

Guide to MS-285: Corporal Anthony John Kachmarsky WWII Collection



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections and College Archives

Carly Jensen '24, Diane Werley Smith Intern
June 2022

MS-285: Corporal Anthony John Kachmarsky WWII Collection

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Size

2 boxes, .75 cubic feet

Location

Special Collections

Dates

Inclusive: 1932-late 1940s

Bulk: 1945-1946

Provenance

These photographs and documents are a donation of Susan Ross Southgate '67. They belonged to her late stepfather, Anthony John Kachmarsky, who served in the Marine Corps in World War II. Donated January 29, 2020.

Biographical Note

Anthony John Kachmarsky, a New Jersey native, was born on February 18th, 1921. He enlisted on July 8, 1942, and joined the 22nd Regiment of the 6th Marine Corps Division. He attended Combat Intelligence School in New River, North Carolina in August of 1943. Kachmarsky fought in the Pacific Theater against Japanese forces at Guam and Okinawa. He was promoted to the rank of Corporal on November 29, 1944. On May 13, 1945, he was wounded in action at Okinawa and received shrapnel to his left shoulder. He was awarded the Purple Heart for his injuries in battle. His regiment was part of the occupying force in Tsingtao, China after the war from October 12 to November 23, 1945. The Marine Corps honorably discharged him on July 10, 1946, at the US Naval Shipyard in Brooklyn, New York.

Scope and Content Note

The Corporal Anthony John Kachmarsky WWII Collection contains photos and documents of his time in the Pacific Theater. The bulk of the images focuses on the Japanese Surrender Treaty Signing and the occupation of Tsingtao. There are also several medals in Box 2 that Kachmarsky earned during his service, including his Purple Heart. There are magazines, books, newspaper clippings, and postcards that illustrate life in the Marine Corps. Susan Ross Southgate's ration book and Disney-themed War Bond have been removed from this location and relocated to Vertical File Manuscript Collections.

Subjects

World War II

Okinawa

Occupation

Tsingtao

Purple Heart

Series Description

This collection is divided into 2 Series. **Series 1:** Papers of Corporal Anthony John Kachmarsky, **Series 2:** Medals and materials.

Box list

Series I: Papers of Corporal Anthony John Kachmarsky

- 1-0 Finding Aid and Research Materials
- 1-1 Standard symbols adopted by the Board of Surveys and Maps, 1932
- 1-2 Domain of Neptunus Rex given aboard the USS Clay, March 8, 1944
- 1-3 *US Navy War Photographs: Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Harbor*, NY Publisher
- 1-4 Japanese Sword Chart, 1945
- 1-5 Purple Heart award paper and photograph
- 1-6 Formal surrender of Japanese military forces-
blank invitation, surrender document, photographs, October 25, 1945
- 1-7 Personal photos-
Tsingtao, 6th Marine Repro Sec, Kachmarsky, Sunken Japanese ship from Guadalcanal, 1945
- 1-8 *Aquarnews* (pieces), November 29-December 11, 1945
- 1-9 Military currency, 1945
- 1-10 *USMC Headquarters Bulletin*, No. 247 June 1946
- 1-11 USMC Honorable Discharge (photostat) & Relief of Active Duty Certificate, July 10, 1946
- 1-12 White House form letter thanking for service
- 1-13 *History of the 6th Marine Division*
Ed. by Bevan G. Cass, Infantry Journal Press, Washington, 1948
- 1-14 Kachmarsky Personal Items-
Marine cartoon, military postcards

Series II: Medals and materials

- 1-1 Purple Heart medal

1-2 Medals-

Layer one: Sharpshooter, Navy Unit Commendation ribbon bar, Purple Heart ribbon bar, two combined Navy Unit Commendation ribbon bars with Purple Heart ribbon bars, combined ribbon bars with American Campaign ribbon bar, Asiatic Pacific Campaign ribbon bar with two stars, and WWII Victory ribbon bar

Layer two: China War Memorial medal and bar, World War II Victory medal and bar, Marine Good Conduct medal and bar

Layer three: American Campaign medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign medal, China Service medal.

1-3 Uniform pieces-

Uniform patches, belt buckle, compass & pouch

Removed from collection

Disney War Bond

Ration book

Location: Vertical File Manuscript Collections (Susan Ross Southgate Folder)

Related Collections

MS-084 Gerald Koster Collection

MS-220 Homer W. Schweppe Collection

Contact Information

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