



Collection Summary

Title

American Ex-Prisoners of War-Heart of America Chapter collection

Date

1953-2007

Extent

3 boxes

Name and Location of Repository

Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence (Mo.)

Reference code: MGC 1056 - POW

Processed by: Nicole Pye, 2015; Finding aid created by Nicole Pye, 2015

Name of Creator

American Ex-Prisoners of War-Heart of America Chapter

Administrative History

The American Ex-Prisoners of War organization was created in 1942. Originally founded by family members and friends of American soldiers captured by the Japanese, it was called the Bataan Relief Organization or BRO. BRO members held war bond and relief drives. In addition members would gather information on missing servicemen and share this with their families across the United States. After the war, the first BRO convention was held in 1948. At this convention, the organization's name was officially changed to American Ex-Prisoners of War. This change occurred so that all prisoners of war could be members.

The Heart of America Chapter began in 1953 and is based out of Kansas City, Missouri. This chapter is one of 300 chapters across the United States.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of scrapbooks and photographs that document the American Ex-Prisoners of War-Heart of America Chapter's activities. Also included in this collection is a manuscript for the book *Former American Prisoners of War Tell Their Stories* and a history of Stalag IVB, Muhlberg, Germany.



Collection Inventory

System of Arrangement

These records are arranged in 3 series.

Series 1, History

- Item 1, Manuscript of Former American Prisoners of War Tell Their Stories, 2001
- Item 2, Stalag IVB, Muhlberg, Germany information

Series 2, Photograph Albums

- Item 1, 1978
- Item 2, 1982-1984
- Item 3, 1988-1993
- Item 4, 1996
- Item 5, Undated
- Item 6, Loose photographs, 2007

Series 3, Scrapbooks

- Item 1, 1953 to 1999
- Item 2, 2000
- Item 3, 2001
- Item 4, 2002

Rights and Access

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use by appointment.

Physical Access

Records within this collection are housed in archival boxes.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

Materials in the collection are in English and German.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection was donated to the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected for this collection.

Existence and Location of Originals

Originals owned by the Midwest Genealogy Center.



Related Materials at the Midwest Genealogy Center

Former American Prisoners of War Tell Their Stories/Heart of America Prisoners of War. 940.5472 F766

Notes

The following source was consulted during the preparation of the administrative history:

American Ex-Prisoners Of War. "History." Accessed April 22, 2015. <http://www.axpow.org/history2.html>