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American Committee for Relief in the Near East records, 1891-1979RG5334

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Congregational Library & Archives

14 Beacon Street

Boston, MA 02108

URL: <http://www.CongregationalLibrary.org>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief.
Creator:	American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief.
Title:	American Committee for Relief in the Near East records, 1891-1979
ID:	RG5334
Date [inclusive]:	1891-1938, 1979
Physical Description:	.45 Cubic Feet 1 document case and 1 oversize folder One over-sized map requires ample surface area to use.
Physical Description:	Newspaper clippings are in poor condition.
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The American Committee for Relief in the Near East, formerly American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, was officially established in 1915, with operations through 1930. Its main objectives included fund raising and providing humanitarian relief through the establishment of hospitals, clinics, orphanages and other initiatives (information obtained from the Armenian National Institute website). This collection documents the experiences of missionaries and natives during war time through copy of correspondence, reports and drafts of documents as well as published testimonials, war journals and a large geographical map of Persia, Afghanistan and Beluchistan dated 1891.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the American Committee for Relief in the Near East records, 1891-1979, RG5334. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Biographical / Historical

The American Committee for Relief in the Near East, formerly American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, was officially established in 1915, with operations through 1930. Its main objectives

included fund raising and providing humanitarian relief through the establishment of hospitals, clinics, orphanages and other initiatives. This organization was supported by President Woodrow Wilson, and operated with the guidance of the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions (information obtained from the Armenian National Institute).

Included in this collection are a variety of correspondence, reports, testimonials, publications, administrative and financial documents dated 1905 to 1921, as well as a large map of Persia, Afghanistan and Beluchistan by W.J. Turner, F.R.G.S. dated 1891, and a war journal printed in 1979.

This collection was donated by the Andover Newton Theological School.

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Scope and Contents

The American Committee for Relief in the Near East collection documents the experiences of missionaries and natives during war time through copy of correspondence, reports and drafts of documents prepared by missionaries providing war relief in Persia as well as published testimonials and war journals of residents and missionaries. These records are evidence of the atrocities they lived through and witnessed during the war.

The collection also includes communications prepared by committee officials for different national and international government authorities, friends of the missionaries and other publications. Administrative records contain financial documents, newsletters and fundraising efforts along with a sample of the "Bond to Save Life" intended to raise funds for the war relief efforts. Other items included are a large map of Persia, Afghanistan and Beluchistan dated 1891 by W.J. Turner, F.R.G.S. and the draft of a theater play titled "The Jewels of Urmi".

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Arrangement

The records are contained in 8 folders in a legal size case and one over-sized folder enclosing a large map and outreach newsletters. Records are arranged by topic, and when possible, chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Congregational Library & Archives

14 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108

URL: <http://www.CongregationalLibrary.org>

Conditions Governing Access

Access to this collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Andover Newton Theological School

Processing Information

Processed by Maria Leighton, June 2017, using DACS Second Edition.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Syria -- War.
- War relief.
- War diaries.
- Correspondence.
- Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.).
- Caucasus
- Armenia History Revolution, 1917-1920

Bibliography

Adalian, Rouben P. "Near East Relief and the Armenian Genocide." Armenian National Institute. Accessed June 22, 2017. <http://www.armenian-genocide.org/ner.html>.

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, reports, testimonials sent from Persia, 1918-1919 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1918-1919	box 1	folder 1
Correspondence, reports, testimonials prepared in the United States, 1918-1919 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1918-1919	box 1	folder 2
Stories and testimonials, 1915-1979 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1915-1979	box 1	folder 3
Administrative communications, 1918-1921 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1918-1921	box 1	folder 4
News bulletins and outreach – request for support, 1894-1918 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1894-1918	box 1	folder 5
Relief work reports and expenditures, 1905-1920 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1905-1920	box 1	folder 6
Missionary service preparation materials, 1911-1938 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1911-1938	box 1	folder 7
Newspaper clippings, 1915-1919 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1915-1919	box 1	folder 8
Map of Persia, Afghanistan and Beluchistan, by W.J. Turner, F.R.G.S. and outreach newsletters, 1891-1918 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1891-1918	folder 9	