

WILLIAM P. KIDD PAPERS

Mss. 1844

Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Revised 2008

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SUMMARY

Size.	0.3 linear ft.
Geographic locations.	Louisiana, Germany
Inclusive dates.	1872-1945, undated
Bulk dates.	1916-1919
Language.	English
Summary.	World War I letters and related items of Private William P. Kidd, a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, stationed in Germany; and a Baton Rouge bank book and funeral notice of Kidd's father William P. Kidd, Sr. (1849-1908).
Organization.	Series I, Correspondence, 1918-1919 Series II, Photographs, ca. 1918-1919 Series III, Printed materials, 1908-ca. 1945 Series IV, Manuscript volume, 1872-1874
Restrictions on access.	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
Related collections.	N/A
Copyright.	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Citation.	William P. Kidd Papers, Mss. 1844. Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack locations.	UU:126, OS:K, 99:

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

William P. Kidd, a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, served in the 42nd Division, American Expeditionary Forces stationed in Mayschoss, Germany, during World War I. He participated in at least two battles on the Western Front at St. Mihiel and Argonne Forest; he later served on the Mexican border.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Letters, 1918-1919, mention Kidd's participation in the battles at St. Mihiel and Argonne Forest, comment on his furlough to France, and discuss his return home. Additional materials relating to World War I include photographs of Kidd, the Old State Capitol in Baton Rouge, and the departure of a troop train; maps of the British, French, Italian and American battle fronts; and a program for the benediction of the National Ensign and Service Flag at St. James Protestant Episcopal Church in Baton Rouge. Draft lists for Baton Rouge and victory parades for returning soldiers in various cities are depicted in newspapers and clippings of that era. Also present is an enlarged photograph of an order (1919) by U. S. Army General John J. Pershing thanking fellow soldiers for their splendid service to the army and nation; a clipping about Pershing's farewell to the "Rainbow Unit;" and a World War II benefit program given for the Army Emergency Relief Fund (1942). Pamphlets and volumes are composed of William P. Kidd, Sr.'s bank book of deposits with Montan and Huguet in Baton Rouge (1872-1874); several issues of *National Guardsman*; a pamphlet on the 1st Louisiana Infantry's Mexican border service (1916); a brief history of Camp Nicholls and the 1st Louisiana Infantry; and "Autobiography of the 39th Infantry Division, U. S. A., Alexandria Cantonment, Camp Beauregard, Louisiana" (ca. 1918).

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series I, Correspondence, 1918-1919

The majority of letters are written by William P. Kidd, a private in World War I stationed with American Expeditionary Forces in Germany. He writes to his family in Baton Rouge and discusses the possibility of his return soon to United States. He mentions his participation in two battles on the Western Front, the Battle of St. Mihiel and the Battle of the Argonne Forest (February 10, 1918), his furlough to France (March 17, 1919), and general inquiries about family and friends and discussion of when he will return home (1918-1919).

Also included is a letter from J.L.M. Irby, Captain, Company B, 117th Engineer, American Expeditionary Forces, Germany, to Mrs. William P. Kidd. He states that her son, William P. Kidd, has survived campaigns without a scratch and attributes the failure to hear from him to mail congestion (January 9, 1919). General Order #38A, issued by John J. Pershing, France, thanks fellow soldiers for their splendid service to army and nation, and includes a clipping discussing Pershing's farewell to the Rainbow Unit (February 28, 1919).

Series II, Photographs, ca. 1918-1919

The collection contains four photographs, one of the original Louisiana State Capitol Building (1919), two depicting troop departures (ca. 1918), and one photograph of two soldiers (possibly William P. Kidd) standing beside a "pup" tent (ca. 1918).

Series III, Printed material, 1908-ca. 1945

Subseries 1, Printed items, 1908-ca. 1945

Printed items include a funeral announcement for W.P. Kidd (May 14, 1908), a program for The Service of Benediction of National Ensign and Service Flag at St. James Church in Baton Rouge (July 28, 1918) and an Official Bulletin published by the Committee on Public Information (November 4, 1918: Vol.2, No.454). Also included are three issues of *The National Guardsmen* (June 7-21, 1919); "Historic Record of Camp Nicholls, New Orleans, 1917" containing rosters, pictorial record and histories of the First Louisiana Infantry, Washington Artillery, and First Separate Troop Cavalry (1917); a program for "To the Border and Back by the First Louisiana Infantry: Mexican Border Service, from Alexandria to San Benito, Rio Hondo and Home," Alexandria, Louisiana, (ca. 1916); and "The Autobiography of the 39th Infantry Division, USA Alexandria Cantonment, Camp Beauregard, Louisiana" (ca. 1918). Printed items from World War II include a program for "Follies of the Forty-Ninth" presented in Baton Rouge for the benefit of the Army Emergency Relief Fund (June 26-27, 1942); and a pamphlet discussing the 7th War Loan of World War II (ca. 1945).

Subseries 2, Newspapers and newspaper clippings, 1916-1923

Newspapers clippings discuss Louisiana troops serving in WWI, American troops returning home and provide general war news. Newspapers consist of the following:
State Times Advocate (Baton Rouge) (May 17, 1916; July 9-11, 20-21, August 13, September 20, 1917; November 27, 1918; March 11, April 28, 1919)
New York Times (March 30, 1919)
Sunday Herald (Boston) (April 27, 1919)
New Orleans States (May 12-13, 1919)
Unknown Baton Rouge newspaper (May 3, 1919)
Baton Rouge Sunday News (May 4, 1919, undated)

Subseries 3, Maps, 1917-1918

Maps concerning World War I consist of the following:
French Front War Map, published by Rand McNally, 1917.
British Front War Map, ca. 1918.
Italian Front War map, published by Rand McNally, ca. 1918.
United States Army and Her Allies Western Battle Front, ca. 1918.

Series IV, Manuscript volume, 1872-1874

Account book of deposits of W.P. Kidd, father of William P. Kidd, with Montan and Huguet in Baton Rouge. Printed statement on first page reads, "It is agreed and understood that Deposits shall be payable in the same description of funds that may have been deposited," Deposits on this page are shown as United States Treasury Notes.

INDEX TERMS

Argonne, Battle of the, France, 1918.

Camp Beauregard (La.)

Camp Nicholls (La.)

Kidd, W. P. (William P.), 1894-1947.

Newspapers.

Pershing, John J. (John Joseph), 1860-1948.

Photographic prints.

Saint-Mihiel, Battle of, Saint-Mihiel, France, 1918.

United States. Army--History--Punitive Expedition into Mexico, 1916.

World War, 1914-1918.

World War, 1914-1918--Maps.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents</u>
UU:126	1	1-7	Correspondence, photographs, printed items (1908, 1918-1919, ca. 1945)
		8	Manuscript volume (1872-1874)
OS:K	--	1	Maps, 1917-ca. 1918; 4 items
99:K	1	1-3	Newspaper clippings, May 17, 1916-July 11, 1917