REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:
Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center
Bob and Evangeline Atwood Alaska Resource Center
625 C Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907-929-9235
Fax: 907-929-9233
Email: resourcecenter@anchoragemuseum.org

Guide prepared by: Sara Piasecki, Photo Archivist

TITLE: Austin E. Kiser Scrapbook

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2015.018

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1942-1945

Extent: 1 box; 1.5 linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Austin E. Kiser

Administrative/Biographical History:
Austin Enfield Kiser was born to Miles and Elizabeth Kiser in Pennsylvania in 1880. He worked as a master electrician for Guy F. Atkinson Co., a civilian contractor working on Adak during World War II. Nothing else was known about Kiser at the time of processing.

Scope and Content Description:
The collection consists of one scrapbook measuring 12” x 10” containing pressed plants, V-mail, poetry, postcards, photographs, and other ephemera created or collected by Austin Kiser during his service on Adak from 1943-1945. For more information, see Detailed Description of Collection.

Arrangement: Original order maintained

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.
Physical Access: Original items in fair to good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:
The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. The Anchorage Museum does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Preferred Citation:
Austin E. Kiser Scrapbook, Anchorage Museum, B2015.018

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information
Donated by grandson Robert Wagers in June 2015.

SUBJECTS
Kiser, Austin E., b. 1880
Gilstrap, Owen R.
United States—Armed Forces—Civilian employees
World War, 1939-1945—Campaigns—Aleutian Islands
Adak Island (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

[Inside cover]
- Manuscript poem. “God has not forgot.”
  [p. 1]
- Ticket. United Airlines, for A.E. Kiser
  .1 – Dec. 31st 1943 [Color postcard. United Airlines airplane and ground crew]
  [p. 2]
- V-mail. To Mrs. A.E. Kiser from your buddy. Postmarked April 8, 1944
  [p. 3]
- Typescript poem. “God has not forgot.”
  .2 – Aleutian 1944 [Austin Kiser standing in doorway of Quonset hut]
  [p. 4]
- V-mail. To A.E. Kiser from Dr. Sadie E. Wolff. Dated May 19, 1944
  - Flora. Dated April 27, 1944
  [p. 5]
.3 – July 24, ’44 [20 color postcards in accordion fold]
.4 – Eskimo and kiak. Copyright by Lomen Bros., Nome. [in manuscript] Dec. 6, ’44, Austin and kiak on the way home [color postcard]
[p. 6]
- V-mail. To A.E. Kiser from Dr. S.E. Wolff. Dated September 26, 1944
- Clipping. “This week these men volunteered their time to publish the Bering Breeze: ... Austin Kiser...” Dated October 28, 1944
[p. 7]
- Flora. Dated June 5, 1944
- Paper flower. Dated May 30, 1944
[p. 8]
- Manuscript poem. “It’s not the bite of the driving wind.” Dated May 10, 1944
[p. 9]
- Flora. Dated June 17th, 1944
[p. 10]
- Manuscript poem. “Where the angry Bering breezes blew.” Dated June 28, 1944
[p. 11]
- Flora. Dated June 17th, 1944
[p. 12]
- Manuscript poem. “The dawn that I live for will come.” Dated July 2, 1944
[p. 13]
- Flora. Dated July 18th, 1944
[p. 14]
- Typescript poem. “To my wife.” Dated August 31, 1944
[p. 15]
- Flora. Dated August 16th, 1944
[p. 16]
- Typescript poem. “I miss you.” Dated October 26, 1944
[p. 17]
- Flora. Dated September 16, 1944
.
5 – Pipe the hat. Isn’t it about the right angle. Oct. 26, ’44 [Austin at right, standing outdoors next to building with two men, one wearing apron, one wearing cook’s hat]
- Typescript poem. “I need you dear.” Dated September 23, 1944
[p. 18]
[p. 19]
- Clipping. Re Art Sanner’s garden, with illustration by T/S Paxton. Dated September 5, 1944
- Clipping. “Aleutian volcano eruption kills one.” No date
- Clipping. Cartoon “Private Buck” by Clyde Lewis, “Redwood, Calif. ‘Betcha none of Hitler’s tanks could smash through a tree like that!’” Dated September 9, 1944
[p. 20]
- Typescript poem. “Somewhere in the Aleutians.” Dated July 1944
- Typescript poem. “God has not forgot.” Dated July 1944
.6 – Today a Navy ‘Quonset’ hut [color illustration]
.7 – Aleutian breeze. Life, July 27 [black-and-white photograph of soldier leaning into wind]
[p. 22]
- Manuscript poem. “Your voice came to me on the wind to-day.” Dated June 7, 1944
[p. 23]
- Manuscript poem. “Our to-morrow.” Dated August 27, 1944
[p. 24]
- Manuscript poem. “Aleutian sunset.” Dated March 1944
[p. 25]
- Manuscript poem. “An old man, traveling a lone highway.” Dated June 11, 1944
[p. 26]
[p. 27]
.8 – Aleutian 1944. Guess who? “Austin” – with whiskers [Austin sitting on cot in Quonset hut, photographs on walls]
.9 – Aleutian 1944. Is this “Ivan Romanoff”? No, just Owen behind that brush [man with beard sitting on cot in Quonset hut]
[p. 28]
- Manuscript poem. “Wherever I am, on land or sea.” Dated November 6, 1944
[p. 29]
- Manuscript poem. “Every other night to you I write.” Dated November 24, 1944. On Alaska Command letterhead
[p. 30]
- Typescript poems. “America singing.” “Flying the mail.” “Reward of toilers.” Dated November 29, 1944
[p. 31]
- Typescript poem. “He knew.” Dated November 29, 1944
- Typescript poem. “Relax.”
[p. 32]
- Ticket. Alaska Transportation Company, War Shipping Administration, Passenger Identification Check for vessel Lindley M. Garrison
- Certificate. Quarter orders for Austin E. Kiser
[p. 33]
- Ticket. Harbor boat pass.
- License. Territory of Alaska Automobile Driver’s License for Owen R. Gilstrap
[p. 34]
- Luggage tag. A.E. Kiser, clothing. Dated December 6, 1944
- Luggage tag. A.E. Kiser, fishing poles. Dated December 6, 1944
[p. 35]
- Certificate. APO 980 certification of container contents. Dated August 2, 1944
- Ticket. Alaska Transportation Company, War Shipping Administration, Passenger
  Identification Check for vessel Lindley M. Garrison
- Certificate. Medical examination, Austin E. Kiser
  [p. 36]
- Placeholder. Austin Kiser, Adak, Alaska, Camp Library, Bering Breeze Banquet, November
  1944
  .11 – [group portrait, four men holding sheet cake with icing reading “Bering Breeze Camp
  Library”]
  [p. 37]
- Invitation. Bering Breeze Banquet, November 2, 1944
  .12 – [men seated at tables, probably Bering Breeze banquet]
  .13 – [group portrait of men inside Quonset hut. Cf. .10]
  [p. 38]
- Ticket. Civilian-Army-Navy fights, September 16
- Identification card. Austin E. Kiser, civilian noncombatant
- License. Motor vehicle operator’s permit, A.E. Kiser
  [p. 39]
- Clipping. Illustration of dog
  [p. 40]
- Manuscript poem. “They hate to go home.”
  [p. 41]
- Manuscript poem. “Two things I love.”
  [p. 42]
- Typescript poem. “You’ll soon be home.”
  [p. 43]
  .14 – Merry Christmas, Austin & Mrs. Kiser. I’ll always remember you. Watson [illustration of
  men leaning into wind in front of Quonset hut]
  [p. 44]
- Typescript poem. “Myself.”
- Sticker. Alaska Steamship Co., S.S. Alaska
  [p. 45]
- Typescript poem. “Aleutian love letter.”
  [p. 46]
- Receipt. United Airlines baggage
- Ticket. Alaska Steamship Co., S.S. Cordova
- Sticker. Alaska Steamship Co., S.S. Alaska
- Receipt. Territory of Alaska, School Tax, Owen R. Gilstrap
  [p. 47]
  .15 – 22240 [identification card, Owen Gilstrap]
  .16 – [studio portrait, Owen Gilstrap]
  .17 – [studio portrait, Owen Gilstrap]
- Identification card. Owen R. Gilstrap, civilian noncombatant
- Ticket. Alaska Steamship Company
  [p. 48]
- Menu. The Dell’s Café. Dated September 19, 1942
  [p. 49]
.18 – War Department, Engineer Detachment, 4817th SCU, 8th Service Command Detachment,
Owen R. Gilstrap [identification card]
- Badge. West Construction Co.
- Luggage tag. A.E. Kiser, radio. Dated December 6, 1944
- Typescript poem. “Etiquette stampede.”
- Luggage tag. Owen R. Gilstrap

[Laid in]
- Certificate. Austin E. Kiser, Pension Member, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Certificate. Austin E. Kiser, Pension Member, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Certificate. Austin E. Kiser, Pension Member, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Guide written: June 30, 2015