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### Watkins, Arnold Clayton (1915-1996), Collection, 1942-1945

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#6

Watkins, Arnold Clayton (1915-1996), Collection, 1942-1945  
.5 linear feet

## **INTRODUCTION**

Collection of Arnold Clayton Watkins, Corporal in the Tenth Air Corp of the Army Air Force. The collection consists of scrapbooks, photographs, and miscellaneous materials pertaining to World War II.

## **DONOR INFORMATION**

The Arnold Clayton Watkins Collection was donated to the Leonard H. Axe Library by his wife, Joan F. Watkins, on February 10, 1999.

## **BIOLOGICAL SKETCH**

Arnold Clayton Watkins was born on November 11, 1915, in Pittsburg, Kansas. He graduated from Pittsburg High School in 1934, and attended the Kansas State Teachers College in Pittsburg for two years. On December 27, 1937, he married his wife, Joan F. Ovadon. Watkins was inducted into the United States Army Air Force on November 10, 1941, at Camp Crowder, Missouri. He spent World War II serving in Northern France, the Rhineland, Central Europe, and England. He was discharged from Fort Leavenworth in 1945, having attained the rank of Corporal. Watkins was employed by the Gulf Chemical and Oil Company for thirty-four years. He worked for the company in Kansas City, Kansas from 1955 to 1967, and in Houston, Texas from 1967 to 1980. In 1981, he and his wife returned to Pittsburg. Arnold Watkins died on December 23, 1996, at the age of eighty-one.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Arnold Clayton Watkins Collection consists of scrapbooks, photographs, and miscellaneous materials that primarily document Watkins's service in the Army Air Force during World War II, and the war in general. The collection is arranged into three series: **Photographs**, **Scrapbooks**, and **Miscellaneous**.

The **Photographs** series is arranged alphabetically by subject. Most of the photographs are undated. The series contains photographs taken in Europe and North Africa during World War II. It includes many photographs of Army Air Force personnel and Army Air Force planes carrying out bombing missions. There are also photographs of Dresden, Cologne, and Hamburg after being bombed a few months before V-E Day. Of particular note are the photographs of Adolf Hitler and Hermann Goering. Taken about 1935, Hitler and Goering are shown talking with other Nazi leaders and officers, and inspecting the German troops. Also included are photographs of Benito Mussolini and his mistress after their deaths.

The Scrapbooks series consists of two volumes kept by Joan Watkins during World War II. The volumes primarily contain newspaper and magazine clippings regarding the war and Crawford County citizens involved in the war effort. Many of the clippings are of Crawford County servicemen killed or injured during the war. The names of these individuals are included in the index at the end of this finding aid. Also included in the series are ration books and souvenirs, such as postcards and ticket stubs sent to Joan from Arnold Watkins while he was stationed in Europe.

The **Miscellaneous** series is composed of one booklet and one book. The booklet, "The Complete Chronology of World War II: A Digest of Important Historical Events", has been kept

with the collection. The book, The Sad Sack, by Sergeant George Baker (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1944), which is a cartoon book of army humor, is shelved in Special Collections.

## FOLDER LIST

### **Photographs Series**

- e. 1-5 Army Air Force, undated
- e. 6-7 Army Air Force Personnel, undated
- e. 8 Germany, undated
- e. 9-10 Nazis, undated
- e. 11 Miscellaneous photographs, undated

### **Scrapbooks Series**

- f. 1-2 Scrapbooks, 1942-1945

### **Miscellaneous Series**

- f. 3 1945

## INDEX ENTRIES

Albers, Harold  
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Albertson, Henry F.  
Armstrong, Ray  
Baker, Earl C.  
Bartelli, Ozzia  
Bena, J.H.  
Benedict, Rose B.  
Bennett, Lloyd  
Bettega, Frank  
Bioncetti, Thomas  
Bosetti, Gus C.  
Bosetti, Palmo  
Bosinio, Louis L.  
Brown, George E.  
Bumann, Roger  
Butler, Marvin Wayne  
Cicero, Joseph J.  
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Farnsworth, Kenneth  
Fedell, Richard C.  
Frank, Elmer Dean  
Frasco, Mickie  
Fretwell, R.O.  
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Genisio, Maurice  
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Gold, James T.  
Goering, Hermann (1893-1945)  
Grimaldi, Alex  
Grotheer, Karl  
Hale, Willis H.  
Heise, Ethel  
Hitler, Adolf (1889-1945)  
Huffman, Claude. C  
Hunt, Kenneth  
Hutchinson, John H.  
Keith, David Lee  
Kelly, Josephine M.  
Kirk, Leland  
Kozmierski, Leonard  
Lee, Joseph  
Lindsay, Robert  
Lispi, Albert  
Longan, James J.  
Loth, Jack  
McMurray, Harold  
McFarland Flying Service  
Mack, Albert C.

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Mattivi, Elmer  
Meehan, Robert E.  
Million, Clarence W.  
Morey, William  
Mussolini, Benito (1883-1945)  
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Nelson, Carl  
Newman, C.B.  
Nichols, John  
Niegsch, Joe  
Pellegrino, H.L.  
Pennick, John  
Pierce, Joseph  
Pike, Leonard  
Refro, Norman E.  
Rogers, Kenneth  
Ross, Edward  
Scharppel, Joseph  
Schriltz, Richard von  
Sergeant, Thomas  
Shea, John Joseph  
Skinner, Harold Lynn  
Slagle, Don  
Slankard, Eugene  
Smardo, Jake  
Spicer, Joseph F.  
Spigarelli, Adolph  
Stumfoll, James  
Stever, Robert  
Tavernaro, Julie  
Taylor, Cecil J.  
Theis, Francis  
Thomas, John B.  
Trotter, Joseph  
United States. Army - Aviation  
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Vorhies, C. Francis  
Vietti, Angelo  
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Webber, Donald E.

Weeks, Edward Joseph

Whitscarver, John T.

Wickware, George W.

Wilson, William C.

World War, 1939-1945

Yasbec, Ann R.