

**General Edwin L. Little (1918 – 2004)**  
**Papers, 1933-1989**  
**MSA 332-333, Size C**

**Introduction**

The collection holds papers and photographs documenting the military service of Brigadier General Edwin L. Little (1933-2004) of Poultney and Fair Haven, Vermont. The collection includes several different types of Air Force documents and records from 1942 through 1970 as well as information on Little's aircraft and some of his duty stations and units. The collection also includes details of a project Little directed to erect several monuments in the Fair Haven Veterans Memorial Park. The collection was given to the Vermont Historical Society by General Little in 2002 (museum acc. no. 2002.21) and 2003 (ms. acc. no. 2003.7); additional materials were added to the collection by Little's son Brad in 2005. The collection is stored in two flip top archival boxes and consumes 1 linear foot of shelf space; it also includes one magnetic reel-to-reel audio tape and one oversized folder.

**Biographical Note**

Edwin Loren Little was born in North Poultney, Vermont, on October 24, 1918, son of Charles and Jessie (Streeter) Little. Early in his life, at age 10, Little came to the rescue of a downed flyer in need of water. His assistance earned him a brief ride in the aircraft and turned young Little's mind towards flying. At another time, Little persuaded his mother to take in a young pilot as a boarder in exchange for flying lessons for Edwin. These incidents changed his life forever and he went on a quest to become a pilot himself.

Little began his military career in the early days of World War II when he earned his pilot's wings and flew 25 bombing missions over Europe. He named his B-17 bomber "Green Mountain Rambler" after his native state, making it perhaps the only bomber in World War II named for the State of Vermont. He continued in this career after the war, received a commission in the regular Army, and entered the US Air Force at its inception. His duties took him to several locations in the US and Europe. While on assignment in Germany, Little flew missions during the Berlin airlift. He rose from pilot to squadron leader and up through group commander, mostly in supply and logistics units. General Little retired from the service in 1970 and passed away in 2004.

See Folder 0 for extensive additional information about Little's life and military career.

**Scope and Content**

General Little saved many records from his service to his nation. His files contain the entire history of his time spent in the various aircraft he flew, from training during World War II to his final flying hours in 1966. After his bombing missions over Europe, Little returned to the states and became an instructor, teaching others to fly with and without instruments. Other records trace his assignments and his advancement along a professional military career path. After the war, Little participated in the Berlin airlift. He entered the world of supply and logistics and followed that path to the rank of brigadier general. The collection also has some

insights into the life of a commanding officer. At the end of his military career, he lent his knowledge and talents to designing, procuring, constructing, and dedicating a veteran's memorial park in Fair Haven, VT.

## Inventory

- MSA 332:01 Biographical information  
 :02 Individual Flight Records, 1942 – 1965  
 :03 World War II Years  
 :04 513th Tactical Control Group and the Berlin Airlift  
 :05 Education and Training  
 :06 Air War College, 1958 - 1959  
 :07 Alaskan Air Command, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 1959 – 1963  
*Includes photographs*  
 :08 2802 Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group, Newark, Ohio, 1966-68  
*Includes photographs*  
 :09 Going Away Party, Newark, Ohio, 1968  
*Includes photographs*  
 :10 SMAMA, McClellan AFB, 1969 – 1970  
*Includes photographs*  
 :11 Promotion to Brigadier General, 1968  
 :12 Retirement, 1970  
*Includes photographs from career*  
 :13 Aircraft Flown During Air Force Career  
*Fact sheets added by processor*  
 :14 Personal Correspondence, 1955-70  
 :15 Misc. Newspaper Clippings and Photos
- MSA 333:01 Official Officer Unit Personnel Record Group, 1966-69  
*Includes WWII chronology by Little*  
 :02 Aircrew Standardization/Evaluation Records, 1962-63, 1967  
 :03 Official Orders, 1943-44, 1963  
 :04 Promotion History, 1943-56  
 :05.1 Awards and Letters of Commendation  
 :05.2 *305<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (H)*, Turner Publishing, 1997. Edwin Little is pictured on page 51.
- Size C Certificate, “Good Boss Award,” Middletown Air Materiel Area, 1966  
 Lifetime membership, Air War College Alumni Association, 1981  
 3 photographs, General Little’s plane in flight during World War II.  
 :06 Fair Haven Veterans Memorial Park, 1987-89  
*Includes photographs.*  
 :07 \_\_\_\_\_, Plans and Rosters, World War II  
 :08 \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Korea  
 :09 \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Vietnam  
 :10 Fair Haven High School football photographs, circa. 1934

Reel R36: Scotch Magnetic Tape, 1/4 inch x 1200 feet, "Little's Retirement Party"

Dwight Harrington

August 2011; rev. October 2015; rev. April 2017; rev. January 2020

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