

WINANT P. JOHNSTON PAPERS, 1916-1919

Collection #
SC 2458

Table of Contents

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

Processed by
Charles Latham
18 November 1994

USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1916-1919

PROVENANCE: Charles Latham, Indianapolis IN, 12 November 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: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 95.0072

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Winant P. Johnston (ca 1890 - ca 1955) was born in Indianapolis. He attended the University of Pennsylvania. During the first World War he was a pioneer in aerial reconnaissance, and wrote a textbook on aerial photography.

Between World Wars he moved to Washington, D. C., and had a house at 3417 N Street in Georgetown, which he

had converted from a fish store. In the late 1920s, under the Dutch version (Wijnant) of his first name, he published a novel entitled *Eyelids of the Morn*. In 1939 he was working in a library in Brittany; he left France on the last available ship at the outbreak of war.

During World War II Johnston was a Lieutenant Colonel, stationed in Washington and having to do with Lend-Lease supply of munitions to South American allies.

Source: Personal knowledge of donor

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection, filling two folders, contains a narrative written on the back of six photographs. It was sent to Julia G. and Anna T. Sharpe of Indianapolis. The author was doing aerial photography with occupation troops near Coblenz on the Rhine; internal evidence indicates that the narrative was written early in 1919 while the Versailles Settlement was being written. Johnston refers to Germany as "Bocheland," describes the mooring and communication lines of an observation blimp, and describes the fortifications of Ehrenbreitstein across the Rhine from Coblenz. A portrait of Johnston is included.

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Johnston, Wijnant, 1890-

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Johnston, Wijnant, 1890- --Portraits

Sharpe, Anna T.

Sharpe, Julia G.

World War, 1914-1918--Germany--Reconnaissance operations

World War, 1914-1918--Germany--Photography

Aerial reconnaissance, American--Germany

Aerial photography--Germany

Aerial observation (Military science)--Germany

Airships--Germany--Aerial photography

Koblenz (Germany)--Aerial photographs

END