



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY WAR COLLEGE AND CARLISLE BARRACKS
CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA 17013-5021

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center
Office of the Director

Dear Veteran of World War II:

The U.S. Army Heritage Education Center (AHEC) is conducting a major survey to acquire source material on the World II War. We invite you, a veteran of that war, to join in our effort.

The AHEC is the Army's official central repository for historical source material. Our holding of over 260,000 books, 50,000 periodicals, 11,000,000 manuscript pages, 1,730,000 photographs and 47,500 artifacts covering every period of military history make us the finest military archive and museum in the United States and one of the best in the entire world. Civilian and uniformed historians from all over this country and from abroad come here to study the history of our American armed forces. Veterans and their families, students, schools, and scholars make extensive use of our collections.

Among our material, World War II is one of our strongest and most frequently studied fields. However, we hope to improve further our holdings, so we are asking veterans to donate their historical records of that war. We seek books, camp and unit newspapers, letters, diaries, memoirs, correspondence and official reports, photographs, illustrations, films, audiotapes, insignia, unit patches, uniforms, flags, equipment, weapons, and other personal objects.

We are asking veterans to record their recollections on the accompanying survey. Your recollections are an important source of information for historians, researchers, students, the young and the old. Because of your uniqueness and importance, we urge you to take the time and effort to complete the attached survey. If you need more space or want to address matters not specifically listed, please attach a continuation sheet to the back of the survey.

Thousands of veterans and their families have already made unconditional gifts of their material. Now you are asked to do the same. All items donated will be registered in the name of the individual veteran. Here your personal papers and other important items will have a permanent home and can be preserved and protected under carefully controlled conditions. Your items will be made available to students of all ages and to the general public honoring not only the U.S. Army but your service as an honored part of our nation's military heritage. You have already served America, now you can serve her again by contributing your papers to the Army Heritage and Education Center. We hope you will agree to do so. We would value the privilege of receiving and caring for them. Thank you for considering our appeal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Dalessandro", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert J. Dalessandro
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director

DONOR GUIDE TO HISTORICAL MATERIALS NEEDED

9/22/04

In order to tell the Army's story, one soldier at a time, we need your personal papers and other related materials. In fact, most additions to our unique research collection have been acquired through unconditional donations from private individuals, especially by veterans themselves. Here are examples of what is needed for the Military History Institute and the Army Heritage Museum in order to tell the Army's story.

Materials of Prime Interest to the Military History Institute

- _ Memoirs or diaries of military service (published, typed, handwritten, or electronic)
- _ Personal correspondence with family and friends during service
- _ Camp, unit, and veteran association newspapers and periodicals
- _ Unit histories (published or not) and organizational documents (reports, briefings, orders, etc.)
- _ Books about the Army or military history, especially land warfare
- _ Army manuals, brochures, and other official documents and publications
- _ Military maps and charts (preferably annotated or directly related to personal experience)
- _ Photographs taken during service (prints, negatives, or slides)
- _ Motion pictures, videos, or audio recordings of service experiences
- _ Other printed matter or images depicting personal military experience or Army history

Materials of Prime Interest to the Army Heritage Museum

- _ Field uniforms, accessories and other personal equipment
- _ Service-related weapons (firearms, knives, or swords) and their equipment
- _ Souvenirs collected by soldiers, including materials of allies and enemies
- _ Items related to Army education and training
- _ Original artwork related to Army service, including sketches, cartoons, or carvings
- _ Veteran recognition material (ribbons, camp medals, historic original art, etc.)
- _ Selected unit insignia and shoulder patches
- _ Other objects that tell the story of the soldiers and Army civilians

Materials Generally Not Accepted

- No commercial videos or motion pictures
- No commercial magazines & newspapers (except for personal or unit related clippings)
- No commercial prints or other reproductions of original art
- No personal wall-hanging trophies, plaques, or parting gifts
- No official personnel or medical files requiring complete privacy protection
- No Nazi political flags (unless actually captured and documented)
- No Class A or Dress Service Uniforms, WWII to present (unless part of a larger collection)
- No live ammunition or ordnance

Questions? More information? Please contact the Acquisitions Branch at (717) 245-3600
or visit our website: <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/index.htm>