

**CHARLES HAROLD CLEMONS PAPERS**  
Finding Aid

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

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**SUMMARY**

<b>Size</b>	0.27 cubic feet
<b>Geographic Locations</b>	Oneida County, New York; Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas
<b>Inclusive Dates</b>	1916-1973
<b>Bulk Dates</b>	1917-1919
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Summary</b>	The materials in this collection document Charles Harold Clemons' military service during the border disturbances in south Texas and World War I in Europe as well as his civilian occupations in Oneida County, New York.
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	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.
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<b>Related Collections</b>	Agustín Solís de la Garza collection. J.C. Drown photograph collection of Devils River, Texas, 1918. Frank Lauderdale Cook collection.
<b>Citation</b>	Charles Harold Clemons papers. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.
<b>Stack Location(s)</b>	RGDOC 710, F:25; RGPFO 77, Q:3

## **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Charles Harold Clemons was born on October 3, 1896 in Osceola, New York. He enlisted in the Army on September 8, 1917 and served for six months in McAllen, Texas as artillery private. Clemons helped guard gold trains and chased bandits who disappeared in the Laborde House in Rio Grande City, Texas.

Based in Utica, New York during his years in service, Clemons sailed with the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe on January 24, 1918. He served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Tank Corps in France under Captain George S. Patton during World War I. In World War II, Clemons served as a treasury agent.

In his civilian life in New York, Clemons worked as an automobile mechanic. From 1935 to 1940 he was a deputy sheriff in Oneida County.

Clemons moved to Mission, Texas about 1945. His wife died in 1974. He died in Pharr, Texas in May 1987.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The materials in this collection document Charles Harold Clemons' military service during the border disturbances in south Texas and World War I in Europe as well as his civilian occupations in Oneida County, New York. Types of formats include photocopies of documents, a greeting card, published materials, a genealogy, business cards, identification cards, news clippings, photographs, and artifacts.

## **LIST OF SUB-GROUPS, SERIES, AND SUBSERIES**

### **I. Military papers, 1917-1919, undated**

#### **A. Documents, 1917-1919**

#### **C. News clippings, undated**

#### **D. Loose photographs, undated**

#### **E. Artifacts**

### **II. Genealogy, undated**

### **III. Published materials, 1918**

### **IV. New York materials, 1925, 1935-1940, 1952, 1973, undated**

#### **A. Oneida County, New York deputy sheriff, 1935-1940**

#### **B. Personal papers, 1925, 1973, undated**

#### **C. Loose photographs, 1952, undated**

### **V. Photograph album**

### **VI. Artifacts**

## SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

### I. Military papers, 1917-1919, undated

The papers in this series document Clemons' military service during the border disturbances in south Texas and World War I in Europe. The documents include a photocopy of Clemons' enlistment record and a photocopy of his discharge. Found here is also a 1918 Christmas card to his parents. Other items include news clippings and loose photographs.

### II. Genealogy, undated

The only item in this series is a torn piece of notebook paper with a handwritten genealogy list. Surnames listed include Clemons, Covell, Cook, and Dillenback.

### III. Published materials, 1918

The two books found in this series are *The New Testament* and *American Dictionary*. Both are pocket size.

### IV. New York materials, 1925, 1935-1940, 1952, 1973, undated

The materials in this series concern Clemons' civilian life in New York. Items include deputy sheriff identification cards, business cards, an illustration of a fish, a 1973 car invoice, news clippings, a copy of *By Laws Kismet Chapter No. 217 Order of the Eastern Star, 1925* and photographs.

### V. Photograph album

The photograph album contains photographs of Clemons and his family and friends in New York.

### VI. Artifacts

The artifacts in the collection include a U.S. uniform insignia, a military bracelet number (243503), a green campaign ribbon with yellow and blue stripes, a leather billfold, and a deputy sheriff badge from Oneida County, New York. For more information about the artifacts in the collection contact Lisa Adam, Curator of Collections and Registrar, by calling 956-383-6911.

## INDEX TERMS

Bandit Wars.  
Clemons, Charles Harold, 1896-1987  
Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas  
McAllen (Tex.)—History  
Oneida County, New York  
World War I

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
<b>F:25</b>	<b>RGDOC 710</b>	1	Military papers: Documents, 1917-1919
		2	Military papers: News clippings, undated
		3	Military papers: Loose photographs, undated
		4	Genealogy, undated
		5	Published materials: <i>New Testament</i> , 1918
		6	Published materials: <i>American Dictionary</i> , 1916
		7	New York materials: Oneida County deputy sheriff, 1935-1940
		8	New York materials: Personal papers, 1925, 1973, undated
		9	New York materials: Loose photographs, undated
		10	New York materials: Loose photographs, 1952, undated
<b>Q:3</b>	<b>RGPHO 77</b>		Photograph album