Rudolf Bennitt Papers  
(C0210)

**Collection Number:** C0210

**Collection Title:** Rudolf Bennitt Papers

**Dates:** 1942-1946

**Creator:** Bennitt, Rudolf, 1898-1950

**Abstract:** The papers include copies of newsletters sent out from Missouri Cooperative Wild Life Research Unit to former members at the University of Missouri who were in the armed services. The newsletters contain excerpts of letters from students in the armed services, pertaining to all phases of training, general news of the University, Wild Life Commission, Research Unit assignments, resumes of state and national meetings, and discussion of post-war curriculum. Also included are student papers containing correspondence with Bennitt and some course information.

**Collection Size:** 1 cubic foot  
(66 folders)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See Rights & Reproductions on the Society’s website for more information and about reproductions and permission to publish.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] Rudolf Bennitt Papers (C0210); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Rudolf Bennitt on February 21, 1949 (Accession No. CA2989). An addition was made by Stephanie Waters on October 31, 1994 (Accession No. CA5483).
Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Rudolf Bennitt Papers can be found in the following collections:

Werner O. Nagel Papers, (C2544)
University of Missouri, Department of Botany Papers, (C3453)

Processed by: Processed by the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia Staff, date unknown. Finding aid revised by Anne Cox on March 20, 2020.

Biographical Note:

Rudolf Bennitt was born December 22, 1898, in Springfield, Massachusetts. He graduated with a Ph.D. in zoology from Harvard in 1923. In 1927 he came to the University of Missouri and became a professor of zoology until his retirement. Bennitt is significant for his work on conservation in Missouri. He published A Survey of the Resident Game and Furbearers of Missouri in 1937. He spent eleven years studying the Bobwhite quail. Bennitt devoted his life to the study of wildlife in Missouri. He died February 2, 1950.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

Newsletters
Student papers

Scope and Content Note:

Newsletters

This series is arranged in chronological order from 1942 to 1946 and includes excerpts from letters written by Bennitt’s students while serving in World War II.

Student Papers

This series is arranged in alphabetical order by student name and contains some student course information in addition to personal correspondence with Bennitt regarding the war and post war career plans.

Container List:

Newsletter series

f. 1 Newsletter #2 has a description of a Provisional Truck Co. trip from Ft. Houston, Texas to Camp Polk, La., written by Lt. Korschgen; description of a luau (Hawaiian feast) written by Pvt. Carl Noren. #6 has a description of a 3000 mile trip from Calif. to northwest written by Lt. Rowe. #7 has a description of army tests for bank directors by Cpl. Beryl Capps.

f. 2 Newsletter #9 contains a description of pilot training at Post Field, Ft. Sill, Okla., written by Lt. Rowe.
Newsletter #13 describes of N. Africa coastal fishing expedition by Lt. Noren. #14 has description of U.S. Naval Flight School at Cornell College by A/c Baggerly. #14 tells of Battle of Attu by Lt. Rowe. #15 has description of a trip to McKinley Park by Pvt. Clark. #17 has description of a trip with scientists on Colorado Island in Gatun Lake of Panama Canal zone by Pvt. Brohn.

Newsletter #18 contains a description of ‘dog fights’ on Italian front by Lt. Terrell. #19 tells of attack of 3 Messerschmitts by Lt. Teerrell; also, description of scenery and products of an island in New Caledonia by S/Sgt. Henning. #20 has description of tank warfare and capture of town by Lt. Terrell. #20, 21, and 22 has a discussion between Mr. Bennitt and the men in regard to post-war educational aims. #22 Ensign Borges describes making camp and of a canoe trip through the jungles.

In Newsletter #23 Lt. Terrell describes air raid at night and a German retreat in Italy. #24 Lt. Terrell discusses pilot decorations, enemy bombing and battle fatigue. #25 has a description of a navy navigator returning after 2 years in Pacific, by Ensign Borges. #26 has Cap’t. Terrell’s story of taking five German prisoners, the visit of the King of England and Secretary of Navy. #27 contains copies of letters to and from office of Censorship in regard to Newsletter material and a description of duty in Africa and Italy and flight home written by Lt. Noren.

In newsletter #28 is a description of a troop ship aground in a gale by Pvt. Mayes; description of fighting in France by Maj. Biffle and impressions of India by Lt. Harris. #29 has impressions of home front by a returning serviceman, Lt. Rowe. #31 has a description of guerilla warfare in Philippines by Maj. Hurt; impressions of war conditions in Philippines by Lt. Kerschgen; and impressions of war time conditions in Washington D.C. by Dr. Frohne.

In Newsletter #32 Lt. Arthur writes of Jap suicide fighters in Dutch East Indies. #33 Cpl. Clover relates his experience as reconnaissance and combat photographer in Germany and Lt. Brokaw describes the battle of Iwo Jima. #34 has a description of rest center for combat troops in France by Cpl. Clover. #35 has Lt. Rowe’s description of Italian front; Lt. Sims description of combat in northern Germany while serving as navigator and radar officer; Maj. Frohne’s description of malaria control in Greece and Lt. Rowe’s description of conditions of northern Italy after the War.

In Newsletter #36 Cpl. Clover tells of visit to Munich Berghof; Lt. Rowe describes a nine day jeep trip through Northern Italy, Austria, and Switzerland. #41 Lt. Becker describes a trip from Sasebo to Nagasaki.

In Newsletter #43 Cpl. Clark describes duty in Alaska. #44 Charles Schwartz describes his trip across U.S., voyage to Hawai’i and new job on Big Island. #45 T/Sgt. Young tells of his naval flight duty in China and the Pacific. There are many letters from 1945-46 relating to problems of discharge and return to Missouri University.

Student Papers series

f. 10 Adams, I.C., Jr., 1935-1947
f. 11 Arthur, George C., 1938-1947
f. 12 Baggerly, Earl, 1943-1945
f. 13 Becker, Edward C., 1944-1946
f. 14 Berger, Andrew J., 1935-1946
f. 15 Brandt, Alfred E., 1942-1948
f. 16 Braschler, Eugene, 1945-1950
f. 17 Brokaw, William A., 1940-1945
f. 18 Bunding, Irby M., 1943-1945
f. 19  Cannon, Earl Edward, 1959-1963
f. 20  Canter, Edward H., 1944-1947
f. 21  Capps, Beryl F., 1942-1949
f. 22  Carlson, Paul M., 1945-1949
f. 23  Carter, Bernard, 1947-1949
f. 24  Daniel, Clarence, 1948
f. 25  Deboer, Katherine O. (Mills), 1929-1949
f. 26  Denney, Arthur H., 1939-1950
f. 27  Estes, Gerald F., 1947-1963
f. 28  Evans, Everett F., 1940-1960
f. 29  Fenton, Donald L., 1942-1946
f. 30  Fischer, Henry L., 1941-1946
f. 31  Frazier, Frank, 1943, 1945
f. 32  Gilchrist, Charles A., 1947-1952
f. 33  Hecht, W.R., 1940-1972
f. 34  Hoberecht, Philip Earl, 1946-1948
f. 35  Hoey, Jack Woltzen, c.1940s
f. 36  Holmes, William H., 1942, 1943
f. 37  Hook, Gerald V., 1947, 1949
f. 38  Hudson, Stanton, H., Jr., 1936-1945
f. 39  Hudson, Walter B., Jr., 1949
f. 40  Hurt, J.R., 1939-1946
f. 41  Hutter, Alfred, 1951
f. 42  Jackson, James P., 1946-1956
f. 43  Kattelmann, Edward G., 1951
f. 44  Kirkham, Wendell Chandler, 1952
f. 45  Kopplin, Edward M., Jr., 1949
f. 46  Lewis, B.G., 1942-1946
f. 47  Lockart, James M., 1949, 1951
f. 48  Lumsden, David, 1945-1950
f. 49  McCaffrey, William Roderick, Jr., c.1940s
f. 50  Markward, Ellen, 1940-1947
f. 51  Merritt, William D., 1949
f. 52  Pallo, George S., 1943-1949
f. 53  Parker, Richard Earl, 1949
f. 54  Pellock, Mitro, 1949
f. 55  Reese, Harold, 1941-1946
f. 56  Robertson, Ralph D., 1943-1947
f. 57  Rose, Beverly J., 1946-1965
f. 58  Ross, Charles Landon, 1950
f. 59  Rundquist, Richard M., 1942-1948
f. 60  Schwartz, Herbert S., 1949
f. 61  Shepard, Paul H., Jr., 1947-1952
f. 63  Wehking, Margaret M.L., 1948, 1949
f. 64  Yates, J.W., 1946, 1948
f. 65  Young, David P., 1942-1946
f. 66  Youse, James R., 1949
### Index:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Term</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air pilots, Military</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthur, George C.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennitt, Rudolf, 1898-1950</td>
<td>1-66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannon, Earl Edward</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumsden, David</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northrop P-61 Black Widow (Military aircraft)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldiers</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War, 1939-1945--Correspondence.</td>
<td>1-12, 16-18, 20-22, 26, 28-31, 33, 36, 38, 40, 46, 50, 52, 55, 56, 59, 65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War, 1939-1945--Education and the war.</td>
<td>1-16, 19-30, 32-35, 37-64, 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>