

John F. Callahan Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2018

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm83085720>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms018020>

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Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2018

Collection Summary

Title: John F. Callahan Papers

Span Dates: 1917-1963

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1942-1944)

ID No.: MSS85720

Creator: Callahan, John F., 1886-1948

Extent: 725 items

Extent: 3 containers plus 1 oversize

Extent: 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm83085720>

Summary: Soldier and fire fighter. Correspondence, photographs, and military records relating to John F. Callahan's service in the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I, and the service of his sons, Charles W. Callahan and John F. Callahan Jr, in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Callahan, Charles W., 1922-1944.

Callahan, John F., 1886-1948.

Callahan, John F., Jr., 1921-2002.

Morehouse, Clara--Correspondence.

Organizations

United States. Army Air Forces.

United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces.

Subjects

World War, 1914-1918.

World War, 1939-1945.

Occupations

Fire fighters.

Soldiers.

Provenance

The papers of John F. Callahan, soldier in the United States Army, were given to the Library of Congress by Clara Morehouse in 1920. An addition was given by John, Michael, and Patricia D'Amico in 2018.

Processing History

The papers of John F. Callahan were cataloged in 1920. Material received as an addition was arranged and described in 2018.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of John F. Callahan is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of John F. Callahan are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, John F. Callahan Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Notes

John F. Callahan

Date	Event
1886 Dec. 5	Born, New York, N.Y.
circa 1916-1948	Fire fighter, New York City Fire Dept., New York, N.Y.
1917-1919	Corporal, United States Army 355th Infantry Division
1921	Married Herminia Belmer (d. 1971)
1948 Oct. 26	Died, Brooklyn, N.Y.

John F. Callahan Jr.

Date	Event
1921 Aug. 6	Born, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1942-1963	Flight Officer, Lieutenant, Captain, Major, United States Army Air Forces
2002 June 15	Died, Universal City, Tex.

Charles W. Callahan

Date	Event
1922 Sept. 15	Born, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1941-1942	Machinist, Sperry Gyroscope, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1942-1944	Flight Officer, United States Army Air Forces
1944 Mar. 23	Died, Munster, Germany

Scope and Content Note

The papers of John F. Callahan span the years 1917 to 1958, with the bulk of the material dating between 1942 and 1944. This collection comprises correspondence, military service records, and photographs concerning John F. Callahan's service in the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, and later, the military service of his sons, John Jr. and Charles during World War II. Material is arranged alphabetically by person or material type.

This collection primarily documents John Jr. and Charles's service in the United States Army Air Forces between 1942 and 1944 during World War II. Correspondence sent to John F. Callahan from his two sons during basic training and then from Europe represents the bulk of the collection. These papers also chronicle John F. Callahan's search for information after the B-24 bomber Charles flew on as a navigator was downed over Germany in 1944. Many of the letters in this

collection are from the parents of Charles's crew members who were also lost when the plane was downed. Correspondence written by John F. Callahan to Clara Morehouse between 1917 and 1918 describing his experiences in the Expeditionary Forces primarily in Germany and France is also included in this collection, as are some documents related to enlistment and service summaries for all three men.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by correspondent or type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Babcock, William and Richard, 1943-1948
BOX 1	Beam, Frank, 1943
BOX 1	Brett, Manley, 1944-1946
BOX 1	Burns, Jerry, 1942-1943
BOX 1	Callahan, Charles W.
BOX 1	Baptism card, 1922
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1940-1944 (7 folders)
BOX 1	Decorations, 1944 <i>See also Container OV 1, Purple Heart certificate</i>
BOX 1	Flight record, 1943
BOX 1	Memorials, 1944-1945, 1963
BOX 1	Missing in Action/Killed in Action status and burial, 1944-1951
BOX 1	Photographs, circa 1943-circa 1944
BOX 1	Orders and service records, 1942-1943
BOX 1	Personal effects and equipment, 1942-1945
BOX 1	Returned mail, 1944 Mar.-Apr.
BOX 1	Sympathy cards, 1944 Sept.-Oct. <i>See also Container OV 1, Note of sympathy</i>
BOX 1	Will and life insurance, 1941-1949
BOX 2	Callahan, John F.
BOX 2	Correspondence, 1917-1918
BOX 3	Death records, 1948-1950
BOX 3	Photographs, 1917-1947
BOX 3	Service records, 1919
BOX 3	Callahan, John F., Jr. (Johnny)
BOX 3	Call to active duty, 1943 Feb.
BOX 3	Correspondence, 1943-1958, undated (10 folders)
BOX 3	Photographs, 1943-1949
BOX 3	Clark, Nellie, 1944-1947
BOX 3	Davis, Lester, 1944-1945
BOX 3	DePuy, Eva, 1944
BOX 3	Frank, William, 1943-1944
BOX 3	Hetzler, Olga, 1944-1947
BOX 3	Lynde, Blanche, 1944
BOX 3	Mahoney, Tom, 1942 Nov.-Dec.
BOX 3	Miscellaneous correspondence, 1941-1947
BOX 3	Moorhead, Lola, 1944-1946
BOX 3	Notes and miscellany, circa 1943-1947
BOX 3	O'Toole, Donald L., 1944 May-Oct.
BOX 3	Schnieder, Dietrich, 1942-1944
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Purple Heart certificate, 1944 Oct. 26 (Container 1, Decorations)

Container List

Container

Contents

BOX OV 1

Certificate of sympathy signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1944 (Container 1, Sympathy cards)