

BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

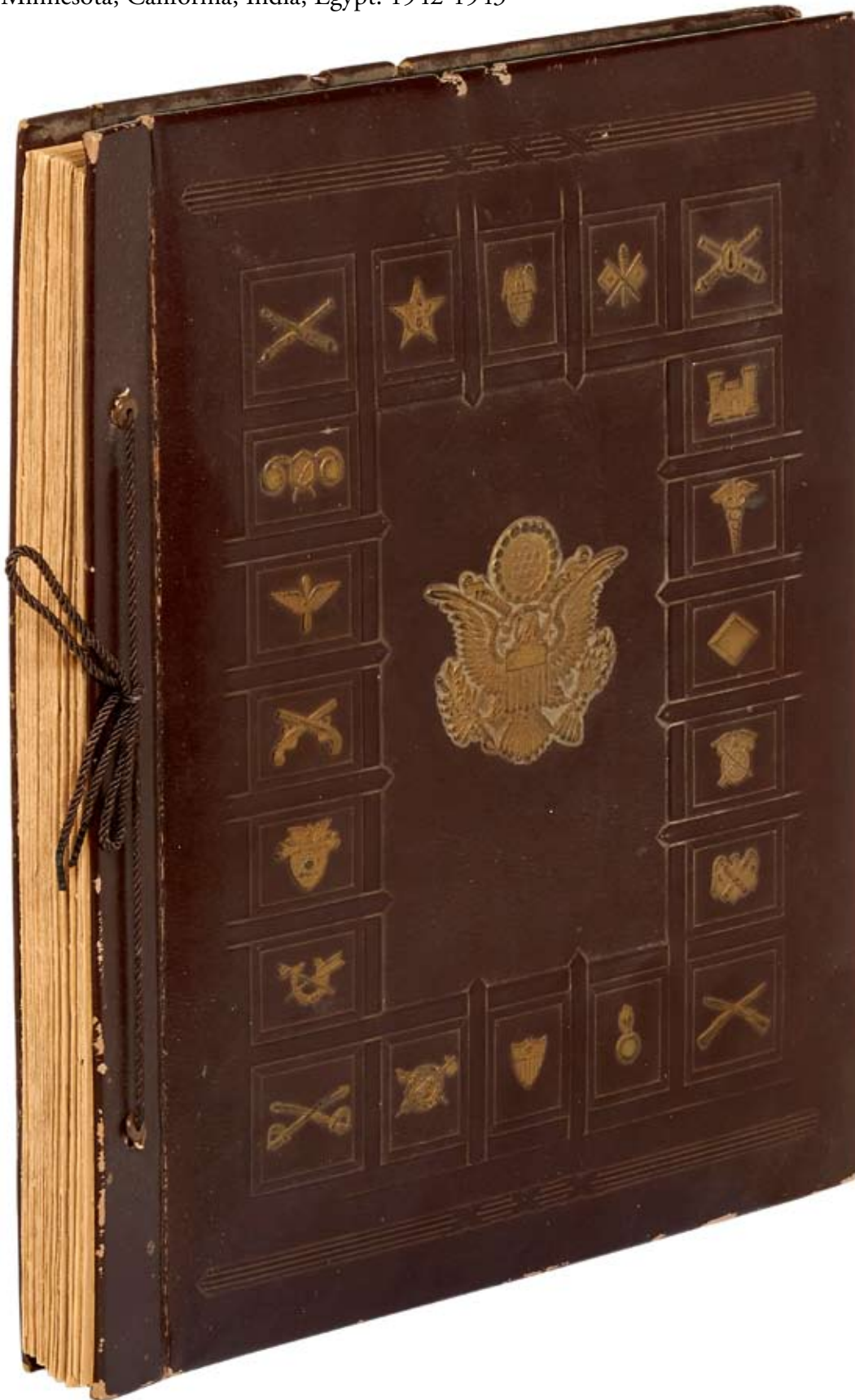
112 Nicholson Rd, Gloucester City, NJ 08030 (856) 456-8008 betweenthecovers.com

Captain Daniel A. Watkins

[Photo Album]: World War II

Minnesota, California, India, Egypt: 1942-1943

\$500



Folio. String-tied brown leather over paper boards with gilt decorations. A collection of 80 black and white photos various sizes measuring between 1" x 1½" to 8" x 17" with captions. Near fine with some wear on the edges and rubbing. A photo album and scrapbook kept by Captain Daniel A. Watkins during World War II while he was stationed with the Railway Engineers in the 702nd Railway Guard Division of the Army. The beginning of the album is a five page handwritten timeline that keeps a detailed account of Watkins' time with the service starting with basic training at Fort Snelling in Minnesota in October of 1942. From there he left for California and in December he was aboard a ship out of San Francisco which made stops at Pearl Harbor, New Zealand, Australia, and India before depositing the troops in the Middle Eastern theater. "On this voyage there were about 6800 troops and about 1000 ships crew which made it very congested."

On landing in New Zealand he writes, “even if we were away from home it felt grand to have your feet on good old mother nature.” The photos show the various ports, camps, and cities where Watkins was stationed including Cairo and Bombay. A group of photos from Egypt shows local children in a town square, the Sphinx, Blue Mosque, and soldiers posing in uniforms in front of various barracks. One particularly nice photo shows a group of soldiers and their guide in front of one of the great Pyramids. Tipped in is an government pamphlet about “Trading with the enemy,” a newspaper, and Watkins assignment memo from the war office in August of 1942. There are a few group photos of the entire company, some women including photo booth strips, and currency from India. One of the last entries in Watkins’ timeline tells about an “accident” he doesn’t elaborate on which left him in the army hospital in Iran.



An interesting account of the Northern Africa and Middle Eastern theaters of war during 1942 and 1943. [\[BTC#399243\]](#)



Shell Back Certificate



Birthday Remembrance made by the enlisted men.





Merry Christmas from Ray

Oct 10, 1942 had orders to proceed to Fort Snelling Minn. arrived St Paul 7³⁰ AM Oct 11, 1942 took taxi to the Fort. Reported to Railway Engineers and was taken to Officer's mess by a corporal and was given quarters there. Went to bed and rested until noon and then had dinner. At 4³⁰ PM reported to Chamber Commerce Bldg, St Paul. Oct 17, 1942 started basic training under Col Decker who was assisted by Lt. E. L. Kelley.

Oct 28, 1942 finished basic training.

Oct 27, 1942, Lt Ainar reported to our company. Was transferred from Clovis, N. Ms.

Nov. 6, 1942 Ray came to St Paul and we stayed at Hotel Frederic. Was like a second honeymoon.

Nov. 15, 1942 Ray left for home.

Nov. 16, 1942 Farewell dinner and dance were given to 702 Railway Grand Division at Hotel Ryan, St Paul.

Nov. 17, 1942 Left Fort Snelling about 6³⁰ PM by train. arrived Pittsburg Calif Nov 21 about 4³⁰ PM, Camp Stoneham.

Nov 22, 1942 Officers made up a party at the Officer's Club and invited a group of nurses. Eighteen nurses had just arrived in the morning of Nov. 22.

Nov 23, 1942 An invitation was given to the Captain of the nurses for two army nurses and three officers for a goose dinner. This invitation was given Major Harren and he said that the three officers who had gone to the nurses quarters and made arrangements for the party, should go to the dinner. These three officers who went to the dinner were Capt Daggatt Capt Mills and myself. The dinner was given by two sisters who were nurses at the Columbia Steel Co, at Pittsburg Calif. Had goose and wild duck dinner stuffed with wild rice. A very delicious meal and plenty to drink.

Nov 29, 1942 visited the Elbe at Pittsburg Calif. The two nurses Minerva & Leticia Hunning took Joe Ainar and me to San Francisco in the afternoon and evening.

Nov. 30, 1942 took a lunch and made a day of it but weather was foggy and rain which

St Brown & myself

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Certain Regulations applying
to United States citizens
with particular reference to

TRADING
with the
ENEMY

Embassy of the
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Montevideo Uruguay

September 1943





3-773

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

TAC:1346

IN REPLY REFER TO AG 201 Watkins, Daniel Alexander WASHINGTON
(8-22-42)RA

August 22, 1942

SUBJECT: Temporary Appointment.

TO: Mr. Daniel Alexander Watkins,
738 Fifth Avenue,
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania.

A 0-491627

(Temp. Appointed Captain AUS)