



MG 593 - Jack Quinlan fonds.

Dates: nd, 1935-1953 (inclusive); 1938-1944 (predominant).

Extent: 3 cm of textual records, 31 photographs, memorabilia.

Biographical Note: John Michael (“Jack”) Quinlan was born on 28 July 1915, in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. His father, a bank accountant and manager, moved the family frequently: Jack’s elementary education was taken in Melfort, Winnipeg and “points west;” but in the 1930s the family moved to Prince Albert, where they remained. Quinlan worked for the Bank of Nova Scotia and in 1935, passed his examinations to become an Associate of the Canadian Bankers’ Association (Queen’s University), and worked for the PA Herald prior to attending the University of Saskatchewan, where he obtained both a BA and LL.B (1941). Upon graduating, he immediately joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. After a training course in PEI Quinlan was stationed in England; in early 1944 he was sent to North Africa. He died on 4 March 1944.

Scope and content: This fonds contains materials relating to the life of Jack Quinlan. It includes photographs of his years as a student at the University of Saskatchewan, but predominantly reflects his time with the RCAF. It is notable for the letters of condolence sent to his family following his death, which provide clear evidence of the extent to which one family’s loss was felt throughout the community.

Arrangement: This fonds has been organized into 4 series:

1. Personal
2. Family
3. World War II
4. Photographs

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on access.

This includes accessions 2016-155 and 2017-015.

Title based on contents of the fonds.

Donated to the University Archives & Special Collections by Kathleen Quinlan.

Guide prepared by Cheryl Avery, 2017.



Personal

1. **Correspondence.** – nd, 1941.
Poem (undated); together with partially torn letter, sent to Jack while he lived in Toronto, from “Ann” (in Montreal).
2. **Education.** – 1935, 1940-1941.
Associate of the Canadian Bankers’ Association certificate (Queen’s University); photocopied pages from the 1941 convocation programme, University of Saskatchewan. Also included (probably taken from photograph album – see below, Photographs) is a programme for a “Complimentary Banquet to FC Cronkite on his completion of ten successful years as Dean of Law.” Jack Quinlan was chairman and represented the law students; Justice Maclean, WJ Perkins, JS Thomson, and Arthur Moxon were all participants.

Family

1. **Correspondence.** – nd.
Partial letter; unsigned. Includes comments such as “I have not heard from Jack ...” ... “I had a nice letter from Sister Mary Rose. She enquired for Jack and wanted his address...”. Other comments refer to (Jack’s sister) Patricia: all suggesting a relative or family friend as the author.
2. **Correspondence – Minister of Natural Resources.** – 1953. – photocopy.
Letter from JH Quinlan to John Brockelbank, then Minister of Natural Resources, concerning the naming of an island in honour of Jack Quinlan.
3. **Prince Albert Daily Herald.** – 18 December 1947.
Front page article on JH Quinlan, Jack Quinlan’s father, upon his retirement as manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia in Prince Albert.

World War II

1. **Certificate – Operational Wings.** – August 1946.
Posthumously awarded to Quinlan “in recognition of gallant service in action against the enemy.”
2. **Correspondence from Jack.** – nd, 1942-1944.
3. **Correspondence – Royal Canadian Air Force.** –4 March – 6 July 1944. – textual records, 1 photograph.
Telegram advising of Jack’s death; letters providing additional information regarding the death of Quinlan; together with a photograph of his grave, taken at the funeral service (overseas). A particularly moving letter was written by John Carey, another serviceman, the night following Jack’s death.



4. **Letters of Condolence.** – March-April 1944.
5. **Memorabilia.** – 1941-ca. 1943. – textual records, 1 photograph, 1 artifact.
Photocopy of Jack Quinlan’s attestation papers; his copy of “Canada’s Air Heritage” and RCAF wing patch; photograph of Jack Quinlan in uniform.
6. **Prince Albert Daily Herald.** – 8 March 1944.
Front page notification of Jack’s death.

Photographs

Many of these were taken from album that belonged to Jack Quinlan. He was extremely active during his time at the University – he played hockey and basketball (for law) and was on the Huskies football team; he was manager of the Huskies basketball team; served on the Men’s Athletic Board; was on the House Committee for Qu’Appelle Hall; received a social award (Honor Award); was president of the Deo et Patriae club and was Law representative on the SRC. These images convey a small sample of his student days, his activities and his friends.

Where an individual has been identified, any images with that individual have been added to the Portraits section. [The formal function noted in item 1 below may have been the Complimentary Banquet to FC Cronkite: see above, Education.]

1. **Dance – University of Saskatchewan.** – [ca. 1930s-1941.] – 4 photographs.
Three photographs are of a formal function:
 - a man “dancing” with a light stand;
 - two people seated;
 - two couples: the men standing, the women seated.The other photograph is of a less formal dance. No identification provided.
2. **Football – University of Saskatchewan.** – 3 photographs.
Two images of a game in progress; one a close-up of player number 14 being tackled.
3. **Football – Ragnar “Rags” Johnsson – University of Saskatchewan.** – 1 photograph.
4. **Portraits – Derick Bodington.** – [ca. 1930s-1941]. – 1 photograph.
5. **Portraits – Bernice Cook.** – 2 photographs.
In formal dress [at a U of Sask function] with unidentified man. Note indicates she married Senator Dave Stewart. Second image is of Sheaf or Greystone staff at work.
6. **Portraits – Chuck Davidson.** – [ca. 1930s-1941]. – 3 photographs.
 - At U of Sask;



- Group photo, with Bill Allen, Art Davidson and three unidentified individuals [picnic?]
 - In uniform, seated at desk [in residence?] – September 1940.
7. **Portraits – Pauline Margaret Erwin [Irwin?].** – 1936. – 1 photograph.
U of Sask Accounting.
8. **Portraits – Polly Irwin and Bill Grainger.** – 1 Jan 1942. – 1 photograph.
Bill Grainger is in uniform.
9. **Portraits – Jack Quinlan.** – 4 photographs.
- Seated, holding rabbit;
 - In uniform; with three other [unidentified] individuals [Saskatoon or PA];
 - In costume; with three other [unidentified] individuals – U of Sask;
 - In formal dress / photo booth with [unidentified] woman – [U of Sask function]
10. **Portraits – Siddons.** – [ca. 1930s-1941]. – 1 photograph.
In U of Sask sweater; with electrical equipment [in lab].
11. **Portraits – Unidentified.** – 2 photographs.
- Couple, wearing skates; [at U of Sask].
 - Man; see also “Unidentified – Sergeant Bill”
12. **Portraits – Unidentified – “Sergeant Bill.”** – 1 photograph.
Two women and two men outside; with goat. Material included by donor about “Sergeant Bill.”
13. **Portraits – Dave Wood.** – nd. – 1 photograph.
In front of cabin.
14. **University of Saskatchewan – Students.** – 2 photographs.
- Staff of Sheaf or Greystone at work [posed];
 - Male students in dorm room; beer bottles on table.
15. **WWII.** – [ca. 1939-41]. - 3 photographs.
- Portrait of unidentified man in uniform;
 - Two images of 5 men aboard the [Nellie J King ?]