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Schenck, Martin B., 1921-2004 (MSS 163)

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Descriptive Inventory

MSS 163 SCHENCK, Martin Blaine, 1922-2004

1 box. 19 folders. 179 items. Originals and photocopies. 1922-2004.

2007.23.10

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Martin Blaine Schenck was born 7 September 1922 in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. He enlisted in the Navy on 8 October 1938 and served throughout World War II. He served on the *U.S.S. Vincennes* and later the *U.S.S. Helena*, and was a Pearl Harbor survivor. He trained at U.S. Submarine Base at New London, Connecticut in 1943, and later served on the following submarines: *U.S.S. R-20*, *U.S.S. Greenling*, and the *U.S.S. Angler* during World War II. He received an honorable discharge from the Navy on 5 October 1945; his rank was Seaman First Class. On 7 January 1946 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in that branch until 1970. In 1946 he attended glider and parachute school, and served with the U.S. Constabulary in Germany. From 1946 to 1951 he served with the 14th Armored Cavalry and with the 7th Reconnaissance Company, 7th Division in Korea; from 1967 to 1968 he served in Vietnam as Platoon Sergeant with the 11th Armored Cavalry, Regiment "E" Troop, 2nd Squadron. He was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in service in Vietnam.

While serving in Germany in 1950, Schenck met a Belgian, Yvonne Rogghe. The couple had three daughters and raised a son from Rogghe's previous marriage. In 1968 Schenck moved to Fort Knox where he served as 1st Sergeant in the Training Company. Schenck, having received a number of citations and medals, retired from the Army on 1 September 1970. He earned his G.E.D. in 1953. With the help of a program entitled "Veterans Upward Bound" Schenck began taking classes at Western Kentucky University in the mid-1990s. He received his Bachelors degree in 1999. Schenck spent his retirement in Munfordville, Kentucky.

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists of one box of material that documents the military career of Martin Blaine Schenck. It includes his official service record, enlistment papers, discharges, personnel forms, a reminiscence about his World War II service, and an oral interview conducted in 2003 by Mike Kinney and Mike Johnson with Schenck about

his military career. It also includes photocopies of photographs of Schenck in military service, of particular note are some black and white prints from Korea. Printed material about the *U.S.S. Helena* is included in the collection. Of special note is Schenck's personal notebook from his submarine training in New London, Connecticut. On a more personal note, the collection contains three things written by Schenck: a letter addressed to the President [James E. Carter] which outlines Schenck's views of pardoning draft dodgers, a reminiscence written after a visit to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. which indicates his disdain for Nazi sympathizers, and a reminiscence about a submarine mission from World War II in which he and his fellow crewmen rescued a number of Filipinos.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	SCHENCK, Martin B.	1922-2004	179 items
Folder 1	Inventory	n.d.	1 item
Folder 2	Biographical information	1922-2004	8 items
Folder 3	Letters and forms related to citations and medals awarded to Schenck	1934-1986	15 items
Folder 4	Certificates and discharge papers	1922-1988	13 items
Folder 5	Letter to U.S. President Jimmy Carter expressing Schenck's feelings regarding the pardoning of draft dodgers	1977	1 item
Folder 6	Membership cards for veterans organizations	n.d.	7 items
Folder 7	Personnel records related to Schenck's military career	1945-1977	11 items
Folder 8	Official service record of Schenck's military career	1950-1978	1 item
Folder 9	Reminiscence by Schenck of a visit to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.	n.d.	1 item
Folder 10	Notebook kept during submarine training school in New London, Conn. Items removed in B1,F11	1943	1 item

Folder 11	Items removed from submarine notebook (B1,F10)	1943	15 items
Folder 12	Oral interview (cassette tape) and notes related to Schenck's military service	1993	2 items
Folder 13	Photocopies of photographs transferred to the Kentucky Library	n.d.	80 items
Folder 14	Brief sketch of the Naval Reserve Center (Perth Amboy, NJ), 1971-1994	1994	1 item
Folder 15	Copies of patriotic poems and essays	n.d.	5 items
Folder 16	Patches related to service on submarines in WWII	n.d.	3 items
Folder 17	Printed material related to the <i>U.S.S. Helena</i>	1942-1977	10 items
Folder 18	Oversized items (C1,D2b,#9)	1962-1977	3 items
Folder 19	Reminiscence by Schenck about his service on a submarine during WWII and a specific mission in the Philippines	1993	1 item

OVERSIZED

C1,D2b,#9	Schematic drawing for a WWII submarine, Kentucky Colonel certificate, and 14th Armored Cavalry Squadron certificate	1962-1977	3 items
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BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS SCHENCK, Martin Blaine, 1922-2004 1922-2004
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Correspondence, clippings, oral interview, personnel records, etc. related to the military career of New Jersey native, Martin B. Schenck, who served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He served on the *U.S.S. Helena* and on submarines and was a Pearl Harbor survivor. He later served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

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SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Agent Orange – Relating to B1,F12
Carter, James Earl “Jimmy”, Jr., b. 1924 – Letter to, 1977 B1,F5
Certificates – 14th Armored Cavalry Squadron B1,F18
Certificates – Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, 1977 B1,F18
Civilian Conservation Corps – Relating to, 1934 B1,F4
Holocaust – Relating to B1,F9
Johnson, Mike (Interviewer) B1,F12
Kinney, Mike (Interviewer) B1,F12
Korean War, 1950-1953 – Military life B1,F12
Korean War, 1950-1953 – Photos B1,F13
Military service, Compulsory – Comments about, 1977 B1,F5
Nazis – Comments about B1,F9
Patriotism B1,F15
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 1941 B1,F12
World War II, 1939-1945 – Philippines, 1943? B1,F19
Poetry, Patriotic B1,F15
Submarines – Relating to B1,F10-12
Submarines – Photos B1,F13
U.S. Army – Relating to, 1946-1970 B1,F12
U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum – Washington, DC – Comments about B1,F9
U.S. Naval Reserve Center – Perth Amboy, New Jersey – History, 1971-1994 B1,F14
U.S. Navy – Relating to, 1938-1946 B1,F12
U.S. Submarine Base – New London, Connecticut – Relating to B1,F10-11
U.S.S. Angler (Submarine) – Photos B1,F13
U.S.S. Helena – Photos B1,F13
U.S.S. Helena – Relating to B1,F17
Vietnam War, 1961-1975 – Military life B1,F12

Vietnam War, 1961-1975 – Photos B1,F13
World War II, 1939-1945 – Military life B1,F12,17,19
World War II, 1939-1945 – Photos B1,F13

Jeffrey 10/11/2013