

# Finding Aid for the Eric Theodore Carlson Papers, 1944-1946

## MS-3498

### Collection Processed by:

*Rachael-Joy F. Cowham, October 10, 2009*

### Finding Aid Written by:

*Rachael-Joy F. Cowham, October 10, 2009*

## OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION:

**Origination/Creator:** Carlson, Eric Theodore  
**Title of Collection:** Eric Theodore Carlson Papers  
**Date of Collection:** 1944-1946  
**Physical Description:** 1.0 linear foot  
**Identification:** MS-3498  
**Repository:** University of Tennessee Special Collections Library,  
Knoxville, TN

**Abstract:** The Eric Theodore Carlson Papers, 1944-1946, document the time span of Eric T. Carlson's life from his graduation from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut in 1944 to his discharge from the U.S. Army in 1946. The time span is documented through personal correspondence and other official documents. The bulk of the collection consists of the personal correspondence between Eric T. Carlson and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carlson who lived in Middletown, Connecticut, and dates from 1944-1946.

## RIGHT AND RESTRICTIONS:

**Access Restrictions:** This collection is open for research.  
**Copyright:** The copyright interests in this collection remain with the creator. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library.  
**Acquisition Method:** This collection was purchased on January 4, 2006.

## BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORY NOTE:

Eric Theodore Carlson ("Ted," "E.T.," "Eric T.") of Middleton, Connecticut was born in 1923. Eric T. Carlson earned his B.A. in chemistry from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut in February, 1944. After graduating, he spent some time teaching at Iowa State College in Ames, Iowa while teaching and studying graduate coursework in chemistry. Eric T. Carlson was married.

Towards the end of WWII on August 1, 1944, Eric T. Carlson was inducted into the U.S. Army at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Shortly after his initial processing, he was ordered to

the Chrysler Corporation of Detroit, Michigan. Eric T. Carlson was then transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps where he remained as a laboratory engineer until he was recalled to active duty at Fort Sheridan, Illinois on October 15, 1945. After basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, he was sent to Oak Ridge, Tennessee where he was assigned to the Monsanto Chemical Company in Dayton, Ohio.

At his request, Mr. Eric T. Carlson was discharged from the U.S. army on April 7, 1946. After his discharge he worked as Research Assistant Chemist for Monsanto Chemical Company in Dayton, Ohio while also editing for The Dayton Scientist.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

The Eric Theodore Carlson papers, 1944-1946, is largely a collection of personal correspondence between Eric T. Carlson and his parents. The collection also contains personal letters written to Eric T. Carlson from friends or other family members. In addition, the collection contains papers from a portion of Eric T. Carlson's time spent at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, and the short time he spent teaching and studying graduate chemistry at Iowa State College in Ames, Iowa. The smaller portion of the collection consists of Eric T. Carlson's papers from his time served in the U.S. Army during WWII, and papers from immediately after his discharge.

Series I is the largest portion of the collection. This series contains the personal correspondence between Eric T. Carlson and his parents Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, and friends or other family members, and dates from 1944-1946. These correspondence papers tell of Eric Carlson's time away from home while he served in the U.S. Army, of places he traveled to, news of family members and friends at home in Connecticut and New York, and two letters from Eric's friends written during their service in the U.S. Navy.

Series II consists of papers accumulated during a portion of Eric T. Carlson's time spent teaching and studying graduate chemistry at Iowa State College in Ames, Iowa, and is dated 1944. This series also contains papers from the Office of the President of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut that recognize Eric T. Carlson's accomplishments in chemistry. This series also holds a letter written to Eric T. Carlson from the Faculty Defense Committee at Wesleyan University concerning student occupational deferment.

Series III contains Eric T. Carlson's papers from his time served in the U.S. Army, and is dated 1944-1946. This series consists of reporting orders including induction papers, papers detailing transfer orders and special assignments, ranking status, a request for discharge, and a commissary card for Eric T. Carlson's wife addressed Dayton, Ohio and dated March 9, 1946.

Series IV is the smallest series of the collection and is dated 1946. This series consists of a Bulletin of the Dayton Association of Scientists, edited by E.T. Carlson during his

employment as Research Assistant Chemist with the Monsanto Chemical Company in Dayton, Ohio.

**CONTAINER LIST:**

**Series I: Correspondence of Eric T. Carlson, 1944-1946**

*Subseries A: Letters from Eric T. Carlson, 1944-1946*

Box 1 Folder 1: To Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, 1944-1946

*Subseries B: Letters to Eric T. Carlson, 1944-1945*

Box 1 Folder 2: From Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, 1944-1945  
Folder 3: From Sam, 1944-1945  
Folder 4: From Bob, 1944-1945  
Folder 5: From Rog, 1944  
Folder 6: From Al, 1945  
Folder 7: From Chet, 1945  
Folder 8: From Ariel and Dot, 1945

**Series II: Eric Theodore Carlson pre army service papers, 1944**

*Subseries A: Iowa State College papers, 1944*

Box 1 Folder 9: Iowa State College Department of Chemistry papers, 1944

*Subseries B: Wesleyan University papers, 1944*

Box 1 Folder 10: Faculty Defense Committee papers, 1944  
Folder 11: Honors recognition, 1944

**Series III: Eric Theodore Carlson army service papers, 1944-1946**

*Subseries A: Army Service Forces induction papers, 1944*

Box 1 Folder 12: Orders to report, 1944  
Folder 13: Army Service Forces, 1944-1946  
Folder 14: Special Engineer Detachment, 1945-1946  
Folder 15: Request for discharge, 1946  
Folder 16: Patterson Field, Fairfield, Ohio, 1946

**Series IV: Eric Theodore Carlson post army service papers, 1946**

*Subseries A: The Dayton Scientist, 1946*

Box 1 Folder 17: Bulletin of The Dayton Association of Scientists, 1946