9-2006

MS-067: Robert Bell Bradley Papers

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Description
This collection is composed of Robert Bell Bradley’s memoirs of his experiences as a medic during combat in France during WWII and his subsequent capture and five months’ imprisonment east of Berlin in a prisoner-of-war facility. Included are poems from that time as well as collections of his general poetry selections and philosophical reflections. There are no letters or other memorabilia from his war experiences.

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Keywords
World War II, WWII, 30th Infantry, Battle of Mortain, Prisoner of War, Army Medic

Disciplines
European History | History | Military History | Poetry
Guide to the
Robert Bell Bradley Papers

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives

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September 2006
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Provenance: Gift of Robert Bell Bradley

Biography:
Robert Bell Bradley was a medic with the 30th Infantry division during WWII. Prior to enlisting, he was a pre-med major at the University of Maryland. He was taken as a prisoner of war on August 9, 1944, in France after the Battle of Mortain. He was imprisoned east of Berlin and freed by the Russian army in January, 1945. After finishing his tour of duty working at a contagious ward in Virginia, he returned to college and became a medical physicist, designing and testing medical equipment. He met his wife Marjorie while working at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

Scope and Content:
This collection is composed of Robert Bell Bradley’s memoirs of his experiences as a medic during combat in France during WWII and his subsequent capture and five months’ imprisonment east of Berlin in a prisoner-of-war facility. Included are poems from that time as well as collections of his general poetry selections and philosophical reflections. There are no letters or other memorabilia from his war experiences.

Folders:
1/1 Letter to Dr. Birkner from R.B. Bradley
1/2 Copies of Newspaper Articles of 50th Anniversary of D-Day:
    Hanover Sun – 10-16-94 – “We will never forget”
    French newspaper – 9-4-94 – photos
    Hanover/Adams – 12-22-02 – “TV special features vet”
1/3 Copy of Certificate of Honor
    To Robert Bradley from city of Saint-Jean-de-Daye – 8-24-94
1/4 Copies of Poems – English/French translations
    Your Little Girls / Vos Petites Filles
    Your Little Boys / Vos Petits Garcons
    Mortain, France / Mortain, France
1/5 Uniforms
    ROTC uniform – ’38-’39
    Combat Aid Man – Charles E. Binckley
    Description of Combat Aid Man’s first aid kit
1/6 Genealogy summary: Bell family
1/7 Oral history tape descriptions
    2 typed copies
    1 handwritten copy
1/8 “A Comment” by R.B. Bradley
1/9 Catalogue information:
Aid Man! – Robert B. Bradley

1/10 Providence – 11-11-86 – by Robert Bradley (2 copies)
1/11 A Collection of Poems – 9-1-88 – by Robert Bradley (2 copies)
1/12 Aequo Animo – March 2000 – by Robert Bradley (2 copies)
1/14 The Aidman-Infantry Team – 1995 – by Robert Bradley (2 copies)
1/16 Recollect and Ponder – Part II – August 1994 – by Robert Bradley (2 copies)
1/17 From Trees to Streets – 1981 – by Robert Bradley (2 copies)
1/18 Aid Man! – 1998 – by Robert Bradley

Disbursed:
1 Videotape: “WWII: In Their Own Words” by Robert Bradley
6 CD’s: “Aid Man – WWII” by Robert Bradley