

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Capt S. T. L. Whitlam collection, ca. 1930-1940

U.S.M.S. North Star Scrapbook

PCA 471

Scrapbook containing:
81 photographs b&w
Clippings and correspondence

Processed by: Jim Simard
2007

ACQUISITION: The album was given to Glenn Bowersox by Captain Whitlam's widow Mrs. Whitlam following the Whitlam's death. Glenn Bowersox subsequently gave the album to his brother Karl Bowersox. The collection was donated by Karl Bowersox's daughter Ardis Mangels and her husband William in Sept. 2003. Accession # 2003-043.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: Album pages were removed and housed in mylar sleeves. Collection level description, with no detailed inventory.

Biographical and Historical Notes

Brothers Karl C. Bowersox and Glenn Bowersox were radio operators on board the North Star and the Boxer which preceded the North Star. As the ships only required one radio

operator per voyage, the brothers alternated years at sea and attending the University of Washington between about 1928 and 1934.

Scope and Content Notes

Scrap book maintained on board the U.S.M.S. North Star of the United States Maritime Service. Note from first page: *Contributions of photos, clippings, et al are not only welcome, but expected.*

Includes photos of Captain S. T. L. Whitlam, Frank Bliss, director of the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation Matanuska Colonization Project, 1935, photographer Otto Geist, and Jack Allman. Charcoal drawing of Captain Whitlam by Josephine Crumrine.

Album contains press clippings about the preparations of the vessel North Star for an expedition to the Antarctic with supplies for the Byrd Party. Includes correspondence from Arthur Upicksoun and Harold L. Ickes.

SUBJECTS

North Star (Supply ship)
United States Maritime Service
Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation
Matanuska Valley Colony (Alaska)
Subsistence activities
Barrow (Alaska)
Kivalina (Alaska)
Nome (Alaska)
Anchorage (Alaska)
Ukivok (Alaska)
Unalaska (Alaska)
Sledge Island (Alaska)