

**College of the Holy Cross
Archives and Special Collections
Collection Inventory**

Accession Number: **SC2004-32**

Collection Name (Title): **O'Callahan, Rev. Joseph T. S.J. Papers**

Dates of Material: **1945 – 2003**

Size of Collection: **6 Boxes: 1 Oversize Box**

Arrangement:

Restrictions: None

Related Material:

Preferred Citation:

Processed on: Nov. 2003

Biography/History:

Joseph O'Callahan was born on May 14, 1905, a son of Cornelius J. and Alice (Casey) O'Callahan in Boston, MA. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1922 at St. Andrew-on-Hudson and was ordained at Weston College on June 20, 1934. O'Callahan received his M.A., Ph.D., S.T.L. and Honorary Doctor of Science degrees from Georgetown University. He taught at Holy Cross from 1938 to 1940 and was head of the Mathematics department when he entered the Navy as a chaplain in 1940. He served as chaplain aboard the U.S.S. Franklin when it was attacked off the Japanese coast. His bravery and devotion earned him the Congressional Medal of Honor, the first one earned by a chaplain. He wrote a book about his experiences entitled, *I was Chaplain on the Franklin*. A movie was produced about his experience titled, *Battle Stations*. After he left the Navy he returned to teach philosophy at Holy Cross. He died on March 18, 1964.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains correspondence, personal material, citations, awards, other manuscript material, newspaper clippings and obituaries. There are books, magazine articles and booklets about O'Callahan and the manuscript for *I Was Chaplain on the Franklin*. Memorabilia includes O'Callahan's Medal of Honor, plaques and material related to the USS O'Callahan.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection spans the period 1945 –2002 and includes 3 boxes of records and 2 boxes of memorabilia.

Box and Folder List:

Box 1:

- Folder 1: Personal Papers Given to Holy Cross by Rev. O’Callahan’s sister, Undated; 1945-1977
- Folder 2: Correspondence, Undated; 1950-1963
- Folder 3: Personal Material, Records of Ceremonies, Address Book, Undated; 1945-1963
- Folder 4: Medal of Honor Citation, undated
- Folder 5: Obituaries, Eulogies, Death Records, Undated; 1964-1965
- Folder 6: Eulogy by Rev. Richard J. Dowling, S.J., 1964
- Folder 7: Awards and Citations, 1945-1964; undated
- Folder 8: Memorials and Awards, 1964-1996
- Folder 9: Publication Entitled “The Priest Goes to War”, 1945 (2 copies)
- Folder 10: Miscellaneous Publications, 1945-46
- Folder 11: Miscellaneous Publications, 1956-2002
- Folder 12: Commemorative Envelopes, 1995
- Folder 13: News clippings, Undated; 1945-1964
- Folder 14: News clippings Undated; 1965-1989
- Folder 15: News clippings, 1990-present

Box 2: The U.S.S. Franklin and the U.S.S. O’Callahan

- Folder 1-5: U.S.S. Franklin (News clippings)
- Folder 6: U.S.S. O’Callahan, Building and launching records, 1964-1966
- Folder 7: U.S.S. O’Callahan, Commissioning records, 1966-1968
- Folder 8: U.S.S. O’Callahan, Commissioning newspaper clippings, 1966-1968
- Folder 9: U.S.S. O’Callahan, Decommissioning of (Programs), 1988
- Folder 10: Jay O’Callahan, “Father Joe”

Box 3: Manuscript of *I Was Chaplain on the Franklin*

- Folder 1: Publicity
- Folder 2: Chapters 1-3, Copy 1
- Folder 3: Chapters 4-6, Copy 1
- Folder 4: Chapters 7-9, Copy 1
- Folder 5: Chapters 1-3, Revision
- Folder 6: Chapters 4-6, Revision
- Folder 7: Chapters 7-9, Revision

Box 4: Memorabilia

- Folder 1: Sacred heart Medal
- Folder 2: Medal of Honor extra ribbon and buttons
- Folder 3: Medal of Honor Box

College of the Holy Cross Archives and Special Collections
P.O. Box 3A, Worcester, MA 01610-2395

Box 4: Memorabilia

Folder 4: Medal of Honor replica

Folder 5: Dogtag

Folder 6: Bullet shell fired at funeral

Folder 7: Catholic War Veterans of Schenectady plaque

Box 5: Memorabilia

Folder 1: USS O'Callahan seal

Folder 2-3: USS O'Callahan Commissioning memorabilia

Box 6: Medal of Honor

Oversized Box 1: Miscellaneous Award Material

Folder 1: Testimonial Dinner by the BC High School Alumni Assoc. Photograph, 1946

Folder 2: Testimonial from the Mass. Committee of Catholics, Protestants and Jews, 1946

Folder 3: Knights of Columbus Testimonial, 1947

Folder 4: City of Milwaukee, Testimonial, 1947

Bookshelf

I Was Chaplain on the Franklin by Rev. Joseph T. O'Callahan, 1961 (2 copies)

The Franklin Comes Home by A. A. Hoehling, 1974

U.S.S. Franklin – The Ship That Wouldn't Die, 1989

Big Ben, The Flat Top – The Story of the U.S.S. Franklin CV-13, 1990 (2 copies)

Battlefield Chaplains: Catholic Priests in World War II by Donald F. Crosby, S.J., 1994