Guide to the Ralph Murray Havens papers
MSS.0650

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September 24, 2013
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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### Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Repository</strong></th>
<th>University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creator</strong></td>
<td>Havens, Ralph Murray, 1904-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
<td>Ralph Murray Havens papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]</strong></td>
<td>1943-1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extent</strong></td>
<td>0.8 Linear feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abstract</strong></td>
<td>Diaries, letters, and other papers related to Havens's service in the European Theater of Operations, 1944-1945.</td>
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</table>

### Preferred Citation note

Ralph Murray Havens papers, University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama
Biographical/Historical note

Subsequent to graduation from Baker College, Havens taught high school. He returned to college, this time Duke University, graduating with a Ph.D. in economics in 1941. In 1943, he was working in Atlanta for the U.S. Government when he accepted a commission in the United States Army, European Civil Affairs Division. A 1st Lieutenant, Havens served as an economics specialist in the 2nd European Civil Affairs Regiment and the 1st Military Government Battalion, reestablishing local governments in captured areas. He served in France, Belgium, and Germany, first with the British Second Army and later with the U. S. First Army. In Germany he was at Stolberg, Montabaur, and Heidelberg. One of Havens' assignments was reopening the University of Heidelberg. After the war, he served as a professor of economics at the University of Alabama from 1946 to 1970, as department chairman from 1957 to 1968.

Scope and Contents note

The collection contains diaries, letters, and other papers related to Havens's service in the European Theater of Operations, 1944-1945. The bulk of this collection consists of almost daily letters to his wife and sons while stationed in Europe, recounting his activities and observations on the people and places he had seen. The letters also contain insights into and comments on the European situation and Allied policy. Additional papers relate to his military service.

Administrative Information

Publication Information
University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama September 2013

Conditions Governing Access note
None

Conditions Governing Use note
None

Provenance
Gift of R. M. Havens, 1995

Processed by
Clark Center, 1996; updated, Donnelly Lancaster, 2006; updated by Martha Bace, 2013

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

• Artifacts
• Correspondence
• Diaries
• Maps
• Military records

Subject(s)

• Daily Life and Family
• Education
• Government, Law and Politics
• International relations
• University of Alabama
• War and Military
• World War II
• World War, 1939-1945
Collection Inventory

SERIES: DIARIES

Scope and Contents note
The diaries begin with his entries during training, and are kept up by his wife after he leaves for active duty. She did so by copying excerpts from his letters and by pasting in V-mail letters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diaries</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

SERIES: CORRESPONDENCE

Scope and Contents note
This series is composed of Haven’s outgoing letters to his wife and sons. It consists of almost daily letters to his wife and sons recounting his activities and observations on the people and places he has seen. The letters also contain insights into and comments on the European situation and Allied policy. Note that for a complete record of Havens' outgoing correspondence, see both the diaries and correspondence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correspondence 1943 December</th>
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Correspondence 1944 March 4198 5
Correspondence 1944 April 4198 6
Correspondence 1944 May 4198 7
Correspondence 1944 June 4198 8
Correspondence 1944 July 4198 9
Correspondence 1944 August 4198 10
Correspondence 1944 September 4198 11
Correspondence 1944 October 4198 12
Correspondence 1944 November 4199 1
Correspondence 1944 December 4199 2
Correspondence 1945 January 4199 3
Correspondence 1945 February 4199 4
Correspondence 1945 March 4199 5
Correspondence 1945 April 4199 6
Correspondence 1945 May 4199 7
Correspondence 1945 June 4199 8
Correspondence 1945 July 4199 9
Correspondence 1945 August 4199 10
SERIES: MILITARY PAPERS AND MISCELLANEOUS

Scope and Contents note

Contains pay records, copies of papers relating to his work, maps, and related souvenirs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pay Records</th>
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<th>Folder</th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Important Army Receipts &amp; Clearances&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Papers on Movement Back to States&quot;</td>
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<td>Sub Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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</table>

Scope and Contents note

Includes orders, military correspondence, copies of newsletters and menus from USAT James Parker (The Briny Breeze) and S.S. Santa Barbara (Farewell to Arms), programs and flyers, a British shoulder...
patch, and Historical & Biographical Sketch of the Havens and Haven Family.

Maps

Scope and Contents note

Heidelberg, 1939; Advance of 1st Army; map of parts of France and Germany; Europe - ECA Division; Operations of First U.S. Army in Europe

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>ID Bracelet</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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