

**Collection Name:**

Camp Little Norway Association papers, 1941-1947

Collection Number:

P0466

Extent:

3.8 cubic feet (10 archive boxes)

308.4 GB

Date:

1941-1947

Biography/History:

The Camp Little Norway Association, Inc. (C.L.N.A.) supported Norwegian armed forces and civilians during and shortly after World War II. It was established in 1941 after a group of American citizens of Norwegian descent from Minneapolis visited Camp Little Norway, a training facility for the Royal Norwegian Air Force located in Toronto, Canada. The C.L.N.A. raised funds for occupied Norway and Norwegian nationals in Canada and the United States for medical care, food, housing, clothing, and recreation in hospitals and convalescent homes, with a special focus on aid to Camp Little Norway and the Norwegian Merchant Marine. The first official meeting of the C.L.N.A. was on September 23, 1941. The organization was incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota and registered with the President's War Relief Control Board, the United States licensing authority for national relief for the benefit of foreign countries.

The C.L.N.A. was led by its National Headquarters in Minneapolis with a board of directors. The national board was made up of prominent Norwegian Americans, some of whom changed roles or left the board during the war years. Board members included the C.L.N.A.'s president Albert Lindholm (of the Lyon Fish Company of Minneapolis); vice president Richard Larson (an executive at Honeywell Heat Regulator Company); chairman of the Film and Lecture Committee and secretary Jacob Stefferud (acting Consul for Norway in Minneapolis); secretary Dr. Sverre Norborg (Professor of Philosophy at the University of Minnesota), who served until he was called to the Office of Strategic Services in Washington, D.C.; secretary Hans Thorsdalen, who served until he joined military service; secretary and counsel Gerhard N. Sonnesyn; treasurer Gustav Svendsen, who served until he joined the 99th Battalion; treasurer Julius P. Blegen; treasurer Raymond M. Hoitomt; accountant and auditor Edwin L. Pearson; John Akslen (sales executive of Paulte-Midway Fixture and Show Case Company); Karl R. Andresen (secretary of the Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Norway); and Arthur Lystad (attorney). Dr. Trygve Alstad was the C.L.N.A.'s agent in Toronto.

Organized under the national board were five regional United States divisions: Eastern, Central/North Central, Southern, Northwest Pacific, and Southern Pacific. Within these divisions, as many as 34 local chapters were created in cities across the country, with the largest chapters based in Chicago, New York, and Seattle. Several national organizations, the National Ski Association and the Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Norway, acted as special chapters of the C.L.N.A. Local chapters raised money by hosting film showings, lecture tours, concerts, and meals, and by gathering membership pledges. Women's knitting and sewing circles contributed clothing items.

During a final arrangement with the President's War Relief Control Board and the National War Fund effective October 1, 1944, the C.L.N.A. and other Norwegian-American relief organizations—American Friends of Norway, Inc., Norwegian Seamen's Christmas and Relief, Inc., and Friends of Little Norway—became units with **American Relief for Norway, Inc.** Originally founded as Norwegian Relief, Inc. to relieve distress among the people of Norway living under occupation by Nazi Germany, American Relief for Norway became the primary organization directing aid to Norway at the end of the war and several years after its liberation.

By the time the C.L.N.A. ceased most operations at the end of 1946, it had raised over \$330,000 for relief work. The C.L.N.A.'s last board meeting was on December 15, 1947, at which time it formally dissolved. American Relief for Norway operated until early 1947, having raised \$3,884,728 across all of its units.

Scope and Content:

Materials document the management and activities of the Camp Little Norway Association, Inc. (C.L.N.A.) primarily from 1941-1947, its years of operation. Includes correspondence, periodicals, newsletters, pamphlets, photographs, postcards, reports, minutes, ledgers, newspaper clippings, and publicity.

The majority of the collection is correspondence between C.L.N.A. national board members in Minneapolis, especially Jacob Stefferud and Albert Lindholm, and chapter leaders across the United States, donors, Royal Norwegian Air Force officials in Canada, and leaders of other Norwegian-American relief organizations. The Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen," as well as photographs, postcards, and a diary, also document life and work at the Royal Norwegian Air Force's training facilities in Canada.

Existence and Location of Copies:

Digital copies of the Camp Little Norway Association papers are available through the Digital Collections of the Norwegian American Historical Association website: <https://norwegianamericanhistory.org/digital-collections/collections/show/157>. Digitization was completed in 2024-2025.

Funding:

Funding to digitize the Camp Little Norway Association, Inc. papers was provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**Access Rights:**

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Camp Little Norway Association Papers. Norwegian American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Processing Information:

Finding aid revised by Erin Wiebe in June 2025.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	<u>Correspondence and reports and policies. June 1, 1942-October 20, 1944</u> Includes correspondence, C.L.N.A. and Camp Little Norway bulletins, and materials of the National War Fund and of Norwegian-American relief organizations' coordination with American Relief for Norway.
1	2	<u>Correspondence and Chicago Meeting. October 26, 1944. September 26, 1944-November 13, 1944</u> Includes letters, minutes, and reports concerning Norwegian-American relief organizations' coordination with American Relief for Norway.
1	3	<u>History and reports. December 27 1944-November 8, 1946</u> Histories, incorporation materials, and bulletins of C.L.N.A., C.L.N.A. chapter reports, and aid to Norwegian seamen.
1	4	<u>Correspondence. August 29, 1945-April 28, 1947</u> Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, K. R. Andresen, donors, and contributors to clothing drives.
1	5	<u>Correspondence and reports. August 29, 1941-September 17, 1942</u> Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, donors, and other relief organizations.
1	6	<u>Correspondence and reports. October 12, 1942-December 29, 1943</u>

		Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, C.L.N.A. chapter leaders, donors, and Sverre Knoph of the Norwegian Convalescent Home "Kongshaug" (King's Hill) for seamen.
1	7	<u>Correspondence, December 4, 1943-June 1, 1944</u> Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud and C.L.N.A. chapter leaders regarding activities, a Stell Andersen benefit concert, and aid to Norwegian seamen.
1	8	<u>Correspondence, July 18, 1944-July 15, 1946</u> Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, Borghild Haugen, and other chapter leaders regarding activities and the C.L.N.A.'s new organization under American Relief for Norway.
2	1	"Norwegian-Canadian Memorial Building," February 2001
2	2	<u>Pamphlets, April 9, 1942-February 1, 1947</u> Programs for C.L.N.A. benefit events and a Camp Little Norway Club of Chicago booklet.
2	3	<u>Pamphlets and Pictures, December 1945-June 1946</u> Publicity for relief work and C.L.N.A. benefit events, photographs of board members, and a December 1945 issue of the periodical Milorg-Posten.
2	4	<u>Wings for Norway pamphlet, 1941</u>
2	5	<u>Minutes and Reports, October 2, 1942-June 26, 1944</u> Minutes of C.L.N.A. national board meetings.
2	6	<u>Correspondence and Reports, January 5, 1942-January 1943</u> Minutes of C.L.N.A. national board meetings, incorporation materials of the organization and chapters, and letters from Gerhard N. Sonnesyn and others.
2	7	<u>Correspondence and Reports, January 3, 1943-December 20, 1943</u> Includes photographs of a visit to Camp Little Norway, letters, and materials related to the President's War Relief Control Board, aid to Norwegian seamen, and Norwegian-American relief organizations' coordination with American Relief for Norway.
2	8	<u>Correspondence and Reports, March 14, 1943-May 31, 1944</u> Includes minutes of C.L.N.A. national board meetings and letters from Gerhard N. Sonnesyn, Harold T. Edwards, and others regarding Norwegian-American relief organizations' coordination with American Relief for Norway.
2	9	<u>Correspondence and Reports, June 1, 1944-September 12, 1945</u> Includes letters from Gerhard N. Sonnesyn, J. A. Aasgaard, Andrew E. Wigeland, Albert Lindholm, Jacob Stefferud, and others regarding Norwegian-American relief organizations' coordination with American Relief for Norway.
3	1	<u>Correspondence and Reports, August 4, 1943-December 30, 1943</u>

		Includes newspaper clippings, bulletins, and letters from Gerhard N. Sonnesyn, Harold T. Edwards, and others regarding activities and Norwegian-American relief organizations' coordination with American Relief for Norway.
3	2	<u>Correspondence and Reports, Auditor's Files, May 26, 1941-June 30, 1942</u> Includes C.L.N.A. financial statements, newspaper clippings, and letters from Gustav Svendsen, Eldred D. Kuppinger, and Julius P. Blegen about contributions and Department of State regulations.
3	3	<u>Correspondence and Reports, Auditor's Files, July 20, 1942-October 7, 1944</u> Includes letters from Raymond M. Hoitomt, Jacob Stefferud, chapter leaders, and donors.
3	4	<u>Minutes of National Board Meetings, September 23, 1941-June 23, 1943</u> Minutes of C.L.N.A. national board meetings and several fundraising program materials.
3	5	<u>Correspondence and Reports, Official Washington, September 27, 1941-August 21, 1943</u> Includes letters and bulletins from Sverre Norborg, Karl Evang, and the President's War Relief Control Board.
3	6	<u>Correspondence, Eastern Division, November 16, 1942-September 10, 1943</u> Includes letters from G. Unger Vetlesen, Rolf G. Westad, and others concerning C.L.N.A.'s Eastern Division.
3	7	<u>Correspondence, Central Division, December 28, 1942-August 26, 1943</u> Includes letters from Bertram Jensenius, Sverre Norborg, and others concerning C.L.N.A.'s Central Division.
3	8	<u>Correspondence, North Central Division, November 19, 1942-December 1943</u> Includes letters from Sverre Norborg, Anna Fuhr, Martha Boydson, and Albert Lindholm concerning C.L.N.A.'s North Central Division.
3	9	<u>Correspondence, Northwest Pacific Division, May 15, 1942-August 21, 1943</u> Includes letters from Sverre Norborg, J. M. Osmond, Harald Fritzner, and Borghild Haugen concerning C.L.N.A.'s Northwest Pacific Division.
3	10	<u>Correspondence, Southern Pacific Division, January 18, 1943-Aug 19, 1943</u> Includes letters from Sverre Norborg, E. H. Stamm, and Doris Lauer concerning C.L.N.A.'s Southern Pacific Division.
3	11	<u>Correspondence, Toronto Division, November 21, 1942-June 9, 1943</u>

		Includes Northwest Pacific Division chapter applications and letters from Sverre Norborg, Ole Reistad, and others concerning Toronto business.
3	12	<u>Correspondence. Nationwide Organizations. September 27, 1941-February 18, 1943</u> Includes correspondence with the Norwegian Convalescent Home "Kongshaug" (King's Hill) for seamen, Norwegian Club, Inc. in San Francisco, National Ski Association of America, and others.
3	13	<u>Correspondence and Publicity. March 9, 1943-April 9, 1943</u> Includes letters from Sverre Norborg and chapter leaders.
4	1	<u>Correspondence. September 25, 1942-September 15, 1944</u> Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, chapter leaders, and people purchasing phonograph records and books.
4	2	<u>Correspondence and Clippings. Norway Liberation Rally. April 9, March 9, 1942-June 10, 1942</u> Newspaper clippings, publicity, and letters related to an April 9, 1942 Norway Liberation Rally in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
4	3	<u>Correspondence. Norway Liberation Rally. April 9, February 26, 1943-May 11, 1943</u> Newspaper clippings, publicity, and letters related to an April 9, 1943 Norway Liberation Rally in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
4	4	<u>Correspondence. Coordination. Norw. Relief Agencies. November 13, 1943-September 30, 1945</u> Correspondence between C.L.N.A., Norwegian Seamen's Christmas and Relief, American Friends of Norway, Friends of Little Norway, American Relief for Norway, and the President's War Relief Control Board regarding the coordination of Norwegian-American relief organizations.
4	5	<u>Correspondence and Reports. Royal Norwegian Air Force. 1943-December, 1945</u> Includes letters and reports from Jacob Stefferud, Ole Reistad, John Darnall, and others concerning fundraising for the Royal Norwegian Air Force in Canada and Europe.
4	6	Account Book, October 14, 1941-December 31, 1942 Not digitized. C.L.N.A. account book kept by treasurer Gustav Svendsen, with sections: Daily Cash Receipts, Contributions Received, Bank Account, Canadian Agent, and Expense Account.
4	7	<u>Correspondence. Secretary and Treasurer. Contributions and Distributions. July 2, 1943-December 28, 1944</u> Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, Raymond M. Hoitomt, chapter leaders, and donors.
4	8	<u>Correspondence. Treasury. December 15, 1942-December 29, 1943</u>

- Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, Raymond M. Hoitomt, Sverre Knoph, and donors regarding fundraising for the Royal Norwegian Air Force and Norwegian seamen.
- 5 1 [Financial Reports, October 1944-October 1945](#)
Monthly financial reports from C.L.N.A. to American Relief for Norway.
- 5 2 Disbursements, January 1, 1943-October 31, 1945
Not digitized.
C.L.N.A. account book of disbursements.
- 5 3 Receipts, January 8, 1943-October 30, 1945
Not digitized.
C.L.N.A. account book of individual donations and chapter fundraising amounts.
- 5 4 [Correspondence and Reports, Lectures, August 5, 1941-November 1943](#)
Newspaper clippings, programs, posters, and letters from Jacob Stefferud, Martha Boydson, Ole Reistad, and others regarding film showings, concerts by John Nilsen of the 99th Battalion, concerts by Carsten and Esther Woll, and a speaking tour by Peter Dietrichson (alias Peter Johnson) of the Royal Norwegian Air Force and Norwegian Merchant Marine.
- 5 5 [Correspondence, February 13, 1942-June 2, 1944](#)
Includes letters from Jacob Stefferud, N. P. Mettome, Borghild Haugen, and other chapter leaders regarding film showings, a speaking tour by Lt. Col. Carl Stenersen of the Norwegian Army, and a speaking tour by Peter Dietrichson (alias Peter Johnson) of the Royal Norwegian Air Force and Norwegian Merchant Marine.
- 6 1 [Correspondence, A. D. Dahl Lecture Tour, October 7, 1942-December 18, 1942](#)
Correspondence and publicity related to the speaking tour of Lt. Col. Arne Dagfin Dahl, Norwegian Army.
- 6 2 [Correspondence, Diderik Eitzen Lecture Tour, May 18, 1942-September 23, 1943](#)
Correspondence and publicity related to the speaking tour of Corporal Axel Diderik Cappelen Eitzen, Royal Norwegian Air Force.
- 6 3 [Correspondence, Jorgen Juve Lecture Tour, February 29, 1944-June 12, 1944](#)
Correspondence and publicity related to the speaking tour of athlete and journalist Jørgen Juve.
- 6 4 [Correspondence, Harald Land Lecture Tour, March 10, 1943-June 19, 1943](#)
Correspondence and publicity related to the speaking tour of Lieutenant Harald Sandvik (alias Harald Land), Norwegian Army.

6	5	<u>Correspondence. Alex McLeod Lecture Tour. March 23, 1942-May 14, 1942</u> Correspondence and publicity related to the speaking tour of Captain Alexander McLeod, an American commissioned with the Royal Norwegian Air Force.
6	6	<u>Correspondence. Carl Stenersen Lecture Tour. August 10, 1943-April 21, 1944</u> Correspondence and publicity related to the speaking tour of Lt. Col. Carl Stenersen, Norwegian Army.
6	7	Wings for Norway pamphlet, August 1941
6	8	<u>Newspaper Clippings</u> Clippings from Norwegian and English language American newspapers, on topics: Royal Norwegian Air Force pilots and training locations, Camp Little Norway commander Ole Reistad, and Wings for Norway, Inc.
6	9	<u>Periodical. May 1943</u> Commemorative May 17th program sponsored by the Norwegian Singing Society in Brooklyn for the benefit of Camp Little Norway.
6	10	Periodical, May 1943 Commemorative May 17th program sponsored by the Norwegian Singing Society in Brooklyn for the benefit of Camp Little Norway.
6	11	Farewell to Canada periodical, February 1945 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
6	12	<u>Farewell to Canada periodical. February 1945</u> Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
6	13	<u>Periodical. March 1944</u> Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
6	14	<u>Periodical. April 1944</u> Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	1	<u>Periodical. April-August 1944</u> Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	2	<u>Periodical. May 1944</u> Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	3	Periodical, May 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	4	<u>Periodical. June 1944</u> Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	5	Periodical, June 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	6	<u>Periodical. July 1944</u> Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	7	Periodical, July 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."

7	8	Periodical, July 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	9	Periodical, July 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	10	Periodical, August 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	11	Periodical, August 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	12	Periodical, September 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	13	Periodical, September 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	14	Periodical, September 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	15	Periodical, October 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	16	Periodical, October 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	17	Periodical, November 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	18	Periodical, November 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	19	Periodical, November 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	20	Periodical, December 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	21	Periodical, December 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	22	Periodical, January 1945 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	23	Periodical, January 1945 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	24	Periodical, January 1945 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	25	Farewell to Canada Periodical, February 1945 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	26	Farewell to Canada Periodical, February 1945 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
7	27	Farewell to Canada Periodical, February 1945 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
8	1	Periodical, September 1944 Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen."
8	2	Periodical, April 1944

8	3	Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen." Periodical, December 1944
8	4	Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen." Periodical, November 1944
8	5	Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen." Periodical, December 1941
8	6	Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen." Periodical, June 1944
8	7	Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen." Periodical, January 1945
8	8	Camp Little Norway periodical "Lille Norge Avisen." "Little Norway" in pictures, 1943-1944 Book depicting the Royal Norwegian Air Force's training facility Camp Little Norway in Canada.
8	9	"Little Norway" in pictures, 1943-1944 Book depicting the Royal Norwegian Air Force's training facility Camp Little Norway in Canada.
8	10	"Little Norway" in pictures, 1943-1944 Book depicting the Royal Norwegian Air Force's training facility Camp Little Norway in Canada. Copy includes an inscription on first page from camp commander Ole Reistad to Ruth J. Michaelson, who worked at the camp in summer 1944. Folder also includes a 1942 issue of News of Norway.
8	11	Clippings, 1941-1944 Only select clippings digitized. Includes C.L.N.A. Bulletin. Also clippings from Norwegian and English language American newspapers, on topics: Royal Norwegian Air Force training facilities in Canada and speaking tours by Corporal Axel Diderik Cappelen Eitzen and Peter Dietrichson (alias Peter Johnson); C.L.N.A. activities, financials, and award ceremony for the national board; obituaries of C.L.N.A. treasurer Julius P. Blegen; and the films "The Avengers" (1942) and March of Time "Norway in Revolt" (1941).
8	12	Clippings, 1941-1944 Only select clippings digitized. Clippings from Norwegian and English language American newspapers, on topics: Royal Norwegian Air Force training facilities in Canada and speaking tours by Lieutenant Kaare Gythfeldt, Sergeant Per Lie, and Captain Alexander McLeod; C.L.N.A. activities and financials; the sale of books and pamphlets; and activities of other Norwegian-American relief organizations.
9	1	Clippings, November 1, 1942-November 27, 1947

Only select clippings digitized.

Clippings from Norwegian and English language American newspapers, on topics: Royal Norwegian Air Force training facilities in England; Norwegian military leaders Lt. Col. Ole Reistad and Major Alf Heum; C.L.N.A. activities, financials, and award ceremony for the national board; various relief organizations' clothing drives and aid for Norway; and the return of the Royal Family to Norway.

9 2 [Correspondence, 1941-1944](#)

Primarily correspondence to and from C.L.N.A. president Albert Lindholm, including Ole Reistad and Edvard Omholt-Jensen, and publicity.

9 3 [Correspondence, May 2, 1940-October 4, 1943](#)

Primarily correspondence to and from C.L.N.A. president Albert Lindholm, including Ole Reistad, Edvard Omholt-Jensen, and Fredrik Haslund, and photographs.

9 4 [Correspondence, 1941-1944](#)

Primarily correspondence to and from C.L.N.A. president Albert Lindholm, including Ole Reistad and Edvard Omholt-Jensen.

9 5 [Programs](#)

C.L.N.A. organizational documents and a Camp Little Norway article by Catherine Groth Sparrow.

9 6 [Clippings](#)

Only select clippings digitized.

Clippings in English and Norwegian from Norwegian-American newspapers, on topics: C.L.N.A. financial statements of receipts, disbursements, and contributions from 1942-1945, and C.L.N.A. activities. Several newsletter pages from 1995-2001.

9 7 [Oistein Roed](#)

Only select images digitized.

Includes correspondence and photographs regarding Royal Norwegian Air Force officer Øistein Roed and Elizabeth Rowe Roed.

9 8 [Ruth J. Michaelson materials](#)

Folder digitized except for a souvenir packet of Toronto postcards. Includes travel diary, postcards, and photographs from Ruth J. Michaelson's time working at Camp Little Norway in summer 1944.

9 9 [Photographs and postcards, 1941-1944](#)

Photographs and postcards of the Royal Norwegian Air Force's facilities at Camp Little Norway and photographs of the C.L.N.A. national board, from the files of C.L.N.A. president Albert Lindholm.

Camp Little Norway Association records from Jacob Stefferud, 1941-1944
The materials originated from the David Mauk Collection. During an interview with Jacob Stefferud's daughters, Alice and Ruth, Mauk received these additional materials.