

**Collection #  
M 1272**

**WILHELM A. WISE  
PAPERS, 1926-1967**

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 half sized manuscript box; 1 folder photographs; 2 artifacts

COLLECTION DATES: 1926–1967

PROVENANCE: Jacqueline Solomon Wise Gershman, Morristown, New Jersey, December, 2016

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2016.0344

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Adolph Wilhelm Wise (1907–1967) was born in Bremen, Germany, where he was trained as an electrician. In 1926 he came to the United States and lived in Indianapolis with his uncle, William Brehof, where he worked as an electrical contractor and farm caretaker. In June 1938 “Willy,” as he was called in the US, became a naturalized American citizen. Anti-Nazi sentiment caused him to reverse the order of his first and middle names. In April 1942, Wise was inducted into the Army Air Corps. After training in Albuquerque, New Mexico, he was stationed in France and Germany as Sergeant in the 132 Reinforcement Battalion as an electrician. While home on leave in 1942, Wise married Alice Solomon. After his discharge in October 1945, Wise returned to Indianapolis where he resumed his work as an electrician.

Willy and Alice adopted two children: Ileana and Jacqueline. Wise was a member of the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

Sources:

Information in collection.

*Ancestry*, Library edition. Accessed 5 January 2017.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The majority of this collection contains records and information regarding Wilhelm A. Wise's time in the U. S. Army, 1941–1945. Among the materials are government letters and documents dealing with his induction, training camp in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and his service in Europe. There also are personal photographs from his military service as well as items relating to his discharge and two letters from 1944: one to his wife and the other sent through the Red Cross to his father who remained in Bremen during the war.

A second part of the collection are photocopies regarding his emigration from Germany to America, 1926–1938. These include an affidavit of support from his uncle in Indianapolis, his German passport, and his certificate of citizenship.

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Citizenship Papers, 1926–1938 (Photocopies)

Induction Related Papers, 1941–1942

Marriage License, 1942 (Photocopy)

Air Depot Training Station, Albuquerque, 1943

Military Documents, 1943–1945

Correspondence, 1944

Military Life Insurance, 1942–1952

Photographs of Army Life, ca. 1942–1945

Printed Item, ca. 1942–1952

Discharge Papers, 1945–1947

Artifacts: dog tag and “US” button

Obituary, 1967

### 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

Box 1, Folder 7

Photographs:  
Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 8

Box 1, Folder 9

Box 1, Folder 9

Box 1, Folder 10