



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Pictorial History of NBC
Engineering Department : Photograph album

NMAH.AC.0738

Alison Oswald

2003

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	A Pictorial History of NBC Engineering Department : Photograph album
Date:	April 15, 1946-January 1, 1979.
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0738
Creator:	Howard, William A.
Extent:	0.3 Cubic feet (1 box)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection was donated to the Archives Center, National Museum of American History by William A. Howard on January 24, 2003.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, 2003.

Preferred Citation

A Pictorial History of NBC Engineering, 1946-1979, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research.

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Biographical Note

The National Broadcasting Company (NBC) was formed in 1926 and was owned by General Electric, Radio Corporation of America, and Westinghouse. The NBC Engineering Department was formed shortly after the company was formed in 1926. William A. Howard (b. 1913) was born in Gouldbusk, Texas. He graduated from Howard Payne University in 1939 with major in mathematics and science. He did graduate work at Baylor University, the University of St. Louis, the Moore School of Engineering, and Western Reserve University. During the Second World War, Howard served as a civilian radar instructor for the Air Force in Florida. In 1943, he joined the Engineering Department at Philco Corporation developing an airborne television system, and "The Block 10 Project" for the Air Force and Navy. In April 1946, Howard joined NBC as a development engineer. He worked as part of an engineering

team that developed studio and film cameras for studios in New York and Washington. He later served as Director of technical Operations for NBC radio and television stations throughout the United States from 1949-1960. Howard retired from NBC on January 1, 1979.

Scope and Contents

Collection consists of one pictorial album of 180 pages of black and white photographs and text documenting the National Broadcasting Company's (NBC) Engineering Department. The album was created by William A. Howard, a retired senior staff engineer at NBC. Mr. Howard collected original photographs from the NBC files in New York and Hollywood and assembled them into an album to document the development of radio and television. The album was disassembled and put in folders.

Arrangement

1 series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Broadcasting -- 1940-1980

Names:

National Broadcasting Company

Container Listing

Series 1: Pictorial History of NBC Engineering Department Album, 1946-1979

Box 1, Folder 1	Cover and introductory materials, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Album pages 1-27, 1946-1979
Box 1, Folder 3	Album pages 28-58, 1946-1979
Box 1, Folder 4	Album pages, 59-84, 1946-1979
Box 1, Folder 5	Album pages, 85-118, 1946-1979
Box 1, Folder 6	Album pages, 119-138, 1946-1979
Box 1, Folder 7	Album pages, 139-160, 1946-1979
Box 1, Folder 8	Album pages, 161-180, 1946-1979

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