

FREEMAN ARMY AIR FIELD RECORDS, 1942-1986

Collection #
SC 2457

Table of Contents

[User information](#)
[Historical sketch](#)
[Scope and Content note](#)
[Cataloguing information](#)

Processed by
Charles Latham
16 November 1994

USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 4 folders

COLLECTION DATES: Inclusive 1942-1986; bulk 1986

PROVENANCE: Louis Osterman, Indianapolis IN, 18 March 1994

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: pam q UG 635 .U6 F7 1986, Louis Osterman, *Freeman Field and Seymour*

ACCESSION NUMBER: 94.0577

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Freeman Army Air Field was set up near Seymour, Indiana, soon after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The site, containing 2,560 acres, was chosen in May 1942; construction began in July; and the base, though incomplete, opened in December 1942. The purpose of the field was to train personnel in the flying of twin-engine planes. The first training planes, AT-10s, arrived in February 1943, and the first class graduated from the nine-

week course in April 1943. Over the next two years, nineteen classes, numbering from 122 to 309, graduated at the base. Training was also given to helicopter pilots.

At its height, the base had 413 buildings and accommodated about 4,000 personnel. It was deactivated in late 1945, and turned over to the city of Seymour in 1947.

Source: Louis Osterman, *Freeman Field and Seymour* (1986)

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection, filling four folders, contains questionnaires from pilots trained at Freeman Army Air Field in 1943-1945. These were collected by Louis Osterman while preparing his booklet on the base. They are arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

The questionnaires, sometimes accompanied by other data, describe both WWII experiences and accomplishments since. Though they represent only a small fraction of the graduates of the base, they give some interesting details.

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Osterman, Louis, collector

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Freeman Army Air Field (Seymour, Ind.)

Air bases--Indiana--Seymour

World War, 1939-1945--Indiana--Personal narratives

Air pilots, Military--Training of

Helicopter pilots--Training of

Seymour (Ind.)

END