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Descriptive Summary

Identifier          ICU.SPCL.WARTIME
Title               University of Chicago. Wartime Military Training Programs. Records
Date                1923-1955
Size                6 linear feet (10 boxes)
Repository          Special Collections Research Center
                    University of Chicago Library
                    1100 East 57th Street
                    Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract            This collection contains correspondence, memoranda, reports, financial
                    records, curricula, evaluations, and correspondence related to the wartime
                    activities of the University of Chicago. Materials in this collection primarily
document the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP) and the Civil
Aeronautics Administration's War Training Service Program (WTS). Other
minor wartime programs contained within this collection include Army
Sponsored Meteorological Training, Civil Affairs Training School, Institute
for Military Studies, and Production Training for War Industries. Also
contained with this collection are documents pertaining to the University’s
military programs during the interwar years and the University’s activities
during World War II.

Information on Use

Access              Records contained in Series VIII are restricted until 2024. The rest of collection is open for
                    research.

Citation            When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: University of Chicago.
                    Wartime Military Training Programs. Records, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research
                    Center, University of Chicago Library.

Historical Note     During the Second World War several programs of instruction were instituted at the University
                    of Chicago. The major war activity of the University, in addition to research, was the Army
                    Specialized Training Program (ASTP) inaugurated in the spring of 1943. The students in
this program were enlisted and drafted soldiers who had demonstrated on intelligence and
aptitude tests that they possessed outstanding qualifications for further training. The University
provided instruction in basic-phase subjects and in several advanced courses including medicine,
pre-medicine, area and language, and psychology. Those who had had only high school or a limited college experience were assigned to the basic phase of the program, and were given a broad background of training with instruction in English, history, mathematics, physics, chemistry, engineering, and geography. The trainees who had completed some college work or who had special qualifications were assigned to one of a series of advanced courses that provided specialized training. The last group to be trained at the University graduated in October 1944.

The other major program was the Civilian Pilot Training Program. Originally established in 1939 to teach college and university students to fly, it was converted after the outbreak of war to a program of instruction for men in the armed services. Its name was changed to the CAA War Training Service (WTS) and provided instruction for Navy combat pilots, Army glider pilots, and Army flight instructors. These men took a two-month course, including ground school instruction and flight training. When the CPT Program was converted to military purposes, the University began a program to train civilian Aviation Ground School Instructors.

While the ASTP and the WTS were the major wartime training programs, the University did institute other smaller programs. Of note are the Civil Affairs Training School and Production Training for War Industries programs. The Civil Affairs Training School trained soldiers in military government at Provost Marshall General’s School in Georgia and then they were sent to select universities for training in foreign languages and culture. At the University of Chicago, the soldiers were trained in Japanese language and culture. The Production Training for War Industries trained men for war industries through tuition free classes at the School of Business.

**Scope Note**

The Wartime Military Training Program Records contain correspondence, memoranda, reports, financial records, curricula, evaluations, and correspondence related to the wartime activities of the University of Chicago. Materials in this collection primarily document the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP) and the Civil Aeronautics Administration’s War Training Service Program (WTS). Other minor wartime programs contained within this collection include Army Sponsored Meteorological Training; Civil Affairs Training School; Institute for Military Studies; and Production Training for War Industries. Also contained with this collection are documents pertaining to the University’s military programs during the interwar years and the University’s activities during World War II.

The collection is organized into seven series: Series I Interwar; Series II World War II, General Files; Series III Army Specialized Training; Series IV Civilian Pilot Training/ Wartime Training Service; Series V Minor Wartime Military Training Programs; Series VI Postwar and Series VII Restricted.

Series I, Interwar, consists of pamphlets and magazines pertaining to the military training programs at the University during the interwar period.
Series II, World War II, General Files consists of files about the University’s response to World War II that was not part of the various military training programs. It also includes a paper written by Adolph T. Scott Jr. entitled "The University and World War II" that discusses in depth the University's activities during World War II.

Series III, Army Specialized Training, consists of files pertaining to the Army Specialized Training Program.

Series IV, Civilian Pilot Training/ Wartime Training Service, consists of files pertaining to the Civilian Pilot Training Program and the CAA War Training Service. While the Civilian Pilot Training files predate World War II, it was during World War II that it expanded and in 1942 it became the CAA War Training Service.

Series V, Minor Wartime Military Training Programs, consists of files pertaining to: Army Sponsored Meteorological Training; Civil Affairs Training School; Curtiss-Wright Engineering Program; The Institute of Military Studies; Navy and Marine Education Program; Production Training For War Industries; and Radio, Electronics, and Microwaves.

Series VI, Postwar, consists of documents pertaining to the University’s postwar activities relating to veterans. Specifically, it includes documents related to veterans’ education and housing.

Series VII, Restricted, consists of graded student material and is restricted until 2024.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

University of Chicago. World War I. Ephemera Collection.

Subject Headings
• Houle, Cyril Orvin, 1913-
• University of Chicago
• Army Specialized Training Program (U.S.)
• C.A.A. Accelerated Army-Navy Flight Program (U.S.)
• Civilian Pilot Training Program (U.S.)
• World War, 1939-1945 -- Education and the war
• Military education -- United States
INVENTORY

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   "A Useful Service" Chicago Tribune Editorial, 1942
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   "The College in Wartime: New Responsibilities" Proceedings, 1942
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   "Evenings in the Loop" 1942-1943
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