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Richards, Frances, 1893-1991 (MSS 368)

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Descriptive Inventory

MSS 368 RICHARDS, Frances, 1893-1991 – Letters to

3 boxes. 51 folders. 771 items. 1940-1948. Originals, photostats, photographs.

1989.98.1

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Frances Richards, the daughter of Edwin Lovin Richards and Minnie Dixon Richards, was born on 8 November 1893 in Allen County, Kentucky and grew up in Simpson County. She taught public school in Simpson, Allen and Warren counties before enrolling at the Western Kentucky State Normal School (now WKU) in 1921. She received her bachelor's degree in 1925 and accepted a teaching position in WKU's English department.

Miss Richards taught English and journalism at Western for the next 39 years, taking leave only in 1929-1930 to earn her master's degree from Indiana University. She was the first advisor to the student newspaper, the *College Heights Herald*, begun in 1925, and continued in that capacity until her retirement in 1964.

Frances Richards died in Franklin, Kentucky on 26 April 1991. The following year, she was inducted into WKU's Hall of Distinguished Alumni, and an annual journalism scholarship was established in her memory.

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists of letters written to Frances Richards by former students of Western Kentucky State Teachers College (now WKU) during their military service in World War II and immediately thereafter. In addition to regularly enrolled students, correspondents include family members and members of the 321st College Training Detachment who attended classes at WKU while receiving aviation training in Bowling Green. The letters are from both men and women, serving in all branches of the service and in all theatres of war. A list of non-Army correspondents broken down by branch of service, and a list of women correspondents, is in Box 1, Folder 1.

Responding to Miss Richards' letters, the correspondents write, usually in some detail, of their military training, duties, travel and leisure activities. They relay news of fellow students in military service, reminisce about their time spent at WKU, and request copies of the campus newspaper, *The College Heights Herald*. Their correspondence includes V-mail, clippings, announcements, greeting cards, postcards and photographs.

One letter written by Miss Richards, but returned to her due to the death of the addressee, is in the collection (Box 1, Folder 16).

The folders in Boxes 1 and 2 each relate to a single correspondent, while Box 3 contains folders of letters from multiple correspondents, arranged alphabetically.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Richards, Frances	1941-1947	303 items
Folder 1	Inventory & biographical data		22 items
Folder 2	Orville R. Balton – Letters	Oct. 1943-Sept. 1945	5 items
Folder 3	Bert Joseph Borrone – Letters	Feb. 1942-Dec. 1945	84 items
Folder 4	Alexander “Sandy” Cather – Letters	June 1942-Oct. 1945	24 items
Folder 5	John H. Clagett – Letters	Mar. 1943-June 1948	8 items
Folder 6	Basil E. Craddock – Letters	Sept. 1945-Apr. 1946	4 items
Folder 7	Paul F. Davis – Letters	Dec. 1942-Dec. 1945	9 items
Folder 8	Marion C. Follis – Letters	Oct. 1941-Mar. 1945	6 items
Folder 9	Julian Goodman – Letters	Apr. 1943-Nov. 1943	5 items
Folder 10	George C. Grise – Letters	Sept. 1941-Apr. 1945	10 items
Folder 11	Charles M. Hale – Letters	May 1943-Sept. 1945	19 items
Folder 12	Lowell H. Harrison – Letters	Apr. 1943-Oct. 1945	21 items
Folder 13	John E. “Bro Boy” Haynes – Letters	Sept. 1943-Nov. 1945	6 items
Folder 14	Joseph M. Howard – Letters	July 1943-Mar. 1945	9 items
Folder 15	Robert C. Johnson – Letters	July 1944-Oct. 1945	15 items
Folder 16	Letters from Marlyn E. Kobiske and Elna Kobiske; returned letter from Frances Richards	Oct. 1943-Feb. 1945	5 items
Folder 17	Chester R. Lane – Letters	Nov. 1943-Dec. 1945	6 items

Folder 18	John G. Minogue – Letters	Jan. 1945-Dec. 1945	6 items
Folder 19	Alton W. Mitchell – Letters	Apr. 1942-Jan. 1945	6 items
Folder 20	Edwin O. Mitchell – Letters	Nov. 1941-Feb. 1947	10 items
Folder 21	John W. “Jack” Muir, Sr. – Letters	Nov. 1943-July 1945	13 items
Folder 22	Jordan G. Myers – Letters	Dec. 1942-Dec. 1945	10 items
BOX 2	Richards, Frances	1940-1947	267 items
Folder 1	Genevieve Irene O’Leary – Letters	June 1943-Aug. 1945	5 items
Folder 2	Robert L. Pay – Letters	Dec. 1942-Dec. 1944	5 items
Folder 3	Martin K. Plessinger – Letters	Nov. 1942-Dec. 1945	9 items
Folder 4	Emmett L. Raney – Letters	Sept. 1942-Mar. 1945	12 items
Folder 5	Robert L. Richards – Letters	Apr. 1946-Oct. 1946	7 items
Folder 6	Joe M. Robertson and Virginia Robertson – Letters	June 1941-July 1945	13 items
Folder 7	John W. Searcy – Letters	June 1942-Dec. 1945	7 items
Folder 8	Preston Mark Sisk – Letters	Apr. 1943-Sept. 1945	16 items
Folder 9	Julia Sledge – Letters	Sept. 1943-Sept. 1945	7 items
Folder 10	Lester H. Spalding and Nell Spalding – Letters	Apr. 1942-Oct. 1943	7 items
Folder 11	Samuel A. Steger – Letters	June 1942-Jan. 1945	8 items
Folder 12	Howard F. Stevenson and Lucille (Mrs. Upshur P.) Stevenson – Letters	Feb. 1940-Sept. 1947	44 items
Folder 13	James C. Stickles – Letters	Jan. 1943-Dec. 1945	5 items
Folder 14	Laurence L. “Larry” Stone – Letters	Sept. 1944-Mar. 1946	7 items
Folder 15	John B. Thomas, Jr. – Letters	Oct. 1943-Dec. 1945	6 items

Folder 16	Thomas C. Tichenor – Letters	Apr. 1942-Dec. 1945	7 items
Folder 17	David B. Whitaker – Letters	July 1943-Apr. 1945	5 items
Folder 18	Glenn Russell Williams – News clipping	September 1944	1 item
Folder 19	Garland A. Willoughby, Jr. – Letters	June 1942-Oct. 1944	7 items
Folder 20	Wendel W. Wood – Letters	Oct. 1943-Dec. 1944	5 items
Folder 21	Walter A. Wright – Letters	May 1943-Feb. 1945	5 items
Folder 22	Incoming letters – V-mail	Oct. 1942-July 1945	79 items
BOX 3	Richards, Frances	1941-1947	201 items
Folder 1	Acuff-Crowdus – Letters	Oct. 1941-June 1947	42 items
Folder 2	Dann-Grise – Letters	Oct. 1941-Mar. 1946	28 items
Folder 3	Harman-Jurgensen – Letters	Dec. 1941-July 1945	33 items
Folder 4	Karant-Lovett – Letters	Apr. 1942-Nov. 1946	28 items
Folder 5	McChesney-Perkins – Letters	Apr. 1942-Apr. 1946	18 items
Folder 6	Randolph-Stuteville – Letters	Jan. 1942-July 1945	29 items
Folder 7	Thompson-Yarbrough – Letters	Aug. 1942-Dec. 1945	23 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS RICHARDS, Frances, 1940-1948
368 1893-1991 – Letters to

Letters written to Frances Richards, a faculty member in the English department of Western Kentucky State Teachers College (now Western Kentucky University) by students during their military service in World War II. Correspondents include both men and women in all branches and theatres of war, and some family members.

3 boxes. 51 folders. 771 items. Originals, photostats, photographs.
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 Beatty, Sarah B3,F1
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SEE and SEE ALSO

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See:

World War II, 1939-1945 – U.S. Naval Reserve (Women's Reserve)

World War II, 1939-1945 – WACs

See:

World War II, 1939-1945 – Women's Army Corps

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