

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA
MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

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MAGANN, George Loranger
MG 30, E 352

Finding Aid No. 1262 / Instrument de recherche no 1262

Prepared in 1981 by Margaret Mattson
for the Public Affairs Archives.

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MAGANN, George Loranger (1892-1977). Army Officer and Diplomat

Originals, 1903-1962. 82 cm. Finding Aid No. 1262.

Born in Toronto, George Loranger Magann received his elementary education at the Oratory School in England. Subsequently he graduated from Trinity College School, Port Hope, Royal Military College, Kingston, and the School of Practical Science at the University of Toronto. In 1914 Magann joined the Canadian Field Artillery and served in the United Kingdom, France, and Belgium. Major Magann was discharged from active duty in 1919 although he remained with the reserve until he joined the Department of External Affairs at the outbreak of World War II.

From 1922 to 1941 Magann worked with and eventually took over the family lumber business which became G.L. Magann & Co., Railway Contractors, Toronto. In addition he was director of Anglin Norcross Corporation, Montreal, from 1938 to 1944.

In 1941 Magann joined the Department of External Affairs as Special Assistant to the Minister in Washington. He served as Canadian and British representative in the exchange of disabled POW's at Barcelona in 1944 and as Canadian representative at Gothenburg in 1944 and Marseilles in 1945. He then served as Counsellor in Paris, 1945-1946, and as Minister Counsellor in Washington from 1946 to 1949. He was appointed Ambassador to Greece in October 1949. He was appointed Ambassador to Switzerland and concurrently Austria in 1954 and served in this dual posting until his retirement in 1957.

Presented in 1979 by Mrs. Patricia Rothschild of Ottawa, Ont.

The medals of George L. Magann and his wife Grace Isabel (George) Magann were transferred to the National Medal Collection.

The finding aid No. 1262 is a descriptive file list.

Diaries, 1915-1917, 1952-1962. (Volumes 1 and 7).

Magann's personal military diaries (1915-1917) describe in detail his active service with the Canadian Field Artillery. His personal diplomatic diaries (1952-1957) outline his activities and describe conditions while he was Canadian Ambassador in Greece, Switzerland and Austria respectively. Also included are his personal diaries for 1958-1962 and the personal diary of Grace Isabel George, later Grace Magann (1912-1916). All diaries are hand written.

Personal Correspondence, 1903-1942. (Volumes 2-3).

Includes the personal correspondence of Magann while a student, a soldier, and a businessman. There is extensive correspondence throughout his military career. A substantial portion of other family correspondence is included in this section.

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MAGANN, George Loranger (1892-1977). Army Officer and Diplomat.

Personal and Semi-Official Correspondence, 1941-1961.
(Volumes 3-6).

Includes Magann's personal correspondence from various diplomatic posts - Washington, Paris, the Motorship GRIPSHOLM, Greece, Switzerland, and Austria. Also includes correspondence for Magann or his wife from many colleagues and family members. Correspondents include the following: Georges P. Vanier, L.B. Pearson, Joyce and Hume Wrong, T.W.L. MacDermot, Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova, Dean and Alice Acheson, and others.

Subject Series, 1941-1959. (Volume 8 and Horizontal files). Largely miscellaneous clippings and personal memorabilia, awards, degrees and appointments of both George and Grace Magann. Series contains a number of accounts of the voyages of the exchange vessel GRIPSHOLM used in repatriating British, American, and Canadian POW's from German custody in 1944 and 1945.

June 1981
M. Mattson

7-8888
Public Affairs

George Loranger Magann
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Vol.	File Title	Dates
	PERSONAL WAR DIARIES: G.L. Magann (1915-1917); PERSONAL DIARY: Grace Isabel George (1912-1916), Vol. 1	
1	Diary of Lieutenant George L. Magann, 1st Divisional Artillery (12th Battery, 3rd Brigade)	May 17, 1915 - July 19, 1915
	Diary of Lieutenant G.L. Magann	July 20, 1915 - March 19, 1916
	Note: There is no diary for March 20 to October 11, 1916.	
	Diary of Captain G.L. Magann who became Adjutant 10 July 1916	Oct. 11, 1916 - Nov. 23, 1916
	Note: The page numbers on this diary and the one following do not reflect the length of the diary. There are no missing pages; however, carbon copies of duplicate pages have been removed.	
	Diary of Captain G.L. Magann, Staff Captain, 1st Divisional Artillery as of 6 December 1916	November 23, 1916 - April 18, 1917
	World War I maps of Belgium and France used and kept by Captain Magann during his service overseas (Ordnance Surveys).	1915-1917
	Personal diary of Grace Isabel George prior to her marriage to George Loranger Magann	September 23, 1912 - Aug. 15, 1916
	Note: From Sept. 23, 1912 to March 2, 1913, Miss George was travelling in England, France and Italy. The section, July 1915 to August, 1915 were written while she was at Lake Rosseau, Ontario. The final section, January 1916 to August 1916 was written while living in Toronto.	

Vol.	File Title	Dates
PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE SERIES: GEORGE L. MAGANN AND FAMILY (1903-1942), Vols. 2-3		
2	Correspondence from George L. Magann while attending Oratory School, Edgbaston, Birmingham, to his parents. (18 items) - included are two letters from George Plunkett Magann to his wife Grace Loranger describing visit with his sons, George and Hubert	1903-1905.
	Correspondence from George L. Magann while attending Loyola College, and then Trinity College School, Port Hope, to his parents. Also includes one letter from George Plunkett to wife describing means used to get George accepted at Royal Military College. (7 letters)	1906-1910
	Correspondence from George L. Magann while attending Royal Military College, Kingston, to his mother. (5 letters)	1911-1913
	Correspondence from Lieutenant George L. Magann while at Valcartier, P.Q., and West Down, North Camp, Salisbury Plains, to his mother. (7 letters)	1914
	Correspondence from Lieutenant G.L. Magann while in France and Belgium, to parents, sisters, and others. (11 letters; 2 post cards)	1915
	Panorama of Messines - Wytschaete and Spanbrooke Ridges showing British and German positions	March 1915
	Correspondence from Captain G.L. Magann, France, to parents, to his sisters and "Uncle" Percy Parker. Included are a few letters from Babs in England, from "Uncle" Percy, and from parents. (48 letters)	1916
	Correspondence from Captain Magann, France, to his mother. Included is one letter from Colonel Woodman Leonard describing Magann's activities in the field, and telegram notifying parent's that George was wounded in action. (14 items)	1917
	Alan Magann to his mother just prior to his embarking for duty overseas.	1917
	Correspondence from Grace "Babs" Magann, sister of G.L. Magann, who was working in England during the war.	1917-1918

Vol.	File Title	Dates
2	Correspondence and sketches, G.L. Magann to his mother during war years	n.d.
3	Correspondence from G.L. Magann to his wife, Grace Isabel (George) Magann. - contains 6 letters written while Magann was travelling in the west soliciting business for G.L. Magann and Co., Railway Contractors	1926
	Correspondence G.L. Magann to his wife - contains 8 letters relating to family matters	1928
	Correspondence G.L. Magann to his wife - one letter and souvenir menu from business trip to Europe	1929
	Correspondence G.L. Magann to his wife - written from Toronto these 14 personal letters cover business ventures, stock market crash, social events, election, and family concerns	1930
	Correspondence G.L. Magann to his wife - 7 letters of personal and social content	1932
	Correspondence G.L. Magann to his wife - 5 letters of personal, social and business content	1935-36
	Correspondence from George P. Magann, Greygables School, Welland to his parents - 9 letters	1935
	Correspondence from G.P. Magann, Greygables School, Welland, to his parents - 19 letters	1936
	Correspondence from G.P. Magann, Greygables School, Welland, to his parents - 19 letters	1937
	Correspondence, G.L. and Grace Magann with son, George P., "Gips" or "Jeeps", while away at school - 10 letters	1936-37
	Correspondence between Hume and Joyce Wrong and George and Grace Magann - 11 letters	1931-37
	Letters from "nephew", Douglas (Snively) to "Aunt" Grace Magann - 3 letters	1935-36
	Letter from Captain Alan Young to Mrs. G.L. Magann - regarding "Gips" Magann	1936
	Correspondence of G.P. "Gips" Magann from parents and sisters - 12 letters. G.P. Magann died in 1943	1940-1942

Vol.	File Title	Dates
	PERSONAL AND SEMI-OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF GEORGE L. MAGANN AND SOME PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE OF GRACE MAGANN (1941-1961), Vols. 3-6	
3	Correspondence, G.L. Magann, Canadian Legation, Washington, to his wife - 5 letters. Magann joined the Department of External Affairs in October 1941 as Special Assistant to the Minister, Washington.	1941
4	Correspondence, G.L. Magann, Washington, to his wife - 23 letters. Also one letter from Hume Wrong and copy, L.B. Pearson to N.A. Robertson.	1942
	Correspondence, G.L. Magann, Washington, to his wife - 4 letters. Also includes letter from D.S. Snively regarding death of son, "G.P."	1943
	Correspondence, G.L. Magann to wife, and some other family correspondence - 23 letters. In 1944 Magann was at the Canadian Legation in Washington and also Canadian and British representative in Exchange of disabled POW's at Barcelona, and Canadian representative, as above, at Gothenburg. One should consult files on "GRIPSHOM", Volume 8.	1944
	Correspondence, G.L. Magann to his wife, from Washington, from the Motorship GRIPSHOLM, and from Paris - 10 letters	1945
	Correspondence, G.L. Magann to his wife - 6 letters; one letter from Georges P. Vanier; two from Pat McParland at Embassy in Paris, and one from Comdr. W.J. Kenny - 12 items.	1946
	Letter, Grace Magann to mother, Mrs. Rachel George, describing life at embassy in Paris.	1946
	Correspondence, Humphrey Hume Wrong to G.L. Magann (and occasionally Grace Magann) - 15 letters	n.d., 1940-47
	Correspondence, G.L. Magann, Washington - 6 letters (copies), 1 invitation - included as correspondents are Hume Wrong, Lester B. Pearson, Charles (Ritchie), S.D. Hemsley, and T.W.L. MacDermot	1947
	Correspondence, G.L. Magann, Washington, to wife (4 letters); also to C.M. Drury, Murray C. Bernays, and Department (2 letters, 2 despatches); 1 additional letter to Grace Magann.	1948

Vol.	File Title	Dates
3	Correspondence, G.L. Magann, Washington - 13 letters to his wife; three miscellaneous items.	1949
4	Correspondence, poem,	n.d., (1940)
	Correspondence and miscellaneous items of Grace Isabel (George) Magann relating to her activities in Greece - included are letters from Dr. Lotta Hirschmanova, L.B. Pearson, and many Greek dignitaries. Material covers her work with the Greek Red Cross, the Group of the League of the Friends of the Army K.E.T., her Opportunity shop "Eureka", and her artistic endeavours. (approximately 15 items)	1951-54
	Letters of Credence and Recall, Athens.	1949-54
	Personal Correspondence between Terence W.L. MacDermot and G.L. Magann - 16 letters	1949-54, 1957
	Personal Correspondence, G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Greece - 15 items, mostly letters. Correspondents include H. Wrong, L.B. Pearson, Marcel Cadieux, D'Arcy McGreer, G.G. Riddell, I. Normand Smith.	Oct. 1950 - Nov. 1951
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Greece - @ 76 items	Dec. 1951 - Nov. 1952
5	Presentation of Credentials - G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria	1953-54
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Greece - @ 200 items	Jan.-Sept. 1953
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Greece - @ 84 items	Oct.-Dec. 1953
	Recall of Victor Doré, Esq. from Embassy in Austria	1955
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Greece, and in April, Ambassador to Switzerland - @70 items	Jan.-May 1954
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria - @ 100 items	Aug.-Dec. 1954
6	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria - @ 160 items	Jan.-March 1955
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria - @ 60 items	April-June 1955

Vol.	File Title	Dates
6	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria - @ 200 items	August 1955 - July 1956
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann, Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria - 15 items	Sept. 1956 - Jan. 1957
	Correspondence between Dean and Alice Acheson and Grace and George Magann - 4 items	n.d., 1949, 1958
	Personal Correspondence of G.L. Magann - miscellaneous - 3 items	1958-59, 1961
PERSONAL DIARIES: MAGANN AS AMBASSADOR AND AFTER RETIREMENT (1952-1962), Vol. 7		
7	Personal Diary	May 16, 1952 -Dec. 11, 1952
	Personal Diary	Dec. 11, 1952 -July 13, 1953
	Personal Diary	July 15, 1953 -Jan. 12, 1954
	Personal Diary	Jan. 12, 1954 -April 21, 1955
	Personal Diary	April 21, 1955 -Feb. 15, 1957
	Personal Diary	Feb. 15, 1957 -April 7, 1958
	Personal Diary	April 8, 1958 -Feb. 20, 1962
MISCELLANEOUS SUBJECT SERIES (1941-1959), Vol. 8		
8	Passport of G.L. Magann during war years	1941-45
	GRIPSHOLM, Voyage V, to Sweden - Magann was Canadian representative for POW exchange at Gothenburg.	Sept. 1944
	"Reminiscences of a Repatriation Officer" - tales from M.S. GRIPSHOLM in pencilled notes by G.L. Magann	n.d., 1944
	"Trip to Gothenburg" by Morris Careless	Aug. - Sept. 1944
	Exchange Vessel, T.M.V. GRIPSHOLM - Report to State Department regarding incident at Kristiansand, Norway	Sept. 11, 1944
	GRIPSHOLM, Report of trip by George L. Magann	1945

Vol.	File Title	Dates
8	"Tales of the Foreign Service" (The GRIPSHOLM Incident) - NBC University of the Air radio drama by William C. Hodapp	Sept. 1946
	<u>Cérémonial de la Réception par Sa Majesté le Roi des Chefs des Missions Diplomatiques Etrangères, Athens</u>	April 7, 1949
	Speeches by G.L. Magann while ambassador to either Greece, Switzerland, or Austria - @ 15 speeches, brief and mostly undated	1948-57
	Miscellaneous newspaper clippings - military, diplomatic, and social subject matter	1942-50
	Athens - Report of places of interest close to Athens by G.L. Magann	1957, 1959
	Photographs - three photographs of Grace and George Magann	n.d.
	Life in Paris under German Occupation - a conference by Maître James Paul Govare, Avocat à la Cour d'Appel, Paris	May 1945
	Pearson, L.B. - Address by Canadian Ambassador to United States to Canadian Society of New York	Feb. 1945

List of Items in Horizontal File - Manuscript Division

Parchment in Greek - hand printed and very fine original art work at top (vases and flowers) Illuminated address to Ambassador George Magann

Parchment in Greek in favour of George Magann, 3 March 1954. Another date, 19 June 1953, also appears in document. Hand printed with fine artistic border.

Parchment in Greek regarding George Magann, bearing purple seal stamp and many Greek signatures. - hand printed.

Paper Decree, Honorary Citizenship of Geroplatanos to George Magann, 22 June 1952

Paper Certificate - coloured letters, stamp and signature in Greek (winged victory) 18 November 1949

Certificate with mounted text, white-green and white-red ribbons and three seals. Lausanne, 10 September 1956. Occasion was gift of maple tree by Government of Canada to Lausanne.

Parchment, bearing stamps and red, white & blue ribbon - in Greek in favour, George Magann, 22 April 1951

Parchment, bearing stamp and signature in Greek. Honorary Citizenship of Alexandroupolis, Grace and George Magann, with paper letters in English and Greek declaring same, 27 November 1950. Document itself appears dated September

Parchment, Appointment as Ambassador to Greece, 6 October 1949 - with seal in upper left corner

Parchment, Appointment as Ambassador to Switzerland, 2 June 1954

Parchment, Appointment as Ambassador to Austria, 24 August 1954

Parchment, Red Cross Award to George Magann, (1952?)

Parchment, in Greek to Grace Magann 26 February 1954. Appears to be presented by the people of Athens

Paper Certificate with embossed seal, Greek Red Cross to Grace Magann, 20 December 1951.

Paper Certificate with embossed seal, Greek Red Cross to Grace Magann, 23 October 1956.

Paper Certificate with embossed seal, Greek Red Cross to George Magann.