



Melvin E. Anglin Papers (SP0052)

Collection Number: SP0052

Collection Title: Melvin E. Anglin Papers

Dates: 1943-2010

Creator: Anglin, Melvin Eugene, 1924-2010

Abstract: The Melvin E. Anglin Papers consist of letters, awards, photographs, and other memorabilia collected by Melvin E. Anglin during his career in the army and into retirement.

Collection Size: 1 cubic foot
(33 folders, 140 photographs, 410 slides)

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-Springfield](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at springfield@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Melvin E. Anglin Papers* (SP0052); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Deb Anglin on June 1, 2019 (Accession No. SPA0059).

Processed by: Processed by Erin Smither and intern, June 13, 2019

Biographical Note:

Melvin Eugene Anglin was born December 21, 1924, in Poynor, Missouri, to Elvy Freeman and Etta Towell Anglin. He married Verna Hagood on April 24, 1944, and together they had three children; Garret, Roger, and Deborah.

Melvin joined the United States Army in 1943, and served for twenty-seven years as an equipment specialist. He served during World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam War. Over the course of his military career, he was also stationed in Germany twice and Greenland. In the United States, he was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. He retired in 1970, and was an active military veteran and member of the Masonic Lodge. Melvin passed away December 16, 2010, and was buried in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Springfield, Missouri.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following seven series:

- Achievements
- Correspondence
- Official Documents
- Memorabilia
- Photographs
- Slides
- Oversize

Scope and Content Note:

Achievements

This series contains awards, medals, and photographs related to Melvin's military achievements. The series contains several decades' worth of certificates. Many certificates are oversize and located in folders 32 and 33 in Oversize Box 002. One of the certificates is a lifetime membership certificate for "Top of the World" Masonic Club in Thule, Greenland, from 1957. This series also contains an official records jacket used by military personnel to organize their papers. Melvin filled his between 1954 and 1957 and it contains correspondence and retirement forms. The records jacket is located in folder 32 in Oversize Box 002. One notable item, located in folder 2, is a wallet Melvin received for his honorable discharge following World War II. It contained his service record, detailing his promotions starting when he enlisted in 1943. The wallet also contains paper slips that show he was still regularly using it when he lived in Germany. The series is arranged chronologically.

Correspondence

This series contains correspondence received by Melvin. It includes letters detailing his assignment locations, letters of commendation, and miscellaneous military notices such as procedural information. One notable letter from July 17, 1957, details Melvin's assignment in Thule, Greenland, and calls it "a strange and unusual land." There are also two postcards that Melvin never sent. One is of Shannon Airport in Ireland, and the other is from the Rhein-Main Air Base Officers Club located inside the Frankfurt Airport in Germany. The letters are arranged chronologically by subject.

Official Documents

This series contains his military forms and records. It includes an authorization to purchase war savings bonds from 1943, Melvin's pay book from 1944, and a record of his assignments in 1968. This series also contains six ID and membership cards, including his membership card for the Retired Officers Association, a membership card for the Lightning Lounge, First Three Graders Club in Berlin, a card for the officers' open mess at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, and an Armed Forces ID from 1951. The documents are arranged in chronological order.

Memorabilia

This series contains various souvenirs that Melvin collected during his military career, including a booklet about Castle Lichtenberg that features a fold out map of the German castle. It also includes a book titled "US Army in Western Germany," an informational booklet from the United States Northeast Air Command detailing the Thule Air Base and information about Greenland's culture and ecology. The series also features an ad for liquor distilled in Thule called Old Polar Piss, and a souvenir newspaper about the Battle of Wilson's Creek from 1991. The documents are arranged chronologically and by subject.

Photographs

This series contains photographs from Melvin's time in the army. Melvin photographically documented every place he was stationed and captioned many of them. Notably, he has a large collection of pictures of his friends in the army taken around 1944, which identifies many comrades by last name only. The photographs are organized chronologically and by subject.

Slides

This series contains 35 mm film slides from places Melvin lived or visited in the 1950s and 60s. Most of the slides are from Greenland in 1957 or Vietnam in 1965. Other places Melvin was stationed include the Philippines and Midway Island. Subjects range from his living quarters to local wildlife, and he ultimately amassed more than 400 slides. The film slides are organized chronologically.

Oversize

This series contains oversize materials from the Achievements series, including a Records Jacket and certificates of achievement.

Container List:

f. 1-6		Achievements
Box 001	f. 1	Certificates, 1944-2010
	f. 2	WWII Honorable Discharge, 1945-1959
	f. 3	Retirement, 1970
	f. 4	Resume, 1980
	f. 5	30 Year Service Award, 1984
	f. 6	Medals, no date
f. 7-10		Correspondence
	f. 7	Military, 1944-1986
	f. 8	Assignments, 1957-1981
	f. 9	Awards, 1958-1987
	f. 10	Postcards, no date
f. 11-12		Official Documents
	f. 11	Forms, 1944-1973
	f. 12	ID Cards, 1952-2002
f. 13-16		Memorabilia
	f. 13	Germany, 1947
	f. 14	Greenland, 1957
	f. 15	Wilson's Creek Publication, 1991
	f. 16	Can Opener, no date
f. 17-28		Photographs
	f. 17	Fort Sill, Oklahoma, 1943
	f. 18	Fort Polk, Louisiana, 1944
	f. 19	Germany, 1948-1955
	f. 20	Portraits, 1955-1968
	f. 21	Greenland, 1957-1958
	f. 22	Fort Eustis, Virginia, 1958-1959
	f. 23	Family, 1975
	f. 24	Korea, no date
	f. 25	Artillery, no date
	f. 26	Army Life, no date
	f. 27	Maintenance Photograph Index, no date
	f. 28	Unlabeled, no date
f. 29-31		Slides
	f. 29	Greenland, 1957-1958
	f. 30	International Assignments, 1965-1966
	f. 31	Unknown American Cemetery in France, no date
f. 32-33		Oversize

Box 002 f. 32 Records Jacket, 1954-1957
 f. 33 Certificates, 1957-1970

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Anglin, Melvin Eugene, 1924-2010	1-33	Yes
Bataan (Phillippines: Province)	30	Yes
Clark, Bruce C.,	21	Yes
Fort Dix (N.J.)	2	
Fort Eustis (Va.)	2, 22, 27	Yes
Fort Knox (Ky.)	1	
Fort Lee (Va.)	7	
Fort Leonard Wood (Mo.)	1, 5, 7, 8, 9	Yes
Fort Lewis (Wash.)	1, 2	
Fort Polk (La.)	9, 18	Yes
Fort Sill (Okla.)	2, 17	Yes
Goltz, Ron	21	Yes
Harris, Douglas	17	Yes
Heidelberg (Germany)	1	
Hong Kong (China)	30	Yes
Jefferson Barracks (Saint Louis, Mo.)	2	
Korea	8, 24	Yes
Kornwestheim (Germany)	1	
Kyle, Billy	5	Yes
Madison (Wis.)	1	
Mallering, John H.	5	Yes
Manila (Phillippines)	30	Yes
Midway Islands	30	Yes
Murnau am Staffelsee (Germany)	1	
Rhein-Main Air Base (Germany)	10	Yes
Qaanaag (Greenland)	1, 14, 21, 29	Yes
Thule (Greenland)	1, 14, 21, 29	Yes
Vietnam War, 1961-1975	11, 21, 30	Yes
White Sands Missile Range (N.M.)	3, 9, 12	Yes
Williamsburg (Va.)	2	
Wilson's Creek, Battle of, Mo., 1861	15	