

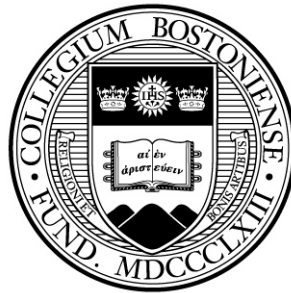
# Roland J. Regan Collection of World War II Photographs and Memorabilia

1943-1945

MS.2000.012

<http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/MS2000-012>

---



Archives and Manuscripts Department

John J. Burns Library  
Boston College  
140 Commonwealth Avenue  
Chestnut Hill 02467  
[library.bc.edu/burns/contact](http://library.bc.edu/burns/contact)  
URL: <http://www.bc.edu/burns>

---

## Table of Contents

---

Summary Information .....	3
Administrative Information .....	4
Biographical Note .....	5
Scope and Contents .....	5
Arrangement .....	6
Collection Inventory .....	7
I: Photographs .....	7
II: Artifacts .....	7
III: Printed materials .....	7

---

## Summary Information

---

<b>Creator:</b>	Regan, Roland J.
<b>Title:</b>	Roland J. Regan collection of World War II photographs and memorabilia
<b>Collection Identifier:</b>	MS.2000.012
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1943-1945
<b>Physical Description</b>	1.25 Linear feet (2 boxes)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Roland J. Regan collection documents Regan's service in the U.S. Army during World War II. The collection consists primarily of photographs taken by Regan in England, France, and Germany from 1943-1945. It also includes U. S. Army memorabilia and German military artifacts.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of item, Box number, Folder number, Roland J. Regan Collection of World War II Photographs and Memorabilia, MS.2000.012, John J. Burns Library, Boston College.

---

## **Administrative Information**

---

### **Publication Information**

Processed by Rachel Ernst in 2018. This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace.

### **Restrictions on access**

Collection is open for research.

### **Provenance**

Gift of Roland J. Regan (2000).

### **Restrictions on use**

These materials are made available for use in research, teaching and private study, pursuant to U.S. Copyright Law. The user must assume full responsibility for any use of the materials, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced materials. Any materials used for academic research or otherwise should be fully credited with the source. The original authors may retain copyright to the materials.

---

## Biographical Note

---

Roland J. Regan, Sr. was born in Lynn, Massachusetts in December of 1922. In January 1943, he entered the U.S. Army and was assigned to the 348th Engineer Combat Battalion (the 348th later combined with the 150th Engineer Combat Battalion). He was an amateur photographer and had accumulated by war's end some 350 pictures. From 1944-1945 his battalion engaged in the D-Day invasion, Battle of the Bulge, River War campaigns, and several concentration camp liberations. After the war, Regan was a firefighter in Lynn, Massachusetts for 34 years before retiring as a Lieutenant.

Sources:

Mauriello, Christopher E. and Roland J. Regan Jr. *From Boston to Berlin: A Journey through World War II in Images and Words*. Purdue University Press, 2001.

---

## Scope and Contents

---

The Roland J. Regan collection documents Regan's experiences during World War II largely through photographs accompanied by military memorabilia.

The photographs from 1943 show Regan in combat engineer training in Wales and England, including photos at the Lakenheath/Mildenhall RAF base. The photos from 1944 document Regan and his fellow combat engineers at the 348th Army Engineering combat battalion HQ in southern England, unloading supplies on Utah Beach during the week after D-Day, and in Paris in the fall of 1944. The photographs from 1945 show the close of the war in Germany, including Regan and fellow combat engineers building pontoon bridges across the Rhine, Elbe, and Sauer rivers, posing with German artillery, and meeting the Russian army, as well as the aftermath of the liberation of concentration camps. (The index in the collection lists the Dachau and Luekenswig concentration camps; the book by Roland J. Regan, Jr. and Christopher Mauriello identify some of the same images as taken at the Wöbbelin concentration camp outside Ludwigslust.)

The artifacts series includes both U.S. and German military memorabilia. The U.S. military memorabilia includes Regan's military emblems, ribbon bar, and dog tag. The German memorabilia includes a knife, pins, and belt buckles; all the German artifacts bear a swastika or SS symbol.

The printed materials comprise a history of the 150th Engineer Combat Battalion produced by battalion staff immediately after the war.

---

## Arrangement

---

The Roland J. Regan Collection is arranged into three series: I. Photographs, II. Artifacts, and III. Printed Materials.

---

# Collection Inventory

---

## Series I: Photographs, 1943-1945

### Arrangement

Chronological.

Regan's index, undated	box 1	folder 1
1943	box 1	folder 3
1944	box 1	folder 4
1945	box 1	folder 5-7

## Series II: Artifacts, 1943-1945

### Arrangement

Alphabetical.

German infantry belt buckles (2), 1943-1945	box 2	Item 2-3
German officer tunic pin , 1943-1945	box 2	Item 6
Hitler Youth knife, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 1
Nazi pin, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 8
People's Fuhrer pin, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 11
Pin, goat's head, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 9
Regan's dog tag, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 5
Regan's emblems: 150th and 348th Combat Battalion emblem; 348th Amphibious; 348th emblem; Time in Service, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 4
Regan's Good Conduct and European Theater ribbons, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 7
SS officer tunic button, 1943-1945	box 2	Item 10

## Series III: Printed materials, 1945

150th Engineer Combat Battation History, 1945 July	box 1	folder 2
--	-------	----------