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Aton, Paul Douglas, 1948-1968 (MSS 82)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives
 Department of Library Special Collections
 Western Kentucky University
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

Descriptive Inventory

MSS 82 ATON, Paul Douglas, 1948-1968

1 box. 9 folders. 265 items, 1948-2007.
 Originals, photographs, reel-to-reel audio tape.

1991.109.1

BIOGRAPHY

Paul Douglas Aton, only child of Loyd Simpson Aton and Roberta Patricia Townsend Aton (1916-1955), was born in El Paso, Texas, on 9 October 1948. After attending Franklin-Simpson High School in Franklin, Kentucky, Paul enlisted in the United States Army at Nashville, Tennessee, on 25 October 1967. Completing basic training at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, in January 1968, Paul received training also at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Arriving in Vietnam in April 1968, Paul studied Viet Cong tactics and maneuvers at the 199th Light Infantry Brigade's Training Center REDCATCHER. Serving as radiophone operator for the Forward Artillery Observation Officer with the Headquarters and Service Battalion, 40th Artillery, Paul drowned under combat conditions on 29 July 1968. After a full military funeral at the gravesite on 10 August 1968, interment occurred at the Hebron Cemetery, Graves County, Kentucky.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

The Collection.
The Courier-Journal.

COLLECTION NOTE

The collection consists of fifteen letters received by Paul's father, Loyd Simpson Aton, after his arrival at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, in November 1967, until nine days prior to his death on 29 July 1968. The telegrams and letters, 1968 (21 items), detail the information the family received following Paul's death. Related materials include certificates for the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, photographs, military papers and published army regulations.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	ATON, Paul Douglas	1948-1991	265 items
Folder 1	Biographical data, inventory and separation sheet	1948-2004 n.d.	14 items
Folder 2	Letters to father; letter to friend, May 17, 1968; photographs; military currency	1967-1968	15 items
Folder 3	Letters and telegrams to Loyd Aton concerning his son's death; two letters about Paul's basic training and work as colonel's orderly	1967-1968;	24 items
Folder 4	Photographs and certificates	1968	145 items
Folder 5	Certificates and news clippings	1948-1989	10 items
Folder 6	Military papers – Scores, equipment requisitions, etc.	1967-1968	23 items
Folder 7	Funeral book and U.S. Army publications	1964-1968	7 items
Folder 8	Miscellaneous items	1967-2007	20 items
Folder 9	Drawings	1968	5 items
Folder 10	Aton's Gideons New Testament	1968	1 item
Folder 11	Reel-to-reel recording of popular music during the Vietnam War era marked "Sounds of War and Peace"	1968	1 item

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS ATON, Paul Douglas, 1948-1991
82 1948-1968

Vietnam War letters written by Paul Douglas Aton to his father Loyd Aton, of Franklin, Kentucky, documenting his training at Fort Campbell, Fort Gordon, and Fort Sill and his war experiences, 9 November 1967 to 20 July 1968. Includes family's notification of his death and burial information.

1 box. 8 folders. 265 items. Originals, photographs, and reel-to-reel audio tape.
1991.109.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Aton, Loyd Simpson, 1911-2004
Aton, Loyd Simpson, 1911-2004 – Photos F4
Aton, Paul Douglas, 1948-1968 – Photos F2&4
Aton, Roberta Patricia (Townsend), 1916-1955 – Photos F4
Bibles F10
Drawings F9
Fort Campbell, 1967
Funeral books – Aton, Paul Douglas, 1948-1968 F7
Medals, Military and naval
Military currency, 1968 F2
Military education – Basic training, 1967
Military funerals, 1968
Military supplies, 1968
Motion pictures and the war – Vietnam War, 1961-1975 F2
Powers, Lonnie
Report cards – Mount Clemens, Michigan F2
Report cards – L-Anse Creuse, Michigan F2
Simpson County – Vietnam War, 1961-1975 – Soldiers from Soldiers, 1967-1968
Soldiers' bodies, Disposition of, 1968
United States – Army – Artillery
United States – Army – Handbook, manuals, etc. F7
United States – Medals, badges, decorations, etc.
United States – Army – Pay, allowances, etc.
Vaccinations – Relating to F1
Vietnam War, 1961-1975
Vietnam War, 1961-1975 – Desertions
Vietnam War, 1961-1975 – Motion pictures and the war

Vietnam War Memorial – Washington, D.C. – Relating to F8
Vietnam War, 1961-1975 – Photographs F4
War – Psychological aspects, 1968

Jeffrey 02/20/2020