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A Guide to the
Louis Joseph Meyer Papers
1939-1984 (bulk 1942-1946)

1.0 Cubic feet

UPT 50 M612

Prepared by Michael Ellerson
January 2010

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PROVENANCE

Donated by Louis Keeler, December 18, 2009 (Accession No. 2009:61).

ARRANGEMENT

The Louis J. Meyer Papers have been arranged alphabetically.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Louis Joseph Meyer was born in Philadelphia in 1897, the son of a gold and silversmith. In 1914 he entered St. Charles Seminary in Overbrook, Pennsylvania and was ordained a priest in the Roman Catholic Church in 1923. For the next nineteen years Fr. Meyer was a parish priest in the Diocese of Philadelphia, serving in the parishes of St. Mary in St. Clair, St. Francis in Norristown, St. Bartholomew in Northeast Philadelphia, Immaculate Conception in Fishtown, St. Cyril in East

Lansdowne, St. Margaret in Narberth, and Visitation Blessed Virgin Mary in Kensington. During this period he also attended classes in 1934 at the University of Pennsylvania.

With United States entry into World War II, Meyer joined the Army Reserve as a chaplain and was assigned to the 20th General Hospital. The unit reported to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana for training in June 1942 and was sent to India in early 1943. Fr. Meyer would serve in the China-Burma-India Theater of Operations for the duration of the war.

After his discharge from the services in 1946, Fr. Meyer returned to parish duties in the Philadelphia area, serving first as assistant pastor of Our Lady of Mercy church in North Philadelphia and then, from 1948 until 1972., as founding pastor of the Holy Cross Parish in Springfield In 1965 he was elevated to Monsignor, and retired in 1972. Fr. Meyer passed away in 1985.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Louis Joseph Meyer Papers document his services as military chaplain with the 20th General Hospital in India during World War II. It contains copies of Meyer's diary (in both handwritten and typescript form), correspondence, photographs, and printed material. The collection was initially used by Meyer's nephew, Louis Keeler, to write *THE CHALICE: LETTERS AND DIARY OF REV. LOUIS MEYER*, West Conshohocken, PA: Infinity Publishing Co., 2009 (UPT 2 K29). Manuscript copies of the biography chapters are included.

Additional collections relating to the U. S. Army 20th General Hospital are the U.S. Army 20th General Hospital Records (UPC 15), the I. S. Ravdin Papers (UPT 50 R252), and the Harold G. Sheie Papers (UPT 50 S318).

CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Corporate Name(s)

- United States. Army. General Hospital, 20th.

Subject(s)

- Military chaplains--Catholic Church.
- Military chaplains--Diaries.--United States
- World War, 1939-1945--Burma.
- World War, 1939-1945--Chaplains--United States.

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INVENTORY

CORRESPONDENCE	Box	Folder
Medical Ward, 1943-1945	1	1
To Mother and Father: June 2, 1942-November 4, 1942	1	2
To Mother and Father: April 11, 1943- August 10, 1943	1	3
DIARY	Box	Folder
Handwritten		
Friday, April 2, 1943- Sunday, November 26, 1943	1	4
Oct - Nov. 1943 (The Bishops Visit)	1	5
Saturday, January 1, 1944- Thursday, August 31, 1944	1	6
Building of the Ledo Road Chapel	1	7
Darjeeling, 1944	1	8
Manuscript		
Chapter 1- Chapter 2	1	9
Chapter 3	1	10
You're in the Army Now (Summer 1942- The Ocean Waves (Feb. 17, 1943)	1	11

The Ocean Waves (Feb. 20,1943)- New Life on the Ledo Road (March 28, 1943)	1	12
Duplicates of Chapters	1	13
Typscript		
Burma, 1942	1	14
June 11, 1942- January 5, 1943	1	15
Saturday, Jan. 16, 1943- Wednesday, March 24, 1943	1	16
Thursday, March 25 1943- Wednesday, June 9, 1943	1	17
Tuesday, June 15, 1943- Sunday November 7, 1943	1	18
Report about the Evacuation from Burma, 1942	1	19
MISCELLANEOUS		
	Box	Folder
Handwritten and Typed Works, 1942-1947	1	20
Timeline of World War II, n.d.	1	21
NOTEBOOK		
	Box	Folder
Notes of Sick Call Hospital in India, 1943-1945	1	22
PHOTOGRAPHS		
	Box	Folder
Album, ca. 1942-1945 (1)	1	23
Album, ca. 1942-1945 (2)	1	24
Album, ca. 1942-1945 (3)	1	25
Images and Notes, n.d.	1	26
Panoramic Picture of the 20th General Hospital members at Camp Claiborne, 1942	OS 1	

PRINTED MATERIALS	Box	Folder
Description of India's geographics, demographics, and culture	1	27
Harold G. Scheie, 1970-1972	1	28
History of Roman Catholic Choir: 20th General Hospital Military Chapel, n.d.	1	29
The Ledo Road, n.d.	1	30
Newspaper Clippings: India, 1943-1946 Folder 1	1	31
Newspaper Clippings: India, 1943-1946 Folder 2	1	32
Newspaper Clippings and Magazine Articles, 1945	1	33
Pamphlets, 1942-1972	1	34
University of Penn Health Affairs Magazine, 1984	1	35