COLLEY, BUDDY.
Buddy Colley photographs, circa 1930-1960

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
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Collection Stored Off-Site
All or portions of this collection are housed off-site. Materials can still be requested but researchers should expect a delay of up to two business days for retrieval.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Colley, Buddy.
Title: Buddy Colley photographs, circa 1930-1960
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1459
Extent: 2.5 linear feet (2 boxes)
Abstract: Photographs of Atlanta Journal photographer Buddy Colley documenting Birmingham, Alabama, Atlanta, Georgia, and military personnel and activities in the Pacific Theater during World War II.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance to access this collection.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Related Materials in Other Repositories
Additional photographs taken by Buddy Colley are part of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Photograph Collection, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia.

Source

Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.
Custodial History
Purchased from a dealer; provenance and custodial history unknown.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Buddy Colley photographs, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript,
Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note
Acquired by Curator of Modern Political and Historical Collections, Randy Gue, as part of the
Rose Library's holdings in Southern history. All material that formed the original purchase has
been retained.

Processing
Arranged and described at the file level by Elizabeth Russey Roke, December 2018. The
collection arrived at the Rose Library in no discernible order. Elizabeth Russey Roke organized
the photographs roughly into topical categories during accessioning. During arrangement,
photographs were placed in acid free archival folders and boxes.

Collection Description

Biographical Note
Drayton Bernard Colley (1910-1982), known as "Buddy," was a photographer and professional
musician from Atlanta, Georgia. He was born in Alabama and showed an early interest in
music, performing as a house musician in local vaudeville theaters and as a percussionist
in the Birmingham Civic Symphony. In 1938 he began work as a photographer with the
Birmingham News. Colley served in the Navy in World War II as a chief photographer's mate
and photographed aerial reconnaissance for the Iwo Jima and Okinawa invasions. During
his military service, he was trained at the Eastman Kodak School of Photography, Rochester
Institute of Technology, 20th Century Fox School of Motion Picture Photography, and the Navy
School of Photography. Following the war, Colley joined the staffs of the Atlanta Journal and
the Atlanta Constitution in 1946 as a staff photographer. He became the manager of the Color
Separation Department in 1954. Colley continued to perform in Atlanta as a percussionist, most
notably with the pop concerts at the Fox and the Theater Under the Stars.

Colley married Florence Joan Mikula (1918-2011), a percussionist from Chicago, Illinois,
in 1950. They had two children, Denise Colley Tagilia and Mary Shauna Colley Lunsford
(1955-2017). He died at his home in Avondale Estates, Georgia, in April 1982 and is buried at
the North Atlanta Memorial Park and Chapel Mausoleum in Doraville, Georgia.

Scope and Content Note
This collection is composed almost entirely of photographs collected or taken by Buddy Colley
from circa 1930-1960. The majority of the photographs were taken before Colley began working
at the Atlanta Journal and the Atlanta Constitution. Photographs primarily document World War
II, local Birmingham buildings and events, vaudeville performers and performances, and sports
teams. The majority of the photographs were taken during World War II and depict military
personnel and activities in Guam and other locations in the Pacific Theater. A small number of
color images depict Atlanta, Georgia, in the 1950s and 1960s, including the skyline of Atlanta, downtown buildings, and the Georgia Governor's Mansion. The collection also includes a small amount of printed material including a reprint of an undated article about Buddy Colley from the Atlanta Journal and an advertisement for an Atlanta motel.

**Arrangement Note**
Arranged by record type, then in alphabetical order.
## Container List

### Photographs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Atlanta, Georgia, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Birmingham, Alabama, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dance, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Graham, Billy press conference, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Music and vaudeville, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sports, undated [1 of 2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sports, undated [2 of 2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unidentified individuals, undated [1 of 2]</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>World War II, 1942-1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>World War II, Guam, 1942-1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>World War II, Pacific theater, 1942-1945 [1 of 3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>World War II, Pacific theater, 1942-1945 [2 of 3]</td>
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<tr>
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<td>World War II, Pacific theater, 1942-1945 [3 of 3]</td>
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### Printed material

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<th>Content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>&quot;Engraver Plays all Percussions, Builds Hi-Fi Set,&quot; <em>Atlanta Journal</em> reprint, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>&quot;Heart of Atlanta Resort Motel,&quot; advertisement, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>