

C Morris, Joe Alex, Sr. (1904-1990), Papers, 1926-1979  
229 2 linear feet and 1 oversize volume

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## INTRODUCTION

The papers of Joe Alex Morris, Sr., a journalist and author from Lancaster, Missouri, include story drafts and notes, correspondence, photographs, and newspaper and magazine clippings.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The Joe Alex Morris, Sr. Papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Clare M. Peckham on 8 October 1998 (Accession No. 5764).

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Joe Alex Morris, Sr. was born in 1904 in Lancaster, Missouri. Growing up in Lancaster, he worked for the *Lancaster Excelsior*, a local newspaper owned and operated by his grandfather. Morris graduated from the University of Missouri School of Journalism and began working at the *United States Daily* in 1925.

During the next five years Morris moved around the country and worked as a reporter for several different newspapers, including the *Washington News*, the *Tulsa Tribune*, and the *Denver Morning Post*. While in Tulsa he met and married Maxine Pooler.

In 1929 Morris joined the United Press in New York, where he eventually worked as the New York news editor, the Washington news editor, and the foreign editor. As foreign editor, a job that he began in 1938, he traveled throughout Europe prior to and during World War II. Morris spent several months in Vichy France, and in England during the blitz.

Following his time with the United Press, Morris worked, for a brief period, as foreign editor for the *New York Herald Tribune* and later as managing editor of *Collier's* magazine. While at *Collier's* he returned to Europe to cover post-war events, such as the entrance of U.S. troops into Berlin.

In 1950 Morris left *Collier's* to begin a career as a free-lance reporter, writing for magazines such as the *Saturday Evening Post* and *National Geographic*. His articles covered political and theatrical personalities and travel.

Morris also wrote and co-authored several books after leaving *Collier's*. These books covered both non-fiction and fiction topics and included *What a Year, 1929*; *Deadline Every Minute*; *The Birdwatcher*; *Nelson Rockefeller: A Biography*; *Those Rockefeller Brothers*; *Private Papers of Senator Vandenberg*; and *Dear Mr. President*. He also assisted Eleanor Roosevelt in writing *On My Own* and General Mark Clark in writing *Calculated Risk*.

Morris and his wife Maxine had two children, Clare Morris Peckham and Joe Alex Morris, Jr. Joe Alex Morris, Jr. was killed in 1979 while working as a reporter in the Middle East.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Joe Alex Morris, Sr., Papers include story drafts and notes, correspondence, photographs, and newspaper and magazine clippings that primarily document Morris's reporting career. The papers are arranged into three series: **Articles**, **Books**, and **Miscellaneous**.

The **Articles** series consists of two subseries: Notes and Drafts and Published Articles. The Notes and Drafts subseries contains notes for and drafts of stories written by Morris, as well as, in a few cases, some correspondence concerning the story's publication. This subseries is arranged by story title. The Published Articles subseries includes issues of magazines in which Morris's stories appear, loose clippings of miscellaneous articles, and a scrapbook kept by Morris containing clippings of his stories as well as articles about him.

The **Books** series comprises clippings of reviews of and correspondence concerning several of the books written or co-authored by Morris and is arranged alphabetically by book title.

The **Miscellaneous** series includes correspondence, photographs, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous family items arranged alphabetically by subject and type of material.

## FOLDER LIST

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- f. 3 Duke of Windsor
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- f. 26 Gettysburg Reunion
- f. 27 "History Book Stuff"
- f. 28 "Laboratory Experiment"
- f. 29 "Reign of the Roosevelts"
- f. 30 "Solidarity—While the Good Jobs Last"
- f. 31 "Something to See"
- f. 32 "Time and Colonel Lindbergh"
- f. 33 Vichy, France
- f. 34 "Victory"
- f. 35-44 World War II
- f. 45-51 World War II—Lisbon

## Published Articles Subseries

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- f. 54 Miscellaneous Articles
- v. 1 Scrapbook

**Books Series**

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 f. 56            *Deadline Every Minute*  
 f. 57            *Nelson Rockefeller: A Biography*  
 f. 58            *The Private Papers of Senator Vandenberg*

**Miscellaneous Series**

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