

William Raymond Elbert Papers, 1888-1919

Object ID: MG0784

1 box 5 folders, 13 items, 221 pages .5 cubic feet

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Shelving Location: Archives South, Side 15

Scope and Content Note: The William Raymond Elbert Papers collection contains the military materials belonging to William R. Elbert. This includes postcards, military booklets and manuals, certificates and identification. This collection also includes the naturalization paperwork for William R. Elbert's father, Leopold Elbert.

Creator: Elbert, William Raymond, 1896-1974.

Conditions for Access: Restrictions noted at the item level. Items in Folders 1, 2, 3, and 4 require staff supervision. Please contact research@lancasterhistory.org at least two weeks prior to visit.

Conditions Governing Reproductions: Collection may not be photocopied. Please direct questions to Research Center Staff at research@lancasterhistory.org. Permission for reproduction and/or publication must be obtained in writing from LancasterHistory.

Language: English

Biographical and Historical Note: William Raymond Elbert was born around 1896 to Leopold Elbert and Annie M. Seifert Elbert. He had three siblings, Leopold, John, and Clara. William R. Elbert fought in World War I and survived the war, before coming home in 1919. When he returned, he married Mary Driendl Elbert (1900-1974). Together they had two children, William and Rose. William R. Elbert passed away at the age of 78 years in 1974.

Source of Acquisition: Gift of Monica Elbert in memory of William and Mary Elbert, 10 April 2018.

Accruals: Items may be added at a later date.

Preferred Citation: William Raymond Elbert Papers (MG0784), Folder #, Insert #, LancasterHistory, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



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Subject Headings:

World War, 1914-1918. (LHo-LOC sh 85148236)

Letters. (LHo-LOC sh 85076240)

United States. Army (LHo-LOC n 79063202)

Photographs. (LHo-LOC sh 85101195)

Postcards (LHo-LOC sh 85105462)

Real photo postcards (LHo-LOC sh2006005485)

United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces. (LHo-LOC n 84077783)

Search Terms:

Letters

Correspondence

United States Army

Photographs

Postcards

Real photo postcards

United States Army, American Expeditionary Forces

Manuscript groups

Finding aids

Related Materials:

Medal, Victory banner, insignia, and VFW member cap are in the Curatorial Collection.

[World War I Collection, 1916-1972, MG-45](#)

World War I Papers for Frank Schober, MG-797

World War I Papers of Thomas, James, and Victor Kegel, MG-798

Charles E. Schuler Papers, MG-780

William Barlow Papers, MG-781

Military Records for Charles A. Meisenberger, MG-782

[Diary Collection, 1836-1978, MG-247](#)

[William J. Buch Papers, 1917-1958, MG-658](#)

Processing History: Processed and finding aid prepared by EM, February 2019. This collection has been documented, preserved and managed according to professional museum and archives standards. The collection was cataloged using DACS conventions.



Folder 1 ***Restricted. Requires staff supervision. Please make an appointment with Archives Staff.*** Mary Driendl first communion
First communion certificate from St. Joseph's for Mary Driendl, William R. Elbert's mother. May 7, 1911. Fragile condition. (1 item, 1 piece, 1 page)

Folder 2 ***Restricted. Requires staff supervision. Please make an appointment with Archives Staff.*** Leopold Elbert naturalization certificate
Naturalization certificate allowing Leopold Elbert to become a citizen of the United States. September 17, 1888. (1 item, 2 pieces, 1 page)

Folder 3 ***Restricted. Requires staff supervision. Please make an appointment with Archives Staff.*** William R. Elbert WWI materials

Insert 1 Fraternal Order of the Eagles certificate in leatherette case certifying William R. Elbert as a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles after paying sixty dollars in dues. March 6, 1918. Fragile condition. (1 item, 2 pieces, 1 page)

Insert 2 Military Service certificate for William R. Elbert as a member of the Grand Aerie no. 84 Fraternal Order of the Eagles of Lancaster. September 1, 1918. Fragile condition. (1 item, 1 piece, 1 page)

Insert 3 "The Thirty-Seventh's Bit" newsletter booklet. No date. Fragile condition. (1 item, 1 piece, 20 pages)

Insert 4 Safety regulation page for transport ship, the U.S.S. Great Northern. January 1919. Fragile condition. (1 item, 1 piece, 1 page)

Folder 4 William R. Elbert WWI letters and postcards

Insert 1 "Hello—Just Got Back, Will Write Soon again" postcard from William Elbert to his father, Leo Elbert. He writes that he left France on March 20 and arrived in New York on March 27, and is happy to be back in the USA and being able to come home soon. March 29, 1919. (1 item, 1 piece, 2 pages)

Insert 2 "Alencon—Le Gare" photographic postcard, from William Elbert to his father. Regarding coming home soon. No date. (1 item, 1 piece, 2 pages)

Insert 3 ***Restricted. Requires staff supervision. Please make an appointment with Archives Staff.*** Letter from Leo Elbert to his brother, William Elbert. Regarding brother John and his future. Their father decided that John should quit school, even though his siblings do not agree. Leo is asking if William will help support their brother when he comes home, so that John can get through high school and college and have a successful future. Including envelope. Koblenz, Germany. July 5, 1919. Fragile condition. (1 item, 3 pieces, 3 pages)

Folder 5 WWI memorabilia

Insert 1 *Useful Information for Soldiers Soon to be Discharged and the Discharged Soldiers* booklet. Regarding the possibility of staying in the service, honorable discharge, returning their uniforms and what clothes former soldiers were allowed to keep, compensation, adapting to civilian life and retaining jobs, and civilian duties. From the Headquarters of Camp Dix, New Jersey. No date. (1 item, 1 piece, 20 pages)

Insert 2 *Popular songs of the A.E.F.* booklet, published by the YMCA in Paris, France. 1918. (1 item, 1 piece, 100 pages)



Insert 3 *Catholic Prayer Book for the Army and Navy, Pro Deo et Patria* (“For God and Country”). Handwriting on front cover, illegible. William Elbert’s name and address written on inside cover. June 15, 1918. (1 item, 1 piece, 68 pages)

Insert 4 Photocopy of photograph. Two men, one in uniform, the other in civilian’s clothing. No date. (1 item, 1 piece, 1 page)

