

**Collection #  
M0901**

**RALPH T. SWANK  
PAPERS, 1927-1951**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 2 manuscript boxes, 1 folder of photographs, 1 artifact

**COLLECTION DATES:** Inclusive, 1927–1951; bulk, 1942–1945

**PROVENANCE:** Dan Berglund, August 31, 2005

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 2005.0339

**NOTES:**

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Ralph T. Swank was a Captain in the 379<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squad and the 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group. He was born in Noblesville, IN in 1916, and enlisted into the Army on May 16, 1942. Swank enlisted for the duration of World War II, as well as an additional six months after the war. His parents Willard and Claire Swank had three children: Opal, Ralph, and Wilma. There were no more available records of him after the war.

Sources:

Information found within the collection.

<http://search.ancestrylibrary.com/searchRalphSwank>. 6/7/07.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The bulk of the collection is the 110 letters from Captain Ralph T. Swank to his family members in Noblesville, IN from 1943-1945. The letters discuss various family and local affairs. Most of the letters were written while Captain Swank was stationed in Constantine, Algeria. The collection also contains several newspaper clippings covering World War II from 1942–1943. There are also pictures in the collection that include Swank and his fellow soldiers, as well as some scenic pictures of Algeria.

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Ralph T. Swank Letters, January 1944–January 1945	Box 1, Folder 4
Ralph T. Swank Letters, January–June 1945; 1951	Box 1, Folder 5
Ralph T. Swank WWII Letters, WWII Related News-clippings, 1942–1943	Box 1, Folder 6
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Ralph T. Swank WWII Letters-WWII Related News-clippings, 1942–1943	Box 2, Folder 1
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Photographs of Ralph T. Swank and Fellow Soldiers, and Postcards, 1940s	Box 2, Folder 7
Artifact: Hand-painted handkerchief sent home from Africa, 1943	Box 2, Folder 8