

Jay A. Urice, Jr. papers

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circa 1930s-1950s



Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

C0327

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/620

Unit Date

circa 1930s-1950s

Language

English

Abstract

A collection of correspondence, photographs, and ephemera created and collected by Jay A. Urice, Jr., including during his time serving in the Korean War as a Private, First Class in the U.S. Army 40th Infantry Division, 3rd Battalion, 223rd Regimental Combat Team.

Creator

Urice, Jr., Jay A., 1927-2007

Extent

1.5 Linear Feet 4 boxes

Physical Location

R 73, C 3, S 5

Repository

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions.

Use Restrictions

The copyright and related rights status of this collection have not been evaluated (See <http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/CNE/1.0/>)

Acquisition Information

Purchased by Lynn Eaton from Caroliniana Books in April 2019.

Processing Information

Processing completed by Meghan Glasbrenner from August-September 2024. Finding aid completed by Meghan Glasbrenner in October 2024.

Preferred Citation

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Biographical and Historical Information

Jay Adams Urice, Jr. was born on April 22, 1927 in Mt. Kisco, New York to Jay Adams, Sr. and Marguerite (Nesbitt) Urice. Raised in an upper middle class family, Jay, Jr. spent his early years in Pleasantville, New York, and attended the Scarborough School, a private day school in Scarborough-on-Hudson, New York. Urice briefly attended Champlain College in Plattsburgh, New York, before withdrawing and joining the Merchant Marine as a cook on the S.S. Pocket Canyon. During the Korean War he continued his services as a cook, joining the U.S. Army as a Private First Class in the Army 40th Infantry Division, 3rd Battalion, 223rd Regimental Combat Team, spending time stationed in both Japan and Korea. Following his time in the U.S. Army, Urice married Doris Meinweiser and moved to Barrett Township, Pennsylvania, where he spent most of his life working in hotel management at nearby Buck Hill Falls and Skytop Lodge. Urice passed away on April 3, 2007 at the age of 79 and is buried in Laurelwood Cemetery in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

The Korean War was a Cold War conflict that lasted from 1950-1953. The conflict centered around the June 1950 invasion of South Korea (also known as the Republic of Korea) by the Soviet-allied and supported North Korea (also known as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea), with the United Nations intervening (using mostly U.S. forces) to aid South Korea. The war suffered over a million casualties with no final resolution between the two countries. Fighting formally ending in July 1953 with signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement and the creation of the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) at the 38th parallel, but without signing of a peace treaty. As of 2024, Korea remains divided at this de facto boundary between North and South Korea.

Scope and Content

A collection of correspondence, photographs, and ephemera created and collected by Jay A. Urice, Jr. Correspondence consists primarily of letters sent by Jay, Jr. to his parents Jay, Sr. and Marguerite Urice, during his time station in Japan and Korea during the Korean War. These letters document his time serving with the U.S. Army and discuss his experiences in temporary bivouac shelters, daily camp life and work in Sendai, Japan, and his arrival and experiences in Korea starting in 1952.

Additional correspondence includes personal letters received by Jay, Jr. during the 1940s – early 1950s from

family and friends, including a large number from Barbara "Tommy" Tompkins (possibly Jay, Jr.'s girlfriend at the time), as well as two formal letters regarding his education, including transcripts and a diploma. The collection also includes photographs and negatives, depicting both Jay, Jr.'s family and friends and his military service, newspaper clippings, souvenir postcards, and general mementoes and ephemera.

Related Materials

The Special Collections Research Center holds other collections documenting the Korean War and military life, including the Oliver F. Atkins photograph collection.

Keywords

Korean War, 1950-1953
United States -- Armed Forces -- Military life
Correspondence
Photographs
Domestic life
Postcards
Korean War, 1950-1953 -- Participation, American
United States. Army

Bibliography

"Jay Adams Urice Jr. (1927-2007)." n.d. Find a Grave. Accessed October 23, 2024.
https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/96285501/jay_adams-urice.

"Korean War." 2024. In Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Korean_War&oldid=1252265646#Names.

Millett, Allan R. 2024. "Korean War." In Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War>.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged by material type or function and then chronologically where possible.

Description of Subordinate Components

Letters from Barbara Ruth "Tommy" Tompkins to Jay

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193497

Unit Date September 7, 1944 - April 5, 1945

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Letter from Arvid E. Bergen, Presbyterian Church School Treasurer, Pleasantville, New York to Jay

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193499

Unit Date November 20, 1944

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

General correspondence between Jay and his parents Jay Adam, Sr. and Marguerite Urice

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193502

Unit Date circa 1944-1952

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Letters from Hallo and George Nesbit Urice to Jay

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193498

Unit Date April 13-18, 1948

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Scope and Contents

George and Hallo are Jay, Jr.'s brother and sister-in-law.

Letter, diploma, and transcript sent to Jay from Edward D. Andrews, Dean of Boys Scarborough School, New York

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193501

Unit Date January 26, 1949

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Diploma from Scarborough School dated June 11, 1947. Transcript from Champlain College, Plattsburg, New York dated 1948.

Letter to "Janet & Bill" from Jay

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193494

Unit Date December 15, 1951

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Janet is likely Jay, Jr.'s sister

Letters to "Mother & Father" from Jay

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193491

Unit Date August 9, 1951 - December 27, 1951

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Some letters addressed to "Mother & Dad"

Letters to "Mother & Father" from Jay

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193492

Unit Date January 2, 1952 - April 30, 1952

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Includes a single letter, likely sent by Jay's mother, that is referenced in his March 17 letter

Letters to "Mother & Father" from Jay

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193493

Unit Date May 2, 1952 - October 9, 1952

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Lists of photographic slides sent by Jay to parents

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193495

Unit Date circa December 1951-1952

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Papers were found interspersed with correspondence and removed from original photographs they reference

General letters

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193500

Unit Date circa 1940s-1950s

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Ephemera and mementoes

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193503

Unit Date circa 1940s-1950s

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Souvenir postcards

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193504

Unit Date circa 1940s-1950s

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Newspaper clippings

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193505

Unit Date circa 1951-1952

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

"Silver Bay" newsletter, Vol. 6, No. 1

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193496

Unit Date January 1952

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

U.S. Army and Korean War photographs

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193506

Unit Date circa 1951-1952

Mixed Materials 2 (box)

Personal photographs

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193507

Unit Date circa 1930s-1950s

Mixed Materials 3-4 (box)

Negatives

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/193508

Unit Date circa 1940s-1950s

Mixed Materials 4 (box)