DONALD BOYLE PAPERS, 1925–1945 (BULK 1943-1945)

Collection Information

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Cataloging Information

Processed by

Paul Brockman 27 January 2003

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF 1 man
COLLECTION:

1 manuscript box, 24 boxes of acetate negatives

COLLECTION

Inclusive 1925–45, bulk 1943–45

DATES:

PROVENANCE: Charles Apfelbaum, 551 Ridge Road, Watchung, NJ 07069, 11

April 2002

RESTRICTIONS: Negatives may be viewed by appointment only. Inquire at the

Reference Desk.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION 2002.0416

NUMBER:

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Donald Boyle (1915–87), a lifelong Indianapolis resident, was a Sergeant (T 4) in the 491st and 622nd Port Battalions in New Guinea and the Philippines during World War II. Boyle worked as a machinist for International Harvester in Indianapolis for thirty-four years before retiring in 1974. He was also a volunteer firefighter for Washington Township, Marion County, for fifteen years and was a member and chaplain of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association.

Bethel White Boyle (1917–97) attended school in Indianapolis. The Boyles were married in 1941 and had two children.

Sources:

Information in collection. Indianapolis *Star*, 6 July 1987, p. 30.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of letters between Donald Boyle serving in the U. S. Army in the Pacific Theater and his wife Bethel residing in Indianapolis. The correspondence between the two is personal and generally concerns their longing for each other, local news, and family. Boyle makes several illusions to his job of unloading ships and his promotion to sergeant, but there is little other war news. The letter to Donald from 17 August 1943 was cut up in the form of a jigsaw puzzle. Letters to Boyle from his wife are from June–December 1943 and three letters from the end of September 1945. Letters from Donald to Bethel are from September 1944–November 1945 with one letter from September 1943.

The collection also contains several letters written to Boyle from his friends regarding vacations and friends. Other items in the collection include newspaper clippings and Bethel White's grade school report cards from Indianapolis, 1925–30.

The collection also contains approximately 700 acetate negatives of photographs taken by the Boyles from 1941). Subjects include their honeymoon, 1941, and travel and individual pictures from the 1940s.

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Unidentified, ca. 1940s

Visual Collections: 4 x 5
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Unidentified, ca. 1940s (16)

Visual Collections: 120

mm. Acetate Negatives

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

- 1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: http://157.91.92.2/
- 2. Click on the "Traditional Search" icon.
- 3. Click on the "Call Number" radio button.
- 4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0790).
- 5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.