

Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections  
University of South Carolina Libraries

**Pittman Shay Collection of Major General  
Ralph P. Cousins, 1915-1965  
Collection: Mss. 2017: 1**

**Contact information:**

Rare Books and Special Collections  
University of South Carolina Libraries  
1322 Greene Street Columbia SC 29208  
(803) 777-3847  
email: [tclrare@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:tclrare@mailbox.sc.edu)

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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Pittman Shay Collection of Major General Ralph P. Cousins, 1915-1965

**Collection Number:** Mss. 2017: 1

**Creator:** Pittman Shay

**Extent:** 1 box

## **Administrative Information**

**Provenance:** Gift of Arader Galleries, 2017

**Processed by:** Raef Mills

**Access Restrictions:** Open to research

**Preferred Citation:** [Item], Pittman Shay Collection of Major General Ralph P. Cousins, Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of South Carolina Libraries

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## **Scope and Contents Note**

Born in Texas on December 1, 1891, Ralph P. Cousins attended West Point Academy and went on to serve in the United States Air Force until his retirement in 1946. He was involved in the Mexican Expedition, fought overseas in World War I, and performed various leadership tasks before and during World War II. Cousins earned a Masters of Science degree at Yale University in 1922. During 1923, he oversaw Air Corps radio communications and installations, a system, which would eventually become the basis for the commercial aviation system. He is rated a command pilot, combat observer, and aircraft observer

This collection comprises documents and a photograph related to Maj. Gen. Cousins's time in the military, as well as the funereal flag.

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# Contents

Series I: Military Service

Series II: Realia

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## Container List

### Series I: Military Service

#### Box 1

The Howitzer, 1915 (U.S.M.A. West Point Yearbook). New York: Blanchard Press

U.S.M.A. West Point Association of Graduates Life Membership Card, class of 1915

Eisenhower letter, July 15, 1965

Photo of Maj. Gen. Ralph P. Cousins in uniform, no date

### Series II: Realia

Burial flag, 1964