



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Desso B. Bryant scrapbook

1936-1958

Sc MG 663

Summary

Creator: Bryant, Desso B.

Title: Desso B. Bryant scrapbook

Date: 1936-1958

Size: 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Purchase, Mrs. Hudson's Fine Books and Paper, July 1999.

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: Desso B. Bryant, Jr., was an African American sailor who served aboard the USS Arkansas. The scrapbook contains a daily log, dating from 1936-1940, in which Bryant recorded his personal experiences, ranging from facing racism and seasickness to enjoying the company of local women during his shore leaves in California, Hawaii, England, and Germany. The log does not contain information regarding his official responsibilities on the ship, the events building up to WWII, or the outbreak of war in Europe. It is accompanied by black and white snapshots of himself and his shipmates while in different ports. Included in the scrapbook is a letter regarding his dues with the Bronzeville Lodge No. 18, 1958, and a diagram of a map (possibly denoting the areas traveled to by Bryant during his naval duty).

Preferred citation: [Item], Desso B. Bryant scrapbook, Sc MG 663, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Accessioned by L. J. Sewell, July 1999.

Creator History

Desso B. Bryant, Jr., was an African American sailor who served aboard the USS Arkansas.

Scope and Content Note

The scrapbook contains a daily log, dating from 1936-1940, in which Bryant recorded his personal experiences, ranging from facing racism and seasickness to enjoying the company of local women during his shore leaves in California, Hawaii, England, and Germany. The log does not contain information regarding his official responsibilities on the ship, the events building up to WWII, or the outbreak of war in Europe. It is accompanied by black and white snapshots of himself and his shipmates while in different ports. Included in the scrapbook is a letter regarding his dues with the Bronzeville Lodge No. 18, 1958, and a diagram of a map (possibly denoting the areas traveled to by Bryant during his naval duty).

Arrangement: In chronological order.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American sailors

World War, 1939-1945 -- Participation, African American

Names

Bryant, Desso B.

United States. Navy