

Descriptive Finding Guide for the Arnold, George B. Personal Papers SDASM.SC.10006

Finding aid prepared by Alan Renga

San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives

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SERIES I: Blueprints and Documents SERIES II: Photos and Negatives

Title: George B. Arnold Personal Papers

Identifier/Call Number: SDASM.SC.10006

Contributing Institution: San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.36 Cubic feetOne (1) box, 12.5" x 10" x 5"

Date (inclusive): 1893-1956

Abstract: In 1937, George Arnold was in Shien Chaio, China to build an aircraft factory. This collection was assembled by the San Diego Air and Space Museum. Central Aircraft (CAMCO) was located in Shien Chaio, China. This collection contains photographs of factory staff and many Chinese workers and gives an insight into the company's production.

Conditions Governing Access note

The collection is open to researchers by appointment.

Related Archival Materials note

Digitized images from this collection are available at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/sets/72157633156059833>

Albums AL-23A, AL-23B, AL-23C, AVG Photo Collection: (03-Series)

Preferred Citation note

[Item], [Filing Unit], [Series Title], [Subgroups], [Record Group Title and Number], [Repository "San Diego Air & Space Museum Library & Archives"]

Conditions Governing Use note

Some copyright may be reserved. Consult with the library director for more information.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

The materials in this collection were donated to the San Diego Air & Space Museum. The collection has been processed and is open for research with no restrictions.

Biographical/Historical note

George B. Arnold (1893 – 1956) served as vice president and general manager of Central Aircraft Manufacturing Company (CAMCO) in China, then as an associate with Curtiss-Wright in Buffalo and in China. He passed away in Altamonte Springs, Florida, on November 17, 1956. Photographs depict the factory in China and have dates that range from 1934-1939. Born in Madisonville, KY, George Arnold started flying gliders in 1909. After graduating as an engineer from the University of Kentucky, he went to work for the Curtiss Airplane & Motor Co., and in 1925 became factory superintendent of the Buhl Aircraft Co. He then served in various capacities in companies such as B/J Aircraft Co., in Baltimore, Chance-Vought Corporation at East Hartford, as vice president and general manager of Central Aircraft Manufacturing Co. in China, then as an associate with Curtiss-Wright in Buffalo and in China. Starting in 1933, CAMCO began assembling fighter-bombers at a factory in Hangzhou, constructing aircraft that would serve as the backbone of the Chinese Air Force during the first year of the Sino-Japanese War. In 1937, George Arnold was in Shien Chaio, China, to build the aircraft factory. After overseeing operations in Shien Chaio, he returned to the United States where he operated a plant in Miami, manufacturing aircraft parts and other wartime products for the duration of World War II.

 <https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/sets/72157633156059833>

Scope and Contents note

Collection consist of 1 box, 12" x 2.5" x 10, and contains 113 photographs, 12 negatives, blueprints and documentation regarding factory work in China.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Arnold, George B., 1893-1956

Central Aircraft Manufacturing Company (China).

Curtiss-Wright Corporation.

China

Curtiss Hawk 2

World War, 1939-1945

World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--Pacific Area

Box 1

Folder 01 - Chinese language blueprint of factory.
Folder 02 - Documentation of purchase for second factory and item purchase list, December 15, 1939.
Folder 03 - 113 photographs of factory floor and various personnel.
Folder 04 - 12 Negatives and original envelopes containing negatives (Chinese language materials).