MARGARET ROBBINS
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT, 1992

Collection Information

Historical and Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Folder and Cassette Listing

Cataloging Information

Processed by
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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

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 folders, 6 audiotapes

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1992

PROVENANCE: Indiana Heritage Research Grant #92-3018

RESTRICTIONS: None
HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Marion County/Indianapolis Historical Society applied for and received an Indiana Heritage Research Grant (IHRG) from the Indiana Humanities Council and the Indiana Historical Society. The purpose of the grant was to produce a project entitled the Margaret Robbins Oral History Project.

Margaret Ruth (Schricker) Robbins (b. 1916), the daughter of Henry Frederick and Maude Lucinda (Brown) Schricker, was raised in Knox, Indiana (Starke Co.). Her father served as state senator (1932-36) and as governor of Indiana (1941-45 and 1949-51). Robbins studied political science and history at Indiana University, graduating in 1938. She married Lewis C. Robbins (d. 1990), who served as the first chief of cancer control for the United States Public Health Service. The Robbinses moved frequently throughout Lewis' career, living in Fort Worth, San Antonio, Chicago, Buffalo, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston, Saigon, and Washington, D.C. They moved to Indianapolis in 1968.

Margaret Robbins pursued a career associated with yet separate from her husband's. Among her achievements, she worked for the USO during World War II to organize "Ladies in Waiting," a prenatal health care club for servicemen's wives, for the State Department with the Foreign Aid program, and with the "Tycoon Program" in the 1960's. For thirteen years, she was the director of a family training program for the International Cooperation Administration.

Sources: Material in the collection.
*The Indiana Herald* (June 16-20, 1979) p. 1.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of six audiocassette tapes of interviews conducted by Linda Weintraut and Jane R. Nolan of Weintraut & Nolan, Consulting Historians, with Margaret Robbins. The interviews were part of the Margaret Robbins Oral History Project, which was funded by an Indiana Heritage Research Grant (IHRG), #92.3018. Two interviews
were conducted on June 26 and July 28, 1992; each interview is comprised of three tapes (with master and duplicate copies of each). Also present are typescript copies of both interviews (with indices) and a copy of the IHRG grant contract.

During the interviews, Mrs. Robbins discussed her family background; local, state, and national politics, including her father's career; her studies at Indiana University, the Great Depression; the Ku Klux Klan in Indiana; her work and life; and her husband's career with the Public Health Service.

FOLDER AND CASSETTE LISTING

FOLDER CONTENTS

1 IHRG grant contract
2 Interview typescript, June 26, 1992
3 Interview typescript, July 28, 1992

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, SC 1927).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.