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# Lawrence D. Yeomans Papers

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1895-1946 (*Bulk:* 1917-1919)

1 box (0.25 linear feet)

Call no.: MS 873

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Read collection overview

Lawrence D. Yeomans was working in New York when he volunteered for service in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during the First World War. For eighteen months, Yeomans served as a chauffeur with the Signal Corps in France, driving senior officers around Paris and to and from the front.

This small collection documents Lawrence Yeomans' time as a chauffeur with the Signal Corps during the First World War. In addition to a handful of official documents relating to his service, Yeomans held onto a few pieces of ephemera as souvenirs, some postcards, and a set of photographs, including three depicting him in uniform and ten showing a display of German war materiel confiscated at war's end.

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## Background on Lawrence D. Yeomans

Lawrence D. Yeomans, nurse, and dog, ca.1918

Lawrence Drummond Yeomans was born in Brooklyn, New York, on Oct. 28, 1896, the first child of Emma Christina Westervelt and Dr. Alfred George Yeomans. As a young man, Yeomans took classes in mechanical drawing at the Pratt Institute and worked at Westinghouse Electric in New York City when the U.S. was drawn into the First World War.

Taking a leave of absence from work in September 1917, Yeomans volunteered for duty with the Signal Corps and was assigned to Co. C, 309 Field Signal Battalion, arriving in France early in November. For the next eighteen months, he worked as a chauffeur, driving high ranking officers around Paris and to and from the front. After being honorably discharged on May 15, 1919, Yeomans returned to civilian life. He died in Morristown, N.J., in February 12, 1971.

## Scope of collection

This small collections documents Lawrence Yeomans' time as a chauffeur with the Signal Corps during the First World War. In addition to a handful of official documents relating to his service, Yeomans held onto a few pieces of ephemera as souvenirs, some postcards, and a set of photographs, including three depicting him in uniform and ten showing a display of German war materiel confiscated at war's end. The correspondence in the collection is slight, nearly entirely post-war, and related to Yeomans' family.

## Inventory

[Aviation Minstrels: program for performance aboard transport ship](#)

1917 Oct. 23

Box 1: 1

Chauffeur's gloves

ca.1917

2 pair

Box 1: 2

"Miss Ketty / 14, rue Montyon / next to Folies Bergeres" [calling card]

ca.1919

2 items

Box 1: 3

Newsclippings

1922-1945

Box 1: 4

Photographs: Artillery, tanks, airplane, man in gas mask; possibly surrendered German equipment

ca.1918

10 items

Box 1: 5

[Hotel\(?\) with American serviceman standing in front](#)

ca.1918

[American soldier wearing a gas mask](#)

ca.1918

[German airplanes \(Albatross C.IV?\) and machine guns](#)

ca.1918

[German tank \(A7V 'Wotan'\) and artillery pieces](#)

ca.1918

[Tank \(Renault FT-17\) with hatch open](#)

ca.1918

[German tank \(A7V 'Wotan'\)](#)

ca.1918

[American soldiers standing among German artillery pieces](#)

ca.1918

[German airplanes and artillery on display](#)

ca.1918

[German airplanes and artillery on display](#)

ca.1918

[German artillery on display](#)

ca.1918

Photographs: L. D. Yeomans and nurse

ca.1918

3 items

Box 1: 6

[Yeomans, unidentified nurse, and bulldog](#)

ca.1918

[Yeomans, unidentified nurse, and bulldog](#)

ca.1918

[Yeomans and unidentified nurse, seated on steps](#)

ca.1918

Postcards: Fete de l'indépendance américaine à Paris

ca.1919

7 items

Box 1: 7

Postcards: France

ca.1919

3 items

Box 1: 8

Postcards: miscellaneous

1910-1914

4 items

Box 1: 9

Souvenir d'une visite à Paris [printed tourist booklet]

ca.1918

Box 1: 10

[United States. Army. Signal Corps. Service Companies, 45th and 35th: Menu for Christmas dinner](#)

1918 Dec. 25

Box 1: 11

Weakly Slum, vol. A, ch. 3 [camp newspaper]

1919 Apr. 1

Box 1: 12

Wedding invitation: Emma Christina Westervelt and Alfred George Yeomans  
1895  
Box 1: 13  
Western Electric Company: Terms for leave of absence to Lawrence D. Yeomans for military service  
1917-1918  
Box 1: 14  
Westervelt family genealogical information  
undated  
Box 1: 15  
Wold, P. I.: Letter to Emma W. Yeomans, informing her of the safe arrival of her son in France  
1917 Nov. 9  
Box 1: 16  
Yeomans, Lawrence D.: identity cards for Pratt Institute and Western Electric  
1916-1917  
2 items  
Box 1: 17  
Yeomans, Lawrence D.: military documents (duty card, pass to attend theater, honorable discharge)  
1918-1919  
4 items  
Box 1: 18

## Administrative information

### Access

The collection is open for research.

### Provenance

Gift of Leslie Button, June 2015.

### Digitized content

Selected content is available online through SCUA's digital repository [Credo](#)

### Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, July 2015.

### Language:

English

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## Search terms

### Subjects

- Chauffeurs
- World War, 1914-1918

### Genres and formats

- Ephemera
- Photographs

### Link to similar SCUA collections

- [World War I](#)

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