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:
Caroline Cubé
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.
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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).
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

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

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

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 Hornet's Nest.*

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 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