A native of Ontario, 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.

See similar SCUA collections:

World War I

Background on Lawrence D. Yeomans

Lawrence Drummond Yeomans was born in Mount Forest, Ontario, on Oct. 28, 1896, the first child of Emma Christina Westervelt and Dr. Alfred George Yeomans. As a young man, Yeomans relocated to the United States and was taking classes in mechanical drawing at the Pratt Institute and working at Westinghouse Electric in New York City when his adopted country 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aviation Minstrels: program for performance aboard transport ship</strong></td>
<td>1917 Oct. 23</td>
<td></td>
<td>1: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chauffeur's gloves</td>
<td>ca.1917</td>
<td>2 pair</td>
<td>1: 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Miss Ketty / 14, rue Montyon / next to Folies Bergeres&quot; [calling card]</td>
<td>ca.1919</td>
<td>2 items</td>
<td>1: 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newscloppings</td>
<td>1922-1945</td>
<td></td>
<td>1: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs: Artillery, tanks, airplane, man in gas mask; possibly surrendered German equipment</td>
<td>ca.1918</td>
<td>10 items</td>
<td>1: 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postcards: Fête de l'indépendence américaine à Paris</td>
<td>ca.1919</td>
<td>7 items</td>
<td>1:7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postcards: France</td>
<td>ca.1919</td>
<td>3 items</td>
<td>1:8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postcards: miscellaneous</td>
<td>1910-1914</td>
<td>4 items</td>
<td>1:9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith, G. B., letter from Alfred Smith (includes invoice)</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td></td>
<td>1:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Souvenir d'une visite à Paris [printed tourist booklet]</td>
<td>ca.1918</td>
<td></td>
<td>1:11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Administrative information

Access
The collection is open for research.

Provenance
Gift of Leslie Button, June 2015.