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Frieda and Rudolph Bambas Collection

Bambas, Frieda Derdeyn (1905–2005), and Rudolph C. Bambas (1915–1996). Papers, 1922–2003. 3 feet.

Professors. Correspondence (1942–1995) of French professor Frieda Derdeyn Bambas and English professor Rudolph C. Bambas primarily regarding their lives during World War II, including Rudolph's military training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and his wartime service in India; and Frieda's early career as a French teacher at Oklahoma College for Women and Ward Belmont College in Tennessee. The collection also includes Frieda's scrapbooks (1922–1923) and diaries (1934–1952), as well as a manuscript, poetry, and dissertations written by the couple, who later held teaching positions at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Central Oklahoma.

Box 1

Folder:

1. Miscellaneous correspondence to Hector Derdeyn from the White House and family, letters to Frieda from Belgian relatives, graduation invitations for Pauls Valley High School.
2. Correspondence from Frieda Bambas to Rudolph C. Bambas regarding general news, plans for Frieda's visit to Fayetteville, 1942.
3. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding wedding plans, Rudolph's attempt at changing army classification, June 1942.
4. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding basic training at Fort Bragg, a visit from Frieda to Fayetteville NC July 1942.
5. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding general news and training at Fort Bragg, NC August 1942.
6. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding training at Fort Bragg, NC, September 1942.
7. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derydeyn Bambas regarding training at Fort Bragg, NC, references to poems submitted to *The Saturday Evening Post*, general news, October 1942.
8. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding training at Fort Bragg, NC, references to the health of Frieda's mother, general news, November 1942.

9. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding training at Fort Bragg NC, a transfer to Fort Sill, OK, advice about Frieda continuing to teach at Oklahoma College for Women, December 1942.
10. Correspondence from Sylvie Derdeyn to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding general news from Pauls Valley, OK, letters of congratulations on Frieda and Rudolph's wedding, two letters for Frieda from her sister via her mother, 1942.
11. Correspondence from Frieda Derdeyn Bambas to Rudolf C. Bambas regarding a time spent in New Orleans and general news, 1943.

Box 2

Folder:

1. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning Artillery School at Fort Sill, personal finances, Frieda's teaching position, January 1943.
2. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Babmas concerning Artillery school at Fort Sill, OK, a visit with Frieda, personal Finances, general news, February 1943.
3. Correspondence from Rudolf C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning Artillery school at Fort Sill, transfer to New Orleans, Rudolph's promotion to Lieutenant, Frieda's arrival in New Orleans, general news, March-April 1943.
4. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning general news, Rudolph's transfer to California, Rudolph's transfer via ship to an undisclosed location overseas, Frieda's health, poetry for Frieda, August-September 1943.
5. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning general news, letters with poetry for Frieda, Rudolph's arrival in India, Rudolph's life in India, October-November 1943.
6. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning Rudolph's arrival at his permanent camp in India, Rudolph's appointment as Hindustani teacher for the camp, discussion for edits of Rudolph's poems, general news, December 1943.
7. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning personal finances, life in India, packages sent from home, January 1944.
8. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning general news pertaining to life in India, army cartoons, newspaper clippings, vaccinations, February 1944.

9. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning life in India, rejection of poems submitted by Rudolph to several magazines, difficulties obtaining income tax forms, instructions as to how to wear a sari, March 1944.
10. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning life in India, packages from home, and general news, April 1944.
11. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning life in India, Frieda's move from teaching at Ward-Belmont in TN, to Pauls Valley, OK for the summer, addressing Rudolph's safety with possible infiltration of the Japanese into India, discussion of letter censorship, personal finance, May 1944.
12. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas regarding life in India, the condition of the war effort, Frieda and Rudolph's second anniversary, Rudolph's leave in Darjeeling, June 1944.
13. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning army life in India, Rudolph's service as summary court martial in his army camp, regarding Frieda's urging Rudolph to seek promotion, Rudolph's movement to another camp, general news, July 1944.

Box 3

Folder:

1. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning army life in India, Frieda's health, the state of the war, Frieda's return to teach at Ward-Belmont in TN, the death of a cobra, August-September 1944.
2. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning general news, army life in India, Frieda's teaching at Ward-Belmont, personal finances, Rudolph's responsibilities supervising Indian employees of the army, October 1944.
3. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Babmas concerning life in the army in India, personal finances, softball games, Rudolph's change in address, November 1944.
4. Miscellaneous correspondence from Frieda's mother, letter from a Dr. Koff concerning Frieda's pregnancy, letter from St. James church in Chicago concerning Frieda and Rudolph's wedding records, and a letter from Rudolph's bearer in India 1943-1944.
5. Correspondence from Frieda Derdeyn Bambas to Rudolph C. Bambas concerning Frieda's health, Frieda's teaching at Ward-Belmont, personal finances, and Frieda and Rudolph's third wedding anniversary, 1945.
6. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning eye exercises to improve eyesight for Rudolph, marital issues, the status of the war, the arrival of sardines, general news, life in the army in India, January-February 1945.

7. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning army life in India, an operation on Frieda's finger, finances, letters containing poems for Frieda by Rudolph, speculation on the status of the war, March-April 1945.
8. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning army life in India, the end of the war in Europe, plans for Rudolph's homecoming, Rudolph and Frieda's third wedding anniversary, discussion of Rudolph's thesis, discussion of Frieda's choice to teach at Stephens College, May- June 1945.
9. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning general news, life in India, the wonders of DDT, the surrender of the Japanese, July-August 1945.
10. Correspondence from Rudolph C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning Rudolph's voyage to India and his location, plans for homecoming in November, Rudolph's hospitalization due to tonsillitis, news about army life in India, September-December 1945.
11. Correspondence from Rudolf C. Bambas to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas concerning the end of military service at Fort Sheridan, Frieda's French training, the end of the semester, 1946-1959.
12. Miscellaneous correspondence from Frieda to her father-in-law thanking him for a birthday present, to Frieda from her mother about a deed, correspondence from Anna Kapr about general news, 1946-1995.

Box 4:

Folder:

1. Diaries of Frieda Derdeyn
 - High school graduation scrapbook, 1922
 - Journal detailing time spent traveling and teaching English in Belgium, 1934.
2. Diaries of Frieda Derdeyn
 - Journal detailing time spent traveling and teaching English in Belgium, and time spent teaching English and traveling in Puerto Rico, 1935.
 - Journal detailing time spent traveling and teaching English in Puerto Rico, return to Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, 1936.
 - Journal detailing teaching at the Oklahoma College for Women in Chickasha, classes at Columbia University, father's death, 1940.
3. Diaries of Frieda Derdeyn
 - Journal detailing time spent teaching at Ward-Belmont, time spent with Charles, time living in New Orleans, 1943.
 - Journal detailing time spent traveling in Europe, visiting family in Belgium, 1952.

4. Manuscript written by Rudolph C. Bambas, fictionalized account of his time in the army in India.
5. Poetry written Rudolph C. Bambas and Frieda Derdeyn Bambas during World War II, letters of rejection for those poems submitted for publication, 1944.
6. Marriage certificate for Rudolph C. Bambas and Frieda Derdeyn Bambas, 1942. Birth certificate and copies for Rudolph C. Bambas 1915. Death certificate and copies for Rudolph C. Bambas, 1996.
7. Army papers of Rudolph C. Bambas, Lieutenant bars, notifications for certificates of service from the U.S. government, discharge papers, certificates from ship crossing to India, certificate of service from the state of Illinois, 1943-1946.
8. Papers of Derdeyn and Bambas families. Derdeyn papers include passports, papers of naturalization, and identification papers for the Hector Derdeyn family. Bambas papers include letters from German family member inquiring about family history and genealogy printout, 1995.
9. Passports and identification cards belonging to Rudolph C. Bambas and Frieda Derdeyn Bambas.

Box 5:

Folder:

1. Dissertation written by Frieda Derdeyn Bambas:
An Evaluation of the Benefits Derived by Oklahoma Teachers of Modern Foreign Language from Participation in NDEA Foreign Language Institutes. University of Oklahoma, 1970.
Handouts for dissertation defense, term paper written by Frieda Derdeyn Bambas, 1970.
2. Dissertation written by Rudolph C. Bambas:
The Verb in Samuel Daniels' 'The Collection of the History of England'. Northwestern University, Chicago, 1941.
3. Diplomas for Frieda Derdeyn Bambas, elementary, high school, master's, Ph.D. 1920-1970.
4. Diplomas for Rudolph C. Bambas, master's and Ph. D. 1939-1941.
5. Licenses, certificates, and transcripts for Frieda Derdeyn Bambas, teaching licenses, 50 year alumni award, transcripts from University of Pittsburgh, transcripts for University of Puerto Rico.

Box 6:

Folder:

1. Life insurance papers from the U.S. army, brochures detailing policies, receipts of remittance, and correspondence from the Department of Veterans Affairs to Rudolph C. Bambas concerning life insurance policy.
2. Ward-Belmont class catalog 1921-1922. University of Pittsburgh Commencement announcement class of 1934. Two commencement programs for the University of Pittsburgh for Frieda Derdeyn Bambas, 1934. One copy of *The Pittsburgh Record* May-June 1934.
3. Assorted programs from dinners and gatherings mentioning Frieda Derdeyn Bambas. Attendance from the 50 year Alumni Reunion in 1976, Golden Age Membership Oklahoma Retired Educators Association recognition.
4. *Sooner Magazine*, Fall 2003. Contains an article "Savvy Senior," which features a photo of Frieda Derdeyn Bambas. Page 28 (5 copies).
5. Correspondence to Conrad Derdeyn regarding endowments left by Frieda Derdeyn Bambas to several institutions including Johns Hopkins University and the University of Oklahoma.
6. Miscellaneous items. Buttons with French exclamations, a book entitled *In Jacksonville Illinois* detailing the businesses of Jacksonville, a *Soldier's Prayer Book*, and sheet music for the song "Lili Marlene".

Oversized Material:

Box 7:

1. Newspaper clippings featuring Frieda Derdeyn Bambas, Rudolph C. Bambas, Sylvie Derdeyn, and Hector Derdeyn, miscellaneous newspaper clippings. 1940-2005.
 - Two plaques:
 - Recognizing Frieda Derdeyn Bambas as an outstanding professor
 - Commemorating Rudolph C. Bambas as Professor Emeritus of English at the University Oklahoma
 - Ward-Belmont School scrapbook belonging to Frieda Derdeyn Bambas containing snapshots, articles from the school newspaper, and dance cards, 1922-1923.