

PRITZKER MILITARY MUSEUM & LIBRARY

104 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60603

archives@pritzkermilitary.org

312-374-9333

James J. Searcy, III Collection

Creator: James J. Searcy, III
Dates: 1945-1953
Quantity: 0.25 linear feet, 1 box
Identification: PMML ID# 800361, OCLC# 1040594656, Call# PAPERS 00343
Citation: [Document Title]. The James J. Searcy, III Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Pritzker Military Museum & Library, Chicago, IL.
Language: English
Finding Aid: 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.

Biographical Note

Private First Class James J. Searcy, III was born December 12, 1923 in St. Louis, Missouri. He attended University City High School in University City, Missouri and after graduation attended Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio.

In December of 1942, Searcy tried to enlist in all branches of the service but was rejected. But by January 26, 1943 he was inducted into limited duty. Searcy was transferred to the Medical Corps of the Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft and served for almost a year in the Western Coastal Defense by San Francisco. In March of 1944, Searcy volunteered for the Infantry. Searcy was a part of the 423rd Infantry Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division.

During the Battle of the Bulge (Battle of the Ardennes) Searcy was hit in the lower back with shrapnel and taken to the 3rd Battalion field hospital. His company and the 3rd Battalion field hospital eventually were forced to surrender after running out of food, water, and ammunition. While in the German prisoner of war camp Stalag XII A, Searcy died from his injuries on February 10, 1945.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The James J. Searcy, III Collection includes a scrapbook that contains letters, telegrams, photographs, and awards from James J. Searcy, III death in World War II. Also included in this collection is a book dedicated to soldiers that died during the war.

Arrangement

The majority of the collection arrived contained in a scrapbook. The original binder and page covers of the scrapbook have been separated, but the original order of pages and materials has been maintained.

Rights

Copyrights held by unknown donor were transferred to the Pritzker Military Museum & Library. All other rights are held by the author or publisher. Users assume responsibility for following copyright laws as established by US Code Title 17.

Separations

Item ID	Call Number	Description	Location
800361004		St. Louis Post-Dispatch newspaper from December 18, 1994, "The Battle of the Bulge: GI Joe's Finest Hour"	

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

Prisoner of war
Saint-Avoid (France)
Stalag XII A.
United States. Army. Infantry Division, 106th
World War, 1939-1945

Container List

Box	Folder	Item ID #	Title	Dates
1	1-17	800361001	Scrapbook	1945-1947
1	1		Loose items at front of scrapbook: Page of four photographs of James J. Searcy, III with his parents and alone, "Kenyon College Pictures" ; The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company sheet of blank stationary	u.d.
1	2		Page 1: Western Union telegram about James D. Searcy III has been reported missing on December 21, 1944 ; Copy of Prisoner of War postcard from Stalag XIIA for James Searcy ; Copy of Prisoner of War postcard from Stalag XIIA for James Searcy ; Western Union telegram about James Searcy III had been reported missing has died while in a German POW camp from injuries on January 10, 1945	1/13/1945-3/25/1945
1	3		Between page 1 and 2: Letter to James J. Searcy, Jr. from Major General J.A. Ulio that the previous letter which stated James J. Searcy III, died on January 10, 1945 was incorrect and that he died on February 10, 1945	5/14/1945
1	4		Page 2: Letter to James J. Searcy, Jr. from Major General J.A. Ulio to confirm the telegram notifying them of their son's death on January 10, 1945 from paraplegia due to a fractured spine while a POW	3/24/1945
1	5		Between page 2 and 3: Letter to James J. Searcy, Jr. from Major General J.A. Ulio to confirm the recent telegram notifying that their son was missing in action since December 21, 1944	5/1/1945
1	6		Page 3: Note on Ampco Tools paper that reads "Combat Infantryman award--(copy)"	u.d.

1	7	Page 4: Newspaper clipping "Casualties From This Area: 3 give lives in war, 10 reported missing" January 15, 1945 ; Newspaper clipping "Casualty List Shows 9 Dead, 18 Wounded" St. Louis Star-Times March 23, 1945	1/15/1945-3/23/1945
1	8	Page 5: Clipping "The Story of America's 106th Infantry Division"	1/21/1945
1	9	Page 6: Purple Heart award certificate for James J. Searcy, III ; Certificate In Memory of James J. Searcy, III from Franklin D. Roosevelt	5/19/1945, u.d.
1	10	Page 7: Excerpt from The Iota Owl from June 20, 1945, "PFC James Jasper Searcy, '46"	6/20/1945
1	11	Page 8: Photograph of James J. Searcy, III grave in Frisine, Germany, and two smaller photographs of St. Avold American Military Cemetary-near Metz, France ; Seven photographs of St. Avold American Military Cemetary	u.d.
1	12	Page 9: Article "The Battle of the Bulge" by Lt. Gen. Walter Bendell Smith	u.d.
1	13	Page 10: Continuation of article "Battle of the Bulge" by Lt. Gen. Walter Bendell Smith	u.d.
1	14	Page 11: Continuation of article "Battle of the Bulge" by Lt. Gen. Walter Bendell Smith	u.d.
1	15	Page 12: Continuation of article "Battle of the Bulge" by Lt. Gen. Walter Bendell Smith and a map of the Rhine Province with Prüm underlined, Limburg circled and underlined, and St. Vith handwritten next to the map ; Memo "Company L- 423rd Infantry, 106th Division, June 19th, 1946-S/Sgt. John Dougherty" that details the days leading up to when James J. Searcy, III was injured and taken as a POW	u.d., 6/19/1946

1	16		Page 13: Booklet "A Memorial Service for the Kenyon men who have died in the Service of Our Country" [dry flower was separated from collection]	6/23/1946
1	17		Loose items at end of scrapbook: Booklet "The 106th" ; Church of St. Michael and St. George program from February 7, 1947 ; Western Union telegram from December 12, 1946 inside of a Hotel Claremont photograph folder	u.d., 12/6/1946, 2/7/1947
1	18	800361002	Britain's Homage to 28,000 American Dead book	u.d.
1		800361003	From inside of Britain's Homage to 28,000 American Dead, To Mr. Searcy from Chairman: letter about the delivery of the book	Aug-53