Rose Stauber Addenda
(SP0039)

Collection Number: SP0039

Collection Title: Rose Stauber Addenda

Dates: 1966-1973

Creator: Stauber, Ruby Rose, 1928-2018

Abstract: The Rose Stauber Addenda collection includes photographs taken by Ruby “Rose” Stauber. They include photographs of her time in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967 and life in the Women’s Army Corps from 1966 to 1973. Also documented are the places and people she encountered in her world travels during this same period.

Collection Size: 2 cubic feet
(46 folders, 1 oversize, 1,742 slides, 29 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield. If you would like more information, please contact us at springfield@shsмо.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Rose Stauber Addenda (SP0039); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].
**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Shirley McCallister on March 20, 2018 (Accession No. SPA0046).

**Related Material:** Additional Materials related to the Rose Stauber Addenda can be found in the following collection:

- *Ruby Rose Stauber Photographs* (SP0014)
- *Rose Stauber Papers* (SP0015)

**Processed by:** Processed by Erin Smither, October 2, 2018

**Historical Note:**

Ruby Rose Stauber was born on August 6, 1928, on the Stauber farm near Noel, Missouri. Rose was the oldest child of Anna Pearl Rose Stauber (1905-1971) and Martin Stevens Stauber (1903-1992). Graduating from Noel High School in 1946, Rose went on to Southwest Missouri State University (now Missouri State University) graduating in 1949. She then taught eighth and ninth grade in Springfield before enlisting in the army in 1951. She had a 31-year career in the Women’s Army Corps (WAC) where she commanded at platoon, company, and battalion level. She was one of the first female officers, public affairs officer for V Corps, editor-in-chief of *Military Review*, deputy public affairs officer for the U.S. European command, and commander/editor-in-chief of *Stars and Stripes*.

In 1952, Rose joined the Women’s Army Corps (WAC). The Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) was established in 1941 to work with the U.S. Army. Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts championed the WAAC as an equal opportunity for women to serve in the army. In 1943, the WAAC was converted into the Women’s Army Corps (WAC) and incorporated into the U.S. Army. When the WAC bill was signed into law on July 3, 1943, WAC service members gained officers rankings and overseas pay equal to men. WACs served around the world in a myriad of critical positions for the duration of the war. Over 150,000 American women served in the army during World War II and were a crucial part of the war effort. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act. The act established a permanent place for women in the armed forces. By 1951, when Rose Stauber joined the Women’s Army Corps, this law was in effect and the WAC increased its recruitment goals.

During her service, Rose served at several U.S. military bases: Fort Lee, Virginia, Fort McClellan, Alabama, Fort Slocum, New York, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Collectively, she served four tours overseas, eleven of those years in Germany and one tour in Vietnam, April 1966 to April 1967. While in Vietnam, Stauber served under General Westmoreland as a public affairs officer. She also served as the in-country distributor of the *Stars and Stripes*. Stationed in Saigon, Stauber made trips to other military
bases in Vietnam. An avid photographer, Stauber documented her time in Vietnam through a series of photographs that can be seen in the collection.

While in the army, Rose earned her master’s degree in journalism from the University of Missouri (1968). During her service, she earned the Bronze Star and Legion of Merit. She retired in 1982 and returned to the home, which had been constructed during her last tour in Germany. Soon after, Rose attended a family reunion and was designated the family historian, thus beginning her work in genealogy. What began as personal family research eventually led to aiding others in their searches. This research led to a series of publications on local cemeteries and local history. Rose Stauber passed away in 2018.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following three series:

- Slides
- Manuscripts
- Oversize

**Scope and Content Note:**

**Slides**

This series contains slides documenting Rose’s service in the Vietnam War, some of her international travel, and also documents her time on domestic bases in the United States. The series has been arranged chronologically.

**Manuscripts**

This series consists of physical photographs of Rose, some of her artistic photography, newspaper clippings about Rose and her accomplishments, as well as the desk plaque identifying her as the editor of the *Stars and Stripes*. This series has been arranged chronologically.

**Oversize**

This series consists of oversize artistic photographs taken by Rose and entered into competitions. Most of them were award winners. They are presented in their original order.

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