
Finding Aid for the Phil Karlson Papers, 1954-1969

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Finding Aid for the Phil Karlson Papers, 1954-1969

Collection number: 345

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA

Processed by:

Manuscripts Division staff

Encoded by:

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Online finding aid edited by:

Josh Fiala, November 2003

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Phil Karlson Papers,

Date (inclusive): 1954-1969

Collection number: 345

Creator: Karlson, Phil, 1908-

Extent: 3 boxes (1.5 linear ft.)

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Dept. of Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: Phil Karlson (1908-) was born Philip N. Karlstein. He worked in many positions at Universal Studios, including propman, film editor, associate producer, and finally as feature editor in 1944. He was known for directing realistic crime films. The collection consists of screenplays and related materials of motion pictures directed by Karlson. Most screenplays are heavily annotated, and some contain drawings, timing notes, schedules, memos, and cast lists.

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Language: English.

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Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Gift of Phil Karlson.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Phil Karlson Papers (Collection 345). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

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Biography

Karlson was born Philip N. Karlstein on July 2, 1908 in Chicago, Illinois; studied law at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles; worked in many positions at Universal Studios, including propman, film editor, associate producer, and finally as feature editor in 1944; became known for directing realistic crime films, including *Scandal sheet* (1952), *99 River street* (1953), *Tight spot*, *Five against the house*, and *the Phenix city story* (all 1955), *The brothers Rico* (1957), and *Walking tall*

(1973).

Scope and Content

Collection consists of screenplays and related materials of motion pictures directed by Phil Karlson. Most screenplays are heavily annotated, and some contain drawings, timing notes, schedules, memos, and cast lists. Also includes a television script for the final draft pilot of *The untouchables*.

Organization and Arrangement

Arranged in the following series:

1. *Tight spot, Five against the house, Gunman's walk, Key witness* (Box 1).
2. *The young doctors, Kid Galahad, Rampage, The silencers* (Box 2).
3. *The hornet's nest, The untouchables* (final draft pilot screenplay for television) (Box 3).

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Karlson, Phil, 1908- --Archives.

Motion picture producers and directors--California, Southern--Archives.

Screenplays.

Motion Picture Manuscripts

Box 1

Tight Spot. 1955. "Dead Pigeon."

Physical Description: Final draft screenplay, revised, September 7, 1954, bound in full red leather with gold stamping.

Scope and Content Note

A Columbia Pictures film production

Produced by Lewis J. Rachmil

Directed by Phil Karlson

Written by William Bowers

Starring Ginger Rogers, Edward G. Robinson, Lorne Greene

Box 1

Five Against The House. 1955.

Physical Description: Final draft screenplay, November 2, 1954, bound in full red leather and signed.

Scope and Content Note

A Columbia Pictures film production

Produced by Stirling Silliphant, John Barnwell

Directed by Phil Karlson

Written by Stirling Silliphant, William Bowers, John Barnwell

Starring Guy Madison, Kim Novak, Brian Keith

Box 1

Gunman's Walk. 1958.

Physical Description: Final draft screenplay, November 4, 1957, heavily annotated throughout and signed. This also includes the location and shooting schedules.

Scope and Content Note

A Columbia Pictures film production

Produced by Fred Kohlmar

Directed by Phil Karlson

Written by Frank Nugent

Starring Van Heflin, Tab Hunter, Kathryn Grant

Box 1

Key Witness . 1961.

Physical Description: Final draft screenplay, August 18, 1959. Mr. Karlson's working copy, heavily annotated throughout with all inter-office. memos, all schedules and cast lists. Signed.

Scope and Content Note

An MGM film production
Produced by Kathryn Buckman
Directed by Phil Karlson
Written by Sidney Michaels
Starring Jeff Hunter, Pat Crowley, Dennis Hopper

Box 2

The Young Doctors. 1961.

Physical Description: Final shooting script, December 5, 1960, Mr. Karlson's working copy, heavily annotated throughout, includes location schedules, signed.

Scope and Content Note

A United Artists film production
Produced by Stuart Millar, Lawrence Turman
Directed by Phil Karlson
Written by Joseph Hayes
Starring Ben Gazzara, Frederic March, Ina Balin

Box 2

Kid Galahad. 1962.

Physical Description: Copy of the final shooting script, October 4, 1961. Mr. Karlson's working copy, heavily annotated throughout and signed.

Scope and Content Note

A United Artists film production
Produced by David Weisbart
Directed by Phil Karlson
Written by William Fay
Starring Elvis Presley, Gig Young, Lola Albright

Box 2

Rampage. 1963.

Physical Description: Final draft screenplay, August 22, 1962. Mr. Karlson's working copy, heavily annotated throughout. This includes an English-Malay vocabulary and all revised schedules. Signed.

Scope and Content Note

A Seven Arts film production
Produced by William Fadiman
Directed by Phil Karlson
Written by Robert L. Holt
Starring Robert Mitchum, Elsa Martinelli, Sabu

Box 2

The Silencers. 1966.

Physical Description: Final draft's screenplay, revised, June 17, 1965, signed.

Scope and Content Note

A Columbia Pictures film production

Produced by Irving Allen

Directed by Phil Karlson

Written by Oscar Soul

Starring Dean Martin, Stella Stevens, Daliah Lavi

Box 3

The Silencers. 1966.

Physical Description: Storyboard with the layout of every shot as directed by Mr. Karlson, 145 drawings and a summary of all timing notes.

Box 3

The Hornet's Nest.

Physical Description: Final draft screenplay, January 15, 1969, heavily annotated throughout and signed.

Box 3

The Untouchables. March 1959.

Physical Description: Final draft pilot screenplay, in two parts, heavily annotated throughout and signed.

Scope and Content Note

TV

Produced by Desilu Productions

Directed by Phil Karlson

Written by Paul Monash

Starring Robert Stack, Neville Brand, Pat Crowley