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Cole, Homer G., Collection, 1943-1989

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Cole, Homer G., Collection, MS 158

Homer G. Cole Collection

Collection Number	MS 158
Title	The Homer G. Cole Collection
Name and Location of Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas
Dates	1943 - 1989
Collection Size	.5 linear foot
Creator	Homer Cole, with material transferred from PSU History Department to the Special Collections by John Daley in 2011.
Processing Note	Collection processed in August 2017, by MaryJo Noblit Johnson (Graduate Assistant)
Scope and Content	A collection of publications, maps, photographs, newspaper clipping and materials that were in relation to World War II collected by Homer G. Cole, of Pittsburg, Kansas.
Access Restrictions	This collection is open for access. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University
Languages	English
Biographical Note	Homer G. Cole was born 1926 and raised in Carthage, Missouri until 1939, when he moved to Pittsburg, Kansas. He graduated from Pittsburg High School in May 1943 and enrolled at the Kansas State Teacher's College (now Pittsburg State University) in the naval college training program that was known as the V-7 program. In September 1943, Cole was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Force, and trained in navigation and gunnery techniques. He then served in the Army Air Force as a tail gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress with nineteen missions over Europe. He remained in the U.S. Army Air Force until 1945, and during his service was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Purple Heart, Air Combat Medal, European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal, and an Air Medal with Three Oakleaf Clusters. After Cole returned home, he completed his college education at Pittsburg State University. While a student he played basketball and set a school record for career basketball games played (110). After graduation, he coached at Goddard, Kansas for three years, served as the Parks and

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Recreation Director for Joplin, Missouri, and managed several bowling alleys. Cole also served on the Pittsburg City Commission from 1987 to 1991 and served one term as the Mayor of Pittsburg. The Pittsburg Community Center was constructed with help of Cole with Cole playing an active role in the promotion, the funding, and the development of the facility that now bears his name.

Series This collection contains primary and secondary resources and is divided into the following series:

1. Publications
2. Photographs
3. Newspaper Clippings
4. Maps

Folder List

Series 1: Publications

F. 1 Photocopy of *The History of the 487th Bombardment Group, 22 September 1943 to 7 November 1945*

F. 2 Copies of *London ARC Light* and *A Short Guide to Great Britain*

Series 2: Photographs

F. 3 Photographs of two unidentified American aircraft of World War II

Series 3: Newspaper Clippings

F. 4 Newspaper clippings pertaining to Homer G. Cole and World War II

Series 4: Maps

Flat File: Croatia, Montenegro, Hungary, Slovakia, Germany, Italy, Switzerland 1943 (Silk Map)
France, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland 1943 (Silk Map).
Germany, Protectorate, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary 1943 (Silk Map)
Holland, Belgium, France, Germany 1943 (Silk Map).
Ordnance Survey of Great Britain 1944 (Paper).