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


RESTRICTIONS: None

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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.
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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.