

Collection #
M 0976

**WILBUR H. NICHOLAS
FAMILY PAPERS, 1882–1983**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: One manuscript box, negatives and photographs, album case holding 13 45RPM records, autograph book (1882-85), English Grammar book (1895).

COLLECTION DATES: 1882-1983

PROVENANCE: James D. Strickland, Brunette and Associates, Indianapolis, IN, 20 September 2005

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005.0383

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Abraham R. Nicholas was born in Ohio in 1864. He married Emma Brouer in 1888 and in 1895 they had a son, Wilbur H. Sometime before 1900 they moved to Indianapolis and later established the American Buncher and Supply Company, dealing principally in farm machinery. In about 1923 they purchased a large piece of platted land and began selling lots in the Maple Lawn addition. The boundaries were 54th Street (south), 59th Street (north), Ralston (east), and Crestview (west).

Wilbur worked with his father as assistant treasurer and secretary at American Buncher and Supply. He married Edith C. in 1917 and they had two sons: A. C. Nicholas, Jr. (Jack), born in 1921 and Wilbur Harrison Nicholas, Jr., born in 1922. Wilbur Jr. earned a B. A. in Business Administration from Indiana University in 1941; he joined the Army and became a 2nd Lt. in the Quartermaster Corps the same year. Jack joined the Army Air Corps in 1941, earned his wings in 1943, and married Emma Hane Steadman in the same year. Subsequently he flew B25s in the North African Theater and in Italy and was wounded in the hip.

Sources: United States Census, 1900.

Materials in the collection.

Also consulted with Flanner and Buchanan Funeral Home office; unable to learn identity of person who died in September, 1949.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains one manuscript box, three folders of photographs and negatives, an autograph book from the late 1800s, and postcards and cover from the early twentieth century.

The first series contains all of the family materials including a large number of letters from Jack to his family during World War II. In these letters he expresses his delight about learning to fly, the sense of comradeship his crew gave him, his homesickness, and the weariness of a long war. He also comments on the family business. Also in this series are three folders containing sympathy cards that were sent after the death of Edith, Abraham, and probably Wilbur H., Jr. The last section in this series contains a variety of other materials. There is graduation information and a report card from the Kentucky Military Institute, a graduation program from Indiana University, news clippings, postcards, and photographs.

Series two contains business information dealing with the American Buncher and Supply Company as well as the business of the family. The first part contains cancelled checks, bills, and real estate information for the family. The second part of this series contains notes and invoices from the American Buncher and Supply Company. There are some negatives and some photographs from the company as well.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Family Correspondence

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Correspondence, 1901 and 1910	Box 1, Folder 1
Correspondence from Wilbur Harrison Nicholas, Jr., 1941	Box 1, Folder 2
Correspondence from A. C. Nicholas, Jr., 1940–1942	Box 1, Folder 3
Correspondence from A. C. Nicholas, Jr., 1943	Box 1, Folder 4
Correspondence from A. C. Nicholas, Jr., 1944	Box 1, Folder 5
Correspondence from A. C. Nicholas, Jr., 1945	Box 1, Folder 6
Correspondence from Abraham R. Nicholas to Wilbur, 1943	Box 1, Folder 7
Correspondence, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 8
Sympathy cards, death of Emma Brouer Nicholas Edith, Mar. 1935	Box 1, Folder 19
Sympathy cards, death of Abraham R. Nicholas Abraham, Nov. 1943	Box 1, Folder 10
Sympathy cards. death of son(?), Sep. 1949	Box 1, Folder 11
Report cards and graduation announcement, Kentucky Military Institute, Jay, 1950–52.	Box 1, Folder 12
News clippings, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 13
Autograph Book, Abe, 1882–85	Box 1, Folder 14
Indiana University Graduation program, 2 June 1941	Box 1, Folder 15
<i>A Practical English Grammar</i> , Mary Hyde, 1895	2005.0383
Postcards	Photograph Folder 1
Artifact: Postcard wallet	Box 1, Folder 21
Photographs	Photograph Folder 2

Family at the lake	5 x 7 nitrate negatives: Box 1, Negatives 1-14
Farm scene with machinery and horses	5 x 7 nitrate negatives: Box 1, Negatives 15-20
Car	5 x 7 nitrate negatives: Box 1, Negatives 21-22
Man standing by the road side	5 x 7 nitrate negatives: Box 1, Negatives 23
Jack Nicholas "Air Corp"	5 x 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negatives 1-4
Man in uniform and boy	5 x 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negative 5
Boy with winter coat and gloves	5 x 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negative 6
Group shots outside	5 x 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negatives 7-11
Group by car in front of large building	5 x 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negative 12
Man by water	5 x 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negatives 13-17
Men in suits	5 x 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negatives 18-20
Boy by car	5 7 nitrate negatives Box 2, Negative 21
Record case	2005.0383
Frank and Moon Zappa "Valley Girl"	2005.0383
"Throw Out the Line"	2005.0383
"38 Special"	2005.0383
"Teacher Teacher"	2005.0383
Willie Nelson, "Moonlight in Vermont"	2005.0383

Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band, "Fire Lake"	2005.0383
Joe Walsh, "Theme from Boat Weirdos"	2005.0383
Jessi Colter, "I'm Not Lisa"	2005.0383
Linda Ronstadt, "Someone to Lay Down Beside"	2005.0383
Fleetwood Mac, "Rhiannon"	2005.0383
"Sister Midnight"	2005.0383
Supertramp, "Take the Long Way Home"	2005.0383
Gerry Rafferty, "Baker Street"	2005.0383

Series 2: Business Papers

CONTENTS

Cancelled checks and assessment, Emma, 1906–25

Real Estate Contract, 1923

Real Estate Plats

American Buncher & Supply Co., Notes for collection, 1927–33

American Buncher & Supply Co., Invoices and Orders, 1929–36

American Buncher & Supply Co., Photographs

American Buncher & Supply Co., Negatives

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 16

Box 1, Folder 17

Box 1, Folder 18

Box 1, Folder 19

Box 1, Folder 20

Photograph Folder 3

5 x 7 nitrate negatives
Box 2, Negatives 22-27

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 0976).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.