

**A GUIDE TO THE PAPERS OF
EARLE H. "BUD" GILLIS, JR**

National Public Broadcasting Archives
University of Maryland Libraries

Processed by: Karen E. King, Bryan E. Cornell
February 1993; revised November 1995
0.25 lin. ft.

BIOGRAPHY

Radio announcer and executive Earle H. "Bud" Gillis, Jr. was born on December 27, 1919 in Danville, Illinois. He attended elementary and secondary schools in Danville, before enrolling at the University of Illinois to work on a B.A. in speech. After his graduation in 1941, Gillis spent the following two years as a radio announcer. He was chief announcer at WDAN radio in Danville and he was staff announcer in Evansville, Indiana for WGBF radio. Following this initial work in radio, Gillis entered the military and became a Second Lieutenant in the Army's Medical Administrative Corps. In the Army he was able to use his knowledge of radio to announce and to help construct and manage a hospital broadcasting system in Wakeman General Hospital, Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

In December of 1946, Gillis returned to civilian life as an announcer and newscaster for WHKC Radio. From 1953 to 1962 Gillis was Program Manager for WLWC/Channel 4 where he supervised all programming, coordinated program schedules with NBC, and handled on-air talent. During the following eight years Gillis served as Executive Secretary for the Ohio Educational Television Network Commission. Here, Gillis helped construct and operate a statewide television network that greatly increased the number of viewers in Ohio. By 1969, the Ohio General Assembly was willing to authorize more than \$5.5 million for the network.

In the 1970's Gillis held a variety of jobs in broadcasting. Between 1970 and 1971, he helped produce mobile color remote television as an administrative assistant to the President of the RME Group of Communications Companies. Between 1973 and 1976 he was a TV commercial announcer for the Big Bear Supermarket Chain. During this period he also worked for the Ohio Department of Education as an educational consultant. At this job he coordinated a newly formed educational media center, assisted the Superintendent of Public Instructions, supervised special projects, and acted as the publications review specialist. From 1977 until his retirement in 1988 Gillis was Vice President of development for WCET in Cincinnati, while also acting as "Uncle Bud" for children's programs.

Gillis is a widower, has no children, boasts excellent health, and lives in Cincinnati.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Papers of Earle H. "Bud" Gillis, Jr. cover the years 1961 to 1967, with the bulk of the collection from 1962 to 1965. The collection documents Gillis's involvement with the growth of educational television in Ohio. Types of documents in the collection include speeches, and photocopies of clippings.

The collection consists of one series:

Series 1: Ohio Educational Television

PROVENANCE

The Papers of Earle H. "Bud" Gillis were donated to the National Public Broadcasting Archives, University of Maryland Libraries by Earle H. "Bud" Gillis in 1991.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1: Ohio Educational Television, 1961-1967 (0.25 lin. ft.)

This series documents the growth of educational television in Ohio in the early 1960s. In speeches before various groups including the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, Gillis discusses topics such as transmission facilities, financial and legislative issues, the historic impact of television on popular culture and the challenges facing educational television. Photocopied newspaper clippings focus on the various educational television stations in Ohio. The materials were arranged in a chronological order.

BOX INVENTORY

SERIES 1: OHIO EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION

Box	Folder	
1	1	Report of the Ohio Interim Educational Television Study Commission to the 104th Ohio General Assembly, February 15, 1961 Ohio Council on Educational Television
	2	Speeches, 1962-1967
	3	Clippings, 1962-1965