

Collection #
M 0884

ROBERT SPRINGSTEEN PAPERS, 1918–1995

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Processed by

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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 boxes, 2 folders of photographs, 8 artifacts
COLLECTION DATES:	1918–1995
PROVENANCE:	Robert Springsteen, Valparaiso, Indiana, December, 2000.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2001.0161

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Robert Springsteen (b. 1918) was born and raised in Harvard, Illinois. Upon graduation from high school, he attended Valparaiso University graduating in 1940 with a business degree. In 1942 he was drafted into the U. S. Army and served in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) where he worked in the financial aspect of the operation—disbursing money and other valuables to agents in the field. He was discharged in 1946 attaining the rank of captain. Springsteen returned to Valparaiso after the war and worked in the university's financial department until his retirement. From 1951–56 he was also employed by the CIA in a similar capacity to what his duties were in OSS. He returned to Valparaiso University in 1956 but also continued to work for the CIA to screen and recruit potential agents from the university's students.

Sources:

Information in collection.

Veterans History Project website (Library of Congress, American Folklife Center)

www.lcweb2.loc.gov/cocoon/vhp/bib/loc.natlib.afc2001001.23487 accessed 26 September 2006.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers focus on Robert Springsteen's activities as an agent for the OSS and the CIA although box 1 contains a scrapbook encompassing his life from childhood to the 1970s.

Among the items in the scrapbook are photographs, newspaper clippings, diplomas, and related materials mostly from high school days at Harvard, Illinois, in the middle 1930s; his days as a Valparaiso University student from 1936–40 including his extracurricular activities in music; job offers and employment from 1940–42; and military service, 1942–46. The last pages contain a few greeting cards from the 1970s.

Military and CIA materials include documents, orders, correspondence, and related files, 1942–87. These include Springsteen's OSS finance training at Duke University and his activities with agents in Europe during World War II. The CIA related items include a trip he took to the Far East in 1954 and correspondence with administrators regarding potential agents from Valparaiso University students, 1951–69. There also is a folder of Springsteen's reminiscences

from the time of his retirement in 1995. The collection also contains two folders of photographs and postcards from World War II.

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Scrapbook, 1918–71 (1 of 10)

Scrapbook, 1918–71 (2 of 10)

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Scrapbook, 1918–71 (6 of 10)

Scrapbook, 1918–71 (7 of 10)

Scrapbook, 1918–71 (8 of 10)

Scrapbook, 1918–71 (9 of 10)

Scrapbook, 1918–71 (10 of 10)

4 high school letters, Harvard, Illinois, 1930s; pennant, Endless Caverns, New Market, VA, ca. 1930s; Gamma Delta Name tag, 1938; 2 music award medals, Chicago *Tribune*, 1933, n.d.

Army Service Documents, 1942–46 (1 of 4)

Army Service Documents, 1942–46 (2 of 4)

Army Service Documents, 1942–46 (3 of 4)

Army Service Documents, 1942–46 (4 of 4)

Orders and Related Materials, Oct. 1943–Nov. 1944

Orders and Related Materials, April–Dec. 1945

Letter, Oct. 1945 and Jan. 1946

Finance Dept. School, Duke University, 1943

Printed Materials and Personal Items, 1942–45

Printed Materials and General Documents, 1942–45

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

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Box 1, Folder 10

Artifacts:
2001.0161

Box 2, Folder 1

Box 2, Folder 2

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Photographs, ca. 1943–45	Photographs, Folder 1
Postcards, ca. 1940–45	Photographs, Folder 2
Trip to Far East, 1954	Box 2, Folder 11
CIA Memorandums, 1951–59	Box 2, Folder 12
CIA Memorandums, 1960–61	Box 2, Folder 13
CIA Memorandums, 1962–64	Box 2, Folder 14
CIA Memorandums, 1965–69	Box 2, Folder 15
CIA Printed Materials, 1962–87	Box 2, Folder 16
“Memories,” 1995	Box 2, Folder 17

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 0884).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.