



The Urbana Free Library

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Clyde O. McKinney
Collection, 1944-1945

Collection #341

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Sherrie Bowser, December 2021

Creator Name: Clyde McKinney

Inclusive Dates: 1944-1945

Physical Description: 3 boxes, (1.5 linear ft.)

Language: English

Provenance:

The Clyde McKinney Collection was donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in September 2021.

Access:

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Biographical Note:

Clyde O. McKinney was born September 9, 1920, in Calhoun, Richland County, Illinois, to Flaud and Stella (Wright) McKinney. He graduated from high school in Clinton, IL. On October 20, 1942, he enlisted in the Navy and served as a Seabee in the Pacific Theater, operating heavy equipment. He was discharged on December 18, 1945.

McKinney married Nadine Sterchi on May 18, 1947. He attended Eastern Illinois University and graduated with a degree in Industrial Arts. He earned a master's degree in Industrial Technology from Oregon State University. Afterward, he worked for Haliburton Services. He started teaching for ABL Community School District (Allerton-Broadlands-Longview) in 1953. There he taught Industrial Arts and Driver Education for 37 years.

He died February 11, 2009, at the age of 88, at his home in Longview, Champaign County, Illinois. He was buried in Jordan Cemetery, Fairland, Douglas County, Illinois, with full military rites.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains letters from friends and family to Clyde McKinney while serving as a Navy Seabee during World War II. The letters range from 1944-1945 and are newsy accounts about life on the home front during the war's final years. Some highlights include the joy expressed at V-J day as friends and family revel at the end of the war and the possibility of McKinney coming home soon.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged chronologically by month/year.



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Subject Terms:

Little blue book
Pocket series (Haldeman-Julius Company)
World War, 1939-1945.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Correspondence.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Personal narratives, American.

Name Terms:

Bass, Wanda E.
Colyer, Bertha
Knight, P.R
Lighthall, John W.
Litton, Carole V.
McKinney, Clyde O., 1920-2009
McKinney, Donald E.
McKinney, F.A.
McKinney, Madge
McKinney, Stanley
McKinney, Stella Wright
McKinney, Wayne
Morin, Philip F.
Queens, Harry
Stockton, Thera
Struebing, Val
Taylor, Lawrence D.
Wright, S.C.

Container List

Box 1

Folder 1: January 1944
Folder 2: November 1944
Folders 3-4: December 1944 (2 folders)
Folders 5-6: January 1945 (2 folders)
Folder 7: February 1945
Folder 8: March 1945
Folder 9: April 1945
Folder 10: May 1945

Box 2

Folder 1: June 1945
Folder 2: July 1945
Folders 3-4: August 1945 (2 folders)



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Folders 5-6: September 1945 (2 folders)

Box 3

Folders 1-2: October 1945 (2 folders)

Folder 3: November 1945

Folder 4: Ephemera – Little Blue Book No. 1715 “Funeral Services Without Theology;” Little Blue Book No. 1740 “True Prison Escapes;” and Air Mail Stickers