraker: still at same camp, food is lousy, spending time reading	10/30/1945
2	23	800348277	To Folks from David G. Karraker: mailed home gifts, received letters, Eddy does not like Tokyo and questions who won the war, visited town, met an American salesman, played softball, lost rations betting on football	11/11/1945
2	23	800348278	To Folks from David G. Karraker: Flew from Calcutta, India to Kunming, China, to Canton, China, living in clubhouse at Shanghai Racecourse, working in China Theatre Headquarters G-1 Section, met John A. Bowles at Red Cross, John A. Bowles in 3198th Signal Service Battalion, Thanksgiving dinner	11/29/1945
2	23	800348279	To Folks from David G. Karraker: wrote wrong address in 11/29/1945 letter, correct address is Army Post Office 879	12/1/1945
2	23	800348280	To Folks from David G. Karraker: upon arrival in Shanghai living in clubhouse at Shanghai Racecourse, 100 men in single room, now living at Foreign YMCA near Shanghai Racecourse, Red Cross in same building, working in Development Building China Theatre Headquarters logging radio transmissions for G-1 Section, trying to join China Search Mission, John A. Bowles transferred to Chungking	12/10/1945

2	23	800348281	To Folks from David G. Karraker: Charge of Quarters duty, Christmas celebration, dance, dinner with Chinese teacher to discuss Chinese politics and Communism, sometimes supports Communists, upcoming dances, shortage of men and officers	12/24/1945
2	23	800348282	To Family: form letter regarding Christmas celebration, upcoming costume ball and casino night, handwritten letter on verso regarding Christmas dinner in Peking and speaking Chinese with locals	12/30/1945
2	23	800348283	To Folks from David G. Karraker: traveled to Peking on 12/27/1945, stayed at Hostel #3 formerly Central Hotel in Peking, Christmas dinner, sightseeing in Peking, returned to Shanghai, desires to stay longer to explore China	12/31/1945
2	24	800348284	To Folks from David G. Karraker: transferred to Formosa (Taiwan), suspects he will help in repatriation of Japanese Army working as typist	1/6/1946
2	24	800348285	To Folks from David G. Karraker: in Formosa (Taiwan), repatriating Japanese Army, working as inspector for contraband, working with Chinese 70th Army, staying in Japanese hotel	1/13/1946
2	24	800348286	To Folks from David G. Karraker: mission in Formosa (Taiwan) is to repatriate Japanese, protect American property, and advise Chinese Army, Chinese Theatre troop numbers, criticizes Army operations and officers, calls United States an empire	1/30/1946
2	24	800348287	To Folks from David G. Karraker: received Christmas package, received package from USO girl from St. Louis, have repatriated 20,000 Japanese Army troops, watching movies, received letters	2/8/1946

2	24	800348288	To Folks from David G. Karraker: tension between American and Chinese armies, suspects the Chinese will unofficially execute Japanese corporal, criticizes officers, criticizes Chinese Army, tensions between Taiwanese and Chinese, corruption in Chinese Army, poorly equipped and poorly treated soldiers in Chinese Army, Chinese Army terrorizes civilians, Communists popular in North China, rumors of revolt against Chinese Nationalists	2/15/1946
2	24	800348289	To Folks from David G. Karraker: 60,000 Japanese repatriated, 200,000 more Japanese still to be repatriated, using Liberty ships for repatriation, received letters, dislikes Army, criticizes officers	2/24/1946
2	25	800348290	To Folks from David G. Karraker: communicating with Japanese and Chinese soldiers, describes Chinese and Japanese as being similar in behavior and emotions to Westerners which debunks the "inscrutable Oriental" stereotype, describes Chinese customs, says many officers have Japanese mistresses, lack of mail planes	3/6/1946
2	25	800348291	To Folks from David G. Karraker: family life, possible presidential candidates for 1948 election, reading Charles Dickens	3/13/1946
2	25	800348292	To Folks from David G. Karraker: afternoon leave, Personal Exchange almost out of cigarettes, Taiwanese Yen devaluation, orders to transfer out of Formosa (Taiwan) first week of April, possibly seeking job at Texaco in Shanghai, rumored that John A. Bowles and Vic will return to U.S. by April	3/15/1946

2	25	800348293	<p>To Folks from David G. Karraker: does not expect to return to the U.S. until June due to lack of transports, expects entire Formosa Liaison Group to leave around 4/20/1946, no mail for three weeks, Milt Gendel came to investigate plane crash, visited Taihoku (Taipei) with Milt Gendel,</p>	4/3/1946
2	25	800348294	<p>To Folks from David G. Karraker: currently in Shanghai, expects to leave China by 4/20/1946, expects to return home by May 1946</p>	4/14/1946