ERNIE PYLE
MATERIALS, CA. 1944-1946

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Lillian Green
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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 folder

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1944-1946

PROVENANCE: George P. Hamilton, Bowling Green, Ohio, June 2009.

REstrictions: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2009.0150

NOTES:
**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

One of the most famous correspondents of the Second World War, Ernie Pyle, got his start in journalism in Indiana. Born outside of Dana, Indiana, Ernie worked on a farm growing up. He attended Indiana University, majored in journalism, and quit his senior year in favor for a job at the *LaPort Herald*. Shortly after, he took a job with the *Washington Daily News* where he met his wife. Ernie began to write a column called the “Roving Reporter”, where he wrote about the travels he took with his wife back and forth across the United States and down into South America. In the 1939 bombing of Britain, Ernie took his roving reporter skills to Europe to write about the disaster. After the beginning of American involvement in the war, Ernie went back into the action, this time on the front lines, capturing the stories of average American GI’s in Europe, Africa and the Pacific. Ernie’s column became a hit across the nation, published in 400 daily and 300 weekly newspapers, giving the American people a unique perspective on the war. On an assignment to the Pacific front in 1945, Ernie was shot and killed by a Japanese sniper on the island of Ie Shima. His body was buried in Hawaii at the National Memorial Cemetery and a monument to his person was erected on Ie Shima. Well liked by the GI’s he encountered, Ernie was most beloved by the American people for the familiar tone of his writing and the heartfelt stories of America’s soldiers.

Sources:


**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This small collection includes 1 black and white photograph showing the Ernie Pyle memorial marker on Ie Shima; 2 Ernie Pyle related clippings (one in 1948 and one undated); 1 signed clipping of Ernie Pyle picture addressed to “Doc” Hamilton (1944); 12 clippings and 2 typed sheets of “Roving Reporter” (1944); 6-page “It Really Happened: Ernie Pyle” (Picture Stories of Popular heroes, No. 6, 1946). This collection was given in memory of the donor’s father, Dr. Lester A. Hamilton, MD, who met Ernie Pyle in Italy during World War II in 1944.
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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, SC2869).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.