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Guide to the Melvin Wittler Papers

RG 201



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2007

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Divinity Library
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New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 432-5301
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<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

CALL NUMBER: RG 201

CREATOR: Wittler, Melvin Armin

TITLE: Melvin Wittler Papers

DATES: 1826-2002

BULK DATES: 1956-1993

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 9 linear feet (21 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, writings, and collected material document the life and work of Melvin Wittler, who was an American Protestant missionary in Turkey from 1956 to 1993, and provide insight into religious and political events in the Middle East. Wittler served as an administrator for the Near East Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and the United Church Board for World Ministries, overseeing the Mission's educational and medical work.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.201>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.201>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Nancy Wittler, 2004.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright has been transferred to Yale University.

Preferred Citation

Melvin Wittler Papers (RG 201), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

Biographical / Historical

Melvin Armin Wittler was born on March 25, 1929 in Hartington, Nebraska to Frank William Wittler and Cecil Maria Fiscus. After graduating from Hartington High School in Nebraska in 1947, he received a B.A. from Yankton College, South Dakota in 1951 and a B.Th. from Yankton College School of Theology in 1952. He served as minister at West Point, Nebraska Congregational Church from 1950 to 1952. On August 8, 1953 he married Nancy Patriquin; the Wittlers had three sons and one daughter: Nathan Scott (b. 1957), Bryan Kevin (b. 1961), Heather Ellen (b. 1962) and Bradford Kent (b. 1963). In 1956 Wittler received a B.D. from Hartford Seminary and April 29th of the same year was appointed as a missionary to the Near East Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which was later known as the United Church Board for World Ministries. . From 1957 to 1961 Wittler served as teacher of philosophy, American Academy for Girls, Uskudar, Istanbul. In 1960 he became Field Secretary, Near East Mission of United Church Board for World Ministries. He served on the Board of Managers for both the Admiral Bristol Hospital and the Gaziantep American Hospital as well as the American Board Schools. Rev. Wittler also held membership to the Turkish-American University Association, the American Friends of the Middle East, and the Health and Education Foundation. He was active in providing assistance to refugees throughout the region. During a furlough period in 1962 Wittler did graduate study in Oriental Studies at Princeton University. The Wittlers were also on furlough in the U.S. for a year beginning in June 1967. On Tuesday, July 24, 1979, the Mission offices in Istanbul were invaded and bombed by an anti-U.S. militant group. Again in 1991, during the Gulf War, the Istanbul office was bombed by anti-U.S. terrorists. In 1993 the Wittlers retired to West Dummerston, Vermont. Melvin received the Education Award from the American Turkish Council in 1995. He died on February 27, 2003.

Scope and Contents

The Melvin Wittler Papers consist of nine linear feet of material divided into five series: I. Documentation of Near East Mission, 1830-2002; II. Correspondence, 1952-1995; III. Writings, 1950-1995; IV. Subject Files, 1826-2001; V. Personal Items and Memorabilia, 1949-1996. This collection contains valuable documentation of Protestant missionary work in Turkey as well as documentation of religious and political events in the Middle East during Wittler's years of service.

Series I, Documentation of Near East Mission is divided into two subseries: Organization and Policy Records, and Institutions/Activities. Material in this series documents the work in Turkey of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and the United Church Board for World Ministries (Amerikan Bord Heyeti). The series includes meeting minutes, reports, memoranda, and mission newsletters, in addition to materials on the history of the mission and the different schools, hospitals, and other groups it supported.

Series II, Correspondence, includes both personal and general correspondence dating from 1952 to 1995, arranged chronologically. Series III is comprised of writings by Wittler, including student papers from his studies at Yankton College, Hartford Seminary, and Princeton University as well as prayers and sermons. The papers are arranged chronologically. The Subject Files of Series IV contain a wide variety of materials collected by Wittler, including regarding human rights, refugees, Armenian genocide, and church relations as well as materials from conferences, seminars, and meetings that he attended. The final Series encompasses Wittler's personal items such as a household account book and a pastoral recordbook as well as his educational awards, certificates, and newspaper articles about him.

Due to the chaotic state in which the papers were received, their current arrangement is not a reflection of Melvin Wittler's organization but rather an order established by library staff in order to facilitate research in the collection.

Arrangement

- I. Documentation of Near East Mission, 1830-2002
- II. Correspondence, 1952-1995
- III. Writings, 1950-1995
- IV. Subject Files, 1826-2001
- V. Personal Items and Memorabilia, 1949-1996

Collection Contents

Series I: Documentation of Near East Mission, 1830-2002

Organization and Policy Records

History of Mission

b. OV1	Aintab Station Record Book: bound volume with handwritten notes	1885-1917
b. 1, f. 1	Early formation, including re. Aintab, Syria, Cilicia Evangelical Union, Elias Riggs, "Sketch of the Work of the American Board in Cappadocia 1852 - 1904 by Wilson A. Farnsworth and Cesarea Station after 1904 by Adelaide Dwight"	1830-1904
b. 1, f. 2	American Board in Turkey, including autobiographical sketch by Charles Trowbridge Riggs	1910-1928
b. 1, f. 3	Including "Some Antecedents to the Political and Religious Environment of the Near East Missions"; Script for filmstrip on American Board work in Turkey; sketches re. American Board missionaries in Turkey	1950-1960
b. 1, f. 4	Including, "Manual of the Near East Mission of the United Church Board for World Ministries"; "The Evolution of a Devolutionary Missionary"; "A Brief History and Description of American Board Schools in Turkey"	1968-1989
b. 1, f. 5	Visitors to mission	1976-1990
b. 1, f. 6	Names and addresses	No date
b. 1, f. 7	Namrun and Greylock properties	1977, 2002
b. 1, f. 8	Bombing incidents at Istanbul Near East Mission office	1979, 1991
Reports/ Memos. Newsletters		
b. 1, f. 9	Article on Turkish mission by James Dittes; letters/memos from Margaret Blemker, Secretary for Europe and Near East, ABCFM to Near East Mission, reports on visits to various facilities, etc.	1952-1956
b. 1, f. 10	Memoranda re. mission, meetings, policy; reports on visits, including re. Walter Wiley Foundaton	1958-1970
b. 1, f. 11	Memoranda re. mission, meetings, policy; reports on visits	1971-1973
b. 1, f. 12	Memoranda re. mission, meetings, policy, including re. evangelism; pamphlet: "Eco Resources for Action"	1974-1975
b. 1, f. 13	Mission statements, memoranda	1976-1980
b. 1, f. 14	Mission secretary reports, memoranda	1981-1990
b. 2, f. 15	Mission statements, reports on schools and properties, memoranda	no date
b. 2, f. 16	Circular letters from missionaries in Turkey	1950-1956, 2001
b. 2, f. 17	Near East Mission Newsletters	1962-1970

Organization and Policy Records > Reports/ Memos. Newsletters (continued)

b. 2, f. 17	Near East Mission Newsletters	1975-1981
Committee Records		
b. 2, f. 19	Annual reports and various committee minutes	1963-1973
b. 2, f. 20	Annual reports and various committee minutes	1974-1980
b. 2, f. 21	Annual reports and various committee minutes	1981-1993
b. 2, f. 22	Staff policy group	1968-1971
Personnel		
b. 2, f. 23	Information for new missionaries	1953-1975
b. 2, f. 24	Memoranda re. furlough of missionary	1975-1976
b. 2, f. 25	Including re. mission job descriptions and reassignment of Dr. and Mrs. Shepard to executive position in Istanbul	1977
b. 2, f. 26	Re. securing teachers, students, culture	1955
b. 2, f. 27	Application forms	1970-1985
b. 2, f. 28	Re. salaries and policy on leaves and grants	1968-1976
Finances		
b. 3, f. 29	Re. budgets, salaries	1962-1971
b. 3, f. 30	Re. budgets, salaries	1972-1981
Institutions/ Activities		
Educational		
b. 3, f. 31	General: American education in Turkey	no date
b. 3, f. 32	Uskudar American Academy: grade book, history of school	1958-1980
b. 3, f. 33	Uskudar- student papers	1957-1958
b. 3, f. 34	Tarsus American School: history	1971-1994
b. 3, f. 35	TAS: operations, problems, etc.	1978-1982
b. 3, f. 36	TAS: personnel evaluations	1986
b. 3, f. 37	TAS: personnel evaluations (some confidential)	1980-1986
b. 3, f. 38	American Collegiate Inst. Izmir: reports, curriculum, misc.	1972-1989
b. 3, f. 39	Turkish Language School: requirements	no date
b. 3, f. 40	Education reports, Including all schools	1964-1978
b. 3, f. 41	Education surveys, evaluations	1980-1982
b. 3, f. 41a	FABSIT: certificate, by- laws	1986-1991

Institutions/ Activities (continued)

Medical

b. 4, f. 42	Gaziantep Hospital: History, minutes, reports	1969-1980
b. 4, f. 43	Gaziantep: Personnel problems	1969 Jun- Nov
b. 4, f. 44	Gaziantep: Personnel problems	1969 Dec-1970 Jan
b. 4, f. 45	Admiral Bristol Hospital- Istanbul: Re. property, school of nursing	1966-1993
b. 4, f. 46	Admiral Bristol Hospital: Re. fundraising, also "Unforgettable Miss Carp"	1979-1983
Redhouse Press		
b. 4, f. 47	History: Turkish English Dictionary: publishing	1890
Other Activities		
b. 4, f. 48	Work camp in Turkey, Planned Parenthood	1974

Series II: Correspondence, 1952-1995

Family		
b. 4, f. 49	Letters to/ from family	1967-1993
General		
b. 4, f. 50	Re. MW's ordination, interest in overseas ministry	1952-1953
b. 4, f. 51	Application to ABCFM and appointment to Turkey	1954-1955
b. 4, f. 52	Work in Istanbul	1956-1959
b. 4, f. 53	Wittler's return to Turkey: Re. Uppsala Assembly, Re. change of name of ABCFM to UCBWM	1960-1962
b. 4, f. 54	Including re. Islamic Conference in Jerusalem 7/65	1963-1965
b. 4, f. 55	Including plans for phone call with Plymouth Congregational Church on the occasion of their centennial	1966
b. 4, f. 56	Plans for furlough, death of Nancy's mother	1967 Jan-May
b. 4, f. 57	Including re. donation of Azariah Smith Hosp. to UCBWM, re. refugees Lebanon/ Israeli war	1967 Jun-Dec
b. 4, f. 58	Wittler's return to Turkey: re. Uppsala Assembly	1968
b. 4, f. 59	Including position paper of Am. Comm. for Justice in M.E., Tucker request return to Izmir	1969
b. 5, f. 60	Including re. Journal of Ecumenical Studies: relationships with Salem OR church	1970
b. 5, f. 61	Including re. Board Mission relationships: transfer of Wingate Property, remuneration for missionary wives	1971
b. 5, f. 62	Re. Finances and administration: many letters "confidential"	1972 Jan-Jun
b. 5, f. 63	Including re. Hal Schoup denied residence permit and deportation: Christian/ Muslim dialogue	1972 Jul-Dec
b. 5, f. 64	Including more about Schoup's: Personnel problems at schools	1973 Jan-Apr.
b. 5, f. 65	Including re. administration and personnel	1973 May-Dec
b. 5, f. 66	Many about personnel problems at Tarsus: may confidential	1974 Jan-Jun.
b. 5, f. 67	Including references to Cyprus- Turkey war, Wittler's furlough	1974 Jul-Dec.
b. 5, f. 68	Including re. staffing and funding Gaziantep Hospital	1975
b. 5, f. 69	Including re. Turkish crafts, acquisitions, displays	1976
b. 5, f. 70	Including re. personnel and finances of mission schools	1977 Jan-May
b. 5, f. 71	Including re. personnel and finances of mission schools	1977 Jun-Oct
b. 5, f. 72	Personal letters re. hospitality: Paper on Jew/ Christian/ Muslim Forum	1978

General (continued)

b. 5, f. 73	Including re. danger from terrorist attacks: Kidnaping of Lloyd Van Vactor (Philippines)	1979
b. 6, f. 74	Including re. retirement of M. Blemket, Wittler furlough	1980 Jan-Jun
b. 6, f. 75	Including re transfer of Gaziantep Hosp. to Mid. East Tech. College	1980 Jul-Dec
b. 6, f. 76	Including re. imprisonment of Armenian pastor, XXCC delegation to Turkey re. humanitarian work	1981
b. 6, f. 77	Inc. re. missionary compensation	1982
b. 6, f. 78	Letters from friends and visitors	1983
b. 6, f. 79	Wittler's on furlough, Including letter from South Oregon State College re. possible faculty exchange	1984
b. 6, f. 80	MW visits Soviet Union, letter re. banning distribution of scriptures in Turkey	1985
b. 6, f. 81	Including info. re. John Miskoff Foundation for American students, re. death of Dr. Aharonian	1986-1987
b. 6, f. 82	Including info. re. founding of Robert College, Grievance letter from WA Robeson re. dismissal- TAC	1988
b. 6, f. 83	Letters from friends and visitors	1989
b. 6, f. 84	Letter re. direction of Redhouse Press: note from Ahmet Yesil, brochure of his art	1990
b. 6, f. 85	Info re. bombing of Wittler's office: extending their term, Kurdish refugees	1991
b. 6, f. 86	Including letter re. retirement plans: re. Jinishian Memorial program	1992
b. 6, f. 87	Including letters from people searching info about relatives, school, etc.	1993-1994
b. 6, f. 88	Including re. MW receiving education award, re. David and Virginia Crittenden	1995
b. 7, f. 89	Including re. update on Union Church in Istanbul: undated letters	n.d.
b. 7, f. 90	Letters in Turkish Language	1966-1974
b. 7, f. 91	Letters in Turkish Language	1977-1980
b. 7, f. 92	Letters in Turkish Language	1981-1993

Series III: Writings, 1950-1995

Essays

While at Yankton College

b. 7, f. 93 B-H, including "Be ye Perfect," "The Church and Drama," "The Holiness of God" circa 1950

b. 7, f. 94 N-S, including "The Philosophy of Love," "A Statement of My Personal Christian Faith" circa 1950

While at Hartford Seminary

b. 7, f. 95 Including "The Holiness of God," "Christology" 1955

b. 7, f. 96 Exegesis of I Cor.15, "Assessing the Ideals and Tasks of Turkish Nationalism" 1956

While in Turkey

b. 7, f. 97 Including, "Why a Christian Mission," "Life of the Church in Turkey" 1950s-1980s

Later Writings

b. 7, f. 98 American education in Turkey since 1863 1994-1995

Sermons

b. 8, f. 99 A-C, including "Ancient Churches," "Alive and Well," "Ben Gercek" (Turkish), "Buyuk Intigaclaremez" (Turkish), "Consider the Lilies"

b. 8, f. 100 D-F, including "An Eternal Contemporary," "Foundation and Vision," "The Fullness of Time"

b. 8, f. 101 G-I, including "The Heart of the Gospel," "I Believe," "Is Christianity a Man's Religion?"

b. 8, f. 102 L-O, including "Lest We Forget," "Living on the Horizon," "New Life in the Old," "Our Lord Enters Life"

b. 8, f. 103 P-S, including "Peace is Personal," "Sevincli Istek" (Turkish), "Shattering Walls of Separation"

b. 8, f. 104 T-W, including "Thanksgiving," "Where Are You Going?," "The Worth of Beauty"

Sermon Notes

b. 8, f. 105 A-C, including "Approve What is Excellent," "Christian Challenge," "The Church at Prayer"

b. 8, f. 106 D-G, including "The Dependability of God," "Education in Religion," "Family life Importance"

b. 8, f. 107 H-O, including "The Indigenous Faith," "Into the World," "Open Doors"

b. 8, f. 108 P-S, including "Power of the Church," "The Sacrament of Living," "Spiritual Lumination"

Sermon Notes (continued)

b. 8, f. 109 T-Y, including "Teach Religion Make Men Free," "What Makes the Bible Great," "Why a Concern for Christian Mission"

b. 8, f. 110 Misc. sermon notes: untitled

Sermons by others

b. 8, f. 111 Including by Harold Bosley, Robert McCracken, and others

Prayers

b. 9, f. 112 Including one delivered at dedication at Aleppo, College for Girls (Turkey), Prayers in Turkish language

Prayers by others

b. 9, f. 113 John Baillie, E. Campbell, others

Notebooks

b. 9, f. 114 Yankton College: class notes circa 1950

b. 9, f. 115 Yankton College: class notes circa 1950

b. 9, f. 116 While pastor in Nebraska 1954

b. 9, f. 117 Hartford Seminary 1955

b. 9, f. 118 Hartford Seminary 1956

b. 9, f. 119 Princeton Seminary 1962

Writings by others

b. 10, f. 120 A-C, including Bishop, Blakney, Carleton

b. 10, f. 121 D-H, including Ditmanson, Guvenc, Habih

b. 10, f. 122 I-W, including Isely, Nilson, Stowe

Series IV: Subject File, 1826-2001

Social and Political Issues		
b. 10, f. 123	Armenian genocide	1919-1978
b. 10, f. 124	Armenian genocide	1982 Aug- 1983 Jul
b. 10, f. 125	Armenian genocide	1983 Aug- 1984 Dec
b. 10, f. 126	Armenian genocide, including bibliography	1989 Jul- 2001 Sep
b. 11, f. 127	Ataturk	1956-1974
b. 11, f. 128	Culture and art: including some plays	1944-1985
b. 11, f. 129	Cyprus	1970-1991
b. 11, f. 130	Cyprus	n.d.
b. 11, f. 131	Economic issues	1979-1992
b. 11, f. 132	Education in Turkey	1924-1989
b. 11, f. 133	Environment	no date
b. 11, f. 134	Human rights: including "Human Rights Review," "Christian minorities in Turkey"	1965 Jul- 1982 Jun
b. 11, f. 135	Human rights, including publications: "Denying human rights", "Ethnic identity", "The Greeks in Turkey"	1978 Jan- 1992 Mar
b. 12, f. 136	Iraqi Kurdish refugees	1987 Jul- 1992 Sep
b. 12, f. 137	Iraqi Kurdish refugees: Minorities in the Middle East	1992-1999
b. 12, f. 138	Refugee assistance: Individuals	1982-1989
b. 12, f. 139	Refugees: general: Middle East	1956-1981
b. 12, f. 140	Job assistance: for 2 individuals	1983-1991
b. 12, f. 141	Political history of Turkey	1059-1958
b. 12, f. 142	Political history of Turkey	1964-1992
b. 12, f. 143	Wittler's notes on Turkish Government	1937-1962
b. 12, f. 144	Wittler's notes: Modern Turkish chronology	no date
b. 12, f. 145	Politics of Poppy	1970-1975
b. 13, f. 146	Turkish- American relations: Wittler research notes	1965 Dec- 1976 May
b. 13, f. 147	Social customs: Women's rights, marriage and divorce	no date

Social and Political Issues (continued)

b. 13, f. 148	Landmines: Jody Williams- coord.	no date
b. 13, f. 149	Landmines: UNICEF collection	no date
Religion in Turkey		
General		
b. 13, f. 150	Including dissertation, "Religion and Political Development in Turkey"	1955 Sep- 1976
Christianity		
b. 13, f. 151	General	1971 Feb- 1981 Apr
b. 13, f. 152	Church statistics	1967 May, 1982
b. 13, f. 153	Educational facilities	no date
b. 13, f. 154	Ecumenism	1967 Jun- 1962 Nov
b. 13, f. 155	Christian minorities	1978 Oct- 1987 Oct
b. 13, f. 156	Christianity: Research notes on early missionaries to Turkey	1994
b. 13, f. 157	Catholic Church: Including copy of pub. "L'Eglise Chaldecne Catholique"	n.d.
b. 14, f. 158	Eastern Orthodox Church: Patriarch Athenagoras I	1964 Jan- 1972 Jul
b. 14, f. 159	Eastern Orthodox Church: Patriarch Dimitrios	1981 Jun- 1991 Oct
b. 14, f. 160	Eastern Orthodox Church: Patriarch Bartholomew	1991 Nov 1997 Oct
b. 14, f. 161	Armenian Orthodox Church	1988-1992
b. 14, f. 162	Syrian Orthodox Church	no date
b. 14, f. 163	Greek Orthodox Church in USA	1967 Sep- 1996 Sep
b. 14, f. 164	Orthodox Churches: General	1967 Nov- 1991 Nov
Dervish Orders		
b. 14, f. 165	Bektasi: News articles in Turkish	no date
b. 14, f. 166	Mevlevi order (Mevelana), including biography of Mevelana and some of his poetry	no date
Islam		
b. 14, f. 167	General info	no date

Religion in Turkey > Islam (continued)

b. 14, f. 168	Islam and Christianity	no date
b. 14, f. 169	Contemporary Islam: includes some study series	no date
b. 14, f. 170	Wittler's research notes re. Islam	no date
Organizations and Conferences		
b. 15, f. 171	American Friends of the M.E.	1967-1991
b. 15, f. 172	American-Turkish Friendship Council	1992
b. 15, f. 173	Americans for Middle East Understanding	1970 Mar-Apr
b. 15, f. 174	Center for Middle East Studies: Newsletter	1990 Spring
b. 15, f. 175	Christian Mission to Islam	no date
b. 15, f. 176	Churches for Middle East Peace	no date
b. 15, f. 177	Contemporary Turkish Thought	1962 Oct- 1963 Mar
b. 15, f. 178	Current Turkish Thought: Newsletter	1969 Nov- 1974 Dec
b. 15, f. 179	Development Foundation of Turkey	1982-1992
b. 15, f. 180	The Edward F. Gallahue Conference on World Religions	1966 May
b. 15, f. 181	Lutheran World Federation	1964 Aug
b. 15, f. 182	Middle East Council of Churches: including Consultation on Dialogue and Witness 2/1975	1972-1975
b. 15, f. 183	MECC: including consultation on Christian Presence and Witness 10/1980	1975-1981
b. 15, f. 184	MECC: including dossier and Christians for Peace in the Holy Land	1989 Nov
b. 15, f. 185	MECC: Reports and notes	n.d.
b. 15, f. 186	Middle East Institute: Newsletter	1958 Oct
b. 15, f. 187	Middle East Studies Assoc.: Annual meeting programs	1992 Aug- 1993 Nov
b. 15, f. 188	Miscellaneous conferences	1955-1992
b. 15, f. 189	Missionary Research Library: occassional bulletins	1964 Dec- 1967 Feb
b. 16, f. 190	Missionary Research Library: occassional bulletins	1968 Jun- 1969 Apr
b. 16, f. 191	Missionary Research Library: occassional bulletins	1969 Jul- 1970 Feb
b. 16, f. 192	Missionary Research Library: occassional bulletins	1970 Mar- 1972 Mar

Organizations and Conferences (continued)

b. 16, f. 193	Muslims of America: Includes information on American Islamic College	1988 Apr
b. 16, f. 194	National Council of Churches of Christ: Includes papers on mission of the church, evangelism, corporate interests	1955, 1966 Mar, 1973 Feb
b. 16, f. 195	NCCC: Includes Middle East policy statement and proposed project in economic development of Greece	1980 Nov
b. 16, f. 196	Near East Christian Council: Includes consultation on unity, National Evangelical Church in Middle East	1962 Jun-Nov
b. 16, f. 197	Orthodox Church: Symposiums on religion and environment	1990 Sep- 1992 Jun
b. 16, f. 198	Penn. Northeast conference: Re. church and missionaries relationships	1967 Nov- 1968 Jun
b. 16, f. 199	Penn. Northeast conference:	1968 Aug- 1969 Apr
b. 16, f. 200	Turkish American University Association	1989 Oct- 1992 Feb
b. 16, f. 201	Turkish Studies Association	no date
b. 17, f. 202	Union Church of Istanbul: Including minutes and reports	1972- 1997 Oct
b. 17, f. 203	Union Church of Istanbul: Church bulletins, addresses	1963-1995
b. 17, f. 204	United Church of Christ, USA: Includes keynote addresses, information re. several churches	1968 Jan, 1984 Nov
b. 17, f. 205	UPC/COEMAR: UCC/UCBWM joint staff conference	1968 Jun
b. 17, f. 206	United Church Board for World Ministries (UCBWM): Includes reports and newsletters	1962 May- 1968 Apr
b. 17, f. 207	UCBWM: Includes reports	1969 Feb- 1984 Nov
b. 17, f. 208	UCBWM: Includes reports	1985 Jun- 1990 May
b. 17, f. 209	Uniting General Council of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, The International Council in Nairobi	1970 Aug.
b. 17, f. 210	World Council of Churches: Includes reports on evangelism, religious discrimination, religious freedom	1960 Jul- 1964 Nov
b. 17, f. 211	World Council of Churches: Includes consultation on religious freedom	1965 Jan- 1965 Dec
b. 17, f. 212	World Council of Churches: Misc. subjects	1966 Mar- 1986 Jun
b. 17, f. 213	World Council of Churches: Exec. council meetings Istanbul	1987 May- 1995 May

Organizations and Conferences (continued)

b. 17, f. 214	World Council of Churches: Misc.	1988 Jun- 1995 May
Miscellaneous Topics		
b. 18, f. 215	Arab-Israeli conflict	1954 Apr.- 1967 Sep
b. 18, f. 216	Arab-Israeli conflict	1967 Oct- 1995 Dec
b. 18, f. 217	Conflict resolution: Information regarding terrorism	1980 Jan
b. 18, f. 218	Ecumenism: Includes various publications	1968 Jun- 1996 Mar
b. 18, f. 219	Environmental issues	no date
b. 18, f. 220	Homosexuality: Includes deliberations of UCC regarding ordination	1972-1984
b. 18, f. 221	Missions: on being a missionary	1956 Apr- 1974 Aug
b. 18, f. 222	Missions: Includes study course "So This is Missions"	1979 Aug
b. 18, f. 223	Numismatics: Regarding coins, seals, also re. minarets	1959 Sep, 1987
b. 18, f. 224	Physical anthropology	1952-1953
b. 18, f. 225	Prominent people: Includes tributes to Ataturk, Robert Kennedy, M.L. King Jr.	1968
b. 18, f. 226	St. Nicholas Symposium	no date
b. 18, f. 227	Thanksgiving proclamations	1863-1986
b. 18, f. 228	Turkish collected items	no date
b. 18, f. 229	Turkish language documents, etc	no date
b. 18, f. 230	Turkish newspaper articles	no date
b. 18, f. 231	Vermont missionaries: India	1826-1921

Series V: Personal Items and Memorabilia, 1949-1996

Biographical documentation		
b. 19, f. 232	Curriculum vitae, education, ordination, applications to mission board	1952-1955, no date
b. 19, f. 233	Documents and records: Passport, health records, expense accounts	1956-1977, no date
b. 19, f. 234	Pastoral activities: Conferences, speaking engagements	1977
b. 19, f. 235	Missionary relationships with churches	1950-1994
b. 19, f. 236	Pastoral activities: Notebook	1950-1994
b. 19, f. 237	Tributes and awards: Includes certificate of ordination, membership certificates, "Who's Who in America"	1952-1978
b. 19, f. 238	Travel: Snapshots, trip to Scandinavia, postcards	1976-1987, no date
b. 19, f. 239	News articles	1956-1995
b. 20, f. 240	Assistance to others: Regarding estates of 3 women	1951-1988
b. 20, f. 241	Assistance to others: Administration of Jinishian Memorial Program	1979-1984
b. 20, f. 242	Assistance to others: Administration of Jinishian Memorial Program	1985-1987
Children and Family		
b. 20, f. 243	Nathan's records from Williston	1972-1976
b. 20, f. 244	Bryan's records for Robert College Comm. School	1967-1974
b. 20, f. 245	Kent at Williston	1980s
b. 20, f. 246	Family letter, Valentine, death of MW's father	1977
Memorabilia		
b. 20, f. 247	Programs, cards, invitations, etc.	1956-1996, no date
b. 20, f. 248	Sale of Byzantine Censer to Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY	1976-1985
b. 20, f. 249	State dinner with Turkish President and M/M. George Bush	1991
b. 20, f. 250	Collection of ideas and quotes	1980-1981, no date
b. 20, f. 251	Miscellaneous material: addresses, clippings	1949-1986
b. 20, f. 252	Photographs of Nancy and Melvin Wittler, Near East Christian Council Triennial 1967, church leaders in the Near East	1967, 1990, no date

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Missionaries
Missions -- Middle East
Missions -- Turkey

Names

Wittler, Melvin Armin

Corporate Bodies

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign
Missions -- Turkey
United Church Board for World Ministries.
Near East Mission