

Katharine E. Reichert photograph albums, scrapbooks, and papers

Ms. Coll. 1212

Finding aid prepared by Rayna Andrews.

Last updated on January 31, 2018.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Reichert, Katharine, E
Title	Katharine E. Reichert photograph albums, scrapbooks, and papers
Call number	Ms. Coll. 1212
Date [bulk]	1951-1953
Date [inclusive]	1934-1979
Extent	1.33 linear feet (7 boxes)
Language	English
Language Note	The bulk of the material is in English, but some materials are in Japanese.
Abstract	<p>Katharine "Kay" E. Reichert was an Air Force nurse who served with the Far East Air Force in Japan during the Korean War. After her return to the United States, Reichert earned her B.S. in Nursing Education from the University of Pennsylvania and then her M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. The bulk of this collection is comprised of photo albums and scrapbooks documenting daily life and excursions to destinations around Japan. Also included are official and personal papers and ephemera, yearbooks from Reichert's studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and artifacts such as medical bag and equipment, military insignias and honors, and door signs.</p>

Cite as:

Katharine E. Reichert photograph albums, scrapbooks, and papers, 1934-1979 (bulk: 1951-1953), Ms. Coll. 1212, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Katharine “Kay” E. Reichert (1927-2015) was an Arnold, Pennsylvania native, Air Force nurse, educator, and doctor. After graduating from the Allegheny Valley School of Nursing, she worked as a staff nurse at the Western Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute and the clinic at the University of Pittsburgh before enlisting in the Air Force Nurse Corps in 1950. Reichert was stationed at Maxwell Field in Alabama and Camp Stoneman in California before being sent overseas for service in the Far Eastern Theater. She served in Japan between 1951 and 1953 during the Korean War at both the Johnson and Shiroy Air Base Hospitals. During her service, she attained the rank of first lieutenant. The majority of the photographs in this collection were taken during her time on Johnson or Shiroy Air Base or while traveling to attractions throughout Japan.

After her return to the States, Reichert earned a B.S. in Nursing Education from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in 1956. She continued her studies at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, with help from the GI Bill and earned her M.D. in 1961. She completed her internship at Mary Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, New Hampshire and completed her residency at the Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine. She then practiced rural family medicine in Lyme, New Hampshire from 1963 to 1966 before moving on to the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she was a student health physician for sixteen years. After her time at the University of Massachusetts, she served as the director of health services at Hampshire College for seven years. Reichert was also a pioneer in the development of the nurse practitioner movement in Massachusetts, where she taught nurses how to become nurse practitioners and published the book *Primary Care of Young Adults* in 1976.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of photo albums and scrapbooks, official and personal papers and ephemera, yearbooks, and artifacts.

Series I is comprised of a number of photograph albums and scrapbooks primarily chronicling life on Johnson (now Iruma) and Shiroy (now Shimofusa) Air Bases in Japan and in other locales Reichert traveled to while stationed there. Photos mostly depict friends, co-workers, scenery/surroundings, and social gatherings, but there are some photographs documenting hospitals, her work as a nurse, and Japan's

post World War II recovery. Scrapbooks include additional travel photographs, as well as other ephemera such as brochures, napkins, maps, cards, postcards, and programs. Some ephemeral materials found in the scrapbooks are entirely in Japanese.

Series II includes newspaper clippings, certificates of service and customs declarations, paperwork regarding Reichert's discharge from service, and ephemera from her time in Japan. It also includes correspondence from Reichert to her parents, William and [Sara] Reichert, and from Austin Pardue, Bishop of Pittsburgh and leader of Reichert's childhood church, to both Reichert and her parents.

Series III is made up of Reichert's University of Pennsylvania yearbooks. There is one volume of *Record* from 1956 – her senior year – and volumes of the School of Medicine's *Scope* from 1958, 1960, and 1961, as well as for 1979 when she appears in a list of patrons. The 1956 *Record* has "University of Pennsylvania Two Hundredth Commencement for the Conferring of Degrees" program laid in at front. The 1960 volume of *Scope* has "1960-61 U.M.A. Medical School List Second Year Class" and "1960-61 U.M.A. Medical School List Third Year Class" laid in at front.

Series IV includes a wide variety of artifacts such as an Air Force uniform, signs, dog tags, name tags, medals/ribbons, and patches from Reichert's time in the Far East Air Force. Also present in this series is a medical bag containing medical equipment.

Administrative Information

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Access Restrictions

The bulk of this collection is open for research use. Access to the medical bag (located in box 5) is subject to Kislak curatorial staff review. Please make an appointment to use these materials so that staff will be available.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may exist. For most library holdings, the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania do not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Source of Acquisition

Sold by R & A Petrilla, Booksellers, 2015.

Processing Information note

The photographs from photo albums 1 and 6 (found in box 1, folders 1 and 2) were removed from

magnetic albums in order to better preserve the material. The original order of the photographs was maintained.

Controlled Access Headings

CORPORATE NAME(S)

- United States. Air Force Nurse Corps.
- University of Pennsylvania. School of Medicine.
- University of Pennsylvania. School of Nursing.

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Medical equipment
- Memorabilia
- Photograph albums
- Photographs
- School yearbooks
- Scrapbooks

SUBJECT(S)

- Japan--Description and travel
- Korean War, 1950-1953--United States
- Medicine, Military
- Nursing
- Women in medicine
- Women physicians

Collection Inventory

SERIES I. PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS AND SCRAPBOOKS DOCUMENTING HER TIME IN JAPAN, CIRCA 1934-1973.

Conditions Governing Access note

The scrapbooks (located in box 2, folder 2 and box 3, folder 3) are extremely fragile and researchers are asked to take extra caution when handling the material. Researchers should be aware that the photographs from photo albums 1 and 6 (found in box 1, folders 1 and 2) were removed from magnetic albums in order to better preserve the material. The original order of the photographs was maintained.

	Box	Folder
Photo album 1 (Japan), 1951-1953.	1	1
Photo album 2 (Japan), 1951-1953.	2	1
Photo album/scrapbook 3 (Japan), 1950-1954 (Bulk, 1952-1953) .	2	2
Scrapbook 4 (Japan), 1952-1953.	3	1
Clippings (originally laid in at back of scrapbook 4), 1953.	3	2
Photo album 5 (Japan and return home), 1953-1954.	3	3
Photo Album 6 (Japan and life in the US), circa 1934-1973.	1	2

SERIES II. OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL PAPERS AND EPHEMERA, 1950-1961 (BULK: 1953).

	Box	Folder
Air Force documents, certificates, and ephemera, 1950, 1953, 1959, 1961.	1	3
Newspaper clippings, 1951, 1953.	1	4
Correspondence with William and [Sara] Reichert (parents), 1951, 1953.	1	5
Bishop Austin Pardue correspondence, 1953-1959.	1	6
Portrait (photograph), 1951.	1	7

SERIES III. YEARBOOKS, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1979.

	Box	Folder
University of Pennsylvania <i>Record</i> , Volume CIV, 1956.	1	8
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine <i>Scope</i> , 1958.	1	9
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine <i>Scope</i> , 1960.	4	1
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine <i>Scope</i> , 1961.	4	2
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine <i>Scope</i> , 1979.	4	3

SERIES IV. ARTIFACTS.

	Box	Folder
Name tags, ribbons, patches, dog tags, and door signs, undated.	4	4

Medical bag used during rural family medical practice, circa 1963-1966.	5
Uniform of an Air Force nurse (not necessarily Reichert's), circa 1950s.	6
Medical practice sign for Katharine E. Reichert, M.D., circa 1966-1990.	7