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## Stansbury, Edgar Bryant, 1906-2009 (MSS 438)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
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*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 438 STANSBURY, Edgar Bryant, 1906-2009**

1 1/2 boxes. 13 folders. 122 items. 1933-2005.  
 Originals, photocopies, photographs, and slides.

1998.71.14

***BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE***

Edgar Bryant Stansbury was born in Corbin, Kentucky on 18 July 1906 to Emmett L. (1883-1950) and Mabel Katie (Bell) (1886-1944) Stansbury. He attended the public schools in Shepherdsville, Kentucky and then matriculated at Western Kentucky State Teachers College in 1926. While at Western, Stansbury was a three-sport athlete, playing football, basketball and baseball for coach Edgar Allen Diddle. After receiving his Bachelors of Science degree in 1930, Stansbury directed athletics and taught industrial arts at Greenville and Lancaster, Kentucky.

In 1934 Stansbury became an assistant professor of physical education at Western and served as assistant coach in football and basketball and briefly as tennis coach. He received his Masters degree from George Peabody College for Teachers and did work on a Ph.D. at Iowa State University. Stansbury entered the Army Air Force in 1942. He served in Europe, the Pacific, and with the Pentagon's Special Services.

Following World War II, Stansbury returned to Western to serve as director of athletics and head of the Department of Health and Physical Education and as assistant football and basketball coach. In mid-1948 Stansbury re-joined the U.S. Air Force and eventually retired as a colonel in 1961. He then spent ten years as manager of administrative services for Honeywell and eighteen years as a staff member, and later vice president, for Bay Island Venture, a condominium management firm.

Throughout his long life, Stansbury expressed a great love for his alma mater. In 1998 he pledged more than \$1 million to fund scholarships at WKU. Stansbury married Edith Mae Ruppard in 1931; they had no children. In honor of the Stansburys's gift and long association with WKU the University named the lobby area of Diddle Arena The Colonel Edgar B. Stansbury Concourse and the media room in Cherry Hall was named the Edith R. Stansbury Room. The Stansburys were interred in Bowling Green's Fairview Cemetery.

## **COLLECTION NOTE**

This collection of personal papers documents the education and various careers of Edgar Bryant Stansbury. Of particular importance is a short diary (Folder 2) kept by Stansbury during World War II in which he discusses how he survived the torpedoing and subsequent sinking of a transport ship which was taking him to military service in Europe. The crew was imminently aware of the presence of submarines, and the diary aptly describes their fear. A scrapbook (Folder 5) in the collection documents the use of athletics as recreation for soldiers, both as spectators and as participants. An essay about this and Stansbury's work with the Pentagon's Special Services is included in Box 2 (Folder 2). Box 1 (Folder 7) contains a facsimile copy of the "Instrument of Surrender" in which the Japanese capitulated thus ending World War II; the document is in Japanese and English.

Box 2 contains an interview done with Stansbury by Western Kentucky University history professor James D. Bennett (Folder 1) which documents Stansbury's time at WKU and his military career. A photocopy of a scrapbook (Folder 4) from Stansbury's days as a student athlete contains letters from fans and legendary WKU coaches William Terry and Edgar Allen Diddle as well as photographs and news clippings. Folder 6 includes photographs documenting Stansbury's military career as well as images of his wife Edith. Other folders contain articles written by Stansbury related to physical education (Box 2, Folder 5) and his thesis on the status of industrial arts education in Kentucky (Box 1, Folder 6).

## **SHELF LIST**

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>Edgar Stansbury – Diary</b>	<b>1933-2005</b>	<b>41 items</b>
Folder 1	Inventory	1955-2005	19 items
Folder 2	Stansbury's World War II diary	1942	1 item
Folder 3	Stansbury's World War II diary – Photocopy and typescript	1942	2 items
Folder 4	Letters, telegrams, papers, etc. Of Edgar and wife Edith	1941-1957	15 items
Folder 5	Army, Air Force Pacific Ocean areas-United States Army Strategic Tactical Air Force scrapbook (photographic format) and paper (13p) written by Stansbury about scrapbook contents.	1944-1945	2 items
Folder 6	Thesis: "Status of the Industrial Arts in the Secondary Schools of Kentucky	1933	1 item
Folder 7	Copy of Japanese surrender of World War II	1945	1 item

<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Edgar Stansbury – Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1941-2004</b>	<b>81 items</b>
Folder 1	Transcription of interviews James D Bennett had with Stansbury	1976	1 item
Folder 2	U.S.A.F.: “Athletes and entertainers” essay	1941-1945	1 item
Folder 3	Article: “Principles, Memories, and Experiences” by Stansbury along with research material	2004	2 items
Folder 4	Memory book (scrapbook related to Stansbury’s participation in Western Kentucky University athletics)	n.d.	13 items
Folder 5	Published articles in <i>The Research Quarterly</i>	1941	2 items
Folder 6	Photographs and slides	1948-1990	62 items

### ***BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD***

MSS STANSBURY, Edgar Bryant, 1933-2005  
438 1906-2009

World War II diary kept by Edgar Bryant Stansbury, 1942, as well as articles by Stansbury, his thesis about industrial arts in Kentucky high schools, a scrapbook about his sports participation at Western Kentucky University, and several other items related to his experiences in World War II.

1 ½ boxes. 13 folders. 122 items.

Originals, photocopies, photographs and slides.  
1998.71.14

### ***SUBJECT ANALYTICS***

Anderson, Carl B2,F4  
Bennett, James D. (Interviewer) B2,F1  
Capitulations, Military – Japan – World War II, 1939-1945 B1,F7; B2,F3  
Diaries, 1942 – Stansbury, Edgar Bryant, 1906-2007 B1,F2-3  
Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970 B2,F4  
Fort Dix, New Jersey – Mentioned, 1942 B1,F2-3  
Industrial arts – Teachers and teaching – Kentucky – Relating to B1,F6

*Javersfonstein* (Ship) – Relating to, 1942 B1,F2-3; B2,F6  
 Physical education B2,F5  
 Stansbury, Edgar Bryant, 1906-2007 – Comments about B1,F4; B2,F4  
 Stansbury, Edgar Bryant, 1906-2007 – Photos B2,F6  
 Stansbury, Edith Mae (Ruppard), 1909-1997 – Letters to B1,F4  
 Stansbury, Edith Mae (Ruppard), 1909-1997 – Photos B2,F6  
 Stansbury, Edith Mae (Ruppard), 1909-1997 – Mentioned B1,F2-3  
 Terry, William B2,F4  
*U.S.S. Ariel* (Ship) – Relating to, 1942 B1,F2-3  
 U.S. Air Force – Relating to B1,F2-5; B2,F1,-3,6  
 Western Kentucky University – Athletics – Relating to B2,F4  
 World War II, 1939-1945 – Relating to B1,F2-5; B2,F6  
 World War II, 1939-1945 – Special Services B1,F5; B2,F2  
 World War II, 1939-1945 – Submarine warfare – Relating to B1,F2-3; B2,F6

**SEE or SEE ALSO**

Surrenders

See:

Capitulations, Military

Sledge/Jeffrey 12/07/2012