

# Princeton University Library

## DEPARTMENT OF RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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### William Alfred Eddy Papers, 1859-1978: Finding Aid

#### Summary Information

- Call number:** MC041
- Location:** Princeton University Library. Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.  
Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library.  
Public Policy Papers.  
65 Olden Street Princeton, New Jersey 08540 USA
- Size:** 10.5 linear feet
- Language(s) of material:** English. A small portion of the material is in French, with no translation. A certain amount of the material concerning the Middle East is in Arabic; there is nearly always a translation by Eddy clipped to it (the accuracy and/or completeness of which has not yet been determined).
- Abstract:** The papers of William A. Eddy (1896-1962), educator, diplomat, minister to Saudi Arabia, intelligence agent, and college president, focus on his presidency of Hobart College (1936-1941), his work in U.S. - Middle East policy, and his family life in the period from 1917-1962. The holdings of his personal and family correspondence is extensive. The collection contains all correspondence from his term as president of Hobart College, 1936-1941. Many military documents are included, especially in the years

1941-1946 (the planning of the North African landings, the FDR/Ibn Saud meeting, the Treaty of the Yemen). There are many geneological papers and letters from Eddy's relatives concerning American missionary work in the Middle East. There are numerous publications concerning 18th C. English literature, religious and civic duties, U.S. Foreign policy re Israel and the Arabs, and sociological accounts of the Middle East. The collection is composed of personal/professional correspondence, documents, diaries and notebooks, addresses, publications, manuscripts of Eddy's books and articles (including unpublished MSs), scrapbooks, photographs, negatives, and memorabilia.

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## Biography of William A. Eddy

William A. Eddy was born in Sidon, Syria, on March 9th, 1896. He was graduated from Princeton in 1917, the year in which he married Mary Garvin. His A.M. and Ph.D were also from Princeton. In WWI he was badly wounded at Belleau Wood and received many citations. From 1922-1936 he taught English at Peekskill Military Academy and Dartmouth College, and was chairman of the department of English at the American University, Cairo. In 1936 he was called to be president of Hobart College. With the outbreak of the second World War he offered his services again to the Marines, was commissioned a Major and was made a full colonel in the staff of Mark Clark. In 1942 Eddy was Naval Attache in Tangier, and was instrumental in the planning of the Allied North African landings. In 1944 he resigned from the Marine Corps to become Minister Plenipotentiary to Saudi Arabia. Fluent in Arabic (and French), he acted as interpreter for President Roosevelt and King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia during the historic meeting in the Suez Canal, and was key in developing the U.S. treaty with The Yemen in 1946. He served in the OSS and CIA for the remainder of his life, and was also a full-time consultant for the Arabian-American Oil Company. He died at his home in Beirut in 1962.

## Description

Consists of papers of Eddy (Princeton Class of 1917). Included are notes and articles (and drafts) concerning his interests in the Arabic language, 18th-century literature, and Jonathan Swift; Hobart College presidency correspondence and related scrapbooks; military documents regarding his role in planning WWII North African landings, the President Roosevelt/King Ibn Saud meeting at the Suez Canal, and the U.S. treaty with Yemen (1946); numerous addresses, some college journals, and class notebooks; and photographs of Middle East dignitaries and landscapes. In addition, there are genealogical papers, memoirs, family correspondence, and papers (1937-1978) of his wife, Mary Garvin Eddy.

### **Series I, Correspondence, (1858-1978)**

Series I, Correspondence: (1858-1978) The Correspondence is divided alphabetically by correspondent and chronologically within these sections. "General Correspondence" deals with Eddy's professional, day-to-day correspondence, and the "William A. Eddy" series contains his personal letters. A large portion of the collection is letters to and from his wife and four children (much of it carbon copies; the originals still may be retained by the three surviving children). A great number of his wife's personal papers are included. Other extensive selections are the professional correspondence from the Hobart presidency (1936-1941), personal correspondence from the World War I era, and files on Tangier (1942) and The Yemen (1946). Individual files include correspondence with Dorothy Thompson, Robert Murphy, and John Foster Dulles.

### **Series II, Documents, (1917-1969)**

Series II, Documents: (1917-1969) The Documents principally concern Eddy's military promotions, citations and service records from both World Wars, medical records, geneological information, part of his will and property deeds, and a list of books in his personal library. They are arranged chronologically.

### **Series III, Publications, (1920-1963)**

**Series III, Publications: (1920-1963)** These are publications by William A. Eddy only; no publications concerning him by others are included in this collection. These articles are essentially of three types: the earliest are articles from scholarly journals concerning eighteenth-century English literature, especially satire. From his academic career also are many sermons and pamphlets of a religious nature. The third type of article is from popular magazines and concerns U.S.-Middle Eastern relations. They are arranged chronologically.

**Series IV, Addresses, (1924-1957)**

Series IV, Addresses: (1924-1957) Eddy's Addresses are on the same topics as the Publications, and often material actually overlaps from article to address, and vice-versa. They are arranged chronologically.

**Series V, Diaries and Notebooks, (1914-1961)**

Series V, Diaries and Notebooks: (1914-1961) Some of the journals are class notebooks from Eddy's college days. Others are "class notes" for classes that Eddy was teaching as a young professor; they give a coherent idea of his opinions on various literary subjects. There is a short diary kept by his future wife Mary Garvin from 1914-1915. Also contained in the series are daybooks and journals for various years, and a set of "Middle-east memoirs". They are chronologically arranged.

**Series VI, Memorabilia, (1918-1963)**

Series VI, Memorabilia: (1918-1963) Principally Middle-Eastern and military mementoes. They are arranged chronologically.

**Series VII, Photographs and Negatives, (1890-1976)**

Series VII, Photographs and Negatives: (1890-1976) This series of photographs, some of which have accompanying negatives, is divided into two sections: Portraits and Landscapes. In the portrait section there are photographs of William A. Eddy and his family, friends, and professional acquaintances. The majority of photos are dated between 1945-1961. One photo scrapbook does detail his family life from boyhood to WWI. There are many pictures of Eddy and dignitaries at various official and political functions. The landscapes section contains extensive pictures of Middle Eastern landmarks and scenes of daily life. Middle Eastern lifestyles, dress and customs are represented in detail. There are also a few military aerial shots. They are arranged chronologically.

**Series VIII, Scrapbooks, (1936-1949)**

Series VIII, Scrapbooks: (1936-1949) Three of the scrapbooks are newspaper clippings exclusively concerning the Hobart College years. The fourth scrapbook contains photographs of the Eddys in the Middle East in 1945.

<b>Arrangement</b>
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Organized into the following series:

Series I, Correspondence, (1858-1978)

Series II, Documents, (1917-1969)  
Series III, Publications, (1920-1963)  
Series IV, Addresses, (1924-1957)  
Series V, Diaries and Notebooks, (1914-1961)  
Series VI, Memorabilia, (1918-1963)  
Series VII, Photographs and Negatives, (1890-1976)  
Series VIII, Scrapbooks, (1936-1949)

## Access and Use

### Access

Collection is open for research use.

### Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from the collection must be requested from the Curator of the Public Policy Papers. Researchers are responsible for determining any copyright questions.

## Acquisition and Appraisal

### Provenance and Acquisition

The Papers were in the possession of his wife, Mary Garvin Eddy, who donated the papers in 1978. Personal correspondence from 1914-1918, 1935, and the 1940s was donated by his daughter, Mary Garvin Eddy Furman, in 1991.

## Processing and Other Information

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); William A. Eddy Papers, Box and Folder Number; Public Policy Papers, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

### Processing Information

This collection was processed by C. A. Prettiman in July, 1991. Finding aid written by C. A. Prettiman in July, 1991.

### Encoding

Machine-readable finding aid encoded in EAD 2002 by Techbooks and Cristela García-Spitz on November 3,

2006.

## Descriptive Rules Used

Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

## Subject Headings

These materials have been indexed in the [Princeton University Library online catalog](#) using the following terms. Those seeking related materials should search under these terms.

- Swift, Jonathan, 1667-1745 -- Criticism and interpretation -- 20th century.
- American University in Cairo. Dept. of English and Comparative Literature.
- Arabian American Oil Company.
- Hobart College -- Presidents -- 20th century.
- Princeton University. Class of 1917.
- Arabic language.
- Diplomatic and consular service, American -- Saudi Arabia -- 20th century.
- Diplomatic and consular service, American -- Yemen -- 20th century.
- English literature -- 18th century.
- Petroleum industry and trade -- Saudi Arabia.
- World War, 1939-1945 -- Secret service -- United States.
- Middle East -- Kings and rulers -- Photographs.
- Saudi Arabia -- Photographs.
- Saudi Arabia -- Foreign relations -- United States -- 20th century.
- United States -- Foreign relations -- Saudi Arabia -- 20th century.
- United States -- Foreign relations -- Treaties -- 20th century.
- United States -- Foreign relations -- Yemen -- 20th century.
- Yemen -- Foreign relations -- United States -- 20th century.
- Correspondence.
- Documents.
- Family papers.
- Photographs.
- Scrapbooks.
- College presidents -- United States.
- Diplomats -- United States.
- Eddy, Mary Garvin.
- American history/20th century
- Diplomacy
- Middle East
- World War II

<b>Contents List</b>
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**Series I CORRESPONDENCE A-Z, (1858-1978)**


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**Series Description**

Series I, Correspondence: (1858-1978) The Correspondence is divided alphabetically by correspondent and chronologically within these sections. "General Correspondence" deals with Eddy's professional, day-to-day correspondence, and the "William A. Eddy" series contains his personal letters. A large portion of the collection is letters to and from his wife and four children (much of it carbon copies; the originals still may be retained by the three surviving children). A great number of his wife's personal papers are included. Other extensive selections are the professional correspondence from the Hobart presidency (1936-1941), personal correspondence from the World War I era, and files on Tangier (1942) and The Yemen (1946). Individual files include correspondence with Dorothy Thompson, Robert Murphy, and John Foster Dulles.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>
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re Apple Blossom Festival, 1938-1939	1
Abdul Aziz, Faisal Ibn, 1955	1
Condolences, 1962	1
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Dulles, John Foster, 1953-1954	1
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1951	1
1952	1
1953	1
1954-1956	1

**Series I CORRESPONDENCE A-Z, (1858-1978) ... (Continued)**

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1963-1963	1
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1959-1961	2
1962	2
1963-1964	2
1965-1967	2
1968-1973	2
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1939	2
1940	2
1941	3
1942-1943	3
1944	3
1945	3
1946-1949	3

## Series I CORRESPONDENCE A-Z, (1858-1978) ... (Continued)

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1951	3
1952	3
1953-1954	3
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1960-1961	3
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1941	5
1942	5
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1944	5
1945-1946	6
1947	6
1948-1949	6
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1956-1957	6
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## Series I CORRESPONDENCE A-Z, (1858-1978) ... (Continued)

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**Series I CORRESPONDENCE A-Z, (1858-1978) ... (Continued)**

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re Ninth Crusade, 1954	10
re Posthumous book, 1963	10
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re Sidon property, 1952,1961	10
Tangier, 1942	10
Thompson, Dorothy, 1950	10
Van Dyke, Henry, 1925	10
World War I letters/testimonials, 1917-1921	10
re The Yemen, 1946	10

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**Series II DOCUMENTS, (1917-1969)**

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**Series Description**

Series II, Documents: (1917-1969) The Documents principally concern Eddy's military promotions, citations and service records from both World Wars, medical records, geneological information, part of his will and property deeds, and a list of books in his personal library. They are arranged chronologically.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>
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**Series II DOCUMENTS, (1917-1969) ... (Continued)**

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**Series III PUBLICATIONS, (1920-1963)**

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**Series Description**

Series III, Publications: (1920-1963) These are publications by William A. Eddy only; no publications concerning him by others are included in this collection. These articles are essentially of three types: the earliest are articles from scholarly journals concerning eighteenth-century English literature, especially satire. From his academic career also are many sermons and pamphlets of a religious nature. The third type of article is from popular magazines and concerns U.S.-Middle Eastern relations. They are arranged chronologically.

TITLEBOX

## Series III PUBLICATIONS, (1920-1963) ... (Continued)

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## Series III PUBLICATIONS, (1920-1963) ... (Continued)

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**Series III PUBLICATIONS, (1920-1963) ... (Continued)**

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Manuscript: <i>101 Jest of Goha</i> , undated	14

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**Series IV ADDRESSES, (1924-1957)**

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**Series Description**

Series IV, Addresses: (1924-1957) Eddy's Addresses are on the same topics as the Publications, and often material actually overlaps from article to address, and vice-versa. They are arranged chronologically.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>
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“Satire and the Art of Civilized Living”, 1937	14
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“Ridding Public Opinion of Superstition”, 1938	15
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“The Decline and Fall of the Civilian”, 1938	15
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“The Holy Land”, 1938	15
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“The Power of God and the Secular...”, 1940	15
“Education and Magic”, 1940	15
“The Stylist and the Fundamentalist...”, 1940	15

**Series IV ADDRESSES, (1924-1957) ... (Continued)**

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“Bread and Wine”, 1940	15
“The Kingdom that is Within”, 1941	15
“The Image and Superscription”, 1941	15
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“Reactions to US Foreign Policy...”, 1954	15
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**Series V DIARIES AND NOTEBOOKS, (1914-1961)**

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**Series Description**

Series V, Diaries and Notebooks: (1914-1961) Some of the journals are class notebooks from Eddy's college days. Others are “class notes” for classes that Eddy was teaching as a young professor; they give a coherent idea of his opinions on various literary subjects. There is a short diary kept by his future wife Mary Garvin from 1914-1915. Also contained in the series are daybooks and journals for various years, and a set of “Middle-east memoirs”. They are chronologically arranged.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>
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**Series V DIARIES AND NOTEBOOKS, (1914-19 ... (Continued)**


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re Dartmouth, 1935	16
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Journal, 1948-1949	16
Packing Notes, 1956	16
Middle-East Memoirs, 1957	17
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**Series VI MEMORABILIA, (1918-1963)****Series Description**

Series VI, Memorabilia: (1918-1963) Principally Middle-Eastern and military mementoes. They are arranged chronologically.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>
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**Series VI MEMORABILIA, (1918-1963) ... (Continued)**

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**Series VII PHOTOGRAPHS AND NEGATIVES, (1890-1976)**

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**Series Description**

Series VII, Photographs and Negatives: (1890-1976) This series of photographs, some of which have accompanying negatives, is divided into two sections: Portraits and Landscapes. In the portrait section there are photographs of William A. Eddy and his family, friends, and professional acquaintances. The majority of photos are dated between 1945-1961. One photo scrapbook does detail his family life from boyhood to WWI. There are many pictures of Eddy and dignitaries at various official and political functions. The landscapes section contains extensive pictures of Middle Eastern landmarks and scenes of daily life. Middle Eastern lifestyles, dress and customs are represented in detail. There are also a few military aerial shots. They are arranged chronologically.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>
Photographs: Landscapes	
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circa 1940	19
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1965	20
undated	20
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1916	20
1918	20
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1926	20
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1937	20
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1940	20
1941	20
1941	20
1942	20
1943	20
1944	20
circa 1944	20
1945	20
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1948	20
1949	20
1950s	20
1951	20

**Series VII PHOTOGRAPHS AND NEGATIVES, (1 ... (Continued)**

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1959	20
circa 1960	20
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1962	20
1963	20
1964	20
1969	20
1976	20
undated	20
Negatives: Landscapes	
1964	20
undated	20
Negatives: Portraits	
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1916	20
1917	20
circa 1941-1945	20
1944	20
1945	20
1946	20

**Series VII PHOTOGRAPHS AND NEGATIVES, (1 ... (Continued)**

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circa 1960	20
undated	20
Negatives: Landscapes/portraits, 1963	20

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**Series VIII SCRAPBOOKS, (1936-1949)**

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**Series Description**

Series VIII, Scrapbooks: (1936-1949) Three of the scrapbooks are newspaper clippings exclusively concerning the Hobart College years. The fourth scrapbook contains photographs of the Eddys in the Middle East in 1945.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>
Jidda, Saudi Arabia OVERSIZE, 1945	20
Newspaper clippings OVERSIZE, 1936-1940	20
Newspaper clippings OVERSIZE, 1946-1949	20