Collection #
SC 1879

DEAN WILHELM COLLECTION, 1917–CA. 1919

Collection Information

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 manuscript folder, 4 panoramic photographs
COLLECTION DATES:	1917–1918
PROVENANCE:	Heidi and Esther Meeker, Indianapolis, 1983
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1983.0927, 1983.0929
NOTES:	Formerly cataloged under the title: *Through the War with the South Bend Boys of the 137th: from Leeper Park to France and Back Again*

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dean J. Wilhelm was born in Indiana on 14 September 1897. His parents were John C. and Ellen C. Wilhelm of South Bend, Indiana. He was with the Third Indiana Infantry during World War I. Part of the group was sent to Hattiesburg, Mississippi for training and the remaining group was sent to Fort Harrison in Indianapolis then on to Europe. Census records show that after the war he returned home and in 1920 was living with his parents. By 1930 he was still living in South Bend with his wife Wilma and their son Jack. At that time Wilhelm was working as a manager with a newspaper. He died in February 1977.

Sources:

http://Ancestrylibrary.com/ Accessed August 2007

Material in the collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains a reminiscence of Sergeant Dean Wilhelm's World War I experiences with the 137th Field Artillery of the Third Indiana Infantry. The brief story is titled *Through the War with the South Bend Boys of the 137th: from Leeper Park to France and Back Again.* In it Wilhelm describes training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, the voyage to England and France, time spent in France, and the return to the United States. The group left for France on 6 October 1918. The armistice was signed shortly after they arrived in France and the men never saw the front. They returned to the states in late December.

The collection comprises a carbon copy of Wilhelm's story on nine typed pages, and four Cirkut photographs showing panoramic images of the 137th Field Artillery at Hattiesburg, Mississippi and Fort Harrison in Indianapolis. The story is not dated but it is assumed it was written ca. 1919 soon after his return to civilian life.

The photographs have been scanned and are now in the Digital Image Collections.

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"*Through the war with the South Bend boys of the 137th: from Leeper Park to France, and back again*." [1919?, 9 pages typescript]	Folder 1
Caption: "Headquarters Company, 137th F.A. Camp Shelby Miss., Feb 4, 1918" "Moore Photo" Description: [Soldiers outside in uniform, some dressed as cooks and some with band instruments]	Panoramic Photographs: Folder 1 PAN0574
Caption: "137th U.S. Field Artillery Band, Camp Shelby, Miss" Description: [Soldiers with band instruments, n.d.]	Panoramic Photographs: Folder 2 PAN0573
Caption: "137th F.A. Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss., Feb., 1918" "medley Photo from El Paso, Texas" Description: [Elevated view of the camp with soldiers and tents]	Panoramic Photographs: Folder 3 PAN0572
Caption: "Headquarters Co. Field Artillery, 63rd Artillery Brigade, 38th Cyclone Division, Cp. C. Bassett comdg." "Swift Photo, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana" Description: [Soldiers dressed in winter coats buildings behind them, officers names listed on photograph, n.d.]	Panoramic Photographs: Folder 4 PAN0571