

World War II Servicemen from Branford College, Yale University, Correspondence, and Manuscript of "We Minded the Store" by Polly S. Buck

RU 812



compiled by staff of Manuscripts and Archives

September 1998

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: RU 812

CREATOR: Buck, Polly Stone

TITLE: Correspondence of World War II servicemen from Branford College, Yale University, and the manuscript of by Polly S. Buck

DATES: 1942-1975

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 linear foot (3 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The materials include the letters of World War II servicemen from Branford College (Yale) to Polly S. Buck, who was wife of the master; letters to various recipients from John William Ruff (Yale 1927), who was a Professor of English at Yale and a fellow of Branford College before the war; and permission to publish correspondence. Also included is a manuscript of Buck's book, *We Minded the Store*.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.0812>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.0812>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

Correspondence of World War II Servicemen from Branford College, Yale University, and the Manuscript of *We Minded the Store* by Polly S. Buck (RU 812). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Polly S. Buck was the wife of the Branford College master, Norman Sydney Buck. During World War II she corresponded with servicemen from her college. Her book, *We Minded the Store* (1975), documents the war years at Yale and the war experiences of men of Branford College.

Scope and Contents

The World War II letters were given to the Archives by Polly Stone Buck, who as the wife of Dean Buck, Master of Branford College, corresponded during the world war with servicemen from Branford College. A few years later she wrote the book *We Minded the Store* documenting the war years at Branford College and the war experiences of Branford men.

The materials have been processed both chronologically and alphabetically. Series I includes general correspondence, chronologically filed to retain the sequence of events of war, from servicemen who wrote once or twice a year. Series II includes the chronological correspondence of William Ruff. This exception was made because these letters were sent to several different people and give insight into one man's frustration with the service. An explanation of who the recipients were appears in the permission to publish folder for William Ruff.

Series III includes permission to publish correspondence and is alphabetically arranged. It contains typed quotes from the men's letters, for which many times Mrs. Buck asks for more thorough explanations, and of course there are the updates of the intervening twenty five years. Access to each individual's wartime letters is possible as the dates of these appear on the front of his permission to publish letter.

A draft of *We Minded the Store* comprises Series IV.

Photographs which came to the Archives with these materials have been placed in the Yale Picture Collection, YRG 48-A-1.

General note

Forms part of Yale Record Group 42-C (YRG 42-C), Materials documenting military and wartime experiences of members of the Yale community.

Arrangement

The materials are arranged in four series: I. General Correspondence, 1943-1946. II. William Ruff Correspondence, 1942-1946. III. Permission to Publish Correspondence, 1969-1975. IV. Manuscript Draft of *We Minded the Store*.

Collection Contents

Series I: General Correspondence, 1943-1946, undated

| | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | 1943 January-August | 1943 January-August |
| b. 1, f. 2 | 1943 September-Dec, [1943?] | 1943 September-Dec, [1943?] |
| b. 1, f. 3 | 1944 January-August | 1944 January-August |
| b. 1, f. 4 | 1944 September-December | 1944 September-December |
| b. 1, f. 5 | 1945 January-April | 1945 January-April |
| b. 1, f. 6 | 1945 January-April | 1945 January-April |
| b. 1, f. 7 | 1945 September-Dec, [1945?] | 1945 September-Dec, [1945?] |
| b. 1, f. 8 | 1946 | 1946 |
| b. 1, f. 9 | WW II Christmas cards | Undated |

Series II: William Ruff Correspondence, 1942-1945

| | | |
|-------------|------|------|
| b. 2, f. 10 | 1942 | 1942 |
| b. 2, f. 11 | 1943 | 1943 |
| b. 2, f. 12 | 1944 | 1944 |
| b. 2, f. 13 | 1945 | 1945 |

Series III: Permission to Publish Correspondence, 1969-1975

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| b. 2, f. 14 | Allen, Greer |
| b. 2, f. 14 | Allen, William F. |
| b. 2, f. 14 | Aiken, George |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Baker, Wilder D. |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Bachman, Roger A. |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Barker, Allen |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Barr, Andrew |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Bartholomew, Marshall |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Booth, Robert |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Bowers, A. Margaret |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Britton, Thomas C. |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Brown, R. Wells |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Buck, Pierpont B. |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Burke, Basil C. |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Caulfield, James D. |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Chace, Burton E. |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Chapman, John D. |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Clement, John C. |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Collins, John |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Cronmiller, Bruce |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Daggett, David |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Dappert, George |
| b. 2, f. 17 | de Capua, A. George |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Diamond, Eddie |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Diamond, Frank B. |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Downey, Russell H. |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Drake, Harold E. |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Dyke, Robert |
| b. 2, f. 18 | English, Chester F., Jr. |

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|-------------|--------------------------|
| b. 2, f. 18 | Farrar, Curtis |
| b. 2, f. 18 | Fitt, Alfred B. |
| b. 2, f. 18 | Flink, Stanley E. |
| b. 2, f. 18 | Fowler, Herbert K. |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Gabriels, A. G., Jr. |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Goodwin, Ralph T., Jr. |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Greer, J. Taylor |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Guba, Philip M. |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Hamilton, Ralph A. |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Harris, Edward M., Jr. |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Harpole, Charles |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Heizer, Raymond |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Hess, Merrill |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Holmes, George |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Horchner, Richard |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Huff, George F. |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Huff, William S. |
| b. 2, f. 21 | Jenkins, Richard E. |
| b. 2, f. 21 | Joralemon, Peter |
| b. 2, f. 21 | Klein, Randall |
| b. 2, f. 21 | Kitchen, Richard S., Sr. |
| b. 2, f. 21 | Lamb, Lomax B., Jr. |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Ledes, John. |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Lincoln, William L. |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Liverance, Melville P. |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Logan, Lawther |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Logan, L. B. C. |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Low, Richard F. |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Mac Cabe, Lynn |
| b. 2, f. 23 | McCarty, Franklin B. |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| b. 2, f. 23 | Mac Eachron, David |
| b. 2, f. 23 | McLellan, David S. |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Matthews, Joseph O. |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Matthews, Samuel W. |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Monroe, Willys H. |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Motz, Henry |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Nolte, Richard H. |
| b. 2, f. 24 | O'Donnell, Edward D. |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Ortner, Robert C. |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Peak, Helen |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Peltz, William |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Pitt, Theodore K. |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Pomeroy, Harlan |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Price, Lorin E. |
| b. 2, f. 25 | Richardson, Arleigh D., III |
| b. 2, f. 25 | Rowe, George |
| b. 2, f. 26 | Ruff, William |
| b. 2, f. 27 | Shank, Richard |
| b. 2, f. 27 | Sheldon, Albert M. |
| b. 2, f. 27 | Sherry, John |
| b. 2, f. 27 | Shively, George C. |
| b. 2, f. 27 | Smith, Edward H. |
| b. 2, f. 27 | Smith, Richard |
| b. 2, f. 27 | Smith, Thomas B. |
| b. 2, f. 28 | Spilner, Robert |
| b. 2, f. 28 | Stiff, John S. |
| b. 2, f. 28 | Stimola, Michael |
| b. 2, f. 28 | Swan, Judge Thomas W. |
| b. 2, f. 28 | Tatterson, Donald H. |
| b. 2, f. 29 | Van Cortlandt, Augustus, III [mother of] |

b. 2, f. 29 Vigneron, E. Morgan, Jr.

b. 2, f. 29 Waite, Leslie S., Jr.

b. 2, f. 29 Walsh, Philip C.

b. 2, f. 29 Warren, George U.

b. 2, f. 29 Waterson, Frederick W., III

b. 2, f. 30 Wells, Carl Robert (Bob)

b. 2, f. 30 Wilkie, Valteau

b. 2, f. 30 Younger, George D.

b. 2, f. 30 Zamboni, Frank J.

b. 2, f. 30 Zeller, Anna K.

Series IV: Manuscript of *We Minded the Store*

b. 3, f. 31 Chapters 1-21

b. 3, f. 32 Chapters 22-39

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Soldiers -- United States
World War, 1939-1945 -- Personal narratives,
American

Names

Buck, Polly Stone

Corporate Bodies

Branford College (Yale University)
Ruff, John William -- 1905-
Yale University -- Alumni and alumnae
Yale University -- Faculty