

Guide to the Paul Charles Blum Papers

MS 900



compiled by Tawny Ryan Nelb and staff of Manuscripts and Archives

October 1976

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New Haven, CT 06520-8240
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 900

CREATOR: Blum, Paul C. (Paul Charles), 1898-1981

TITLE: Paul Charles Blum papers

DATES: 1858-1998

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.55 linear feet

LANGUAGE: The papers are in English, French, and German.

SUMMARY: The papers consist of letters, many written by Paul Blum to his family during his service in the U. S. Army Ambulance Service with the French army, 1918-1919. Further correspondence with numerous associates through the time of his death in 1981 is included, as well as memorabilia, a biography, and printed material.

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Requesting Instructions

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Paul Blum, 1976, and of Robert S. Greene, 1993-1995, 1999, 2005 and 2007.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Paul Charles Blum Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Paul Charles Blum was born on March 31, 1898, in Yokohama, Japan, and spent his childhood in Japan, Switzerland, France, and New York City. Blum was a private in the Yale R.O.T.C. and enlisted in the U. S. Ambulance Service in 1917. He was sent overseas in 1918, and served with the French army from March 1918 to March 1919. Blum was awarded the Croix de Guerre on August 12, 1918. He returned to the United States in 1919 and graduated from the Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University, in 1921. Following graduation, Blum was a literary agent and free-lance writer. He joined the Foreign Service during World War II, remaining until 1954. Blum retired to Japan, where he lived until his death in 1981.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of letters, many written by Paul Blum to his family during his service in the U. S. Army Ambulance Service with the French army, 1918-1919. Further correspondence with numerous associates through the time of his death in 1981 is included, as well as memorabilia, a biography, and printed material.

Arrangement

Arranged by accession.

Collection Contents

Inventory, 1918-1923

Correspondence: (88 ALS, 12 ACS, 1 ANS, 3 TL) 1918-1919, n.d.

b.1	ALS, ACS, TL Paul Blum to his mother [Rose (Isaacs) Blum, 73 items]	1918 January 3-1919 May 11
b.1	ALS, ACS Paul Blum to his father [Henri Blum, 4 items]	1918 July 10, September 25, November 24, December 24
b.1	ALS, ACS Paul Blum to an aunt [Mrs. Max Blum?, 8 items]	
b.1	ALS Paul Blum to an uncle	1918 May [?]
b.1	ALS Paul Blum to a cousin Jean [3 items]	
b.1	ALS Paul Blum and an unidentified party	1918 August 1
b.1	ACS Paul Blum to Herbert [Rosenberg?]	1918 August 30
b.1	ANS Paul Blum to steamship company	1918 January
b.1	ALS Jean [?] to Uncle Henri [Blum] and Aunt Rose [Blum]	1918 April 24
b.1	TL John J. Pershing to "My Fellow Soldiers"	1919 February 23
b.1	ALS Mrs. Henri Blum to Paul Blum	1919 June 27, undated
b.1	[Letters badly damaged by fire, approximately 3 items]	
b.1	Cables [8 items]	1918 January 26-1919 June 2
b.1	TL selected typescript of above correspondence	1918 January 18-1919 May 11
Memorabilia: (4 ADS, 7 TDS, 6 DS) 1918-1919		
b.1	Clippings (4)	1918 September- [1919?], undated
b.1	"Der Section Zeitung," a newsletter about the SSU [Section Sanitaire Americaine] 583	1919 July 19, 1923 June 29
b.1	List of names and addresses, presumably of the SSU 583	
b.1	Miscellaneous memorabilia: including coin vouchers, carte d'identité, invitation to a ball, large poster "Announcement of the Peoples Government" [1918 Nov 13, removed to War Poster Collection], Christmas package coupon	
b.1	Passes for leave: 4 ADS, 6 TDS, 3 DS [13 items]	1918-1919
b.1	List of names of the 578 U.S. Ambulance Service to be discharged	1919 June 5

Memorabilia: (4 ADS, 7 TDS, 6 DS) 1918-1919 (continued)

b.1	Transport orders: 3 DS, 1 TDS [4 items]	1918 September
b.1	Dog tags and insignia [added 1978 Dec]	

Accession 1994-M-027: Additional Material

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence and documents pertaining to naturalization and citizenship	1916-1933
b. 1, f. 2	"My Trip": Blum's diary of his return to France	1921
b. 1, f. 3	Diary of C. B. Randklev (USAAS)	1917-1918
b. 1, f. 4	"Iowa City to the Hindenburg Line," <i>Annals of Iowa</i>	1963 winter
b. 1, f. 5	<i>The History of the United States Army Ambulance Service: with the French and Italian Armies, 1917-1919</i>	1967
b. 1, f. 6	United States Army Ambulance Service Association: certificate and identification card	undated
b. 1, f. 7	Croix de Guerre (3) and military ribbons (3)	1914-1919
b. 1, f. 8	Maps	1915-1917

Accession 1995-M-126: Additional Material, 1858-1985

Blum, Henri (father of Paul C. Blum)		
Personal papers [includes birth and marriage certificates, will, work papers, carnet militaire]		
b. 1, f. 1	1858, 1875-1880, 1886-1890	
b. 1, f. 2	1892-1894, 1909-1916, 1925	
Blum, Rose (Isaacs) (mother of Paul C. Blum)		
b. 1, f. 3	Congratulatory telegrams on marriage	1893
b. 1, f. 4	Correspondence [family]	1899, 1929
b. 1, f. 5	Diary	[1892?]
Blum, Paul C.		
Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 6	Dulles, Allen W. [includes translation by Paul Blum of "The Dulles Operation," chapter 22 of <i>A History of the End of the War</i> ; much of the chapter was based on an article by Fujimara]	1947, 1952
United States		
b. 1, f. 7	Board of Economic Warfare	1942
b. 1, f. 8	Department of State	1944
b. 1, f. 9	Office of Strategic Services	1943-1945
Yoshida, Shigeru [Japan's first post-war prime minister]; includes clippings		
b. 1, f. 10	1955-1956	
b. 1, f. 11	1957-1966	
b. 1, f. 12	Diary	1912
b. 1, f. 13	Newspaper clippings	1916, 1947, 1957, 1981, undated
b. 1, f. 14	Notes [departure from La Croix en Brie]	1940
b. 1, f. 15	Personal papers [includes academic record, identity cards, carnet militaire]	1917, 1938-1945, 1948, 1954, 1971, undated
b. 1, f. 16	Photographs	1944, 1980
Subject files		
b. 1, f. 17	Dulles, Allen [<i>The Secret Surrender</i> ; inscribed in front cover to Paul Blum]	1966

Blum, Paul C. > Correspondence > Subject files (continued)

b. 1, f. 18	Fujimara, Yoshiro [biographical information, translation of peace negotiations with Allen Dulles]	1945, 1984, undated
b. 2, f. 19	German surrender [meeting with German representatives re possible surrender on Italian front; P.C.B.'s handwritten notes; typed report to Allen Dulles]	1945
b. 2, f. 20	Yale University [gift of hyakumanto and dharani to the Yale University Library in memory of Norman Holmes Pearson; includes correspondence, photographs, <i>Yale Alumni Magazine</i> article, 1976 Mar]	1975-1976
Writings		
b. 2, f. 21	"The Bell at Shinagawa-Ji," <i>Japan Quarterly</i> [includes typescript and correspondence]	1959
b. 2, f. 22	"Duff"	1928
b. 2, f. 23	"Father Mounicou's <i>Bakamatsu Diary</i> ," <i>Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan</i> [translated with an introduction by Paul C. Blum]	1976
b. 2, f. 24	"Haneda Airport, Japan's Port of Entry from the Air," <i>Radio Japan</i>	1958
Journals		
b. 2, f. 25	No. 1 [Colombia (N.Y. to Cucuta), pp. 1-219; papers laid in]	1929 July 31-October 28
b. 2, f. 26	No. 2 [Venezuela and the Guianas (San Cristobal to Para), pp. 220-391; papers laid in]	1929 October 29-December 31
b. 2, f. 27	No. 3 [Brazil and Paraguay (Para to Buenos Aires), pp. 392-565; papers laid in]	1930 January 15-April 3
b. 2, f. 28	No. 4 [Argentina, Falkland Islands, Chile and Peru (Buenos Aires to Peru), pp. 556-713; paper laid in]	1930 April 16-June 27
b. 2, f. 29	No. 5 [Peru and Bolivia (Lima to Cochabamba), pp. 714-984; paper laid in]	1930 June 28-September 19
b. 3, f. 30	No. 6 [Bolivia (Cochabamba to Cobija), pp. 895-1044; papers laid in]	1930 September 21-November 21
b. 3, f. 31	No. 7 [U.S.A., Panama, and Hawaii (Pittsburgh to Yokohama), pp. 1045-1201]	1931 August 20-November 20
b. 3, f. 32	No. 8 [Japan, Korea, Manchuria (Yokohama to Dairen), pp. 1202-1360; paper laid in]	1931 November 28-1932 February 15
b. 3, f. 33	No. 9 [China, Indo-China, and Siam (Dairen to Singapore), pp. 1361-1502; papers laid in]	1932 March 20-May 15
b. 3, f. 34	No. 10 [Borneo and Java (Singapore to Bali), pp. 1503-1680; papers laid in]	1932 May 2-July 10

Blum, Paul C. > Correspondence > Writings > Journals (continued)

b. 3, f. 35	No. 11 [Bali, Lombok, Sunda Islands, Moluccas, and Celebes, pp. 1691-1895; papers laid in]	1932 July 11-September 29
b. 3, f. 36	No. 12 [Torres Straits to Zanzibar (Australia and the East Coast of Africa), pp. 1896-2128]	1932 September 29-1933 January 6
b. 3, f. 37	No. 13 [Zanzibar to Algiers, via Leopoldville and Lagos, pp. 2129-2488; papers laid in]	1933 January 10-May 25
b. 3, f. 38	Index to journals	
b. 4, f. 39	"Old Yokohama"	[1973?]
	<i>The Paul C. Blum Collection: A Catalogue of Books, Yokohama Archives of History</i>	
b. 4, f. 40 - 41	Vols. I-IV [2 copies]	1982-1984 [1985?]
	"Pies for the Ambulance," <i>Yale Literary Magazine</i>	1917
b. 4, f. 42	<i>Yokohama in 1872</i>	1963

Accession 1999-M-111: Additional Material, 1998

- b.1 *Blum-San! Scholar, Soldier, Gentleman, Spy: The Many Lives of Paul Blum* by Robert S. Greene [2 copies] 1998
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Accession 2005-M-080: Additional Material, 1920-[198-]

The accession is organized chronologically as received. It is comprised of correspondence between Paul Blum and numerous associates, among whom his cousin Robert (Bob) Greene, the artist Claude Remusat, colleague George (Jack) H. Kerr, and sister Mrs. Marguerite (Maggie) Amdur, figure prominently. The correspondence from 1940 contains reproductions of Blum's notes taken during the German Blitzkrieg into France in June. Several letters from Allen Dulles, 1952 and 1967-1968, briefly consider the historical record of their work in Japan at the end of World War II. Letters of condolence addressed to Greene and Kerr, following Blum's death in August of 1981, fill three folders. English transcriptions of Blum's letters to Mrs. Iwanami, his functionary in Japan, and copies of his extended correspondence with the author R. Gordon Wasson follow the general correspondence. Blum's passports, 1926-1979, and personal documents conclude the accession.

Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	1920, 1935-1939
b. 1, f. 2	1940-1949
b. 1, f. 3	1950-1952
b. 1, f. 4	1953-1955
b. 1, f. 5	1956-1959 A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.
b. 1, f. 6	1960-1963
b. 1, f. 7	1964-1965
b. 1, f. 8	1966
b. 1, f. 9	1967-1969
b. 1, f. 10	1970-1972
b. 1, f. 11	1973-1974
b. 1, f. 12	1975-1977
	1978
b. 1, f. 13	Jan 17-Jul 30
b. 1, f. 14	Aug 6-Dec 31
b. 1, f. 15	1979
	1980
b. 1, f. 16	Jan 12-Jul 23
b. 1, f. 17	Aug 1-Dec 26
	1981

Correspondence > 1981 (continued)

b. 1, f. 18	Jan 12-Apr 29	
b. 1, f. 19	May 7-Aug 5	
	Letters of condolence	
b. 1, f. 20	1981 Aug 19-Sep 30	
b. 2, f. 21	1981 Oct 6-31	
b. 2, f. 22	1981 Nov 1-Dec 31, 1982 Apr	
b. 2, f. 23 - 25	Iwanami, Mrs.	1973-1981
b. 2, f. 26 - 29	Wasson, R. Gordon A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1950-1975, 1982 January
	Memorabilia	
b. 2, f. 30	Carte d'identité and passports	1920-1958, undated
b. 2, f. 31	Passports	1962-1979
b. 2, f. 32	Personal documents	1981, [1984?]

Accession 2007-M-060: Additional Material, 1939-ca. 1987

The accession comprises an early edited typescript draft of Robert S. Greene's Blum-san, a biography of Paul Blum, and transcriptions of Greene's interviews with various Blum associates done as part of his research for the book.

b. 1, f. 1	Sketch of Paul Blum in St. Jean le Thomas by Claude Rémusat (photocopy)	1939
	<i>Blum-san</i>	
b. 1, f. 2-7	Edited typescript	Circa 1987
b. 2, f. 8-9	Edited typescript	Circa 1987
	Interview transcripts	
b. 2, f. 10	Carter, Woodbury	1983 March 26
b. 2, f. 11	de Beaufort, Nam	1981 October 30
b. 2, f. 12	Dodson (Hood), Cordelia A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1985 September 12
b. 2, f. 13	Elliott, Nicholas	1985 August 19-20
b. 2, f. 14	Helms, Richard A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1985 December 10
b. 2, f. 15	Hood, Bill	1987 September 15
b. 2, f. 16	Keene, Donald A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	Circa 1981-1985 January 24
b. 2, f. 17	Klauser, Arthur E.	Circa 1981-1985
b. 2, f. 18	Lawrence, Neal Henry	Circa 1981-1985
b. 2, f. 19	Molden, Fritz	1987 October 1
b. 2, f. 20	Murphy, James	1983 February 18, 1985 June 3
b. 2, f. 21	Narimatsu, Takayasu	Circa 1985
b. 2, f. 22	Rémusat, Claude	1981 September 23-28
b. 2, f. 23	Roman, Howard and Jane	1983 February 1
b. 2, f. 24	Sajima, Yoshinaro	1982 July 7

Interview transcripts (continued)

b. 2, f. 25	Seidensticker, Edward A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1982 July 21
b. 2, f. 26	van Nice, Bob	1982 January 31
b. 2, f. 27	Yamamoto, Makiko	Circa 1981-1985
b. 2, f. 28	Yamamoto, Steve	Circa 1981-1985

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

World War, 1914-1918

Names

Blum, Paul C. (Paul Charles), 1898-1981

Corporate Body

United States. Army (Ambulances)