FRANK N. WIDNER PAPERS, 1939–2003

Collection Information

Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by

Paul Brockman March 2011

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 COLLECTION:	1 manuscript box, 1 photograph box, 3 oversized folders
COLLECTION DATES:	1939–2003
PROVENANCE:	Rev. Thomas Widner, SJ, Indianapolis, Indiana, September 2008
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	2008.0286
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Frank N. Widner (1917–1995) was born in Indianapolis and graduated from Indiana University with a degree in journalism. In 1939 he joined the staff of the Indianapolis *Times* as a copy clerk, but was soon promoted to police reporter. In 1940 he married Marie Kiefer. From April 1944 until January 1946 Widner served in the U. S. Army mainly as a member of Signal Corps assigned to the Persian Gulf Command in Iran. After his discharge, Widner returned to the *Times* where he eventually rose to position of assistant managing editor. When the *Times* ceased publication in October 1965, he joined the staff of the Indianapolis *Star* where he assumed the position of news editor until his retirement in February 1986.

Sources:

Information in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains photographs, correspondence, printed materials and documents from Widner's newspaper and military careers. Items from the *Times* include Widner's letter asking for a job with the newspaper in 1939, photographs dating from his early stories through the papers closing and the building's destruction, printed materials regarding the paper's operation, and reunions of the paper's staff. The majority of the photographs concern the paper's staff working in the office or socializing. Most of the items from Widner's years with the *Star* concern his retirement in 1986 most of which consist of correspondence and newspaper articles.

Items from Widner's World War II years include personal records and photographs taken while he was serving in the Persian Gulf Command in Iran. There are several newspapers and printed information regarding the area and the country. Photographs are mainly of the snapshot type centering on fellow soldiers and local civilians.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Indianapolis *Times* and *Star* Materials, 1939–2003

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Correspondence and Printed Materials, 1939–1968	Box 1, Folder 1
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Photographs, 1939–1965 (1 of 3)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 1
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Photographs, 1939–1965 (2 of 3)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Photographs, 1939–1965 (3 of 3)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Newspapers and Clippings, 1950–1965	OM 0497, Folder 1
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Employee and Retiree Newsletters, 1944–1991	Box 1, Folder 2
Indianapolis Times, Building Demolition	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Reunions, 1978–1984	Box 1, Folder 3
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Reunions, 1984, n.d.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 5
Indianapolis <i>Star</i> , Photographs, 1975, 1977, n.d.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 6
Indianapolis <i>Star</i> and Other Newspapers Clippings, 1979–1994	OM 0497, Folder 2
Widner Retirement, 1986	Box 1, Folder 4
Newspaper Clippings, 1986–2003	Box 1, Folder 5
Family Correspondence, 1991, 1995	Box 1, Folder 6

Series 2: World War II Materials, 1944–1945; 1993–1995

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Army Records and Papers, 1944–1945	Box 1, Folder 7
V-Mail to Parents, 1945	Box 1, Folder 8
Persian Gulf Command Commemorative Booklet, 1945	Box 1, Folder 9
North African Printed Materials for Soldiers, 1944–1945	Box 1, Folder 10
Some Marvels on the Road to Kazvin, 1945	Box 1, Folder 11
Widner Family Members Ration Books, 1940s	Box 1, Folder 12
World War II Newspapers and Printed Materials, 1945	OM 0497, Folder 3
World War II Photographs (Official), 1944–1945	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 7
World War II Photographs (Personal), 1944–1945 (1 of 3)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 8
World War II Photographs (Personal), 1944–1945 (2 of 3)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 9
World War II Photographs (Personal), 1944–1945 (3 of 3)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 10
Persian Gulf Command Veterans Organization, 1993–1995	Box 1, Folder 13
World War II, 40 th Anniversary Victory Medal from Russia, 1995; Iranian Currency, n.d.	Artifacts: 2008.0286

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://opac.indianahistory.org/
- 2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
- 3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
- 4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 1001).
- 5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.