



Maurice and Patricia Fox collection

Accession number 33119

Date 1939-1980

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Fox, Patricia Margaret, 1920-1976

Abstract Photograph album, coloured slides, correspondence, and military papers relating to Maurice Fox and his wife Patricia.

Scope and content This collection consists of a photograph album, colour slides, correspondence, and papers relating to the life and military service of Maurice Fox, QX6457 and his wife Patricia. Maurice who served with the 2/26th Infantry Battalion, was captured during the fall of Singapore in February 1942, and remained a prisoner of the Japanese, in both Changi Prison, and on the Burma Thailand Railway until his release in August 1945.

Description 1 photograph album; colour slides (154); correspondence (275 letters); postcards (7); ephemera.

Copyright status In copyright.

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Preferred citation

33119, Maurice and Patricia Fox collection, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

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Series 1: Photographs (1940-1970)

Series number 1

Series title Photographs

Date 1940-1970

Scope and content

This series contains a photograph album, loose photos, studio portraits and colour slides, relating to the lives and service of Maurice and Patricia Fox. Included are images relating to Maurice Fox's service during the Second World War, marriage to Patricia Illing; newspaper clippings, photographs of friends and family, as well as photographs taken in the Torres Strait, while serving with the Presbyterian Christian Mission based at Waiben (Thursday Island).

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description 1 photograph album; 1 folder loose photographs; 164 colour slides

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3; and Box 23983 O/S grey album

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

Copyright status In copyright

Copyright status Library Board of Queensland

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Items in this series:**Photograph album (1940-1973)**

Unit ID 33119/1

Date 1940-1973

Scope and content

Album of photographs relating to the military service of Maurice Fox during the Second World War, and his later work with the Presbyterian Church.

Included are images of his wedding to Patricia Illing; Redbank Camp; training at Bathurst, NSW; arriving in Singapore; Wavell Camp, Changi, Selarang Barracks; Mawai village; family and friends; newspaper clippings; studio portraits; Maurice's ordination in St John's Cathedral; churches in Stanthorpe, Weipa, and Longreach; Lockhart River and Waiben (Thursday Island). Some loose items have been housed separately.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description 1 album

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Loose photographs (1941-1970)

Unit ID 33119/2

Date 1941-1970

Scope and content

Loose photographs, including studio portraits and other commercially produced images, relating to the military service of Maurice Fox. Identified are images of a Japanese aircraft, HM Transport EE enroute to Singapore, and training at Goodna Camp.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description 2 folders (loose photographs)

Locate OMBOX Box 23984 O/S A3; and Box 23983 O/S grey album

Colour slides (1971-1973)

Unit ID 33119/3

Date 1971-1973

Scope and content

Colour photographic slides relating to the service of Reverend Maurice Fox and his wife Patricia in northern Queensland most particularly on Waiben (Thursday Island). Many of the images are captioned and include photographs of the people, places and events on: Boigu, Duan, Iama (Yam), Mabuiag, Mer, Moa, and Naghir Islands, Weipa airport and other places of interest. Identified are Bishop Eric Hawkey, pilot Father Tony (later Bishop) Anthony Hall-Matthews, and Father (later Bishop) David Passi.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description Approximately 164 colour slides

Series 2: Newspaper clippings (1939-1950)

Series number 2

Series title Newspaper clippings

Date 1939-1950

Scope and content

This series contains newspaper clippings related to the service of Maurice Fox during the Second World War, some of which were authored by him. Also included are typed articles which were published by the 'Nambour Chronicle' after his return from war.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description 2 folders

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

Copyright status In copyright

Copyright status Library Board of Queensland

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Items in this series:

Newspaper clippings (1940-1950)

Unit ID 33119/4

Date 1940-1950

Scope and content

Newspaper clippings, many related to the service of Captain Maurice Fox, 2/26th Infantry Battalion, some of which were authored by him.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description 1 folder

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Manuscripts (1945-1950)

Unit ID 33119/5

Date 1945-1950

Scope and content

Typescripts of articles titled: 'Nambour Chronicle P.O.W. articles' - recollections published by Maurice Fox post-captivity.

The articles include:

26 October 1945: [untitled] relating to the moral of prisoners of war, news services, and handmade radio sets.

9 November 1945: Commander Eighth Australian Division, Personal bravery never questioned, by an Eighth Division Officer

16 November 1945: Life in Changi P.O.W. Camp, former British Garrison Area, by an Eighth Division Officer [Part 1]

23 November 1945: Life in Changi P.O.W. Camp, former British Garrison Area, by an Eighth Division Officer [Part 2]

30 November 1945: Life in Changi Camp, Jap difficult outlook and mentality, by an Eighth Division Officer

7 December 1945: Life in Changi, recollections of a guest of Nippon. The most important activity - work, Part IV

21 December 1945: Travel under the Jap. Singapore to Burma and back. Part I. By an Eighth

Division Officer

4 January 1946: Travel under the Jap. Singapore to Burma and back. Part II. By an Eighth Division Officer

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description 1 folder

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Series 3: Map (1941)

Series number 3

Series title Map

Date 1941

Scope and content

Field Map of Singapore and Jahore, maintained by Maurice Fox throughout the entirety of his captivity. The map was kept in the same wallet as his assorted unsent letters and notes. [Item 6]

Description

Description 1 map

Locate MAPCABINET TBA

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

Copyright status In copyright

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Series 4: Newsletters (1940-1941)

Series number 4

Series title Newsletters

Date 1940-1941

Scope and content

Issues of newsletters retained by Maurice Fox relating to his service, with the 2/26th Infantry Battalion and his voyage on board the troopship HMT EE (codename for the Dutch vessel "Marnix van Sint Aldegonde") which sailed to Singapore in August 1941.

Description

Description 2 folders

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

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Items in this series:

Cobbers (1940-1941)

Unit ID 33119/7

Date 1940-1941

Scope and content

Issues of '*Cobbers*' a fortnightly newsletter first published in 1940. Some issues have been added to the holdings of SLQ, see RBS 355.7 001; signed duplicates retained here, others returned to the donor.

Description

Description 1 folder

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

H.M.T. E E Daily News Sheet (August 1941)

Unit ID 33119/8

Date August 1941

Scope and content

Issues of '*H.M.T. E E Daily News Sheet*' a newspaper published on board the troopship HMT EE (codename for the Dutch vessel "Marnix van Sint Aldegonde") which sailed to Singapore in August 1941 with 2012 Australians, including Maurice Fox.

Issues include: 6 August; 8-14 August 1941. A second copy of the final 14 August issue has been autographed by a number of men.

Description

Description 1 folder

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Series 5: Military papers (1939-1945)

Series number 5

Series title Military papers

Date 1939-1945

Scope and content

Miscellaneous papers relating to the service of Maurice Fox during the Second World War. Included are training notes and instructions, routine orders and an application for a commission in the Royal Australian Air Force in Alec Maurice Fox's name. [Item 9]

Description

Description 1 folder

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

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Series 6: Correspondence (24 August 1939-13 April 1941)

Series number 6

Series title Correspondence

Date 24 August 1939-13 April 1941

Scope and content

This series contains letters, notes and other items of correspondence principally written by Maurice Fox to his parents Eric and Annie Fox, in Nambour prior to his embarkation for overseas, as well as several to his soon to be fiancée Patricia Illing. Maurice a qualified solicitor, volunteered for service with the Citizens Military Forces in 1939 and trained with the 9/49th Infantry Battalion, at Redbank, before enlisting with the 2/26th Battalion in 1940.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description Approximately 37 letters

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23985 O/S grey album; and Box 23984 O/S A3 [letter dated 7.10.1940]

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

Copyright status In copyright

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Series 7: Correspondence (21 April - 29 August 1941)

Series number 7

Series title Correspondence

Date 21 April - 29 August 1941

Scope and content

This series contains letters, notes and telegrams principally written by Maurice Fox to his parents Eric and Annie Fox, in Nambour, his brother Alec and his soon to be bride Patricia. Now with the 2/26th Infantry Battalion, Maurice trained at Enoggera, and Redbank in Queensland, then in Bathurst, NSW. After his wedding in April, he embarked with the battalion for Singapore, where he spent the majority of his time at H.Q. 27 Australian Infantry Brigade. The brigade participated in the defence of British Malaya with its headquarters at Kluang, Johore.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description Approximately 49 letters and telegrams

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23986 O/S grey album

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

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Series 8: Correspondence (September - November 1941)

Series number 8

Series title Correspondence

Date September - November 1941

Scope and content

This series contains letters, notes and telegrams principally written by Maurice Fox to his parents Eric and Annie Fox, in Nambour, his brother Alec and his wife Patricia. During this period Maurice spent the majority of his time at H.Q. 27 Australian Infantry Brigade, Singapore. The brigade participated in the defence of British Malaya with its headquarters at Kluang, Johore.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description Approximately 50 letters

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23987 O/S grey album

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access.

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Series 9: Correspondence (December 1941-December 1942)

Series number 9

Series title Correspondence

Date December 1941-December 1942

Scope and content

This series contains letters and telegrams principally written by Maurice Fox to his parents Eric and Annie Fox, in Nambour, his brother Alec and his wife Patricia. Later items are from the Prisoner of War Red Cross Society, and several to Maurice, which he kept while in captivity. Maurice remained at H.Q. 27 Australian Infantry Brigade, until January 1942 when he returned to the 2/26th Infantry Battalion. In February 1942 the family was advised that Maurice was missing, presumed captured and taken a prisoner of war.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Description

Description Approximately 59 letters

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23988 O/S grey album

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

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Series 10: Correspondence (1943-1945)

Series number 10

Series title Correspondence

Date 1943-1945

Scope and content

This series contains letters and cards relating to the captivity and release of Captain Maurice Fox, a prisoner of the Japanese, in Changi Prison, and later employed on the infamous Burma Thailand Railway. A number of the letters that Maurice received and retained were used to record notes on the reverse. Some written by Maurice were unsent. Just prior to the Japanese surrender in August 1945 Maurice wrote a lengthy letter to his wife Patricia detailing his love for her and his hopes for the future. After his recovery from captivity, and while he waited to be returned home, he wrote many letters to his wife and parents, with plans for the future and a growing family.

Author / Creator

Fox, Alec Maurice, 1918-1996

Fox, Patricia Margaret, 1920-1976 ; and

Fox, Annie Lange, 1890-1977

Description

Description 94 letters and cards

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23989 O/S grey album

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access.

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Series 11: Souvenirs, ephemera (1941-1945)

Series number 11

Series title Souvenirs, ephemera

Date 1941-1945

Scope and content

This series contains a collection of souvenirs and booklets relating to the service of Maurice Fox during the Second World War. It includes: occupation currency, signed menu cards, postcards, and a military colour patch for the 2/26th Infantry Battalion.

Description

Description 2 folders

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23983 O/S grey album ; and Box 23989 O/S grey album [postcards]

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

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Series 12: Transcripts (2000-2020)

Series number 12

Series title Transcripts

Date 2000-2020

Scope and content

Two spiral bound manuscripts of transcribed letters by Maurice Fox's daughter Rose O'Brien. Book 1: Maurice Fox - Letters from the Malayan Campaign, July 1941-February 1942 Pre-embarkation to the Fall of Singapore.1941-1942 Book 2: Maurice Fox - PoW Letters and Articles 1942-1945. 'These are the letters, messages and writings of my father Maurice Fox, Captain, 2/26 Battalion A.I.F and "F" Force Thai-Burma Railway construction, sent home between the fall of Singapore in February 1942 and 21 September 1945, the day he embarked on HMT Largs Bay to return home to Brisbane."1942-1945

Description

Description 2 typescripts

Locate OMOSBOX Box 23984 O/S A3

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

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