

LAWRENCE MICHAEL PAPERS

Introduction

The Lawrence Michael Papers cover a period from September, 1918 through June 10, 1919, and the collection contains seventeen items. These items range from photographs of the bombing of Paris, to various battle plans, including Chateau-Thierry, St. Mihiel Salient, and the Meuse-Argonne defensive.

Most of the Lawrence Michael papers deal directly with the American Expeditionary Forces in France. The documents include a history of the A.E.F. by General Pershing; "Pages of American Glory," which gives a brief summary of the major battles in France; a weekly strength report on the A.E.F. which also includes a few brief biographical sketches of the enlisted men. Other A.E.F. material includes the "Headquarters Chronicle," which gives a brief history about the life at the General Headquarters of the A.E.F., and "Yanks," a book of verse by A.E.F. men. The rest of the collection deals directly with many of the main battles of World War I in France.

Lawrence Michael stated that the reason he was able to obtain such valuable material was that when the Armistice was declared, the General Headquarters cleared out quickly, and he was able to collect the material. The papers were delivered through Tom Fox, a barber on Capitol Hill. Fox was a barber for the Pentagon and the Officer's Club and had already donated George C. Marshall's favorite razor to this museum.

Lawrence Michael donated this collection in January, 1971. Access to the collection is unrestricted.

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Biographical Sketch

Lawrence Michael was born in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia around 1900. He entered the U.S. Army in 1917 as an Army field clerk. Later he was made a warrant officer, and was attached to General Pershing's headquarters in Chaumont, France. Michael was discharged from the Army in 1920, and settled in Arlington, Virginia. He became a developer and a builder in the Washington, D.C., area for forty years. In January, 1971, he donated his papers concerning the American Expeditionary Forces in France and various battles which occurred on French soil.

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Scope and Content Note

The Lawrence Michael Papers cover the American Expeditionary Forces in France during the period of 1918-1919. The bulk of the material covers the American Expeditionary Forces in France, battle reports, and a few maps. Lawrence Michael was an Army field clerk and a warrant officer attached to General John J. Pershing's headquarters in Chaumont, France.

The collection consists of two parts. The original order of the collection was not observed because most of the papers had been jumbled together and were not in any order. Both parts of the collection are in chronological order.

Part I consists mainly of various pamphlets concerned with the bombing of Paris in 1918, supply depots used by the A.E.F., reports on the A.E.F. by Pershing, and A.E.F. weekly strength report, a French pamphlet on the Haute-Marne, and a book of poetry by A.E.F. soldiers. Also included was a postcard of Chaumont, France.

Part II contains operational reports by Brigadier General Fox Conner, Chief G-3, General Headquarters. After giving the duties of the G-3, Conner describes the battles of Chateau-Thierry, St. Mihiel Salient, and of the Meuse-Argonne Defensive. Included in this section are three maps dealing with various offensives. There is also a lengthy dissertation on French and German operations before Verdun, given in June 1919.

There is no restriction on this collection.

LAWRENCE MICHAEL PAPERS

Container List

<u>Box/Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
1 1	Picture pamphlet on the bombing of Paris from March 8-September 15, 1918. (1)
2	Pamphlet containing maps, and descriptions of the Motor Transport Corps, repair shops, ordnance depots, storage yards, and hospitals, 1918. (1)
3	"Report of General John J. Pershing, U.S.A." Cabled to the Secretary of War, November 20, 1918. (1)
4	"Pages of American Glory," offered by Michelin and Company, Clermond-Ferrand, France, 1918. (1)
5	"U.S.A." Weekly strength section of the General Headquarters A.E.F., 1918. (1)
6	"The Headquarters Chronicle" Editor, Sergeant Major Ernest S. Smith, Chaumont, Haute-Marne, France, December 1918. (1)
7	"Geographie, Historique, Physique, Politique, et Economique de la Haute-Marne," by P. P. Marchal, 1919. (1)
8	"Yanks," a book of verse by A.E.F. men. Published in France by "The Stars and Stripes," 1918. (1)
9	Postcard, Chaumont, France, 1918. (1)
10	Operations Section (G-3), Organization and duties. Prepared by Brigadier General Fox Conner, Chief G-3, G.H.Q., 1918. (1)
11	Notes on Operations-A. The American Expeditionary Forces prior to July 15, 1918. Prepared by Brigadier General Fox Conner, 2 maps. (2)
12	Notes on Operations-B. Vicinity of Chateau-Thierry and the Vesle River, August 6, 1918. (2)
13	Notes on Operations-C. Reduction of the St. Mihiel Salient, September 16, 1918. (2)
14	Map. First U.S. Corps and Reserve 78th U.S. Division, St. Mihiel Salient. September 12-15, 1918. (1)
15	Notes on Operations-D. The Meuse-Argonne Operation, November 11, 1918. (20)
16	Strength of Allied and Enemy Forces; Western Front, June 1-August 7, 1918. (1)
17	"German and French Operations before Verdun, 1916-1917" Given by Maj. R. B. Caldwell, Inf. Tours, June 10, 1919. (1)

GEORGE C. MARSHALL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

SEPARATION RECORD

COLLECTION: Lawrence Michael Papers

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13

The following items have been removed from the collection:

Description of items	Location
Poster - American Expeditionary Forces Distinctive Cloth Insignia (in color): Includes Armies, Corps, Divisions. Printed at Base Printing Plant, 29th Engineers, U.S. Army, 1919.	Map Collection
Map - Lateral Railroads as of 1918, Map Room, G-3, GHQ, 8 April 1919. (12)	Map Collection
Distribution of U.S. Forces on August 9, 1918, Maproom, G-3, GHQ. April 13, 1919. (2)	Map Collection
Relation of operations of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 26th, 28th, 32nd and 42nd U.S. Divisions to the General Advance in the "Second Battle of the Marne," 1919. (2)	Map Collection
St. Mihiel Salient Offensive. Accompanies Report of the C.I.C. A.E.F. November 20, 1918. B-1/F-3. (4)	Map Collection
St. Mihiel Offensive. Extract of Metz-Commercy. Map showing daily position of front line. Map room, G-3, GHQ, May 24, 1919.	Map Collection
Meuse-Argonne Offensive, First, Second and Last Phases Accompanies report of C.I.C. A.E.F., November 20, 1918. B-1/F-4. (4)	Map Collection
Meuse-Argonne Offensive. Heading Extract of Mezieres-Verdun Metz-Longwy. Map showing daily position of front line. Map room G-3, GHQ, May 24, 1919. (2)	Map Collection
Nouvelle Carte, France, Belgique, Bords, A. Taride. Map of entire French Theater marked out in base sections from sections 1 through 7 - Intermediate section and advance section. A picture of Marshal Foch inserted on the left margin.	Map Collection