Ephemera, Art Work, Illustrations in the Wolfe-Ulmer Family Papers

Browse the Calendar of selected quotes from the letters to identify dates/locations of various postcards, ephemera, letterhead stationery and other illustrations available in this collection. [For details of the 560 photographs, dated 1885-1950, in this collection, see list of Photographs / Visual Materials.]

Several postcards in the collection promote hotels in Florida and nightclubs in New York; letterhead stationery (many illustrated with airplanes and military insignia), and several regimental Christmas cards, including an example featuring the logo of the 44th Bomber Group, known as the “Flying Eight Balls.” The card features a color illustration of Santa Claus dressed in a brown flight suit riding a winged eight-ball attached to a bomb, identified as originating “From somewhere in England.”

Illustrated letterhead stationery from the Columbia, S.C., businesses of both the Ulmer and Wolfe families consists of several 1937 letters of the Ulmer family real estate business, Jack Ulmer, Inc., which featured an illustration the ornate

A small amount of original art work documents the talented soldiers who painted the nose art on planes and often made extra money illustrating cards and letters using ink or water color. The collection includes several sketches and cartoons on envelopes, several Easter greeting cards, and a card dated, 7 Feb. 1945, illustrated with a watercolor image of a thatched cottage in a jungle setting titled, “Ollie’s home, Mulucca [Island].” Another letter dated, 12 Oct. 1944, from Oliver Wolfe was sent in a hand-painted, full-color illustrated envelope depicting a watercolor image of girl in a grass skirt chasing a soldier. This marked the second of at least two letters with artwork in this hand. Wolfe wrote the associated letter on a sheet of large-format, captured Japanese stationery, printed with several Kanji characters.

Ephemera includes letter, 30 Sept. 1942 (Southern Pines, N.C.) from Oliver Wolfe to his fiance, Marie Ulmer, enclosing an early computer punchcards with
the names and address of friends and family, created using the “new IBM equipment”; a clipping announcing Marie Ulmer as the winner in the “Popular Baby Contest” (9 Apr. 1922, Columbia Record); Oliver Wolfe’s USC student photo identification card for “first semester, 1938-1939… For admission to all home athletic games”; a ticket from the Clemson – Carolina game, 23 Oct. 1941; two printed regimental booklets celebrating Victory in Japan: Club 13 Jungle Air Force [1945] (featuring images of the men in the Molucca Islands and elsewhere); and Jungle Air Force Celebrates V-J (1945), published by the Public Relations Office; and tickets, a program, and passes for Bessie Ulmer to attend the 1949 inauguration of President Harry Truman.