

GEORGE C. MARSHALL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

COLLECTION SUMMARY SHEET

COLLECTION: ARNOLD (WILLIAM RICHARD) PAPERS
ACCESSION NUMBER: 3
DONOR: William Richard Arnold (Major General U.S.A. Ret.)
DATE OF GIFT: April 25, 1963
SIZE: 2 cubic feet/5 document boxes
INCLUSIVE DATES: 1937-1945

BIOGRAPHICAL AND SUBJECT SUMMARY:

WILLIAM RICHARD ARNOLD (1881-1965) was Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Army, from 1937-1945. He was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1908 and entered the army as a chaplain in 1913. He was promoted to the rank of major in April, 1927; to lieutenant colonel in April, 1933 and to colonel when appointed Chief of Chaplains December 23, 1937. He was promoted to brigadier general on November 21, 1941 and to major general on November 17, 1944. Arnold retired from the military in June 1945 and was consecrated Bishop of Phocaea, Military Vicariat on October 11, 1945. He died on January 7, 1965 in New York.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AND ARRANGEMENT:

The material in the collection spans Arnold's period as Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Army, 1937-1945. The collection is arranged in two series. The first consists mainly of personal correspondence between Arnold and friends or other chaplains. The second series consists of two articles which Arnold wrote for publication in 1939 and c. 1943. Photographs, postcards and periodicals included in the collection have been separated from the papers. A list of these items and their disposition is included in the register.

RESTRICTIONS: None
LOCATION: Vault-Upper Level
COLLECTION REGISTER AVAILABLE: Yes

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ARNOLD (WILLIAM RICHARD) 1881-1965. PAPERS, 1937-1945. 5 boxes/2 cubic feet.

Biographical Sketch

William Richard Arnold was born in Wooster, Ohio on June 10, 1881, the son of Augustine Adam and Catherine Mary (Dalton) Arnold. He attended St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana and graduated in 1902. Arnold next attended St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, New York, after which he was ordained a Roman Catholic priest on June 13, 1908.

William Arnold entered the army in April 1913 as a chaplain with the rank of first lieutenant. His first assignment was at Ft. Washington, Maryland, where he served as chaplain from June 1913 to August 1915. He was then stationed at Ft. Mills, Corregidor, Philippine Islands from September 1915 to July 1918. Upon his return to the states, Arnold served briefly at Ft. Winfield Scott, California. In September 1918 he was assigned as an instructor at the Chaplain Training School, Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky, remaining in that position until December 1918. Arnold was next sent to Ft. Hancock, New Jersey, in January 1919. In May of that year, he was promoted to captain. His next assignment was the director of the Chaplain Training School at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, from August 1925 to April 1929. During that period, Arnold received his promotion to major in April 1927. His next assignment was again in the Philippines, as Department Chaplain, stationed at Ft. McKinley from June 1929 to June 1931. When he returned, Arnold served at Ft. Bliss, Texas, from November 1931 to June 1937, where he performed a number of duties. He was chaplain of the First Cavalry Division and Supervising Chaplain of the Arizona, New Mexico, West Texas District of the Civilian Conservation Corps. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in April 1933. He then served briefly again as the director of the Chaplain Training School at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, from June to November 1937.

On December 23, 1937 Arnold was called to Washington and appointed Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Army, with the rank of colonel. Aside from military promotions, he was elevated to Monsignor in the Catholic Church on August 11, 1938 and appointed Papal Chamberlain in 1940. Arnold was promoted to brigadier general on November 21, 1941 and was reappointed Chief of Chaplains on December 23 of that same year. In 1942 he was appointed Domestic Prelate. He reached the rank of major general on November 17, 1944.

Arnold was relieved as Army Chief of Chaplains on April 1, 1945. He then served as Assistant Inspector General for religious affairs until June. On June 10, 1945 Arnold retired from the military. He had been named Bishop of Phocaea, Military Vicariat on May 15 and was consecrated to that position by Bishop Spellman on October 11, 1945. He spent the last twenty years of his life traveling and carrying out his duties as bishop, and died at St. Clare's Hospital, New York City on January 7, 1965.

Scope and Content Note

The William Richard Arnold Papers, 1937-1945, are divided into two series: correspondence and writings. Both of these series treat only the eight years that Bishop Arnold was the U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains.

The correspondence spans the years 1937-1945 and is arranged chronologically. Three sources make up the bulk of this correspondence: Arnold's friends from other military duties, chaplains serving under him, and military personnel asking for guidance or favors.

A calendar prepared by Arnold's staff, lists the names of correspondents and the dates of letters and is included at the beginning of the series. The order of the correspondence in this calendar reflects neither its current chronological arrangement, nor the order which existed when the collection came to the Marshall Foundation. The calendar has been retained as it does provide some access to this series by correspondents' names.

The writings consist of two articles which Arnold wrote for publication during the period he was Chief of Chaplains. The first, "The Chaplain, His Place and Work", was published in The Presbyterian, August 3, 1939. The second, entitled "The Army Chaplain's Part in the War", was written sometime during World War II. It is not known if it was ever published.

Additionally, there are materials which have been separated from the papers. There include photographs of Arnold's friends and military associates; postcards; magazine articles and clippings; and periodicals.

Presented by William R. Arnold, 25 April, 1963. Accession number 3.

M. Puglisi (JMU intern) - B. Nowlin - J. Jacob
12 June 1980

Container List

Box/Folder

CORRESPONDENCE, 1937-1945.

1	1	Calendar, 1937-1945.
1	2-32	1937-1941.
2	1-34	1942, January-September.
3	1-46	1942 October-1943 November.
4	1-33	1943 December-1944 November.
5	1-14	1944 December-1945 May.

5	15	WRITINGS, 1939 & c. 1943.
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GEORGE C. MARSHALL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

SEPARATION RECORD

COLLECTION: WILLIAM RICHARD ARNOLD PAPERS

ACCESSION NUMBER: 03

The following items have been removed from the collection:

Description of items	Location
<p><u>Publications:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two copies of <u>The Presbyterian</u> containing "The Chaplain, His Place and Work" by Chaplain William R. Arnold, August 3, 1939. 2. <u>The Mark Twain Quarterly</u>, sent as a gift to Chaplain Arnold by the Mark Twain Society. Summer-Fall, 1944. 	<p>Library</p>
<p><u>Photographs:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set of 16 postcards of U.S. Hospital ships at Charleston, S.C. c. 1945 February. 2. Irving Twiss, to William R. Arnold, March 9, 1939. 3. Tom Bowen, to William R. Arnold, January, 1940. 4. Rev. Matthew K. Mern, to William R. Arnold, June 3, 1942. 5. Bro. John Keplinger, to William R. Arnold, December 12, 1939. 6. John A. Miller, to William R. Arnold, October 7, 1944. 7. Jim Murphy, Bede Cameron, Bill Malloy, Ed Whelley, Ed Tansky, Connelly. From Chaplain Anselm M. Keefe to William R. Arnold, February 25, 1944. 8. Lt. Col. Arthur Treadwell Dalton to William R. Arnold, February 18, 1944. 9. Lt. Charles L. Williams, taken October, 1915, to William R. Arnold, April 4, 1942. 10. Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bessler, to William R. Arnold, January 1, 1945. 11. Three photos of Fred Lichtward, from Susan A. Lichtward to William R. Arnold, September 20, 1943. 12. Robert Groman to William R. Arnold. 13. Three photos of Father Ed, North Africa from Claire T. Martin to William R. Arnold, October 5, 1943. 14. Mgarr Church, Malta. Rev. Edgar W. Salmone to William R. Arnold, July 16, 1943. 	<p>uncataloged photographs GCM #4716 - #4731 GCM ↓ # 4702 - # 4715</p>

8. Information on literary rights available in repository: Yes , Do not know .
9. Nature of acquisition (gift, permanent deposit, etc.), date(s) and source(s) of acquisition and former owner(s):

Gift from Bishop William R. Arnold, April 25, 1963.

10. If this is, or was, part of another collection, state name and relationship:

11. DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION.

This description should cover: types of papers (e.g., correspondence, letters, diaries, documents, etc.); dates, subjects, and types of groups of materials that bulk largest; relationship of the material to specific phases of the career or activity of the principal named in item 2; full names, dates, and biographical identification of other persons and names of corporate bodies significant (by quality and quantity of material) to the collection, showing dates, types, and subject matter; geographical areas covered; specific events, topics, and historical periods with which the materials deal; and particular items of extraordinary interest.

The William R. Arnold Papers span the years 1937-1945. The collection was donated to the George C. Marshall Research Foundation in April 1963 by Bishop Arnold.

The papers are divided into two series, both covering the eight years that Arnold was the U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains.

Series one contains Bishop Arnold's correspondence during his term as Chief of Chaplains. Arnold exchanged letters and cards with many friends he had made during his various military duties and these are included in the papers. Arnold also corresponded with many of the chaplains serving under him, and this is included. Another source of this correspondence is military personnel asking for guidance or favors from Arnold.

Series two is made up of two articles which Arnold wrote for publication during the period he was Chief of Chaplains. The first, "The Chaplain, His Place and Work", was published in The Presbyterian, August 3, 1939. The second, entitled "The Army Chaplain's Part in the War", was probably written circa 1943.

In addition to the two main series, there are materials which have been separated from the papers. These include photographs of Arnold's friends and military associates, postcards, magazine articles and clippings, and original publications. All of these were collected through Bishop Arnold's correspondence.