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National Air and Space Museum

Charles B. Sewell POW Collection

2002

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Charles B. Sewell POW Collection
Date:	1940-1993 (bulk 1942-1946)
Identifier:	NASM.1993.0014
Creator:	Sewell, Charles B., 1918-1991
Extent:	0.1 Cubic feet ((1 folder))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Mae Y. Sewell, Gift, 1993, 1993-0014, NASM

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Charles B. Sewell (1918-1991) enlisted in the Army in 1942. Technical Sergeant Sewell was a top turret gunner in a Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, 350th Bomb Squadron, 100 Bomb Group. He was on his 14th mission when he was shot down over Germany. Sewell was held as a POW from May 1944 until April of 1945, with most of his time spent in Stalag Luft IV. Sewell was discharged from the Army in October 1945.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the wartime log Sewell kept while a prisoner at Stalag Luft IV. The log includes poems, sketches, photographs, and food labels from the Red Cross Parcels. The collection also contains V-Mail and prisoner mail postcards, copies of newspaper articles about Sewell and Stalag Luft IV; photographs of Sewell; and copies of The Oversea Kid newspaper 1944. There are also newspaper articles on POW Edward Sanders, and cassette narratives of the following three POWs who were imprisoned with Sewell: Casper Vecchione; William Chamberlain; and Frank Ray.

General

NASMrev

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress Family
- Periodicals
- Prisoners of war
- Stalag Luft IV (Germany : Concentration camp)
- World War, 1939-1945
- World War, 1939-1945 -- Aerial operations
- World War, 1939-1945 -- Concentration camps -- Germany

Types of Materials:

- Audiocassettes
- Clippings
- Logs (records)
- Photographs
- Postcards

Names:

- Chamberlain, William
- Ray, Frank
- Sewell, Charles B., 1918-1991
- United States. Army Air Forces. 100th Bombardment Group. 350th Bombardment Squadron
- Vecchione, Casper