

Sergeant Harry Koehler World War II Letters

Collection Summary

Repository:	Adelphi University
Creator:	Harry Koehler
Title:	Sergeant Harry Koehler World War II Letters
Inclusive Dates:	March 7, 1943 – September 8, 1945
Quantity:	.5 linear feet (1 box)
Abstract:	This collection consists of 69 letters (and two envelopes without letters) written between 1943 and 1945 by Sgt. Harry Koehler to his parents living in East Hempstead, New York while serving in the US military during WWII.
Language:	Collection materials are in English

Biographical History

Harry Koehler was born on March 19, 1922 in Nesconset, New York to George and Catherine Koehler (née Weber). He had 6 brothers (his first born brother George died at the age of 5). He entered the US Army Air Corps on October 24, 1942 (having enlisted on October 15, 1942 in New York City) and served during World War II as a Sergeant with the 674th Bombardment Squadron, 417 Bombardment Group which operated in the Southwest Pacific Theater of Operations during the Philippines and New Guinea campaigns. The 417th Bombardment Group was activated on March 28, 1943 and inactivated on November 15, 1945. Harry Koehler died on October 7, 1993 and is buried at Calverton National Cemetery in Calverton, New York.

Scope and Content of the Collection

This collection consists of 69 letters (and two envelopes without letters) written between 1943 and 1945 by Sgt. Harry Koehler to his parents living in East Hempstead, New York while serving in the US military during WWII. Sgt. Koehler served with the 674th Bombardment Squadron, 417 Bombardment Group which operated in the Southwest Pacific Theater of Operations during the Philippines and New Guinea campaigns. The 417th Bombardment Group was activated on March 28, 1943 and inactivated on November 15, 1945. Sgt. Koehler sent the letters from many locales including Chanute Air Force Base in Illinois, Amarillo Texas, the Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, and Okinawa, Japan.

Administrative Information

Provenance

Material purchased by UASC in January 2015.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific items; Date (if known); Sergeant Harry Koehler World War II Letters; Box and folder number; Adelphi University Archives and Special Collections, Garden City, NY.

Processing Information

The Sergeant Harry Koehler World War II Letters were processed by Brian McDonald in the summer of 2015.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

The Sergeant Harry Koehler World War II Letters is open to research. Photocopies of fragile materials are provided for researchers in lieu of the originals.

Use Restrictions

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from the collection must be requested from Adelphi University Archives and Special Collections. Researchers are responsible for copyright compliance.

Subject and Genre Headings

People:

Koehler, Harry (1922-1993)

Organizations:

US Air Force

Geographic Names:

Long Island (N.Y.)
Hempstead (N.Y.)
Japan
Philippines
Dutch East Indies

Topics:

Personal correspondence
Manuscripts, American--20th century
World War II
World War, 1939-1945

Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged chronically.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Box	Folder	Title
1	1	March 7, 1943 – April 28, 1943
	2	May 19, 1943 – December 21, 1943
	3	September 30, 1944 – December 25, 1944
	4	January 11, 1945 – Jan. 31, 1945
	5	February 1, 1945 – February 17, 1945
	6	March 4, 1945 – June 29, 1945
	7	July 2, 1945 – July 19, 1945
	8	September 8, 1945 – November 26, 1945
	9	WWII USAAF 5th Air Force patch