

# Alexander, Lucian W. Diary

Lucian W. Alexander Diary

1942-1943

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## Title Statement

Alexander, Lucian W. DiaryGuide to the Lucian W. Alexander Diary SC 01029

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## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-07-29 07:03:23 -0400.

**Language Usage:** The collection description/finding aid is written in English

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

SC 01029

### Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/997

### Unit Date

1942-1943

### Language

English

### Creator

Alexander, Lucian W.

### Extent

0.01 Linear Foot

### Repository

Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

### **Conditions Governing Access:**

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### **Acquisition Information:**

Acc. 2011.647 was received by the SCRC via USPS on 10/25/2011.

### **Processing Information:**

Accessioned and minimally described by Steven Bookman, University Archives Specialist, in October 2011. Finding aid description added and additional processing by Jonathan Katora, in July 2013.

### **Preferred Citation:**

Lucian W. Alexander Diary, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

## **Biographical Information:**

Further information about this individual or organization may be available in the Special Collections Research Center Wiki: [http://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/Lucian\\_W.\\_Alexander](http://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/Lucian_W._Alexander)

## **Scope and Contents**

Diary, 1942-1943, of Corporal Lucian W. Alexander while he was stationed in India during World War II. Alexander was member of the 679th Signal Corps of the United States Army. The diary contains 46 handwritten pages, 10 of those are itinerary pages of places he visited, 8 pages contain more descriptive entries, and last section of the diary contains 28 pages of autographs and addresses.

## **Keywords**

Diaries  
India--Description and travel  
India--History--20th century  
South Africa--Description and travel  
World War, 1939-1945--United States--Regimental Histories  
United States. Army. Signal Corps

## **Arrangement of Materials:**

This collection is not yet fully arranged and described. Researchers may wish to consult with a staff member for further information in advance of using the collection.

## **Description of Subordinate Components**

### **Diary**

**Unit ID** id112164

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/98249

**Unit Date** 1942-1943

**Mixed Materials** Small Collections Box 69 (Box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

### **Scope and Contents**

Contains the diary of Corporal Lucian Alexander, a World War II army soldier service in the 679th signal

corps in Assam India. the back inside cover of the diary says it was purchased November, 16th 1942 in Tezpur, India. The diary contains a chronological description of events that took place during Lucian Alexander's time in India. Entries are back dated from May 1942 documenting Cpl. Alexander's transfer to the 679th and continue to July 1943 and Cpl. Alexander's orders to return to the states. Entries include descriptions of travel from Florida to Assam India, with stops in Bermuda and South Africa, Cpl. Alexander's final reporting to the 679th Signal corps after being lost in his transit up the Brahmaputra river, Cpl. Alexander's rest and relaxation time in India, and day-to-day activities as a soldier in the 679th signal corps. The diary also includes an undated description of Cpl. Alexander's stations while serving in the 679th. Cpl Alexander describes the location of the four major air warning stations his company operated. Also included in the description is work with Gurkha and Indian rifle soldiers, and experiences with native Assam tribes. The diary also contains addresses of 80 additional personnel, each with unique handwriting. Names are presumed to be from other 679th members, with a few entries from Gurkha and 3rd India Rifle battalion personnel. Examples of his diary entries: Oct 9th: Left Karachi by rail Oct 14th: arrived at Calcutta Oct 28th: Left Calcutta by river boat mingin. Up the river Brahmaputra Nov 16th: Port at Jazpur (Jaipur, Assam India). Eat dinner on Barge Nov 19th: Stop for nite. Went ashore. Bought chicken and eggs. Natives never saw steam boat nor white man before. Thought victrola was a god. They danced on board the steamer Mingin. What dancing Nov 21st. Sat nite. learned to count to 10 in hindu stoni by acting as coolie boy putting coal on the steamer counting sticks. 1 stick equals 1 mont. counting sticks for pass time. No white women for duration. Wonder what the 4f boys are doing? Aneta Nov 24th Arrived at Dubijon after traveling for a month. Given up lost by staff can't get our mail. can't even get ashore, company all parts of India. Don't even know where my platoon is. Luck to us. Pulled through after being Give up to be bead I suppose. Luckey 6. Nov 25th For the mail about 8 or 10 miles and didnt even get it. Was I disappointed & tired. One letter means a lot to a soldier in India. but I am dead the gov thinks. Nov 26th thanksgiving. working unloading trucks from Borge but thankful to be living but jam india I guess I'll be in japan next. wish I could see anete