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.
Contents

Series I: Military Service
Series II: Realia

Container List

Series I: Military Service

Box 1

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