

ARNOLD MELVIN KAY COLLECTION OF RED SHIRT BAND MATERIALS
Finding Aid

Compiled by
Phyllis Kinnison

Museum of South Texas History
Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives
Edinburg, Texas

2014



CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

Summary	# 3
Biographical/Historical Note	# 4
Scope and Content Note	# 4
List of Series and Subseries	# 4
Series and Subseries Descriptions	# 5-6
Index Terms	# 6
Container List	# 7

Use of manuscript materials. If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please contact the Archivist at 956-383-6911 to make an appointment to visit the Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives (MHMMA) reading room.

Photocopying. Should you wish to request photocopies, please consult a staff member. Do not remove items to be photocopied. The existing order and arrangement of unbound materials must be maintained. Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of original held by the Museum of South Texas History), when available.

Publication. Readers assume full responsibility for compliance with laws regarding copyright, literary property rights, and libel.

Permission to examine archival materials does not constitute permission to publish or display. Any publication or display of such materials beyond the limits of fair use requires specific prior written permission. An “Authorization to Publish or Display” must be completed and submitted to the Executive Director of the Museum to obtain permission. When permission to publish is granted, two copies of the publication will be requested for the MHMMA.

Proper acknowledgement of MHMMA materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page.

SUMMARY

Size	0.21 cubic feet
Geographic Locations	Edinburg, Texas; Port Arthur, Texas; San Antonio, Texas
Inclusive Dates	1928-1978
Bulk Dates	1928-1930
Languages	English
Summary	In addition to a scrapbook kept by Arnold Melvin Kay during the first years of the Red Shirt Band, the collection includes nine loose photographs, several newspaper clippings, a copy of the May 15, 1931 issue of <i>The Wrangler</i> , a short history of the band written by Steven M. Heacock, and notes about the biography of George E. Hurt.
Access Restrictions	The collection is open for research. If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please contact the Archivist at 956-383-6911 to make an appointment to visit the Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives (MHMMA) reading room.
Reproduction Note	Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of the original held by the Museum of South Texas History), when available. Only archives staff may photocopy collection documents.
Copyright	Researchers assume full responsibility for compliance with laws regarding copyright, literary property rights, and libel. Permission to examine archival materials does not constitute permission to publish or display. Any publication or display of such materials beyond the limits of fair use requires specific prior written permission. Contact the Archivist at 956-383-6911 for instructions to obtain permission to publish or display.
Related Collections	
Citation	Arnold Melvin Kay collection of Red Shirt Band materials. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.
Stack Location(s)	RGDOC 171, E:27; RGDOC 16, L:19; RGPHO 13, P:4

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

The Red Shirt Band was organized by George E. (Doc) Hurt in the spring of 1928. The members consisted of both Edinburg College and Edinburg High School students. During 1928-1931 the band won many trophies and awards at contests throughout Texas. The band performed in many Rio Grande Valley towns in order to raise money to attend the contests.

Arnold Melvin Kay was a member of the original band who played trumpet until his graduation. He compiled the scrapbook in the collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

In addition to a scrapbook kept by Arnold Melvin Kay during the first years of the Red Shirt Band, the collection includes nine loose photographs, several newspaper clippings, a copy of the May 15, 1931 issue of *The Wrangler*, a short history of the band written by Steven M. Heacock, and notes about the biography of George E. Hurt.

LIST OF SUB-GROUPS, SERIES, AND SUBSERIES

- I. Scrapbook, 1928-1931, 1965**
- II. Loose photographs, 1928-1931, undated**
- III. News articles, 1931, 1965, undated**
- IV. Miscellaneous, 1965, 1976, 1978, undated**

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

I. Scrapbook, 1928-1931, 1965

The scrapbook contains a studio photograph of George E. Hurt, news articles about the cups and honors won by the band, and news articles about performances in other Texas cities. Newspaper photographs that are duplicates of some of the photographs in the Loose Photographs Series are found in the scrapbook with the names of individuals in the photograph included in the caption. Other items include a telegram, memorabilia, and programs for the Red Shirt Band performances as well as various other groups of performers. The scrapbook has 12 photographs that are undated and unidentified. The pages in the last third of the book are unused. Both the front and back covers are missing.

II. Loose photographs, 1928-1931, undated

- 1978.017.02a – Red Shirt Band at the Port Author Concert Contest, 1928-1929
- 1978.017.02b – Red Shirt Band posing on wooden bleachers in front of a wooden fence (back row includes three Sousaphones, foreground includes one bass drum, one snare drum and four trophies), undated
- 1978.017.02c – Red Shirt Band posing on the steps of what may be the Edinburg Auditorium (back row includes one Sousaphone, foreground includes one bass drum with one snare drum and drumsticks on top of it), undated
- 1978.017.02d – Red Shirt Band posing on the steps of what may be the Edinburg Auditorium. Band members are not wearing uniforms or holding instruments. A list of the names of most of the individuals is included with the photograph. The photograph is undated.
- 1978.017.02e – Red Shirt Band posing on the Edinburg Square in 1928. Al Hurt, director Left background: Hidalgo County courthouse. Right background: Hidalgo County Jail.
- 1978.017.02f – Red Shirt Band posing in their uniforms while holding their instruments in front of an unidentified brick building. Caption on front: “Red Shirt Band 1931”
- 1978.017.02g – Red Shirt Band posing in regular clothes while holding their instruments in front of an unidentified brick building. A list of the names of most of the individuals is included with the photograph, 1928-1929.
- 1978.017.02h – Same scene as 1978.017.02c in a slightly different pose, 1928-1929.
- 1978.017.02i – A photograph of 12 trophies on a cloth-draped surface, undated.

III. News articles, 1931, 1965, undated

The first item in this series is the May 15, 1931 issue of *The Wrangler*, a yearbook-like publication produced by the students of Edinburg College and Edinburg High School.

Kay Collection of Red Shirt Band materials

1928-1978

Acc. # 1978.017**MHMM Archives**

Pages 16-17 of the booklet tell about the Red Shirt Bands and list the many awards that it won. Other items are news clippings that describe the fiftieth anniversary celebration that took place in 1965.

IV. Miscellaneous, 1965, 1976, 1978, undated

This series includes a letter, a typed history of the band, typed biographical notes for George E. Hurt, and a 50th Anniversary program. The August 26, 1976 letter was written by Mr. Kay (Tucson, Arizona) to Jack and Steve. The band is not mentioned in the letter.

The history of the band was written by Steven M. Heacock who was a clarinetist in the original Red Shirt Band.

It is unclear who typed the biographical notes for George E. Hurt. That person talked with Hurt's widow on February 2, 1978 in Austin, Texas. The notes describe why Hurt moved to the United States from the United Kingdom and how he came to Edinburg to head the music department in Edinburg, Texas.

INDEX TERMSPeople:

Hurt, George E., 1898-1960

Kay, Arnold Melvin

Geographical locations:

Edinburg (Tex.)

Port Arthur (Tex.)

Rio Grande Valley (Tex.)

San Antonio (Tex.)

Subjects:

Bands (Music)—Texas—Edinburg—Pictorial works.

Bands (Music)—Texas—History—20th century.

Edinburg Red Shirt Band

Marching bands

Marching bands—Texas—Edinburg—1920-1940

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
E:27	RGDOC 171	1	News articles: <i>The Wrangler</i> , May 15, 1931
		2	News articles, 1965, undated
		3	Miscellaneous, 1965, 1976, 1978, undated
L:19	RGDOC 16		Scrapbook 1928-1931, 1965
P:4	RGPHO 13	1978.017.02	Loose photographs, 1928-1931, undated