

# PRITZKER MILITARY MUSEUM & LIBRARY

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## Robert Martensen Collection

**Creator:** Robert Martensen  
**Dates:** 1944-1984  
**Quantity:** 0.25 linear feet  
**Acquisition:** Donated by Frank E. Martensen; Patty Martensen, August 11, 2012  
**Identification:** PMML ID# 800132, OCLC# 84777137, CALL# PAPERS 00123  
**Citation:** [Document Title]. The Robert Martensen Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Pritzker Military Museum & Library, Chicago, IL.  
**Language:** English  
**Finding Aid:** Rebecca Freitag, 2013; Updated by Julie Murray, August 2013; Updated by Andrea Martinez, 2018

*Archival collections are stored at a remote archival facility. Please contact the Museum & Library at least 48 hours in advance of your visit to view an archival collection.*

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## Biographical Note

Robert Frank Martensen was born in Chicago on August 16, 1926 to Frank and Josephine Martensen. He grew up on the South Side of Chicago, attending Tilden High School, and joining the ROTC.

In early 1944, he was appointed Cadet Corporal in the ROTC, and by mid-1944 he was certified as a Marksman-First Class by the NRA and began serving in the Army.

Martensen served in the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign, including Luzon, Philippines and Japan. He was honorably discharged in late 1946, and passed away on February 22, 1984.

## Scope and Content of the Collection

This collection consists of the military records and citations, personal photos, and souvenirs from Robert Martensen's time in the Army during WWII. It also includes some memorial items from Martensen's death.

## Arrangement

The collection arrived with no discernible arrangement and was rearranged chronologically into series by PMML staff. The collection is contained within 1 letter box and 2 medium flat boxes. The collection is arranged into series according to military service, newspaper clippings, personal papers, and photographs.

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## Rights

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## Separations

| Item ID   | Description                        | Date |
|-----------|------------------------------------|------|
| 800132052 | Robert Martensen Dog Tags OP       |      |
| 800132053 | Robert Martensen Dog Tags OP       |      |
| 800132054 | Robert Martensen Dog Tags OC       |      |
| 800132055 | WWII Honorable Discharge Lapel Pin |      |
| 800132056 | Star Split Ribbon Bar pin          |      |
| 800132057 | Star Split Ribbon Bar pin          |      |
| 800132058 | Star Split Ribbon Bar pin          |      |
| 800132059 | Star Split Ribbon Bar pin          |      |
| 800132060 | WWII Standard Issue Compass        |      |
| 800132061 | Army Good Conduct Medal Ribbon     |      |
| 800132062 | Army Good Conduct Medal Ribbon     |      |

|           |  |                  |
|-----------|--|------------------|
| 800132063 | Collar Bar   |                  |
| 800132064 | Army Good Conduct Medal Ribbon Pin                                 |                  |
| 800132065 | Army Good Conduct Medal Ribbon Pin                                 |                  |
| 800132066 | Army Good Conduct Medal Lapel Pin                                  |                  |
| 800132067 | WWII Victory Medal Ribbon Pin                                      |                  |
| 800132068 | Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal Ribbon Pin                          |                  |
| 800132069 | Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal Ribbon Pin                          |                  |
| 800132070 | Army Good Conduct Medal  |                  |
| 800132071 | Japanese Flag signed by American Soldiers                          |                  |
| 800132072 | Memorial Flag  |                  |
| 800132073 | Panoramic Photo, 68th Battalion, 14th Regiment, Camp Pannin, Texas |                  |
|           | <b>Photographs - Located in "Photographs Collection"</b>           | <b>1945-1984</b> |
| 800132035 | Robert Martensen Memorial Card                                     | 2/27/1984        |
| 800132036 | "Welcome Home" picture of Robert Martensen in front of white steps | n.d.             |
| 800132037 | "Home on Leave" picture of Robert Martensen on stoop               | n.d.             |
| 800132038 | Robert Martensen with another man                                  | n.d.             |
| 800132039 | Robert Martensen on white steps                                    | 4/1945           |
| 800132040 | Robert Martensen smoking in the grass in (illegible) Japan         | n.d.             |
| 800132041 | Robert Martensen standing in the grass in (illegible) Japan        | n.d.             |
| 800132042 | Portrait of Robert Martensen                                       | n.d.             |
| 800132043 | Group Photo, Robert Martensen included Postcard                    | n.d.             |
| 800132044 | Group Photo, Robert Martensen included Postcard                    | n.d.             |
| 800132045 | Portrait of Robert Martensen                                       | n.d.             |

|           |   |           |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 800132046 | "Oh Boy! Home at last" "After 26 Hours" photo of Robert Martensen | 10/5/1946 |
| 800132047 | Photo of soldiers in mess hall during Christmastime               | n.d.      |
| 800132048 | Photo of Robert Martensen and another soldier                     | n.d.      |
| 800132049 | Portrait of Robert Martensen                                      | n.d.      |
| 800132050 | Photo of soldiers on a ship                                       | 9/1946    |
| 800132051 | Japanese "I Cease Resistance" flyer                               | n.d.      |

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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.

## Names

Martensen, Robert Frank

## Subjects

World War, 1939-1945.

World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--Japan.

World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--Philippines--Luzon.

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## Container List

| Box | Folder | Item ID # | Title                                      | Dates            |
|-----|--------|-----------|--|------------------|
| 1   | 1      |           | <b>Military Records</b>                    | <b>1944-1948</b> |
|     |        | 800132001 | Certificate of Inspecting Officer          | n.d.             |
|     |        | 800132002 | Veterans Administration Postcard           | n.d.             |
|     |        | 800132003 | Selective Service Notice of Classification | 12/3/1946        |
|     |        | 800132004 | Selective Service Notice of Classification | 9/9/1948         |
|     |        | 800132005 | Selective Service Notice of Classification | 3/2/1950         |

|           |  |            |
|-----------|--|------------|
| 800132006 | 35th Infantry Leave Pass   | n.d.       |
| 800132007 | 36th Infantry Leave Pass   | n.d.       |
| 800132008 | V-Mail "Happy birthday dad"  | n.d.       |
| 800132009 | Settlement of final account  | n.d.       |
| 800132010 | Illinois Service Recognition Certificate                             | 1947       |
| 800132011 | Letter from the White House  | n.d.       |
| 800132012 | Presidential letter honoring memory of Robert Martensen              | n.d.       |
| 800132013 | Board of Education, City of Chicago, ROTC NCO Warrant                | 2/25/1944  |
| 800132014 | National Rifle Association Certification for Pro-Marksman            | 8/1/1944   |
| 800132015 | National Rifle Association Certification for Marksman                | 8/1/1944   |
| 800132016 | National Rifle Association Certification, Marksman-First Class       | 8/1/1944   |
| 800132017 | Military Training Certificate, Reserve Officers' Training Corps      | 8/18/1944  |
| 800132018 | Order to Report, Preinduction Physical Examination                   | 10/2/1944  |
| 800132019 | Certificate of Fitness   | 10/14/1944 |
| 800132020 | Order to Report for Induction  | 11/24/1944 |
| 800132021 | Authorization for Allotment of Pay                                   | 12/7/1944  |
| 800132022 | Authorization of Class B Allotment, Purchase War Savings Bonds       | 12/7/1944  |
| 800132023 | Headquarters Replacement and School Command Certificate for Rifleman | 3/31/1945  |
| 800132024 | Transportation Office travel confirmation                            | n.d.       |
| 800132025 | Clothing and Equipment Adjustment Form                               | 9/9/1946   |

|           |   |            |
|-----------|---|------------|
| 800132026 | 4th Replacement Depot, Certificate of Retention and Customs Declaratier | 9/11/1946  |
| 800132027 | 4th Replacement Depot, Certificate of Retention and Customs Declaratier | 9/11/1946  |
| 800132028 | 4th Replacement Depot, Certificate of Retention and Customs Declaratier | 9/11/1946  |
| 800132029 | Final Payment Work Sheet  | 11/30/1946 |
| 800132030 | Western Union Telegram  | 10/11/1946 |
| 800132031 | Army Separation Qualification Record                                    | 11/20/1946 |
| 800132032 | Enlisted Record and Report of Separation Honorable Discharge            | 11/20/1946 |
| 800132033 | Veterans Administration Voluntary Withdrawal from Training letter       | 6/29/1948  |
| 800132034 | Original Records Envelope   | 11/20/1946 |