

32nd Volunteer Infantry Association Collection Finding Aid

The 32nd Volunteer Infantry Association collection is an open, processed collection of letters, photos, bankbooks and ephemera used by the association during its years of operation. There is also some material dating from the time of the 32nd Infantry's active duty service during the Philippine Insurrection, 1899-1901.

The material is separated into paper and photographs. The paper material is organized chronologically within a loose subject arrangement in two boxes. The photos and negatives are located in two boxes in the photo archives.

Of special interest is a history of the unit and two diaries. One diary, a set of three handwritten notebooks, is contemporary to the events in the Philippines. The other is a typed manuscript written later. The collection also contains letters signed by General Malin Craig (Chief of Staff of the Army from 1935-1939) and General Leslie McNair.

Organizational History

The 32nd Infantry, U.S. Volunteers participated in the Philippine Insurrection in 1899-1901. The unit was organized in July 1899 with orders to mobilize at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The regiment departed Fort Leavenworth in September 1899. Upon arrival in the Philippines, the unit participated in the general advance in November 1899. The unit was then broken up, with different companies serving in different parts of the Philippines. In 1901 the unit returned to the United States and was disbanded.

In 1934 a group of veterans got together and formed the 32nd Volunteer Infantry Association. Because the unit was originally organized at Fort Leavenworth, it was decided to hold the association's annual meetings in Leavenworth. The organization was chartered with by-laws, officers, dues-paying members and a quarterly publication, *The Voice*. In 1938, the association dedicated a monument to the unit at Fort Leavenworth, near the spot of the unit's original encampment. (Now the driving range on the Golf course). Annual meetings were held in Leavenworth until 1966. The association itself stopped keeping records in mid-1961 when the remaining members were well into their 80's.

The collection of 32nd Volunteer Infantry Association material was donated to the Archives by the Frontier Army Museum in 1988. It is unclear how the material got to Fort Leavenworth, but it appears to have been donated by the family of Guy Cobb, the last Secretary/Treasurer of the organization.

Listing of Materials

Box 1

Correspondence 1939-1941 (incoming & outgoing)
Correspondence 1939 (outgoing)
Correspondence 1940 (incoming & outgoing)
Correspondence Oct. 1944- Sep. 1945 (outgoing)
Correspondence Sep. 1945- Sep. 1946 (outgoing)
Correspondence Sep. 1946 - Aug. 1947 (outgoing)
Correspondence 1947-1949 (outgoing)
Correspondence 1949-1952 (outgoing)
Correspondence Oct. 1953- Apr. 1954 (incoming)
Correspondence Apr.-May 1954 (incoming)
Correspondence 1954 (incoming)
Correspondence 1954-55 (incoming)
Correspondence Apr.-June 1955 (incoming)
Correspondence 1956 (incoming)
Correspondence Sep.-Dec. 1956 (incoming)
Correspondence Jan.-June 1957 (incoming)
Correspondence Jul.-Sep. 1957 (incoming)

Box 2

Correspondence 1959 (incoming)
Correspondence 1960 (incoming through March)
Correspondence undated (incoming)
Record of correspondence written 1947-1961
Ledger 1937-1942
Ledger 1943-1945
Ledger 1944-1946
Ledger 1947-1950
Expense accounts 1950-1958
Bank books and canceled checks
Secretary/treasurers report & meeting minutes 1942-1947
Secretary/treasurers report & meeting minutes 1947-1962?
Roster 1934
Reunion roster 1934-1941
Reunion roster 1934
Souvenir-5th Annual Reunion (1938)
Reunion register 1942
Reunion register 1945
Reunion register 1946
Reunion program 1947
Reunion register 1949
Reunion register (undated)
The K News 1936
Greetings from members of the regiment attending 40th National Encampment

1938

Association by-laws (undated)

List of members who died during the Philippine campaign 1899-1901 (undated)

Newspaper clippings (various dates)

Unit roster w/addresses (undated)

Charles B Killingsworth - Army notes (typed manuscript of diary entries)

Karl D. White – Diaries ([available online](#))

Boxes 3 & 4 contain photographs and negatives of association activities and of activities in the Philippines during the insurrection. These boxes are filed in the Photo Archives.