

WILLIS HENRY MOELLER WORLD WAR II COLLECTION
Finding Aid

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

2016



CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

Summary	3
Biographical/Historical Note	4
Scope and Content Note	4
List of Series and Subseries	4
Index Terms	5
Container List	5

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SUMMARY

Size	0.12 cubic feet (military records only)
Geographic Locations	Corpus Christi, Texas; Ft. Dodge, Iowa; Kagoshima Bay, Japan
Inclusive Dates	1941-1993
Bulk Dates	1944-1945
Languages	English
Summary	World War II military uniform clothing and military records including information about action seen by <i>U.S.S. Hancock</i> comprise the collection.
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.
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Related Collections	Earl C. Weaver collection, 1910-1954, RGDOC 348, D:6; Charles D. Clark collection, RGDOC 298B-1 and 2, E:15; James E. Glenn, Jr. collection, RGDOC 661, E:16
Citation	Willis Henry Moeller World War II collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.
Display Credit Line	Courtesy of Museum of South Texas History.
Stack Location(s)	RGDOC 715, I:2

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Willis Henry Moeller was born on April 19, 1922 in Ft. Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. His parents were Walter J. and Elizabeth Zuerrer Moeller.

Moeller served in the U.S. Navy from 1942 through 1945 as a Naval Aviator. During that time he flew with Fighting Squadron SIX. He was stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas and Deland, Florida. The medals he received included the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal – 1 star, American Theater, Asiatic Pacific – 2 stars, Philippine Liberation, and World War II.

On December 5, 1945 he married Phyllis Maxine Mork, a nurse. They lived in Ft. Dodge where Moeller was a co-owner of the Moeller Furnace Company.

Moeller died on September 29, 2005.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

World War II military uniform clothing and military records including information about action seen by *U.S.S. Hancock* comprise the collection. The uniform artifacts consist of jackets, shirts, boots, pants, a belt, and caps. Additional items include buttons and a blanket.

The military records include training materials, information about the Battle of Kagoshima Bay, a ship's log from *U.S.S. Hancock* for 7 April 1945, photographs, and Moeller's separation paper.

LIST OF SUB-GROUPS, SERIES, AND SUBSERIES

- I. Military records**
- II. Artifacts**

INDEX TERMS

Moeller, Willis Henry, 1922-2005

Somerville, Ronald L., 1921-1986

Corpus Christi (Tex.)

Ft. Dodge (Iowa)

Kagoshima Bay, Japan

Aerial bombings--Japan—Kagoshima Bay--1940-1950.

Aerial navigation

Hancock (Aircraft carrier : 1944-1976)

Navigation (Aeronautics)

USS Hancock (Aircraft carrier : 1944-1976)

World War II, 1939-1945

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
I:2	RGDOC 693	1	Ship profiles for Germany, Japan, Great Britain, and the United States, undated
		2	Aerial Navigation, Complete Examination Questions and Answers, 1941
		3	Aircraft operations, 1943, undated
		4	Press release: Kagoshima Bay, Japan – rescue of Lieutenant (jg) Ronald L. Somerville, undated
		5	Photograph: Pilot Willis Moeller, undated (photograph removed to RGPHO 235)
		6	Article: “Battle of Kagoshima Bay,” <i>Air Classics</i> , November 1993.
		7	Manuscript: “We’ll Get You Back,” by Lt. George R. Rodgers, USNR, 1945 (photocopy)
		8	Report of Naval action against the enemy for the period 11 March to 8 April 1945 (photocopy)
		9	Photocopy: Photograph of U.S. Navy officers, June 21, 1944
		10	Photocopy of Notice of Separation from U.S. Naval Service, 1945
		11	Ship’s log (photocopy): <i>U.S.S. Hancock</i> , 7 April 1945