

Offer, August R. Jr. Papers

August R. Offer, Jr. Papers

1945-1946

Title Statement

Offer, August R. Jr. PapersGuide to the August R. Offer, Jr. Papers SC 01258

Author: SCRC staff.

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 01258

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/227

Unit Date

1945-1946

Language

English Chinese

Creator

Offer, August R., Jr.

Extent

0.01 Linear Foot

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access:

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August R. Offer, Jr. Papers, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Scope and Contents

Papers, 1945-1946 of Sergeant August R. Offer Jr., consisting of letters, photographs, Chinese currency, Chinese stamps and a military pass for the City for Shanghai. Letters are addressed to Offer while stationed in Shanghai after the end of the WW II and also to the U.S after his return in December 1945. folder link on the right.

Keywords

Coins (money)

Letters (correspondence)

Military passes

Photographs

Postage stamps

Shanghai (China)

United States. Air Force. Air Force, 14th--Staff

World War, 1939-1945--China--Shanghai

Arrangement of Materials:

This collection has not been arranged yet. Please consult a staff member for assistance.

Description of Subordinate Components

Folder 1: Papers

Unit ID id62700

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/23266

Mixed Materials Small Collections Box 91 (Box)

Container 1 (folder)

Scope and Contents

The following listing of items included in this collection was provided by the seller, and has neither been verified nor edited by staff.

"This lot includes items from estate of retired United States Air Force Lt. Col. Command Pilot, who served with the 14th Air Force in China during World War II. These include handwritten and typed letters to him from people he met while stationed in China during WWII; and various photos. 1) Permanent Pass, City of Shanghai, for American serviceman. Worn. 2) 19 Nov 1945 letter, Dr. Kelly Chu. Brief note with Chinese money and stamps. 3) 22 Nov 1945 letter, Dr. Kelly Chu, Peking or Peiping. "...I am sure you have already

landed in Shanghai safe and sound. I am exceedingly glad of knowing you and hope that our friendship will last forever...I shall appreciate very much if you will sell US \$25 for me in Shanghai, and spend US\$2 to buy "Camel" or "Old Gold" or any other US cigarettes for me and ask your friend to bring them with the Chinese National Currency to me instead of the US notes. Is there anything I can do for you?" 4) 3 Dec 1945 letter, from Dr. Chu, Peiping. Asking about previous request for cigarettes and money. 5) 16 Feb 1946, from Dr. Chu, Peiping. "...I have recently joined the army as chief surgeon in Generalissimo's Northeast headquarters—i.e. Manchuria headquarters. This headquarter is for the time being in Peiping, but will move up to Changchun as soon as the Soviet troops complete their withdrawal. However, my family will remain in Peiping...I sincerely hope you will come to China again and give your help in building a good and modern China. We need your help and I think there will be a very bright future for you, too...I suppose you did not forget to ask "Monkey Ward" to send me a book of catalogue, as I wish to buy a lot from them; you can tell them or other big company—department store—that I'll become their good customer all right...How are your parents? Convey my & my wife's respect to them..." Included is signed photo of Dr. Chu. 6) 22 Feb 1946, from Corporal in Shanghai. "...Dr. Chu has accepted a Colonelship in the Chinese Army and is out of Peiping at the present time..." 7) 17 Mar 1946 letter plus photo, from Dr. C.L. Chu, Peiping; signed "Kelly Chu." "I have so far received but one letter from you since your return to the States...You can think of the situation by now, it is much worse as compared with the time when you were here. I think by now you'll agree to me in saying that some one is behind the communists...I have joined the army and was ready to head for Manchuria, but I so far am not able to go yet...There are numbers of cities up there broke out with PLAGUE, but under the present situation no one can fight the plague...Have you gone back to college? I am looking forward to see you to come back to China and help us out. We are in need of you, and need you fellows badly...There is no railway running between Peiping and Shanghai yet, and I can hardly ask my friend to bring a piece of rug down to Shanghai by air...I like to buy a bicycle with solid rubber tire and the bike which when I add a motor to it, can convert into a motor-bicycle...Please try to look for a bike for me and have it shipped to me and declare to custom as a gift to me...I think I'll going to America by the latest 1947..." Photo probably shows him and his wife. 8) 20 Mar 1946, letter from Grace, Shanghai. "...write me a few lines...We've been having a trying wet season...little patches of floods here and there...the streetcars—p cabs—rickshas' racketeer, just guess how much they demand for each trip. There prices range from \$2000, CNC, upwards...Commodities here are just sky-high & to keep up my daily expenses I am at present doing extra work in the evenings for a doctor. We so-call middle class people are slaving like a mule for our daily living and to think most of your income goes to the pockets of the officials thru high taxing on all commodities. Here is one example, nite-clubs are charging about 50% tax on all sales, who can afford this now a day excepting the official gang whom the poor civilians, some which have never been in a nite-club all their lifes are supporting. Sometimes I wish I could get out of China...I just received a letter from C.N.A.C. concerning the flight stewardess job, but circumstances stopped me from going...When are you going to develop all our photos you took here..." Includes four small snapshots of Grace and others. 9) 21 June 1946, letter from Grace, Shanghai. "...I have not received a word from you...I am getting a permit for the States..." 10) Package, with Chinese characters, includes 14 small b/w photos; one of Grace alone, one of Grace with American soldier, and the rest are of buildings and sites in China."