

*Lorenzo Voisine slides collection of Camp Hale, Colorado  
1943*

**MCC-00390**

**Finding Aid**

**Prepared by  
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Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes  
University of Maine at Fort Kent  
Fort Kent, Maine**

**Title:** Lorenzo Voisine slides collection of Camp Hale, Colorado

**Creator/Collector:** Lorenzo Voisine

**Collection number:** MCC-00390

Shelf list number: UP-390

**Dates:** 1943

**Extent:** 1 folder (.05 cubic feet)

**Provenance:** Material was acquired from the Fort Kent Historical Society on January 7, 2013. The slides were donated to the Fort Kent Historical Society by June Deschaines Voisine, Lorenzo Voisine's wife.

**Language:** English.

**Conservation notes:** Slides were inserted in clear Mylar archival protective sleeves.

**Access restrictions:** No restrictions on access.

**Physical restrictions:** None.

**Technical restrictions:** A slide projector is required to view this collection.

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**Citation:** Lorenzo Voisine slides collection of Camp Hale, Colorado, MCC-00390, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent

**Separated materials:** Not applicable.

**Related materials:** Not applicable.

**Location of originals:** Not applicable.

**Location of copies:** Not applicable.

**Published in:** Not applicable.

**Historical Note:** Camp Hale was established in 1942 in west-central Colorado to provide winter and mountain warfare training during World War II (WWII). The living area for Camp Hale was constructed in Eagle Park, east of Highway 24 between Leadville and Red Cliff, Colorado. The camp was established there because of the natural setting of a large, flat valley bottom, surrounded by steep hillsides suitable for training in skiing, rock climbing, and cold weather

survival skills. The size of Camp Hale varied between 5,000 and 247,243 acres during the time that it was an active military installation.

Military use of Camp Hale included the 10th Mountain Division, the 38th Regimental Combat Team, 99th Infantry Battalion, and soldiers from Fort Carson conducting mountain and winter warfare training exercises from 1942 to 1965. Throughout this time, the Army tested a variety of weapons and equipment at Camp Hale. From 1959 through 1965, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) secretly trained Tibetan soldiers at Camp Hale. In July 1965, Camp Hale was deactivated and control of the lands returned to the Forest Service in 1966.

According to historical records, the valley was a major combat training area throughout the life of Camp Hale.

**Biographical information:** Lorenzo Voisine was Fort Kent's only known member of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division during World War II. Voisine was 24 years old when he joined Company A of the 86<sup>th</sup> Mountain Regiment in the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division at Camp Hale in Colorado. He was one of 15 Aroostook County men who served in the division. When the Fort Kent 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Ski Lodge was dedicated, Voisine was in the intensive care unit of the hospital and could not attend the ceremonies but his wife, June, was able to participate. Being from Fort Kent, Maine an area plentiful with winter snow and some childhood experience skiing, he was accepted in the 86<sup>th</sup> unit. He was known as "Frenchie" in the military. He enlisted in February 1943 and served in Naples, Pisa, Leghorn, the Po Valley, Mount Belvedere and Rome-Arno in Italy. During his years in the service, Voisine received the combat infantryman badge, a sharpshooter rifleman badge, the European-African Middle Eastern Theater ribbon with Bronze Star, and a WWII Victory medal. He was honorably discharged on December 10, 1945, after serving for 2 years and 4 months with the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Infantry regiment. Mr. Voisine was a postal service employee for 33 years in Fort Kent, Maine. He was a life member of the Disable American Veterans, and a past commander of the Lozier O'Grady Post. (from an article by Beurmond Banville and updated by Chad Pelletier)

**Scope and content:** This collection consists of 58 slides numbered from 42 to 99 of Camp Hale in Colorado where Lorenzo Voisine, only known person from Fort Kent, Maine, to be accepted in Company A of the 86th Mountain Regiment in the 10th Mountain Division in 1943 during World War II. The slides are of soldiers in training, area views of the surrounding Rocky Mountains and forests, ski slopes, and Camp Hale barracks.

**Inventory:**

Slide 42	snowy mountain peaks
Slide 43:	Ski slope
Slide 44:	Scene of woodland
Slide 45:	Trail
Slide 46:	Lorenzo Voisine on bridge
Slide 47:	Coming from outing
Slide 48:	Lorenzo Voisine, Camp Hale, Colorado, 10 <sup>th</sup> Mountain Division
Slide 49:	Lorenzo Voisine on bridge
Slide 50:	Lorenzo Voisine, Camp Hale, Colorado, 10 <sup>th</sup> Mountain Division

Slide 51: Lorenzo on bridge  
Slide 52: Lorenzo on bridge  
Slide 53: Camping out  
Slide 54: skiing  
Slide 55: Forest and mountain  
Slide 56: Camp Hale grounds  
Slide 57: Camp Hale ski troop  
Slide 58: View of mountain from Camp Hale  
Slide 59: Camp Hale ski troop  
Slide 60: Unidentified individual presumably in Leadville, CO  
Slide 61: Training  
Slide 62: Troops at training  
Slide 63: View of mountain from Camp Hale (same as # 58)  
Slide 64: Unidentified man on mountain  
Slide 65: Camp Hale, Colorado, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division  
Slide 66: Trees and mountain  
Slide 67: Ski trail on mountain  
Slide 68: Unidentified man carrying skis on mountain  
Slide 69: Trail  
Slide 70: Skiing  
Slide 71: Troops outside at Camp Hale  
Slide 72: Rockies  
Slide 73: Night training  
Slide 74: Ski trail  
Slide 75: Mountain peak  
Slide 76: Camp Hale, Colorado  
Slide 77: Taking pictures from a tree  
Slide 78: Mountain  
Slide 79: Forest  
Slide 80: Soldiers outside in the snow  
Slide 81: Motor squad  
Slide 82: Soldiers outside (summer time)  
Slide 83: View of the Rockies  
Slide 84: Mountain peak  
Slide 85: Soldier walking in the snow with mountain background  
Slide 86: Night time bon fire  
Slide 87: Night time  
Slide 88: Barracks of Camp Hale at springtime  
Slide 89: Soldier in bunk bed  
Slide 90: Unidentified individual presumably in Leadville, CO  
Slide 91: After a snowfall  
Slide 92: Coming from outing  
Slide 93: Mountains  
Slide 94: Slopes of Rockies  
Slide 95: Slopes of Rockies  
Slide 96: Bon fire

Slide 97: After a snowfall  
Slide 98: Soldier on mountain  
Slide 99: Rocky Mountain peak

***Order and arrangement:*** The slides were kept in order as numbered from 42 to 99. The numbers on the slides do not correspond necessarily with the description available on the box. The descriptions of the slides in the inventory were done by staff trying to match, as best as possible, the given information from the box.