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 feet (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”]

**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 were 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

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**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).