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Biographical Note: Timothy Joseph O’Leary was born on May 17, 1921 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. In 1939 he graduated from Franklin Academy High School in Malone, NY and spent his undergraduate years at Syracuse University from 1941-1943. He was accepted to the Tufts University School of Medicine and graduated cum laude in 1946. O’Leary entered the United States Army as a dentist and transferred to the Air Force when it was created in 1949. Pursuing his interest in the new field of periodontics, O’Leary entered the New York University College of Dentistry as a post-graduate student in 1954, while remaining on active duty with the military. An active teacher and researcher, he was appointed to a series of assignments at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, eventually becoming Commander of the Dental Services Division. O’Leary’s research focused on the medical evaluation of astronauts, specifically diet and tooth mobility, as well as other aspects of preventative dentistry. In 1968, O’Leary retired from the USAF as a Colonel. He relocated to Indiana where he assumed directorship of the graduate program in periodontics at Indiana University. Under his guidance, it became one of the most comprehensive and respected programs in the country. O’Leary served as the president of the American Academy of Periodontology, chair of the American Board of Periodontology, and editor of the Journal of Periodontology for 18 years. As a writer and lecturer, he was a prolific contributor to his field. O’Leary married his wife, Kathleen Anne, in 1946. O’Leary died on August 16, 1991.

Series/Scope and Content Note: This collection documents the professional research and publications of Dr. Timothy J. O’Leary (Col, USAF, Ret.). The bulk of this collection consists of reprints of O’Leary’s articles, arranged by date. Included are reprints from academic journals as well as those published by the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine. There is also a small amount of material related to the
courses, studies, and programs developed by O’Leary for the Air Force, as well as sixteen lectures given at Lackland Air Force Base and film titled “The Inflammation Reduction Phase of Periodontal Therapy.”

BOX AND CONTENT LIST

Box 001:

00001: Timothy J. O’Leary: Obituary and Curriculum Vitae

00002: Publications by O’Leary, 1955-1963

- “Signs of Periodontal Breakdown on Patients with Malocclusion – Age 10-20.” Journal of Dental Medicine. 1955
- “Horizontal Tooth Mobility in Carefully Screened Subjects.” 1963.
• “Factors Affecting Horizontal Tooth Mobility.” Periodontics. 1966


• “A Study of Periodontal Examination Systems.” Parodontologie and Academy Review. 1967


• “Preparing Dental Hygiene Students for Expanded Functions.” Journal of Dental Education. 1972.
• “How Patients are Motivated and Taught to Practice Effective Oral Hygiene.” Not dated.


00006: “Dental Sciences.” Medical Service Digest, USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, 50th Anniversary, 1968.


00008: Proposed Periodontal Program, USAF.


Box 002:

00001: Annual Progress Report, Air Force Academy Periodontal Health Study [1 of 2]

00002: Annual Progress Report, Air Force Academy Periodontal Health Study [2 of 2]


00004: The Periodontal “Screening” Procedure. SMU file copy. [1 of 2]

00005: The Periodontal “Screening” Procedure. SMU file copy. [2 of 2]

00006: Articles not written by O’Leary

00007: Lackland [Air Force Base] Periodontal Lectures, (Nos. 1-16)

00008: The Inflammation Reduction Phase of Periodontal Therapy [beta tape]