

E 68

Cobalt Club fonds

Original, 2 cm, 1941-1946.

Scope and Content:

Series E 68/1/1: Correspondence, 2 cm, 1941-1966 (original).

One file of correspondence received by the Cobalt Club between 1941 and 1946. Most of the collection is a combination of either typed or hand written letters. There are also 6 postcard sized 'package received' notices for cigarette shipments to troops, and 2 copies of a Canadian National Railways 'Straight Bill of Lading' for 2 cartons of clothing being sent from Port Arthur to the HMCS Weyburn and HMCS Rosthern. Part of the correspondence is thank-you letters from commanding officers of various vessels which received 'comforts' from the Cobalt Club, and a few notes from individual sailors. There is also official correspondence from the Navy League of Canada, which coordinated the 'comfort' donations, and a copy of guidelines for Red Triangle Club volunteers. Organized chronologically.

Biographical Sketch:

The Cobalt Club of Port Arthur's purpose was to provide 'comforts' in the form of knitted woollens, cigarettes, magazines, and 'ditty bags' to sailors serving aboard Canadian naval vessels during the Second World War. While named after the Corvette Cobalt, the Cobalt Club provided these comforts to the crews of many other vessels including the HMCS Kenogami, HMCS Rosthern, HMCS Weyburn, HMCS Oakville, HMCS Morden, and the HMCS Algoma. Members of the Cobalt Club also volunteered at the YMCA's Red Triangle Club for men.

The Cobalt Club was affiliated with the Navy League of Canada, answer a general appeal for comforts by that organization as part of the war effort. Donations of comforts that were produced or collected by the Cobalt Club were distributed by the Navy League, and the Navy League was also the Cobalt Club's source for wool (a commodity that was in short supply during the war years).

Additional Information:

Custodial History: donated to the museum by Carson F. Piper.

Associated Material: see 88.59 (photographs, pamphlets, etc.) also donated by Piper.