Claude W. Harris Collection

Creator: Claude William Harris
Quantity: 3.5 linear feet, 5 boxes
Acquisition: Donated by Alan B. Hennis, March 28, 2014; December 4, 2014
Identification: PMML ID# 800179, OCLC#, Call# PAPERS 00167
Citation: [Document Title]. The Claude W. Harris Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Pritzker Military Museum & Library, Chicago, IL
Language: English
Finding Aid: Trenton Carls, 2015; Updated by Andrea Martinez, 2018

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Biographical Note

Claude William Harris was born May 24, 1912 in Hymera, Indiana to Ira Elmer Harris and Phoebe C. Kensler. After moving to Chicago with his family, Harris worked for four years at Montgomery Ward & Co. as a foreman of a reconditioning department. He joined the Army of the United States on May 21, 1942, just before his 30th birthday.

During Harris’s early years in the service, he trained at ordnance school at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland studying bomb disposal methods. He stayed in Aberdeen doing bomb salvage tech for over two years where he was promoted to Private First Class. For the final year of the war he was a Technician Fifth Grade of Ordnance Supply NCO. He took part in battles and campaigns in Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe. During this time he had charge of obtaining all supplies for the 233rd ordnance bomb disposal platoon. He was also in tasked with care of clothing, food, equipment and P.x. supplies; he requisitioned all materials, kept supply books, and records. Harris was honorably discharged on December 19, 1945.

While Harris was training in Aberdeen he became engaged and married to his girlfriend Elizabeth (Betty) A. Bombka.
Claude Harris died in September of 2002 at 80 years of age.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The Claude W. Harris Collection includes correspondence, gift cards, military documents, certificates, photographs, and memorabilia related to the military service of Claude Harris as a Technician Fifth Grade in a Bomb Disposal Platoon during WWII.

Arrangement

The collection arrived in no discernable order. Staff has arranged the collection. The collection consists of two series:


These documents pertain to Claude's service in the United States Army. They include correspondence, certificates, programs and forms. This series also includes military orders and retirement and insurance information.


The items in the scrapbook series pertain to Harris' time in the military. The majority of photographs are taken of Harris at military bases where he was stationed or when he was on furlough. The items remain arranged as presented in the scrapbook. The scrapbooks also include family photos, newspaper clippings, and the covers from both the scrapbooks. This series also includes oversized or realia pertaining to Harris' time in the military.

Rights

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Separations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800179461</td>
<td>Claude's dog tags with chain.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pinback button with photo of soldier. (Same photograph as seen in Scrapbook 1 page 27).

Panoramic print of 101st Provisional Company Ordnance (Bomb Disposal) School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

Panoramic print of 234th Ordnance Company (Bomb Disposal) Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

J-Feder 504 - German Clockwork Long-Delay Fuze.

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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 -- 223rd Ordnance Bomb Disposal.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Bomb Reconnaissance.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Europe.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Illinois -- Chicago.
World War, 1939-1945 -- United States.

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**Container List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>800179001</td>
<td>Claude &amp; Betty Correspondence</td>
<td>1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Mrs. Dash funeral and</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>dislike of a mutual acquaintance. Includes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Betty's rough sketch of her wedding gown.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>800179002</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Shopping and Family.</td>
<td>7/11/1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Drinks with friends and</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>prayers for Claude not being sent out of the</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>800179003</td>
<td>country.</td>
<td>7/12/1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Content</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/23/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty's father's health and Betty's want for an army ring and photograph of Claude.</td>
<td>7/23/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/27/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Father's improving health and shopping.</td>
<td>7/27/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/28/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty's dentist appointment and hanging out with Pearl and George.</td>
<td>7/28/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/29/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Work fights, Father's health, and letters from a Marine to Betty.</td>
<td>7/29/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/29/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Doctor appointments and general friends and family life.</td>
<td>7/29/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7/31/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Father having to quit job and remorse over Claude having to destroy Betty's letters after receiving them.</td>
<td>7/31/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/1/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Work, Father's health and quitting job, plans with friends.</td>
<td>8/1/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Church and Betty's brother. Friends discussing soldier's loyalty.</td>
<td>8/2/1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/3/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty's teeth pulled.</td>
<td>8/3/1942</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8/4/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Letters being opened/tampered with and Betty's Father's failing health.</td>
<td>8/4/1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/7/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Another letter from Roy. Claude going back to school and most likely not leaving the country.</td>
<td>8/7/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8/8/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Letter being tampered</td>
<td>8/8/1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Content</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/9/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty's late night at the clubs and toothache remedies. Hoping Claude can get a furlough for Christmas.</td>
<td>800179017</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8/16/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Church and general family life.</td>
<td>800179018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/21/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Hoping furlough goes through and general Christmas discussions.</td>
<td>800179019</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/22/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Bob Hope television special, Dick Jurgens disbanding his group and Betty upset she didn't get in to see him at the Chicago theater.</td>
<td>800179020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/23/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Christmas preparations.</td>
<td>800179021</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/25/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Reflecting on the holidays and anticipation for Claude's visit home.</td>
<td>800179022</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/27/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Family and Friends. Betty's work vacation and preparations for Claude's visit.</td>
<td>800179023</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/28/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Claude's upcoming visit.</td>
<td>800179024</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/29/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Claude's visit the next day and phone call earlier in the day. Betty's excitement over being called &quot;Dear&quot; for the first time.</td>
<td>800179025</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/30/1942</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Claude's train being delayed due to floods out East. Hoping for tomorrow.</td>
<td>800179026</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/4/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Reflections on Claude's visit, getting her ring fitted, and Claude's return trip.</td>
<td>800179027</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/5/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty's anxiousness to show off her ring and general work topics.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/6/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Showing off ring and visits from old friends now in the Army.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/7/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Missing Claude since his return and Father's new teeth. Includes newspaper clipping of B.L. Bruce's poem &quot;The Proving Ground.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Still no word from Max, Jimmy out of the hospital, and ice covered streets.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/9/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Claude's cold, work, and Karlov Theater.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/10/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Movie at State-Lake &quot;Me and My Gal&quot; and sundaes with cousin at the &quot;Oak Room&quot; (Walgreens).</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/10/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Showing off her ring and Jimmy's improving health. Includes newspaper clipping.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/12/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Family, trip to a fortune teller with friends, and work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/13/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty received four letters on one day, Support for Claude going to school to be Lieutenant but worried for his safety.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/15/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Walkathon, friends, and Claude's weight gain.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/17/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Snow and ice, trip downtown for a show later, and another letter from Roy.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/18/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Trip downtown to see &quot;Once Upon a Honeymoon&quot; where a soldier got &quot;fresh&quot; with her.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Claude & Betty Correspondence 1943

800179040
To: Claude; Subject: Dick Jurgens getting a commission at Glenview, watching Bob Hope, Kay Kayser, and Red Skelton on TV.
1/19/1943

800179041
To: Claude; Subject: Betty's sickness and Claude not being able to go out over the weekend.
1/21/1943

800179042
To: Claude; Subject: Betty's sickness and leaving work because of it. Believes it to be intestinal flu.
1/22/1943

800179043
To: Claude; Subject: Claude's homesickness, Betty's trip shopping downtown and going to see a show at the Woods.
1/24/1943

800179044
To: Claude; Subject: Below zero temperatures, printing pictures from New Year's, and family.
1/25/1943

800179045
To: Claude; Subject: Claude's family, Betty's fall on the ice, and no word from Max recently.
1/26/1943

800179046
To: Claude; Subject: Tax return, dentist appointment, Betty's new role as "food warden" of the block for rationing.
1/27/1943

800179047
To: Claude; Subject: Family, work, and checking in on upcoming furlough
1/29/1943

800179048
To: Claude; Subject: Betty's trips to see "Arabian Nights" at the Palace and "A Yank at Eton" and "Sleeping Tigers" at the Embassy. Still receiving compliments on her ring.
1/31/1943

800179049
To: Claude; Subject: Betty's letter from her "adopted Yank" who wants her to break from Claude. Her father's upcoming civilian defense dance, and normal Chicago winter weather.
2/2/1943
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/4/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Relief that Claude isn't going to school. Max is still among the missing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Bad rain storm, shoe sale at Kitty Kelly's, and still no word from Max.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/7/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Max surprised everyone at the dance. Going to a show downtown with him and friends later. Weather shifted to a snow storm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/7/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Telling of their trip downtown to see &quot;The Pay Off&quot; at the Oriental. Claude's dad went with as a chaperone.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2/8/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Went to see three shows and spent the day with Max. Commented on the fact that Claude can now save his letters from her.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/9/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty finding a cousin she hadn't heard from since her Aunt died. Shoe rationing and hearing about a neighbor who got out of service because he didn't like it.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/10/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Pay day, seeing three more shows, and having a whole family dinner tomorrow night.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/12/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Went to a dance with Max and friends and had a nice family dinner.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/13/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Max's party and dancing. Heading to a show later tonight.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/14/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Went to see &quot;Casablanca&quot; at the Chicago Theater. Missing Claude worse than usual and might</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Claude & Betty Correspondence

1943

5
to see another show to kill time.

800179060  To: Claude; Subject: General friends, family, and work topics.  2/15/1943

800179061  To: Claude; Subject: Went to see "My Sister Eileen" at the Armitage. Phyllis' love life at work.  2/16/1943

800179062  To: Claude; Subject: Betty's thanks for receiving a card and box of candy. Upset because she has to fire Phyllis tomorrow.  2/17/1943

800179063  To: Claude; Subject: Shopping for stockings, and looking forward to buying new "matched luggage."

800179064  To: Claude; Subject: Giving thanks for the box Claude sent and commenting on how Max doesn't drink as much.  2/19/1943

800179065  To: Claude; Subject: Work and trip to Club Biograph.  2/21/1943

800179066  To: Claude; Subject: Spring like weather, voting day - "go and vote one bunch of crooks out of office" and filing income tax.  2/22/1943

800179067  To: Claude; Subject: Betty's sickness, Election day, and Claude's subscription to 'Time' magazine running out.  2/23/1943

800179068  To: Claude; Subject: Claude moving, Betty's worried it will be overseas.  2/24/1943

6  Claude & Betty Correspondence  1943

800179069  To: Claude; Subject: Commenting on nylon house rationing, price hike in Rayon, and hoping Claude can hurry home to fix up their home.  2/25/1943

800179070  To: Claude; Subject: Betty went to a show with her brother and father.  2/26/1943
800179071 To: Claude; Subject: Betty made "Babushkas" for girls at work and bought a purse for Easter. 2/27/1943

800179072 To: Claude; Subject: Went to see "Seven Sweethearts" at the Tiffin, excited for work tomorrow to pass the time. 2/28/1943

800179073 To: Claude; Subject: Newspaper renewal, weather, Betty's work running out of cookies so she isn't working tomorrow. 3/1/1943

800179074 To: Claude; Subject: Claude's trip to New York, new Wards catalog, banquet from Curtis tomorrow night, and Betty's mom helping out at the burger joint. 3/2/1943

800179075 To: Claude; Subject: The banquet at Hotel Belmont, Errol Flynn's upcoming film with Shirley Temple "I Did it Again." 3/3/1943

800179076 To: Claude; Subject: Betty worried about lack of mail from Claude, Claude's aunt and cousin, and shopping at Weiboldt's downtown. 3/4/1943

800179077 To: Claude; Subject: Crooked election, Betty's father getting a job. 3/5/1943

800179078 To: Claude; Subject: Snow storm, went to the Tiffin to see "Moon and Sixpence", trip to Gayety Village afterwards. 3/7/1943

800179079 To: Claude; Subject: General family topics, romper suit for Jimmy. 3/8/1943

800179080 To: Claude; Subject: Claude not being able to come home for Easter, Betty and L.B. parting ways, intending to see "Random Harvest." 3/9/1943

800179081 To: Claude; Subject: Betty upset that Claude didn't let her know in advance that he was coming home. Excited to see him, none-the-less. 3/10/1943
To: Claude; Subject: Joking about the sharp turns on the "L", getting a new telephone, planning for showers. 3/16/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Wedding plans, gifts, wedding party. 3/17/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty has the flu, announcing the wedding to an Aunt and Uncle, meeting with a friar Saturday. 3/18/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty still sick, wedding plans. 3/19/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Engagement pictures, wedding paperwork, Betty still sick. 3/20/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Reminding Claude to write his parents about the wedding plans so she can talk to them about it. 3/22/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty receiving a letter from an ex, George, saying he still loves her. General wedding. 3/23/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Trying to plan wedding food during a food rationing. Needing to know in advance when Claude will be home for booking a hall. 3/24/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Wedding plans have been announced to both families now. Ring and picture discussions. 3/25/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Talked to Claude's parents about the wedding. Comments on Claude's weight gain. 3/26/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Went to a film at the Karlov with her cousin Gerry. Looking forward to a future furlough. 3/28/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Wedding red tape, papers, and meetings. 3/29/1943
To: Claude; Subject: Wedding plans, papers signed, possible locations. 3/30/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Idea of having wedding in Claude's basement. Claude getting ready to go on a convoy. Wanting to buy a new bed set for the two of them. 3/31/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Reflecting on Claude being gone almost a year. Set on Ed being the best man, other wedding plans. 4/1/1943

**Claude & Betty Correspondence 1943**

To: Claude; Subject: Claude's aunts commenting on his weight gain. Betty's mom heading downstairs to work. 4/2/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Replacement stone for Claude's ring, Betty is reading "See Here Private Hargrove", hoping Claude's furlough comes before summer due to Betty's satin dress. 4/4/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Another election day, wedding plans. 4/5/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Signing wedding papers, talk of a guy sent home from the Army because he "wet" the bed. 4/6/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Going to see "Hitler's Children" at the Marbro theatre tomorrow night. 4/7/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Went to see "Hitler's Children" and "A Night to Remember" at Marbro, Broke the bracelet on watch. 4/8/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Wedding food planning, dresses and tuxedos. 4/9/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Shopping at Weiboldt's and watch and ring repair. 4/11/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty's wedding 4/13/1943
To: Claude; Subject: Off work due to running out of cookies, reflecting on wedding shower and gifts, looking forward to work due to restlessness. 4/14/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Civilian Defense basement as possible wedding location, announcement cards, blew a bearing at work. 4/15/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Went out with Annie to the "Famous Door" last night, Karlov tonight. 4/18/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (W.A.A.C.) and telling Claude to keep away from them. Bought a new coat downtown. 4/19/1943

To: Claude; Subject: General weather and work topics. 4/20/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Point system in rationing, wedding anticipation, letter from Roy. 4/21/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Commenting on Claude being in the Army for 11 months as of yesterday. Upcoming Easter plans. 4/22/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Upcoming practice black-out in Betty's area, work. 4/23/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Recalling her Easter. 4/25/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Possible wedding date of May 15th, Religion and Mother Mary. 4/26/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Went to the Karlov to see three shows. Wanting to visit his army friends in New York after the war. 4/27/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Ill effects of eating 4/28/1943
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/28/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty sick and taking &quot;Blackberry Brandy&quot; as medicine. New bedroom set.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Betty sick and taking &quot;Blackberry Brandy&quot; as medicine. New bedroom set.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/30/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Throwing a package of cookies at work and yelling at her boss. Circus coming to town.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Throwing a package of cookies at work and yelling at her boss. Circus coming to town.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/2/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Went to U.F.H. dance, saw &quot;Cat People&quot; at the Tiffin with Jerry. Betty asking how a bomb got somewhere.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Went to U.F.H. dance, saw &quot;Cat People&quot; at the Tiffin with Jerry. Betty asking how a bomb got somewhere.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/3/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Wedding shopping, ring, spring and mattress.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Wedding shopping, ring, spring and mattress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/4/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: &quot;After the War&quot; plans.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: &quot;After the War&quot; plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/5/1943</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Talking about the explosion at an ammunition plant in Elkton, Md, 20 miles from Claude's base. Thirteen dead and eighty hurt. Explaining how the bombs are dropped for practice and how it is completely safe.</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Talking about the explosion at an ammunition plant in Elkton, Md, 20 miles from Claude's base. Thirteen dead and eighty hurt. Explaining how the bombs are dropped for practice and how it is completely safe.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/5/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Hoping Claude can make it home in a week or so. Anxious about making &quot;the final step&quot; in getting married. Wedding plans.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Hoping Claude can make it home in a week or so. Anxious about making &quot;the final step&quot; in getting married. Wedding plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Difficulty finding a wedding cake, buying a new ham, numerous wedding plans.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Difficulty finding a wedding cake, buying a new ham, numerous wedding plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/7/1943</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: New bed arrived, moving things to the attic.</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: New bed arrived, moving things to the attic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/7/1943</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Had a visiting Colonel from Washington, clothes inspection, Claude on kitchen patrol tomorrow.</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Had a visiting Colonel from Washington, clothes inspection, Claude on kitchen patrol tomorrow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8/1943</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Anxious to find out if he gets the pass home. Wedding jitters, going to see &quot;The Falcon Returns&quot; tonight.</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Anxious to find out if he gets the pass home. Wedding jitters, going to see &quot;The Falcon Returns&quot; tonight.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To: Claude; Subject: Wedding gift of bedroom lamps from Aunt Marcella, cousin Bob home but fear of him being shipped overseas when he returns. Doctor appointment for test.

5/9/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Frustration over not knowing when Claude will be home. Wedding preparations and invitations.

5/11/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Wedding postponed, hoping for next week. Had to buy a new ring for Claude, jeweler messed up old one.

5/12/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty's mom's doctor appointment.

5/14/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Neck ache from new bed, went to "Typhoon Club" near Higgins Rd and Central Ave. Saw three shows at the Karlov.

5/16/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Sadness over Claude's leaving earlier in the afternoon. Proudly signed "your loving wife."

5/28/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Returned back to base from wedding trip home. Missing Betty and wishing he could have stayed.

5/29/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Shopping at Logan Square with Jerry, wrote a letter to Claude's block captain thanking for his leave.

5/29/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Wedding pictures, visiting with Thelma, Mouse fighting with her father.

5/31/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Heat wave in Chicago, honeymoon plans.

6/1/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Missing Claude terribly. Cousin Gerald home from Guadalcanal and looking terrible. Includes a clipping of their wedding announcement which was on the
To: Betty; Subject: Heat in Maryland, rifle range, only other company that was at the base since Claude arrived shipped out.  6/3/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Painting trucks, cleaning barracks, and heat.  6/4/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Too many birthdays and weddings in June, money being tight, weddings pictures and family.  6/5/1943

3

Claude & Betty Correspondence  1943

To: Betty; Subject: Used .30 caliber Carbine at the rifle range, a friend whose wife is expecting.  6/6/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Hoping for peace so all the boys can come home, wanting to ask Pearl if she can move Claude's things into the house.  6/7/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Work, heat, and married life.  6/7/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Gerald and Marie wedding plans, visit from old friend Paul, no word from Max.  6/8/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Bayonet training/instruction, maybe going out tonight.  6/8/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Mouse and her dad over their fight, hoping to visit by labor day, passing out wedding pictures.  6/9/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Barracks being fumigated, company went to see the show "China" and went out in Aberdeen the night before. Mention of the record Claude recorded for her at the "Service Club" last Saturday afternoon.  6/9/1943
To: Claude; Subject: General family and friends topics. 6/10/1943

To: Betty; Subject: No word of Claude having to go overseas, went to see a double feature, annoyed with banjo and guitar playing in barracks. 6/10/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Commenting on how Claude sounded as if he was talking fast on the record. Paying for insurance. 6/11/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Sad to be missing Gerald and Marie's wedding, writing to Max, lining up for lunchtime "chow." 6/11/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Hoping Betty goes out some still, needing more wedding pictures for friends. 6/12/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Gerald and Marie's wedding was "a flop." Only half the invites showed up. Visited with Phyllis and her kids. 6/13/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Joking about the "Lady in the big hat", guard duty, staying in tonight but wanting to go to Baltimore to do shopping soon. 6/13/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Went to Baltimore to get gravel to fix up the walk in front of barracks. 6/14/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Had a dance with W.A.A.C.s. Upset the newspapers talk so poorly about them. Wishing Betty a Happy Birthday. 6/15/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Telling to add "Chicago '39' Ill" to letters for faster delivery. Betty's friends forcing her to go out for her birthday. Claude's dad being transferred to the Jackson Blvd. plant. 6/16/1943
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/16/1943</td>
<td>800179160</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Claude signing up for allotment, guard duty by the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>airport, new planes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/17/1943</td>
<td>800179161</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Income tax forms, not sure about a visit to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maryland because of money.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/18/1943</td>
<td>800179162</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Thanks for beautiful birthday card, listing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>birthday gifts, still hoping to save enough for a trip.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/18/1943</td>
<td>800179163</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Joking about the &quot;Father's Day&quot; card and hoping to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>be one someday. Went to a show the other night.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/19/1943</td>
<td>800179164</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Claude has been playing the Mandolin, got sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>burned, maybe going to show later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/20/1943</td>
<td>800179165</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Reminding Claude to stay away from the W.A.A.C.s,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>saw &quot;Flight For Freedom&quot; at the Palace, family pet 'Bootsie' sick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/20/1943</td>
<td>800179166</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Went to see &quot;Bombardier&quot;, sun-burn, war joke.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/21/1943</td>
<td>800179167</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Marie's 'nasty' comments on Claude and Betty's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wedding, rainy weather, Aunt to the dentist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/22/1943</td>
<td>800179168</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: One month wedding anniversary, saving money for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>trip, joking about babies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/24/1943</td>
<td>800179169</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Been on a convoy since Sunday, getting a vacation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>to New York for an Ordnance show in the Chrysler Building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/24/1943</td>
<td>800179170</td>
<td>To: Claude; Subject: Evening at Marcella's, Lefty got his &quot;invitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>from Uncle Sam&quot;, Aunt Lou back to the dentist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/25/1943</td>
<td>800179171</td>
<td>To: Betty; Subject: Preparing for trip to New York, allotment went</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>through, Claude's company was filmed by a news crew.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To: Claude; Subject: Saw "Random Harvest", wanting to go downtown to see "The Human Comedy." General friends news.

To: Betty; Subject: Arrived in New York, mentions getting tickets to Major Bowes museum to see his broadcast. Staying at a Y.M.C.A.

To: Claude; Subject: Shopping at Wards and the square, saw "It Ain't Hay" at the Tiffin.

To: Betty; Subject: Explaining his job at the exhibit of showing the different pieces of war machinery. Stationary of the Y.M.C.A. Claude is staying at, "William Sloane House."

To: Claude; Subject: Claude's war policy, hoping they get to live a hundred more years together.

To: Betty; Subject: Saw "Stage Door Canteen" at the Capitol theatre last night along with "Hour of Charm." Has a ticket to Major Bowes for Thursday night.

To: Claude; Subject: Army showing a similar film of what Claude is doing. Claude's day playing the violin, Lefty might be joining the Navy.

To: Claude; Subject: Visited with Phyllis, Lefty might have appendix removed.

To: Betty; Subject: Had his picture taken by the newspapers in front of a new Gyro Compass. Major Bowes tonight.

To: Claude; Subject: Bought kitchen knives, probably sending Bootsie away tomorrow.
To: Betty; Subject: Free tickets from the U.S.O. to a show at the Roxy theatre, starting new schedule at the exhibit.

7/2/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Friend Betty's birthday party, put family dog Bootsie to sleep, Lefty does not have to join the army, horse-back riding tomorrow.

7/3/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Visits to Music Hall, dance at the Y, staying for another week or so.

7/3/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Horse-back riding, kids rented a buckboard and went swimming, Betty didn’t see any fireworks.

7/4/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Saw "Happy Go Lucky" and "Andy Hardy's Double Life" at the Tiffin, wishing war would end so Claude could come home.

7/5/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Boy Scout week at the exhibit hall, wishing he could have gone to the Ordnance show in Chicago. Went to the Canteen.

7/6/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Letter sent to Claude in New York, hoping for a souvenir.

7/6/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Letter sent to Claude in New York, received view cards from Claude, heard from old friend "Oklahoma" Sgt. Collins, can't find birth certificate.

7/7/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Chrysler building party, N.B.C. Studio singers, only working five hours tomorrow again.

7/8/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Sent to N.Y. Went to the Ordnance Exhibit at Wrigley Tower, saw the show "China", ice cream at Walgreens, tells Claude she's saving all the cards he sends her to someday put in a book.

7/8/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Sent to N.Y. Aunt Lou has mouth cancer and has to have

7/9/1943
remaining teeth removed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/10/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Happy to have received letters in New York.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/12/1943</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Betty's sore wrist, letter from Max, hoping he's getting the mail in New York, back to writing to Maryland.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Claude & Betty Correspondence 1943**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tr>
<td>7/13/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Packing to head back to camp, will write more when he arrives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13/1943</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Received a call from a man who met Claude in New York, Doctor said Betty has an ingrown cyst in her wrist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/14/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Received twenty-six letters while away, lots of work and cleaning to do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/14/1943</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Income tax, budget.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/15/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Slept in so has to have supper at Aberdeen or Service Club, has wedding certificate but not Betty's birth certificate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/16/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Saw &quot;China Girl&quot; in Aberdeen, might be going on a convoy to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, wants Aunt Marnie to go to the Red Cross about Robert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/17/1943</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Wanting Claude to buy an iron and packages of gun since they can't back home. Lou's operation tomorrow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/17/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Might go to the coast at Asbury Park over the weekend, remembers meeting the man that called about New York.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/18/1943</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Went shopping with Mouse and visited Lou at the hospital, family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
got a new dog "Kewcco."

800179204 To: Betty; Subject: Claude's trip to Asbury Park 7/19/1943

800179205 To: Claude; Subject: Went to Phyllis', Sailor that just got back from Algiers was there. 7/19/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Word from Max who is in Atlantic City, might be a letter hiatus during his two week convoy. 7/20/1943

800179207 To: Claude; Subject: Got a letter from a woman from the Canteen in New York, father has to quit his job, asking to Claude to get an alarm clock for her. 7/20/1943

Claude & Betty Correspondence 1943

7

800179208 To: Betty; Subject: Spent the hot day cutting weeds, leaving for convoy in the morning, went to Aberdeen as rationing of liquor beginning. 7/21/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Talk of the new dog, Maree's upcoming birthday, buying new fur coat. 7/21/1943

800179209 To: Claude; Subject: Writing from the mountains, going to be doing a lot of night drilling and digging in the coming weeks. 7/22/1943

800179210 To: Betty; Subject: Visit from an ex-boyfriend, picked up new coat from Wards, Lefty goes to the hospital tomorrow. 7/24/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Trip to nearby York, Pennsylvania, went to church and taken to a hotel for dinner. 7/25/1943

800179211 To: Claude; Subject: Went to Marcella's, Pookie's teeth coming in, Jan and John's new store. 7/25/1943

800179212
800179214  To: Betty; Subject: Having to climb a mile
long path in the mountain each day, moving
camp during the night.  7/26/1943

800179215  To: Claude; Subject: Lefty's surgery, Dad
using a cane, Mother getting another gall
bladder attack.  7/26/1943

800179216  To: Claude; Subject: Phyllis back from
Hymera, Pearl working extra shifts, the ex-
boyfriend that visited wants to send a
wedding gift.  7/27/1943

800179217  To: Betty; Subject: Difficulties of hiking
during the night, wind storm, upcoming
dance in York.  7/28/1943

800179218  To: Claude; Subject: Still hasn't received
candy Claude sent, talked to his dad on the
phone, Lefty doing better.  7/28/1943

800179219  To: Claude; Subject: Mail accidentally getting
put in the butcher's mailbox, new rug, Lefty
still in the hospital.  7/29/1943

800179220  To: Betty; Subject: Walked twenty miles, ate
combat rations: three cans of liquid and
three of meals, showers at the Salvation
Army in York.  7/30/1943

800179221  To: Claude; Subject: Asking Claude advice
on whether to buy a discounted China
cabinet at Weiboldts, use it on savings, or
use it on a trip to visit him.  7/30/1943

800179222  To: Betty; Subject: Not enjoying the woods,
had a nice time at the dance in town.  7/31/1943

800179223  To: Claude; Subject: Lefty not doing to well
in recovery, Delmar working at the dime
store, went to see "Keeper of the Flame"
and "Lucky Jordan" at the Embassy.  8/1/1943
To: Betty; Subject: Stationed at a Boy Scout camp who are having an Indian dance tonight. 8/1/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Left doing much better, friends out in Des Plaines, might go see "Stage Door Canteen" Thursday downtown. 8/2/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Family health, letter from Laura in Arizona, watch broken again. 8/3/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Friend Al home from a furlough when asked for a divorce, Betty's weight. 8/4/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Worried because she hasn't received word from him for three days. Went to see "Stage Door Canteen" at the State-Lake, Letter from Jerry who is going to China. 8/6/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Camped at "White Pines" and Delta, Maryland the last couple of days. Might be leaving again for another tour next week. 8/6/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Wants Betty to buy the China cabinet, equipment inspection. 8/7/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Still hasn't received Claude's letters, went out with Pearl to see Arlene, "Skipper" returned home - was a dog that was "sent out there." 8/8/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Claude has lost four pounds, hopes he can help support Betty, saw "Stormy Weather" last night. 8/8/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Relieved to hear from him, family health, budgeting. 8/9/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Letter from Dave Alcorn, saw and didn't like, Deanna Durbin in "Hers to Hold." Mentions including a church verse. 8/9/1943
To: Claude; Subject: Worried the Army is preparing Claude's company to deploy. Wants him to send her a few "bomb insignias" for her coats. Going downtown tomorrow to see the "Army Air Show." 8/10/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Practicing shots, might go into town tonight. 8/11/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Excited about buying the cabinet, went to see the Air Show at Tribune Square. 8/11/1943

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Claude & Betty Correspondence

To: Betty; Subject: Claude sore from a shot, no luck getting an iron and clock for Betty. 8/11/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Word that the company will soon be going to Camp A.P. Hill south of Washington. 8/12/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Bought the cabinet, Betty's dad is going to wax it, sent cookies, Lefty finally home from the hospital. 8/12/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Had a class of map reading, no word on deployment, might be visiting Max in New York soon. Added note on the back to Betty from a Corporal Freund: "Dear Betty, He is not quite so Hot." 8/13/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty's hair in pigtails, putting the bible verse Claude sent her into their scrapbook, "Skipper" was in the pound ten days for biting a woman. Had an "electric storm" in the city. 8/15/1943

To: Betty; Subject: New York trip with Max and Corporal Fruend, went to Jack Dempsey's restaurant, Empire State Building, Radio City Music Hall, saw "Mr. Lucky" and went to Stage Door Canteen. 8/16/1943
800179244 To: Claude; Subject: Max's monthly pay, walked Pookie around town, cabinet came - receipt included in letter, "This is where our money goes" written on it. 8/16/1943

800179245 To: Betty; Subject: Did the obstacle course four times today, might go into town with Corporal Fruend. 8/17/1943

800179246 To: Claude; Subject: Received card from New York, Betty and Mouse's diet, short work day due to running out of cookies. 8/17/1943

800179247 To: Betty; Subject: Going to see the camp show at the service club tonight, another shot, checked up on missing candy in New York. 8/18/1943

800179248 To: Claude; Subject: Commenting on new stationary with "H" on it. Picking up extra shifts at work, wanting to get a new comforter. Includes Claude's Pious Union of Prayer card. 8/18/1943

800179249 To: Betty; Subject: Helped a Lieutenant draw up a map of the surrounding area, going into Aberdeen for a haircut, might see Olsen and Johnson at the camp show later this week. 8/19/1943

800179250 To: Claude; Subject: Wondering where they'll go for a honeymoon, has to work Saturday as their products mostly get shipped overseas, Marnie's baby. 8/19/1943

800179251 To: Betty; Subject: More map work, using new rifles called the carbine. 8/20/1943

800179252 To: Claude; Subject: Three month wedding anniversary tomorrow, commenting on Russia calling home their Envoy. 8/21/1943
To: Betty; Subject: Going to see Olsen and Johnston stage show, wants Betty to buy whatever she wants to for the house. 8/21/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Three month wedding anniversary, visited with friends from Cicero, went to see "Slightly Dangerous" at the Tiffin. 8/22/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Saw Joan Crawford in "Above Suspicion", dealt with a map reading problem, went on a hike. 8/23/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Lefty went back to work, had to push seventeen pound boxes of cookies around all day, Gerald has malaria. 8/23/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Didn't know anything about Russia's envoy, might have an upcoming furlough, taking a trip to Baltimore. 8/24/1943

To: Claude; Subject: One of Betty's workers, Alice, might have infantile paralysis [polio], worried others in the shop might have it as well now. 8/24/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Working on getting his furlough, going to the Service Club for show night. 8/25/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty's raise, looking forward to a place of their own, wants to go on a honeymoon out West. 8/25/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Electric storm in Chicago, no word on Alice's sickness, Christmas cards. 8/26/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Cleaning barracks, staying in this weekend to save money for future furlough. 8/27/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Went to supper at Phyllis', Delmar working at Wards, shopping tomorrow. 8/27/1943
To: Betty; Subject: Might go to Philadelphia to see a baseball game. 8/28/1943

Claude & Betty Correspondence 1943

To: Betty; Subject: Arrived in Philadelphia last night, went to Stage Door Canteen, game today. 8/29/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Shopping downtown with Pearl, Delmar buying Claude's shirts, went to the woods, played craps and baseball with family and friends. 8/29/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Hoping to be home in a week or two, had map reading today, went to "Labor Plaza" created by AFL-CIO, going to circus tonight. 8/30/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Betty didn't go to work due to a touch of Pleurisy, bored at home and cleaned, took Aunt Lou to the jewelers 8/30/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Neighbor wants to go on a double date with them and Max, saw three pictures at the Karlov. 8/31/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Went to Thelma's for supper, heard that a lot of men are getting furloughs over Labor Day weekend. 9/1/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Rigging, dental inspection, and athletics on a hot day, finding out Friday about furlough. 9/1/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Another supper at Thelma's, Pearl's vacation. 9/2/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Furlough will be five to seven days if it goes through, went to carnival at Aberdeen, onion and ketchup rationing, obstacle course with machine gun fire. 9/2/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Wedding gifts, late night clam chowder with her Ma and Mouse. 9/3/1943
To: Betty; Subject: At Corporal Frank Haynes wedding, packed up letters for trip home.  
9/3/1943

To: Claude; Subject: Shopping around Madison and Crawford, found a cedar chest, went to the Typhoon Club.  
9/5/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Returned back to base from trip home, missing home, beer party tomorrow near Aberdeen.  
9/16/1943

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Claude & Betty Correspondence 1943,1945

To: Betty; Subject: Beer party, mention of returning platoons from Panama, Joe Lewis on the grounds.  
9/17/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Saw "Headin' For God's Country" with Sergeant Moore, seeing Red Skelton in "I Dood It" later.  
9/19/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Received two letters from Betty today, train ride back, Frank's wedding.  
9/20/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Trained in "booby-trap house", Corporal Fruend's brother's trial.  
9/22/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Visited friends in hospital, staying in this weekend.  
9/24/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Reflecting on four months of marriage, might go see Max if he can get a weekend pass.  
9/25/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Ended up going to New York but couldn't get ahold of Max, went out with Corporal Fruend, going to see "Best Foot Forward" tonight.  
9/27/1943

To: Betty; Subject: Saw "Best Foot Forward" last night in color, class all day, read the "Articles of War."  
9/28/1943
To: Betty; Subject: Busy day of selling P.X. rations, difficult finding change in marks, beer brought in from Holland, wants sent wash cloths and bars of flea soap for the dog.

3/31/1945

To: Betty; Subject: Received a letter written April 12, hoping for a radio sent from his father, organization changed to "233rd. Ord. Bomb Disposal Plat."

5/1/1945

To: Betty; Subject: At Camp Washington, met up with guys from old Bomb Disposal outfit from the States at a Red Cross Club, including Fruend, commenting on the Chicago Cubs in the World Series, hoping it will be his last letter from overseas.

10/7/1945

Correspondence 1943, 1945, n.d.

To: Claude; From: Dad and kids; Subject: Measles going around, Betty's surprise wedding party, hoping Max can come home for the wedding, looking for a hall for the reception.

4/14/1943

To: Betty; From: Bill Higgins; Subject: Thanks for the pictures, advising not to visit North Africa, Twenty-four hour work shifts, bike riding. (V-Mail)

5/1/1943

To: Betty; From: Gerald; Subject: Thanks for the wedding pictures, got back to camp in California, missing Chicago, wants to go East.

7/18/1943

To: Betty; From: Gerald; Subject: Says they "Have Italy on the run", goes to China in October, saw Vaughn Monroe and his band.

7/31/1943

To: Betty; From: Gerald; Subject: Just recovered from malaria, tired of war life, went to Pasadena on weekend pass, saw Frank Sinatra yesterday.

8/16/1943
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>To:</th>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/1/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Gerald</td>
<td>Letters from family and friends are all that keeps him going, going to send addresses of other soldier's that need letters, seeing Frank Sinatra again tonight.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/13/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Gerald</td>
<td>Explaining the difference between cat fever and malaria, a souvenir for Diana, had formation flying and landing at night, thinks Frank Sinatra is a jerk.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/22/1945</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Corporal James Fruend</td>
<td>From &quot;Somewhere in France&quot;, assuring Betty that Claude is safe in his new job overseas, thanks for the gift to his sister. (V-Mail)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Marie and Jerry Czeek</td>
<td>Thanking Betty for sending photos of their wedding since they did not have many taken.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/14/1942</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>One-year subscription to 'The Reader's Digest' Christmas postcard.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/22/1942</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>United States Post Office; Informing of held mail.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/25/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Matchbook with note, from &quot;Army Air Forces Technical Training School, Chicago, IL&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/8/1943</td>
<td>Marge, Lefty, and Diane; Prewritten letter with military jokes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/30/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Postcard from &quot;Stage Door Canteen&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/25/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Postcard from &quot;Salvation Army Mobile Canteen and Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Miscellaneous (Postcards, clippings, programs)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>To:</th>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/22/1942</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>United States Post Office; Informing of held mail.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/25/1943</td>
<td>Marge, Lefty, and Diane; Prewritten letter with military jokes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/30/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Postcard from &quot;Stage Door Canteen&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/25/1943</td>
<td>Betty</td>
<td>Claude</td>
<td>Postcard from &quot;Salvation Army Mobile Canteen and Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Car"

To: Betty; From: Claude; Postcard from "The Yorktowne Hotel - York, P.A." 7/26/1943

To: Claude; From: Fr. Anthony Ome and Mom and Dad; Prayer booklet. n.d.

Postcard with print "Guess Whom I ran into down here?" blank. n.d.

Business card from "Mayflower Restaurant, Aberdeen, Maryland" n.d.

Wedding Invitation for Claude and Betty's wedding on May 22, 1943. n.d.

Wedding Invitation for Claude and Betty's wedding on May 22, 1943. n.d.


Program of Worship Service at New Area Chapel. 8/8/1943

Ticket pamphlet for "Major Bowes Amateur Hour" at Radio Theatre No. 3 with one ticket stub inside. 7/1/1943

Ticket for "3-Ring Time with Guy Lombardo" at Radio Theatre No. 3. 7/5/1943

Ticket stub for "Major Bowes Amateur Hour" at Radio Theatre No. 3. 7/8/1943

One ticket stub for "Spangles" by the Ringling Brothers Circus at Madison Square Garden. 7/9/1943

Newspaper clipping with "Loneliness" short poem. n.d.

Newspaper clipping of wedding announcement of Charles Frederick Epperson and Lorraine Quinn. n.d.

Newspaper clipping of photo of three 12/1945
Chicago GI's during a homecoming.

800179319 Empty envelope from Betty to Claude. 8/6/1942
800179320 Empty envelope from Betty to Claude. 8/12/1942
800179321 Empty envelope from Betty to Claude. 8/14/1942
800179322 Empty envelope from Betty to Claude. 6/7/1943
800179323 Empty envelope from Gerald Kaminski to Claude and Betty. 12/8/2001
800179324 Empty envelope from Reims Cathedral, Reims, France; Maurice Baudet. n.d.
800179325 32 page booklet titled "His Service Record" n.d.
800179326 45 rpm vinyl recording of Claude to Betty; "The Voice of Your Man in Service, Courtesy… Pepsi-Cola" 6/7/1943


800179327 National Service Life Insurance 6/1/1942
800179328 Receipt: Approval of a Monthly Family Allowance from the Office of Dependency Benefits 6/27/1943
800179329 Soldier's Individual Pay Record 8/26/1943
800179330 Page from "FM 5-31 War Department Field Manual - Corps of Engineers: Land Mines and Booby Traps" on German Clockwork Long-Delay Fuze: Disarming. 11/1/1943
800179331 Restricted Special Orders Number 178 (Two pages) 9/7/1945
800179332 Certificate: Honorable Discharge 12/19/1945
800179333 Certificate: Honorable Discharge (Negative) 12/19/1945
800179334 Separation Qualification Record 12/19/1945
800179335 Application for Veterans Compensation n.d.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800179336</td>
<td>Claim for Settlement - Unused Leave</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179337</td>
<td>Letter from Harry Truman to discharged soldiers after the war</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179338</td>
<td>Booklet: Going Back to Civilian Life</td>
<td>08/1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179339</td>
<td>Booklet: Continuance of National Service Life Insurance</td>
<td>10/1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179340</td>
<td>Booklet: It's All Yours, Veteran: What Illinois Veterans Can Get From the Nation, State and Community</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179341</td>
<td>Booklet: General Rules for Payment of World War II Bonus</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179342</td>
<td>Notice of Classification: Chicago City Local Board No. 48</td>
<td>1/9/1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179343</td>
<td>Receipt: Veterans Report publication; $4.00 for 52 issues</td>
<td>2/28/1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179344</td>
<td>Receipt: Service Recognition Board</td>
<td>3/29/1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179345</td>
<td>Certificate: State of Illinois Service Recognition</td>
<td>1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179347</td>
<td>Order form for additional or replacement Presidential Memorial Certificates</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Greeting Cards</td>
<td>1941-1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179349</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Merry Christmas Sweetheart&quot;</td>
<td>12/23/1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179350</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bombka; &quot;A Little Birthday Puzzle&quot; with note</td>
<td>5/29/1942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
800179351 To: Claude; From: James or Diane Bombka; "Best Birthday Wish to Uncle" 5/29/1942

800179352 To: Claude; From: Betty; "To a Swell Guy in the Service" includes two newspaper clippings. Note on the back. 7/17/1942

800179353 To: Claude; From: Betty; "To my Sweetheart in the Service" with note on the back. 7/24/1942

800179354 To: Claude; From: Betty; "Missing You" with note on the back. 7/27/1942

800179355 To: Claude; From: Betty; "Missing You While you're in the Service" with note on the back. 8/2/1942

800179356 To: Claude; From: Betty; "Congratulations on your Promotion" 10/1942

800179357 To: Claude; From: Betty; "Birthday Greetings to my Sweetheart" 1942

800179358 To: Claude; From: Betty; "Christmas Greetings to my Sweetheart in the Service" 1942

800179359 To: Claude; From: Betty; "Birthday Greetings to my Sweetheart" 1942

800179360 To: Claude; From: Betty; "Valentine Greetings Sweetheart Dear" 1942

800179361 To: Claude; From: Betty; "A Prayer for You in the Service" 6/27/1942

800179362 To: Claude; From: Betty; "To My Sweetheart in the Service" 8/9/1942

800179363 To: Claude; From: Betty; "To my Sweetheart in the Service" 7/26/1942

800179364 To: Claude; From: Betty; "To my Sweetheart in the Service" 8/17/1942
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greeting Cards</th>
<th>1943</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800179365</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;I Miss You!&quot; with note on the back.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179366</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To My Sweetheart in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179367</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Greetings to You in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179368</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To You in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179369</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To a Swell Guy in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179370</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;The Top O' the Mornin' to You&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179371</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;An Army Manual for You&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179372</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To my Soldier Sweetheart&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179373</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;An Easter Greeting to You in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179374</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bombka; &quot;To a Dear Son at Easter&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179375</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To My Boyfriend in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179376</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Hi, There, Soldier!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179377</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;You're in the Army Now!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179378</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Dad; &quot;A Gift from all of us on Valentine's Day&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179379</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;I'm with you in Thought, Just where you are&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greeting Cards</td>
<td>1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179380</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To My Husband in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179381</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Pookie; &quot;Father's Day Greetings: To my Uncle in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179382</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Hello There, Soldier!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Thinking of you and sending Best Wishes&quot; with note on the back.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179384</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Thinking of You&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179385</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To My Husband on Our Anniversary&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179386</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To 'My Guy' in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179387</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;A Little 'Hello' Just to keep us in touch&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Joseph Bombka; &quot;Christmas Greetings to you, Son, in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179388</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Esther Dunn; &quot;To Brother at Easter&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179389</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To One in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179391</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Hello, Ever feel so lonesome?&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179392</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;Just a little Go-Between&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Pookie, Mouse, and Lefty; &quot;Valentine Greetings to You in the Service&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800179394</td>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To You in the Service, A Word from Home&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greeting Cards</td>
<td>1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Mrs. Bombka; &quot;A Valentine for You, Son, as You Serve Our Country&quot;</td>
<td>1/15/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;I'm Hungerin' to See You on St. Patrick's Day&quot;</td>
<td>2/26/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Betty; From: Corporal James Fruend; &quot;The Best of Luck and all Good Wishes for Your Birthday&quot;</td>
<td>3/10/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bombka; &quot;Dear Son in the Service&quot;</td>
<td>3/16/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bombka; &quot;To My Boy in the Service at Easter&quot;</td>
<td>3/22/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Betty; From: Claude; &quot;With Every Good Wish for Your Birthday&quot;</td>
<td>6/16/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Betty; From: Claude; &quot;The Peace of Christmas&quot;</td>
<td>11/20/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Betty; From: Claude; &quot;A Merry X-mas&quot;</td>
<td>12/10/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;To My Husband in the Service, A Birthday Wish&quot;</td>
<td>1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;A Valentine for My Husband&quot;</td>
<td>1/11/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;In the Service, Easter Greetings to the One I Love&quot;</td>
<td>3/13/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Lefty, Marge, and Diane; &quot;Easter Greetings to my Brother in the Service&quot;</td>
<td>3/23/1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Claude; From: Betty; &quot;A Greeting For My Husband on His Birthday&quot;</td>
<td>1944</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To: Claude; From: Betty; "Thanksgiving Greetings to my Sweetheart in the Service" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "Snap Out of it Soldier" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "To You in the Service" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "To Greet You on Valentine's Day" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "We've Won, Hubby!" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "To A Boy Friend in the Service" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "To My Sweetheart in the Service" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "To One in the Service" n.d.

To: Claude; From: Betty; "A Prayer for You in the Service" n.d.

6 Photographs n.d.

Claude hanging laundry. n.d.

Soldier in Battle Dress. n.d.

Soldier in Battle Dress. (DUP) n.d.

Claude with three other soldiers in Battle Dress. n.d.

Betty and soldier holding flags. n.d.

Claude and Betty wedding photo. n.d.

Claude and two other men; collage. n.d.

Claude; attached to board. n.d.

Claude; attached to board. (DUP) n.d.
Claude; attached to board. (DUP) n.d.
Claude and Betty. n.d.
Claude and Betty. (DUP but larger) n.d.
Claude in uniform. n.d.
Claude and Betty in old age. n.d.
Claude and Betty in old age. (DUP) n.d.
Claude in uniform. (large) n.d.
Claude in uniform smiling. (large) n.d.
Claude and Betty. (attached to Gold-Tone Studios board) n.d.
Claude and Betty smiling. (attached to Gold-Stone Studios board) n.d.
Claude and Betty smiling. (attached to Gold-Stone Studios board) (DUP) n.d.
Claude and Betty smiling. (attached to Gold-Stone Studios board) (DUP) n.d.

Certificate: Chicago Board of Education: Talcott School diploma 01/1928
Report: Headquarters OISE Intermediate Section; Shaef War Room at Reims, France n.d.
Official Records envelope, held Claude's Separation papers 08/1945

Scrapbook 1 1941-1943, n.d.
Cover: "Scrap Book" House drawn wagon.
Cover Verso: Military wedding illustration.

Page 1: Three greeting cards from Claude to Betty.

Page 2: One greeting card from Claude to Betty; "One of the Hardships of War" cartoon illustration.

Page 3: One newspaper clipping of sheet music.

Page 4: [blank]

Page 5: Three greeting cards.

Page 6: [blank]

Page 7: Six photos of Claude and Betty from Cedar Lake - July 1941

Page 8: [blank]

Page 9: Seven photos of Claude and Betty from Cedar Lake - September 1941

Page 10: Two newspaper clippings.

Page 11: Three newspaper clippings and army stickers with caption "Entered Arm'd Forces - May 21, 1942."

Page 12: [blank]

Page 13: Nine photos of Claude and family with caption "First Furlough - September 21, 1941."

Page 14: [blank]

Page 15: Six photos of Claude and family.

Page 16: [blank]

Page 17: Five photos of Claude and family.

Page 18: [blank]

Page 19: Five photos of Claude in uniform with caption "First Pictures from Camp -
November 1942.

Page 20: [blank]

Page 21: Eight photos of Claude and fellow soldiers.

Page 22: [blank]

Page 23: One newspaper clipping and five placeholders for photographs with caption "To Bud - February 1942."

Page 24: Placeholder for one photograph with caption "Bob Doyle. Air Corps - 1942."

Page 25: One newspaper clipping and two placeholders for photographs with caption "To Gil 'Sugar' Gusland."

Page 26: [blank]

Page 27: Two photos with captions "To Roy Nesterguard" and "Air Corps."

Page 28: One of photo of group of soldiers.

Page 29: Two photos of groups of soldiers and girls.

Page 30: Placeholder for one photograph.

Page 31: One photograph and one card titled "Robert Trotter."

Page 32: [blank]


Page 34: [blank]

Page 35: Placeholder for one photograph.

Page 36: [blank]
Cover: Combat vehicles and eagle.

Cover verso: [blank]

Page 1: One photo of soldier holding sports trophies.

Page 2: [blank]

Page 3: One photo of Claude and his whole company.

Page 4: [blank]

Page 5: One photo of Claude and fellow soldiers with trophies.

Page 6: [blank]

Page 7: Five photos of Claude, Betty, and family.

Page 8: [blank]

Page 9: Nine photos of Claude, Betty, family, and kids.

Page 10: [blank]

Page 11: Six photos of soldiers with captions "Service club lounge - Feb. 1943."

Page 12: [blank]


Page 14: [blank]

Page 15: Five photos of Claude and Betty on New Years and with family.

Page 16: [blank]

Page 17: Seven photos of Claude, family, and soldiers.

Page 18: [blank]
Page 19: One photo of Claude and his whole company.

Page 20: [blank]

Page 21: Welcome Home banner.

Page 22: [blank]