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ARRANGEMENT AND NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Arranged chronologically by year and thereunder by the War Department decimal filing system.

Central Decimal Correspondence File (also referred to as "The Sarah Clark File), 1917-51, created by the Engineering Division, Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dhio, and its predecessors and consisting primarily of incoming and outgoing letters, memoranda, messages, reports, and similar correspondence relative to ReDactivities.

TheseFile complements the R&D Project Case Files, ca. 1921-51.

CONTINUED ON

SEPARATE PAGE

February 15, 1983

NC

Transfer of Sarah Clark Collection

Director, 6KP

For the past several months we have been working with the Air Force and the Military Archives Division (NNM) to complete our appraisal of the Sarah Clark Collection and to arrange for its physical transfer into the National Archives. The appraisal of the collection is now completed. Copies of the approved SF-258's are enclosed for your information.

NNM has indicated that the physical transfer of records, which total approximately 5,300 cubic feet in volume, from HPRC (GPR), can only take place after additional storage space is made available. This is not expected to occur until the latter part of this year, at which time NNM will notify you to ship the records. In the meantime, we suggest that one of your staff archivists be assigned responsibility for overseeing the transfer of this important collection. Particular care should be taken to see that the records are transferred in good order; this will facilitate NNM's processing of the collection. Also, arrangements need to be made to identify and transfer all pertinent indexes. Your staff may find the background material in accession job NC3-342-83-1 helpful in preparing the collection for shipment.

If you have any questions concerning this matter or if problems develop, call Jerry Wallace on 724-1998.

(Signed) Linda N. Brown

LINDA N. BROWN Acting Assistant Archivist for Federal Records Centers

Enclosures

NC:WALLACE:paw:02-14-83 cc: Official File - NC Day File - NC JWallace DWire NNM NC3-342-83-1, -2, & -3

February 3, 1983

Major Mark H. Coon, Acting Chief Documentation Management Directorate of Administration Department of the Air Force Washington, DC 20330

Dear Major Coon:

This letter is to inform you that we have completed our appraisal of the Sarah Clark Collection, 1917-53, which Air Force offered to the National Archives in October 1982. The records, which were appraised under accession job numbers NC3-342-83-1, -2, and -3, total approximately 5,300 cubic feet in volume and are located at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), except for certain microfilm records stored at the Aeronautical Systems Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The entire collection has been appraised as permanent. Our Military Archives Division will be making arrangements for the physical transfer of the records into the National Archives' holdings. Because of space considerations, we do not expect the transfer of the material located at NPRC until near the end of this year. However, arrangements should be made in the near future to secure the transfer of the microfilm records from Wright-Patterson to Washington.

We wish to thank the Department of the Air Force, particularly Mrs. Grace Rowe, for your cooperation in seeing that this important documentation on early aviation research and development activities is properly preserved.

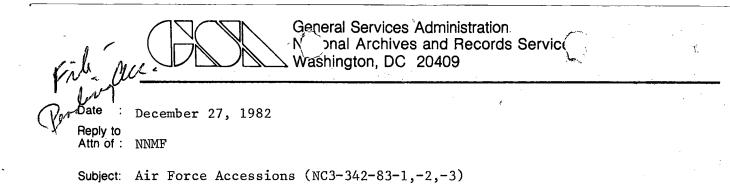
Sincerely,

SISSER, RAYMOND A. MOST, EY

RAYMOND A. MOSLEY Director Records Disposition Division

cc:<u>NNM</u> JWallace DWIRE NC3-342-83-1,-2,-3

Official File:NC Day File:NC WALLACE:vld 2/2/83



То : NNM

> We agree with the accessioning as proposed in the above referenced jobs. NNMF will be in a position to accept physical transfer of these records once NNIL has vacated the space it currently occupies in Stack 7. Given the existing backlog of unprocessed accessions and our limited staff resources, we will do nothing more than shelve the records when they arrive. Unless additional staff is provided to NNMF, archival processing of these records will be deferred for at least 2 years. We will not provide reference service on the records until they are properly processed. بد ی

RICHARD F. MYERS Chief, Modern Military Field Branch Military Archives Division

Richard,

I have read your meno and aque to the terms

4-7-82

Enclosed are the finding aids for 110 cubic feet of classified records which were found among Air Force R & D material located at NPRC, 111 Winnebago, St. Louis. They are part of a collection of about 4,000 cubic feet which will be transferred to NNG at a future date. Photocopies of these finding aids have been interfiled with the finding aids for the entire collection.

Of the many box nubmers appearing on each of the finding aids, the pertinent ones are the RD numbers, in red, on the right margin of each page. These correspond to the numbers on the boxes themselves.

March 30, 1982

Mr. David L. Petree Director, National Personnel Records Center 9700 Page Boulevard St. Louis, Missouri 63132 CC: Official File - NND George Scaboo - NC Edward Hill - NNMF Richard Davis - Air Force Richard Goheen - OI Lawrence Oberg - NAW -Day File - NND

EAThompson/rmg 3/29/82

Dear Mr. Petree:

Following receipt of the report of security violation on February 12, the GSA Office of Internal Security asked me to advise Mr. Delbert Bishop concerning the declassification of the Air Force organizational records found in open stack areas in the Winnebago facility. Ms. Patricia Clement NPRC Archivist has done a fine job of surveying the records involved and providing me with an adequate verbal description which permits me to make certain determinations and to recommend a further course of action.

I have determined--subject to a final declassification review and labeling of the containers after the records are accessioned into the National Archives--that all the Air Force organizational records dated prior to January 1, 1946 may be handled as declassified material. My authority for this action is DOD 5200.30. Air Force organizational records dating from January 1, 1946 marked as classified at the CONFIDENTIAL or SECRETAIevel, should continue to be treated as national security classified records. All post-1945 records marked RESTRICTED not relating to intelligence or cryptology, may be treated as declassified (authority for this is E.O. 10501).

My understanding is that something over about 100 cubic feet of records would fall into the post-1945 CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET category. These records should be immediately relocated into your vault and those scheduled as permanent should be packaged and thansferred to the Washington National Records Center, Attention Edward E. Hill, NNMF. Among these records are 8 cubic feet of records containing some documents marked RESTRICTED DATA. These cartons should be sealed immediately and included in your earliest shipment to WNRC. Naturally your shipping document should make their identification clear so that they can be placed in the special security area immediately upon receipt.

While these determinations and the relocations do not negate the violation, they will assure protection of the classified information which requires it.

If there are any questions concerning this matter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

5/Edwin Attompson

EDWIN A. THOMPSON Director, Records Declassification Division

6.

· · ·	(BDA)	Gen/ Services Administration	National Arch and Records Serv	ashington, [DC 20408	
Date :	December 20, 1979	9		 		 -
Reply to Attn of :	NCD					
Subject :	Disposition Job for	r Air Force R an	d D Records			

To : Director, NCD

Concerning NNG's memorandum of October 17, 1979, I have considered carefully their comments regarding the disposition of the Research and Development Project Files, ca. 1921-51, created by the Engineering Division, Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. I appreciate their concern about accessioning such a large volume (3940 cu. ft.) of records, but nevertheless believe these records should be preserved by NARS for the following reasons:

1. These records have significant evidential and informational value. They not only document a major program of the Army Air Force but also the beginnings of aeronautical development in this country and the world. Prior to World War II, Dayton, Ohio, was the center of such development and, as far as I can determine, there does not exist elsewhere a similar collection as rich and extensive as this one. In addition, these records contain numerous diagrams, specifications and photographs of aircraft and equipage that would be indispensable for reconstruction purposes. We have discussed these records with individuals at both the National Air and Space Museum and the Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum and both agreed that the records should be preserved permanently.

2. It is not feasble to screen these records unless it is done by individuals with specific knowledge of the subject matter. Unlike current files, there is not an identifiable final report that could be segregated from disposable material and accessioned. There is no question that these files contain a considerable amount of marginally valuable record that could be screened out, but, without more expert resources than presently available, it is inadvisable to attempt screening. These records are already over 25 years old and NARS' goal should be to make them available to researchers as expeditiously as possible.

As a final note, it seems to me that in accordance with current NARS and GSA policy, these records, along with the correspondence files also covered in this job, should be transferred to the Archives Branch at the Chicago FARC. This would resolve NNG's concern regarding space demands and would be advantageous to most researchers because (1) these files constitute a comprehensive collection that could be used independently and without reference to other holdings of NARS in the Washington area; (2) they have considerable local interest; (3) they would be located relatively near to the Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum, which has records relating to aeromautical development; and (4) Chicago is centrally

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Lomes

October 17, 1979

NNG

Reply to Attn of :

То

Date, :

Subject: Records of the Air Force Engineering Division

Director, Records Disposition Division - NCD

We apologize for the delay in commenting on the proposed transfer to the National Archives of two series of records of the Air Force Engineering Division; but an accession of more than 5,000 cubic feet of records is not to be taken lightly.

There is not much that we can say about the central correspondence. It seems to us that it ought to be possible to eliminate certain decimal classifications, but we will not argue about the appraiser's judgment that the series has a higher than usual proportion of high quality records.

The research and development projects records are something else. We have not heard anything about the question of Army research and development records for some time. The only approved schedule that we have received (NC1-AU-78-24, for specifications and drawings) was put into effect over our objection. It was our opinion that only the final reports, specifications, and drawings should be preserved. I realize that strong arguments have been advanced for keeping preliminary versions of these documents and certain other documents; but I do not believe that anyone in NCD, NN, or the Army has seriously suggested keeping all of the records concerning such projects. Perhaps there is something special about Air Force projects; but unless we receive substantial evidence of this, we cannot approve accepting all of the research and development records. We suppose that whatever decision is made on the Army records should be adopted essentially for the equivalent Air Force records.

You should know that it has been recommended that Army command records be transferred to the regions. This possibility also should be considered for Air Force command records.

/DANIEL T. GOGOZN Director Genéral Archives Division,

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(See related Accession Jobs NC3-342-83-2 & NC3-342-83-3.)

Background Material NC3-342-83-1 NC3-342-83-2 NC3-342-83-3

February 3, 1983

Major Mark H. Coon, Acting Chief Documentation Management Directorate of Administration Department of the Air Force Washington, DC 20330

Dear Major Coon:

This letter is to inform you that we have completed our appraisal of the Sarah Clark Collection, 1917-53, which Air Force offered to the National Archives in October 1982. The records, which were appraised under accession job numbers NC3-342-83-1, -2, and -3, total approximately 5,300 cubic feet in volume and are located at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), except for certain microfilm records stored at the Aeronautical Systems Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The entire collection has been appraised as permanent. Our Military Archives Division will be making arrangements for the physical transfer of the records into the National Archives' holdings. Because of space considerations, we do not expect the transfer of the material located at NPRC until near the end of this year. However, arrangements should be made in the near future to secure the transfer of the microfilm records from Wright-Patterson to Washington.

We wish to thank the Department of the Air Force, particularly Mrs. Grace Rowe, for your cooperation in seeing that this important documentation on early aviation research and development activities is properly preserved.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND A. MOSLEY Director Records Disposition Division

cc: NNM JWallace DWIRE NC3-342-83-1,-2,-3

Official File:NC Day File:NC WALLACE:vid 2/2/83

		ENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICES
		INTRASERVICE MEMORANDUM AND ENDORSEMENT
SUBJECT O	OR TRANSAC	NC3-342-83-1, -2, -3
FROM	то	DATE AND MESSAGE
RWK	GDR	December 7, 1982. As you can see, this offer was originally made two
		years ago and our comments were prepared at that time. The difference
		of opinion that surfaced then apparently were resolved, as stated in
		Moore's memo of 8-26-80. The original single offer is now split into
		three related jobs: -1 covering the correspondence, -2 the paper R&D
		-3 the microfilmed records. Re-circulation in NNMH would be superflu
	.	I am sure, but NNMF might want to see the jobs before they are closed
	1	Goggin and Hill were aware of the offer but Myers is probably not.
	.	that is needed now to signify our approval is completion of the Forms
		and 258 for each job.
		Robert W. Krauskopf
	ļ	1/5/83. NNMF is welling to accession all the jobs bu
	· • •	
	,)	wel not have space until NNIL is moved out of Stack 7 to this huldry. This will accur in abo
		six months.
	, 	I have superil all 7239's. In the light of
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	<u> </u>	258 ? Shuld myen as NNMF?
	, f	- Soft-
	~ }	1-5-83. NCD recommends that we wind up all the paperwork now. They
	, · ·	confident that another 6 months' delay will not worry St. Louis on th
	, I	paper records; it will give them time to prepare them for shipment.
	ļ	microfilm job (83-3) ought to be moved soon, however, as storage cond
	, T	tions are not satisfactory; 6 cu. ft. should not be a bother to NNMF.

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ROM	то	DATE AND MESSAGE (Continuation)
,		NNMF should concur on the SF 258 and NNM approve.
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National Archives and Sei **Records Service** Administration

Ger[~]al

Washington, DC 20408

Date November 19, 1982 : Reply to Attn of : NCD - J. Wallace

Subject: NC3-342-83-1, -2, and -3

Τn Director, NCD

> At our request, the Department of the Air Force has formally offered to the National Archives an extremely valuable collection of records documenting early aeronautical research and development activities. The records date from 1917 to 1953, beginning with the Army Aviation Section during the first year of the Great War and running until 1953 when a new system for reporting technical information--the present R&D case file--was implemented. They were created by the Engineering Division, Material Command, and its predecessors at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and later retired to the National Personnel Records Center, where they are now located, with one exception. Specifically, the Air Force's offers consist of the following material:

Marter

1. NC3-342-83-1: Central Decimal Correspondence File, 1917-51, often referred to as "The Sarah Clark File", and consisting of incoming and outgoing letters, memoranda, messages, reports, and other like material relating to R&D activities. The File, which totals 1,375 cubic feet in volume, is arranged chronologically by year and thereunder by the War Department decimal filing system. An extremely detailed finding aid exist. Bay. It.

NC3-342-83-2: R&D project case files, 1921-53, created by various 2. laboratories and units of the Engineering Division and consisting of studies, test reports, technical instructions, specifications, drawings, photographs, project record books, and the like. The bulk of the records, which total 3,940 cubic feet in volume, cover the period 1938-53. The files are arranged by individual laboratory or unit. A detailed index exists.

NC3-342-82-3: These records are identical to those found in NC3-342-83-2 3. except that they are on microfilm (approximately 400 rolls of 100 feet, 16mm film) and are physically located at Wright-Patterson. The microfilmed R&D project case fies consist of about 200 cubic feet of records, coverted to microform under authority given in II-NN-3518, and 155 cubic feet of records permanently withdrawn from NPRC collection. The hard copy of the records was destroyed after microfilming, with authority in the first instance and without in the second. Only the master copy of the microfilm exists; it is still in good condition. The records are arranged by laboratory or unit and are self-indexing. Also, a detail index exists for the material that was formerly located at NPRC.

Dan Rooney, a former NCD appraiser with a great interest in these records, began their appraisal in 1978 while at NPRC on special assignment. His appraisal resulted in a recommendation for their permanent preservation and immediate accessioning into the National Archives or some other suitable depository, such as the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum. After considerable consideration by the concerned NN units, Mr. Moore, then Acting NN, directed (see memorandum to NC, dated August 26, 1980) that the records be accessioned into the National

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Archives. This action, I suspect, resulted from Dr. Krauskopf's excellent exposition on the historical importance of the material and how the collection should be archivally processed, which was set forth in his memorandum of May 22, 1980. NC then contacted the Air Force and requested that the records be offered immediately. There then ensued a series of long and unfortunate delays arising from misunderstandings and the departure of Mr. Rooney from the NCD staff. In April, at your request, I spoke to Mrs. Grace Row, Air Force records management staff, about the status of the offer. Finally, in October, after several months of discussions with the concerned parties at Wright-Patterson, the Air Force offered collection to NARS. The offer included the microfilm records, a several months existence and location of which was in doubt at the time of Mr. Rooney's appraisal.

NN having formally approved the accessioning of these very important Air Force R&D records, I recommend that these three accession jobs be submitted directly to NNM for signature. All that is to be said about the records has been said, and the importance of the records clearly documented by Dr. Krauskopf. I should point out that the Job Folder for NC3-342-83-1 contains all the pertinent background material for <u>all</u> the offers. In the background material are some of Mr. Rooney's notes which should be helpful in the future archival processing of the records.

JERRY L. WALLACE

cc: 6KR

Ray: I talked to Mr. Bishop, NPRC(CPR), this week about these offers. He and Mr. Petree are very anxious to have the Clark material transferred to NN because of the space problem. I believe that Mr. Petree also discussed this matter with NC. For your information, I suspect that Ms. Clement will be used to oversee the transfer of the records; this should ensure an orderly and correct transfer. As you requested, I shall send Mr. Petree a copy of this memorandum and related material. I may also call him again.

J. L. W.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WASHINGTON, D.C.

JK/25/82 Wallace

200CT 1982

Mr. Raymond A. Mosley Director Records Disposition Division National Archives and Records Service Washington, DC 20408

Dear Ray

-- NC3-34283"2 Reference letter from Ms. Jean Fraley, 5 September 1980, concerning the offer to National Archives of 5,315 endic feet of Research and Development Project Files, 1938-51, and related Decimal Correspondence Files ("Sarah Clark File") 1917-51, of the Engineering Division, Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

We agree to the transfer of these files to National Archives. Standard Forms 258 are attached as is a copy of the SF 115 forwarded with the 5 September 1980 letter.

N3-342-83-3 We are also enclosing a Standard Form 258 which offers 400 rolls, 100 feet each, of 16mm microfilm located at the Aeronautical Systems Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. These records are related to the files mentioned above. They are Research and Development technical reports and date from the late twenties to the early sixties. We are also attaching some background information on the microfilm collection. We only have the master copy of the film to offer. Please advise us if you interested in this film.

3 Atch 1. SF 258, Sarah Clark File SF 258, R&D Collection 2. 3. SF 258, Microfilm Collection

Sincerely DAGWELL

Chief, Documentation Management Directorate of Administration ?

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WASHINGTON, D.C. VCD 12/20/81 NCD 3/26/81 Wallace What's invor

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2 0 MAR 1981

Ms Jean K. Fraley Acting Director Records Disposition Division National Archives and Records Service Washington, DC 20408

Dear Ms Fraley

Reference your 5 September 1980 letter regarding the transfer of approximately 5,315 cubic feet of Research and Development Project files, 1938-1951 and related Central Decimal Correspondence files 1917-1951 of the Engineering Division, Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. These records are now stored at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO.

We regret the delay in responding to your letter. We had to check with our f/ield command on this action. We agree that the records should be offered to National Archives. However, there are some issues that must be resolved before the transfer takes place.

We need specific identification of the records that will be transferred. Air Force has retired approximately 30,000 cubic feet of these type permanent records since 1917. In order to determine from this volume which of the 5,315 cubic feet will be transferred, we need to have the following information:

a. Copies of shipment documents.

b. Accessioning data, i.e. accession numbers, stack location, etc.

c. How to gain access to the records at NA if the need arises. We have occasion to use these records in patent infringement cases and for various other inquiries.

We are holding the Standard Forms 258 pending resolution of the referenced issues. If you would like to discuss, you may call Mrs. Grace Rowe of my staff on 694-3527.



Sincerely

HERBERT G. GEICER, Chief Information Mgmt and Resources Division

Séptember 5, 1980

Mr. Herbert G. Geiger Department of the Air Force (AF/DA) Room 4A-1088I PNT Washington, DC 20330

Dear Mr. Geiger:

We recently appraised approximately 5,315 cubic feet of Research and Development Project Files, 1938-51, and related Central Decimal Correspondence Files, 1917-51, of the Engineering Division, Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which are now in storage at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Mo. We have determined that these inactive records have sufficient research value to be offered to the National Archives for accessioning. They will provide invaluable source material for the period when the United States achieved international superiority in the field of aeronautics.

Enclosed are two Standard Forms 258, Request to Transfer, Approval, and Receipt of Records to the National Archives of the United States, for your review. We have not enclosed copies of the relevant Standard Forms 135, Records Transmittal and Receipt, because they are too voluminous. Copies of the pertinent SF-135's should be available at Wright-Patterson, and we, of course, will be happy to provide information concerning the records if requested. If you concur in our proposal, please complete blocks 3b through d, 5c and d, and 6a through d of the SF-258's and return them to us.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Dan Rooney on 724-1621.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Jean K. Fraley

JEAN K. FRALEY Acting Director Records Disposition Division

Enclosures

cc: J. Wallace OFFICIAL FILE:NC DAY FILE:NC ROONEY:kd:9-5-

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General National Archives Services and Administration Records Service Washington August 26, 1980 Date . Reply to Attn of : NN (Acting) Subject: Disposition of Air Force Research and Development Recor То : NC All disagreements have been resolved. Both series will be accession by NNG. nonp W. MOORE AMES Cting Assistant Archivist for the National Archives the providence of the providen

8/2 ch NIN to allo vinn e taz NNG be RAD eady received from 1 6 14 s called back + said Jim Moore. he had received NNG's response + would reply to us pronto.

July 28, 1980

NC

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Disposition of Research and Development Records

Assistant Archivist for the National Archives - NN

Enclosed is correspondence relating to two series of records of the Engineering Division, Materiel Command, Wright Patterson Air Force Base. These include the Central Decimal Correspondence File, 1917-51, 1375 cubic feet, and the Research and Development Project Files, ca. 1921-51, 3940 cubic feet. As you can see, there is considerable disagreement over whether the records, especially the latter series, should be accessioned and, if they are, where they should be located. We request your assistance in resolving these matters.

After reviewing the comments of the various NN units, we remain convinced these records have sufficient historical value to warrant accessioning by NARS. This is particularly true of the project files which are the heart of the research program of the Engineering Division. It is correct that these files contain a considerable amount of chaff, but they also include unique and irreplaceable documentation of the functions and activities of the program. Although they will be difficult for researchers to use and may require substantial screening, we believe that these records should be preserved. We are opposed to suggestions that the correspondence file might be accessioned but that the project file should be destroyed. Both series have permanent value; however, if the project files are deemed unworthy of permanent retention, there is little point in accessioning the correspondence file.

Since we are aware of the demands that will be placed upon NNG as a result of accessioning such a large volume of records, we sought to lessen this problem by suggesting the records might be sent to the Chicago Regional Archives Branch. However, since this is strictly an internal NN matter, we will, of course, defer to your judgment.

Finally, as requested by Dr. Krauskopf, copies of typical transmittal documents are enclosed for review. Although one not familiar with the technology involved may have difficulty understanding these documents, they are detailed folder lists and constitute the only finding aid to these records.

Please let us know you decision concerning this matter. WALTER W. STENDER Assistant Archivist for Federal Records Centers Enclosures cc: J. L. Wallace OFFICIAL FILE:NC DAY FILE:NC ROONEY:kd:7-28-80 June 25, 1979 NCD (Rooney)

Subj: Disposition Job for US Air Force Rand D Records

To: NCD

an established

The purpose of this SF 115 is to provide for the disposition of research and development related records created by the Engineering Division at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and currently stored in the National Personnel Records Center. Before discussing the records involved, some historical background would be useful.

Dayton, Ohio was the preeminent center of aeronautical research at least until World War II. This was due, in large part, to the decision by the US Army to concentrate its aeronautical research activities there in October 1917, when McCook Field was established. Although this facility was disbanded in the Spring of 1927, aeronautical research activities remained in the nearby area, being relocated to Wright Field. At the same time, the Material Division and, subordinate to it, the Experimental Engineering Section, were established. In 1942 the former was elevated to the Material Command and the latter to the Engineering Division. The Material Command became the Air Technical Services Command in 1944 and the Air Material Command in 1945. From 1942 through the post-war period the Engineering Division itself remained basically unchanged except for minor internal reorganizations.

In 1951, however, there were major organizational changes in the Air Force that affected Wright-Patterson. The Air Material Command was divided and part of its functions, including the Engineering Division, were transferred to the Air Development Command (Provisional), redesignated the Air Development Force one month later, and finally redesignated the Wright Air Development Center in June 1951. The parent command of the WADC was the Air Research and Development Command, Baltimore, Maryland. Internally, WADC was organized in such a way that the Engineering Division ceased to exist as a discrete entity. Consequently, the records covered by this SF 115 end at this point.

 The first series herein is a classic central correspondence file, 1917-51. It is arranged chronologically by year, thereunder by
War Department decimal filing system. It is generally referred to as "the Sarah Clark file" after the woman who was in charge of these records for the 44 years during which they were created. This series consists, primarily of incoming and outgoing letters, memorandums, messages, reports, and similar correspondence. It generally does not contain copies of specifications, drawings, photographs, and other research and development records created in the laboratories and other units. In sum, it is strictly a correspondence file, in the narrow meaning of that term. It is not uncommon to come across letters of transmittal, the enclosures to which are not included in the file. As was customary in well-maintained US Army decimal files of the time, there is an elaborate cross-reference system.

As regards the topics of this correspondence, I sampled the 1938 and 1944 files. In both cases over 50 percent of the correspondence concerned supplies and equipment (400 series). The single most voluminous category concerned aircraft, related equipment, and supplies (452 series); in 1938 this accounted for over 20 percent of the total and in 1944 over 35 percent of the total. Other significant categories in both years were patents and inventions offered to the government (070 and 072) and test reports on equipment, especially aircraft (319.1). In 1938 there was also a relatively considerable amount of correspondence concerning visitors (680.2) and in 1944 there were more publicity releases (000.7) and inspections and investigations (333.1 and 333.5) than in preceding years. In both 1938 and 1944 there is relatively little correspondence concerning routine personnel, fiscal, and other housekeeping matters which were handled by other divisions at Wright Field.

This series, it seems to me, is uniquely valuable for documenting the nascence and development of aeronautical research and technology. As in any subject correspondence file there is a considerable amount of routine material. In the case of this series such material relates to minor contractual matters. On the other hand, however, this series does not contain routine facilitative correspondence unrelated to the Engineering Division's program responsibilities. Overall, this series probably contains considerably less chaff than is typical of such files as have been accessioned by NARS. In addition, this series, if accessioned, will complement other related records in the National Archives, especially the General Correspondence, 1925-42, 2416 cu ft, of the US Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics (Preliminary Inventory 26, item 15), and other records of the same activity. For these reasons I recommend this records series be accessioned by NARS.

The other series in this schedule consists of R and D project case files created in the various laboratories and units of the Engineering Division. Although the date span of these records is cat 1921-51, the bulk of the records, not surprisingly, fall between 1938 and 1951. These records are arranged by individual laboratory

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1. States

or unit and contain all the types of correspondence normally found in such a series, e.g., test reports, technical instructions, specifications, drawings, photographs, project record books, and the like. It should also be noted, however, that during this period contractual and R and D documentation were not separated but were filed and maintained together. Consequently, in this series they are thoroughly intermixed and the series contains a considerable amount of dross. Nevertheless, this series contains substantial information that is crucial for an understanding of the development of aeronautical research, information not contained in but complementary to that in the Sarah Clark file. This series also will complement similar Bureau of Aeronautics files previously accessioned by NARS. For the reasons stated I recommend this series be accessioned.

The finding aids for both series covered in this SF 115 are extremely detailed, consisting of folder lists. Such aids will be essential in the case of the Project Case Files since the arrangement of these records varied considerably and within individual laboratories and units a single consistent arrangement is not discernible.

Finally, it should be noted that 155 cu ft of the Project Case Files are missing. They contain memorandum reports that were permanently withdrawn for microfilming at Wright Patterson in 1953. The records officer at Wright, Verna Frazier (8-775-2736), advises me that these records were microfilmed, the paper copy destroyed, and one copy of the microfilm sent to NPRC. She is unable to provide me an accession number and I have been unable

3-3-12-25: 1-an-14 film net as NPRC. Perhans, miner retired. also, might have been in proude on Delestrage to locate the microfilm. -

DANIEL J. ROONEY Records Disposition Division

3

al Services

December 20, 1979 Date

Reply to NCD Attn of •

То

Disposition Job for Air Force R and D Records Subject ·

Ge

Director, NCD

Concerning NNG's memorandum of October 17, 1979, I have considered carefully their comments regarding the disposition of the Research and Development Project Files, ca. 1921-51, created by the Engineering Division, Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, J appreciate their concern about accessioning such a large volume (3940 cu. ft.) of records, but nevertheless believe these records should be preserved by NARS for the following reasons:

1. These records have significant evidential and informational value. They not only document a major program of the Army Air Force but also the beginnings of aeronautical development in this country and the world. Prior to World War II, Dayton, Ohio, was the center of such development and, as far as I can determine. there does not exist elsewhere a similar collection as rich and extensive as this one. In addition, these records contain numerous diagrams, specifications and photographs of aircraft and equipage that would be indispensable for reconstruction purposes. We have discussed these records with individuals at both the National Air and Space Museum and the Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum and both agreed that the records should be preserved permanently.

2. It is not feasble to screen these records unless it is done by individuals with specific knowledge of the subject matter. Unlike current files, there is not an identifiable final report that could be segregated from disposable material and accessioned. There is no question that these files contain a considerable amount of marginally valuable record that could be screened out, but, without more expert resources than presently available, it is inadvisable to attempt screening. These records are already over 25 years old and NARS' goal should be to make them available to researchers as expeditiously as possible.

As a final note, it seems to me that in accordance with current NARS and GSA policy, these records, along with the correspondence files also covered in this job, should be transferred to the Archives Branch at the Chicago FARC. This would resolve NNG's concern regarding space demands and would be advantageous to most researchers because (1) these files constitute a comprehensive collection that could be used independently and without reference to other holdings of NARS in the Washington area; (2) they have considerable local interest; (3) they would be located relatively near to the Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum, which has records relating to aeronautical development; and (4) Chicago is centrally

located ds Disposition Division

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This is the Air Force R & D job that we have been stewing about. What do you think of sending them to Chicago?

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post) Room No .- Bldg. ··NN6 Ca Isili

Phone No.

5041-102

XU.S. SPO: 1978-0-261-647 3354

OPTIONAL FORM, 41 (Rev. 7-76) Prescribed by GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206

ROUTING AND T	RANSMITTAL	SUP	Date 4-3-	-90
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As Requested	For Correction	00	Prepare Reply	
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Comment	Investigate		Signature	

Attached are copies of an appraisal report, and other material, for a proposed accession of Air Force R & D records from Wright-Patterson. Mary Ann Wallace and I are reluctant to agree to the accessioning of 4,000 cu. ft. of records that admittedly contain substantial amounts of disposable material. NNG also seems to be skeptical, although they (and we probably) would go along with the correspondence series. Jerry Wallace suggested that you might give us some advice.

I think that the suggestion that these records could be to Chicago was made after NNG objected to the transfer to their bustody.

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post) Room No .--Bidg. Phone No. 50 5041-102 OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. Prescribed by GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.205

يوميعي المجتر بمرجرة $< \epsilon_{\rm c}$ Date 5-22-80 ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post) Initials Date 1. ÷., ε, 1 , uf - دېند Note and Return Action File Approval · ۰. . For Clearance Per Conversation For Correction As Requested. - (° -Prepare Reply See Me For Your Information Circulata Comment ٠. . Investigate · 192 Signature Coordination Justify ... REMARKS 5 Do you want this circulated? NNB just wanted an advisory opinion ... func upmfuord prollen DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions Room No .- Bldg. FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post) Phone No. 5041-102 OFTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76) Prescribed by GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.205 TU: S. GPO: 1978-0-261-647 /3354

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICES

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OF_ PAGES

BJECT	OR TRANSA		
ROM	то	Air Force Research and Prvelopment Files (Unregletered Job)	
WK	MEF	May 22, 1960. Both of these series have substantial historical	value: in
I	\ 9	my opinion, as they are basic documentation for the study of the	
: . 	289	tific and technological development of military aviation in thi	. ژونشد
4	3 51		
g	52	a field in which the United States has established and maintain	
2		nence in the 20th century. They are as important, in their way	an an an an
	I.Y.	for example, the 1949-45 records of the Bureau of Ships, which tremendous	document 🚁
3		our/World War II naval shipbuilding program and have been the s	subject of
2		several studies simed at reducing their volume. They also pres	sent analo-
3	104	gies with the records of the National Advisory Committee for As	eronautics,
\$	XX	which encouraged or subsidized much research and development for	or the aero-
J	Do	nautical industry at large. Like these other bodies of records	, they re-
		present the expenditure of tremendous sums of money, surely man	y billions
Q		of dollars for the years covered.	
	35	My impression, Tike NNG's, is that the central c	Orrespon
		dence file, because of its uniform character and lesser volume,	
	<u>Z</u>	the least difficulties. It seems to me likely that several of	
3		segments cited by the appraiser would qualify for disposal not	
1	33		
3	13	ly on the ground that they are of no value but because they are	
6	30	duplicated in the central files of the Office of the Chief of t	··
5	23	for this period. Such matters as visitors' authorizations (690).2), public
3.	34	relations (000.7), and investigations were controlled in Washir	ngton, not
	33	at the command or installation level. On the whole, it appears	s to me that
3	45	screening this file and working out criteria for selective disp	osal of nor
ŗ	33	permanent segments of the decimal range is a practical proposit	ion. I
14	94	have doubts as to whether it could be effectively accomplished	in situ.
- -			GSA AUG 57 6702

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I	FROM	ТО	DATE AND MESSAGE (Continuation)	
		×	however; it would probably be desirable to accession the records	and do
		5	the work here	
			The Research and Development Project File is	a much
			more difficult proposition. If documentation is not uniform and	varies
	:		from laboratory to laboratory and project to project, there is l	.ittle
			chance of approaching it analytically and logically to find a ba	sis for
			screening. The inclusion of contract correspondence is a furthe	r compli
			cating factor; we may think this unusual, but the line of derero	ation be
		-1-57 <u>-</u> 1-	tween research and development and actual production was not so	clearly
·	1		defined during the pre-war period as it was later, and apparentl	y respon
<u> </u>			bility for the two functions was not separated. If the contract	corre-
	-		spondence is comparable to that in our Navy Bureau of Aeronautic	s record
		25	with which I have some familiarity, it is probably about 85% use	less for
		۰. ۲۳	any type of research. The valueless and valuable are thoroughly	inter-
			mingled, however, and it requires a paper-by-paper review to see	gregate
-			them. The same approach may be the only feasible one here - to	accessio
	0		the records and subject them to a thorough study over some time,	
			with the aid of qualified staff members of the National Air and	Space Mu
0	1		seum-staff and eventually develop sufficient expertise and knowl	edge of
	W		the files to identify and weed out the chaff. It might be helpf	ul to ob
Q			tain from NCD copies of sections of the folder list of this seri	les, cite
	,		by the appraiser as a valuable finding aid, to give us a better	idea of
	•		the scope and character of the potential streaming problem.	
			Transfer of these records to Chicago has no	logical
			justification and I assume it was suggested only to comply with	the da-
.			<u>- pestralization effot in force at the time when it was note. It</u>	
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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICES

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PAGE

FROM	то	DATE AND MESSAGE
···, · - <u>·</u> ··		with related Air Corps, AAF, and Navy records, and probably NACA records.
	n an 1811	We seem to respond with alacrity and enthusiasm to offers of
		records of only marginal value in certain other areas, particularly genea-
		logical, and seem to have ample space to house such records and personnel
- Selection Statestic		to service them . If that is acceptable, I think it would not be out of or
		der to secure and preserve a significant body of records that document an
		important phase of the scientific and technological development and growth
\cap		that directly underlies the long period of world-wide superiority this
Y	X	country has enjoyed during the mid-20th century in military and civil avia
- 1999 - 299 - 1955 		
		tion.
		Robert W. Krauskopf
ERC	NNM	June 3, 1980. I think these research and development records should be
		preserved. Since NNM does not have space for them, NNG would have to
		accession the records. NNG would also have to perform the subsequent
		screening. That should not be an impossible task, since NNG has the space
	مې دو پېلېمې	to work on the records and Dr. Krauskopf has suggested some interesting
		ways of obtaining the expertise necessary to accomplish the job. I hope
,	- 75	NNG will consider the suggestions.
		I do not think these records should be sent to Chicago. They could possib
		be used independently, but researchers will probably be interested in
	···.	related records in the Washington, D.C., area. I might add. NNMM gets a
•	54 mm	steady flow of requests for R & D records on aircraft. This indicates a
	· · ·	continuing interest in this type of records.
- 		I think NNM should recommend that NNG accession these research and develo

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FROM то DATE AND MESSAGE (Continuation) ۰. 1. Sec. 1. 1. 1. They can be screened correspondence. as well as the central records should not risk losing the permanently valuable records because We filed with many of lesser value. hev are Clurin R. Coffee Edwin R. Collee . ***•** • • ...1 -. -----1149-21-224 ; <u>.</u>£ 112. · · --ं- इन्ह ί. ·•. _* - ÷ - 4 -يني. موريد م 1 بر مدمر میں ^{مر}در موجود میں الم . ÷., . 5 2 15 <u>1</u>7 -÷., ć é 227 127.4 45. 4 $T_{i} = 0$ 16.875. 1.15 1 المتر المعتقد . . 75, 5 · ... *...* ł . . " 1500 2010 - 115 2010 - 115 ÷. -25 ~ : -· :. - 15 -. . . . -- ---. . مۇرىمە مەر ···· ----- , INSTRUCTIONS FOR FURTHER CONTINUATION - If a series of messages on one subject requires more them one page, front and back, continue it on additional sheets, consecutively numbered. Arrange all such sheets with page one on top and staple them together. Begin a new series for messages written after a different type of document is added to the dossier.

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his is the proposed accession that Dan Rooney asked us to comment on. We in turn asked NNM for their opinion, . Ani: with, as you will see, is in favor of accessioning the "Eccords and not in favor of their allocation to the ficago archives branch. We will defer to that opinion, especially since Rooney's appraisal refers several times to related or similar types of records that are located here. I do not know if NNG would change the position of Dan Goggin's October 1979 memo.

Charles Dut

Charles South

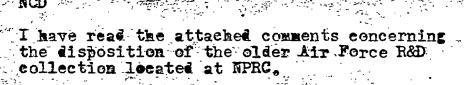
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5041-102

XU. 5. GPO: 1978-0-261-647 .3354

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76) Prescribed by GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.205



I find myself in complete agreement with Dr. Krauskopf: Both series of records warrant archival preservation because of their unquestionable historical value; non-record and marginally valuable material should be removed during archival processing; and the accessioning of the records should take with place as soon as practical.

Sec. 256

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(FSS)

ational Archives and Records Services Administration

Date : October 17, 1979

NNG

Reply to Attn of :

JK1 10/18/7'

Subject: Records of the Air Force Engineering Division

To : Director, Records Disposition Division - NCD

We apologize for the delay in commenting on the proposed transfer to the National Archives of two series of records of the Air Force Engineering Division; but an accession of more than 5,000 cubic feet of records is not to be taken lightly.

There is not much that we can say about the central correspondence. It seems to us that it ought to be possible to eliminate certain decimal classifications, but we will not argue about the appraiser's judgment that the series has a higher than usual proportion of high quality records.

The research and development projects records are something else. We have not heard anything about the question of Army research and development records for some time. The only approved schedule that we have received (NC1-AU-78-24, for specifications and drawings) was put into effect over our objection. It was our opinion that only the final reports, specifications, and drawings should be preserved. I realize that strong arguments have been advanced for keeping preliminary versions of these documents and certain other documents; but I do not believe that anyone in NCD, NN, or the Army has seriously suggested keeping all of the records concerning such projects. Perhaps there is something special about Air Force projects; but unless we receive substantial evidence of this, we cannot approve accepting all of the research and development records. We suppose that whatever decision is made on the Army records should be adopted essentially for the equivalent Air Force records.

You should know that it has been recommended that Army command records be transferred to the regions. This possibility also should be considered for Air Force command records.

DANIEL T. GOG**GAN** Director General Archives Division

REC	QUEST FOR RECORDS DISPOSITION A (See Instructions on reverse)	UTHORITY	JOB NO.	EAVE BLANK	
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4. NAME OF P	PERSON WITH WHOM TO CONFER	5. TEL. EXT.		10	
DANIEL	J. ROONEY	8–273–7248 07–693–7248	Date	Franker of the	United States
	E OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE:	4	·	100	~
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Research and Development Project/Files, ca 1938-51, 3940 cu ft

Technical instructions, expenditure orders, memorandum reports, drawings, specifications, photographs, contracts and contractual correspondence, progress reports, project record books, and other correspondence created and maintained by the individual laboratories and units of the Engineering Division.

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1938 (2700 ft) RD 33/4-40 (2700 ft.)

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452+ subnumbers (#H) (auicraft + equip)

680,2 (2, ft) (Visitors)

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Total Vol: 2700 pt.

1944 (75 au, ft) RD 2746-2894 (149au ft)

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333.1+333.5 (5ft) (inspections + investigations)

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1944 (cont'd) 422-451.9(4ft) (various equip+ supplier 452-452.9(77) (aircraft + equip) (58 ft) Summary of Sur is single most voluminous in a, Decina both ce D) 13 ft. (50%) of 1938 files fall in 400 series & 107 ft (over 50%) of 1944 files fall in 400 series.

Volume Figures for Sarah Clark File 429 cw ft 1917-41 1942 19 1943 94 1944 149 1945 138 1946-49 -<u>++</u> 28-2: (2 runs) 1950 268 194 1951 1365 cwft 10 cu.ft 1950-51 (Supplement) 1375 au. ft. : TOTAL

434 Ew. ft. (RD 3082-510) Sarah Clark File ends with 1941 for all practical purposes. The following years' records may be pound in these boxes: -> Each RD ber equals RD 2380-2458 (79 av. ft) D 1104-1142 (39 bys) 1942 Depetbenes incl more Than I cu ft of records. RD 2558-2651 D 1192-1238 (94cw.ft) (47 bxs) 1943 214 cw. K (149cw fl) (75bxs) 1944 RD 2746-2894 401 cw. ft D1287-1361 194 cu. A. 809 cw. At (138 cw. ft) (70 bxs) RD 2920-3058 (1917 threw 1951) 1945 D1375-1444 (14 cw ft) (8 by s) RD 3712-25 D 2428-35 1946-49 (suppl.) (26 You ft) (135 bxs) RD 3726-3993 RA 2326-53 1946-49 (main) (53 cw ff) RD 3994-4046 1950 Engr. admin. (Index Byo#2197) Orig. index sheets of RA 2326-53 above) (contid) 1946

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Υ. . Following is a list of pre-1952 Engineering recon protont and corles ondence anDe velops WAL boxes 42 NC3-342-83-2 Project plas feries Index Box Vol. acc. no. Knopect Files 126 ft. 63A-408 _44 HAF 64A-595 44 194 ft (1-194) 45 RA1254-57 1957 Decimal cluder does not identi, these as created by "Engincering Div." Project files incl some RA1254-57 Project Files 354/ (253-606)46 1950-51 36A Decima (Filer (4195-1950) 850-60 48 Propert Files 69 ft Project Files 62A-741 79 Project Files 80.At 49 63A-14 (Orig. miles of item above) 63A-408 49 Project Files 117 pt 49 6317-1874 (Orig. index fiten above) 49 644-595

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Sarah Chark File - RD 1-4330 Breakdown of Series Contract Files - Engr Div, Electronic Subdiv, Electronic administration; pre-1941 Contract Files Aircraft Radiation Lab 221-32 Contract Files Communication + Navigation hab 233-62 263-65 Contract Files Components - Systems Lab Contract Files Communications Mairgation Lab, Navigation Br., Pulse Mairigation Unit 265-83 284-328 Project + Correspondence Files Electronic Opns, Organization + Procedures 329-332 Contract Files Navigation Dr., Communications + Navigation Leb,

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McCook Field estab Oct 117 al ston, Ohio Experimental Engineering Sect was eleva Engineering Div per Go 24 12/3/42, Ma two was elevated to Material Como (Center) US the Ords, AG, Wash, 2/11/42, amended 2/12 Engr. Div. was placed under Materiel Cond. 6012, 8/3/44 created ATSC & Eggs Div remained uncles it. AF Reg 23-8, 5/22/51 - estat-air R+D Rmal, Balto, MB GO 22, 3/3451 - estal-air Devel Force - sedesig ADF as WADC effective Electronic Sub-div was merg Armament, Equipment, & that into Wans Components Div GO 10, 6/1/51 was merged w-Him - -> Section -> Unit

Memorandum of Phone Conversation 6/19/ 179 eprovideo erna Frazier and E following informatio te indexes indican a. Various ling 155 an with onown at 1/1M ens and ndum they men VA INC. copy was dear one 1.81 €″___ Im was sont marg ALE le inany seal is make ena clam STA. FA The vide use hun cannot pr interna b. Reher letter of 4/2/19 on the Sarah Clark File but total her clour locate our Vat copy of the index borth e. which orure she sent indica. to we as hove The was not e an acceldion NO ber or any oth er uselut Latet I checked hun lanno index is fe our copy of the dir

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Memo for Record 1 May a gentleman from the Unight-Tatterson B. Museum was talking to Richard Schrader on the phone when I was in the the since the collegacem latter's All ed records of was working on Schrader asked me to handle it. The caller had T heard a rumor that the sarah Cl file was to be se destroyed and were the case wanted the be offered to the museum I advised him that a final appraisal had not been made and that, in any case, the concurrence of the air F and would be necessary before any action was take If the records were set not of interest to NARS, classured him we would offer them to the Museum before destruction coney

Memorandum of Telephone Conversation with Philip Edwards of the National air Space Museur, I ibrary - 1Coom 3104, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560 (FTS 8-381-6591) - January 10, 1979 N.P. I called Mr. Edwards at the suggestion of Jerry Wallace to discuss the Jalaf Class File. He indicated that he felt the was quite valuable for the following Masons: 1. Even though it does not contain the actual R+D reports, drawings, etc., the consespondence it does contain can very useful in documenting the development of acronautical technologier that a lot of information can be pieced together by Knowledgeable people. 2. a similar Many file already in the National archives has proven to the quite useful in this manner. 3. The Sarah Clark File can provide clues leading to records in other files. 4. There are corresponding Rand reports scattered in a variety of

. ' e.g., the Library of Congress has a complete set of pre-1936 Ray Files from Cook Field, the predecesson to Wright-Patterson; and the Smithsonian and University of Wisconsin also have Rad case files that would selate to the Sarah Clark File, also, the Sarah Clark File could be used in conjunction with and is similar to records of the Bureau of deronautics already in the Hational archives (RG72, PI 26, esp. items 20-32). Mr. Edwards will prepare a letter outtining his feeling regarding the value of these records to specifying other records series it conjunction with which it may be used. 6/21/79 - Talked further to Edwards about other series of Rod records mentioned above. He explained as follows; (a) Library of Congress has printed, published reports, 1917-30; it does not have original material; (b) U. of Wisc, Milwaukee, has several thousand photos this WWII of planes, equipment, etc., presumably sifled from R+D files; () Simithsonian has files app on R+D developments apparently collected by Wright Technical Chtelligence Unit from overseas, Mary, a other agencies. May also inclusione Wright concisted

Memo of Phone Conversation with Verma Frager of the acrospace Div, (ASD) & Wright-Patterson On 1/10/18 I called Verna Frager (8-175-2736) to discuss the Sarah Clark File, and she gave the the me the following items of infor-mation: 1. Sarah Clark was in charge of the central correspondence life of what is now the aerospace Div. from 1917 to 1951. Her fin arranged by War Dest. decimal like include file copies of correspondence created by the operating units and labs. Only rarely does its include the actual R+ & report studies, drawings, specifications, test results, and other meatifalocuments that would ordinarily constitute an R&D case file. These records were retained by the operating units and their whereabouts is problematical (a) Often the operating unit did not have its own centralized file and individuals retained The only copy. Sometimes these were destroyed taken by the employee when he retired, lost, etc. (b) some of these records may have been retired here to or to WNRC by ASD

after 1951 and not as part of the File, Mrs. Frazier shid that documents would indicate mASD: of such records was one of the asmament, Equipment, an and aleroshare -Medical. These however un and will probably not medal 1950's That ASD real not until the handle on the records of the openating unit and was able to insure that all ormanent seconds were shipped to FRC's. The ls. France felt that Sarah Clark File cont many - should never have been sent to NPRC. The problem is that be no other Me cords documenting th activities of ASD to 195 ion. Wrigh 2. In terms of general in Patterson it or terson is organizationally divided as fol à aerospace Division; Dais Force Logistics Command (AFLC); and c) the Base Command itse 3. ASD currently creates R&D Contract Systems Contract Files, but I don't The distination

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS DIVISION (AFSC) WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



ATTN OF: DAD

2 April 1979

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subject: Sarah Clark Files

Military Personnel Records Center Military Operations Branch (NCPMO) Attn: Mr. Daniel Rooney 9700 Page Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63132

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1. Reference our telephone conversation on 27 March 1979 regarding the "Sarah Clark Files".

2. The two (2) attached Records Shipment Lists (DD Form 111) represent the beginning and the end of those records referred to as the "Sarah Clark Files". The dates range from 1917 through 1951. All of the records that fit in this category are identified in this same manner; an itemized list with all entries coded in accordance with the Dewey Decimal System attached to each shipping document. Any other shipping documents identified in any other way are not a part of these files. Please note that the title of Sarah Clark's organization changed through the years but the activity and the function remained the same.

Verna M. FRAZIER

Chief, Documentation Division Administration Office 2 Atch 1. DD 111, 18 May 1953 2. DD 111, 30 Oct 1956

RD 2540 Corresp re development of XCO-18Aghider anplane. This was first all metal glider designed specifically for use in assault andings by army Field Forces. Developed by Chase aucraft Co. of Trenton, N. V., ito sargo capacity was 8000 lbs. Designated the C-122, It was developed from Chase's XCG-14A, a metal-framed, plywood-covered glider. The XCG-18A was all metal and was strong enough structurally to. support the engine macelles and powerplant Ja C-54 auplane. Consequently, it could be pulled by another plane like a glider or it could sower itself and fly independently. a further development was the XCO-20, (C-123), which could carry 16,000 lbs, This series contains project record computation books, folders of correspondence specifications, photographs, and drowings alocumenting the progress of the research & contract with chase. Most of the computation books were actually daily records of events, corresp. revol + the progress of the project. all of these. gliden appear to have been related and in the sense of being improvements upon one another and all were built by Chase aricraft Co.

RD2542 Box contains more inform XCG 18A glider, incl. pilot's handbook of flight operating instructions; project status up to sent to AAF monthly by Chase, incl. photos of partially constructed components; actual weight yets; and corresp with various offices. This last item consists of about 10 flans assanged by addressee or correspondent, eq., other gout agencies, an Materiel Cond offices, contracting officer (plant representative) of Chase, and incoming + outgoing corresp, with contractor (chase). These consist of letters and memos, primarily. There are also Colders of general procurement data (EO's, Sub-orders, technical instructions, security classification assig real to project, notice of model designation, list of military characteristics required; outhorization for obsoletion of previous gholer models) contract and change orders; and comments by other AMC labo on texts of partical particular parto of alicher, mel many drawings; and yoto by project officer and engineering lisson officer on progress. in how there is also a bundle of project icols on the XCG-14+14A (1943-48), predecessors to The XCG-18A. Incl. chausings, contracte, spts, etc

RD2541 Further corresp. on XCG-18A+ XCG-20 intermised. apparently, both planer gliders were developed and tested somewhat concurrently (1947-57) although first phase of XCG 18A was completed before XCO 20 was started. This hox contains basic contract for test models, wind time models, handling aids, & other equipment necessary for terting XOC20. also contains specifications; hand book of erection and maintenance instructions: change orders; bailment contract; flight operating instructions; drawings + shotos; corresp, lolders; inspection. and progress reports; and field test 1st by army Field Forces Bd. #1, Ft.

RD 2573 Copies of articles and magazines from Japan on aviation medecine & research. In Japanese. RD2544 Continuation of same RD2545 A Copies of Serman articles on aviation + medical research. In Serman. RD 2548-51 Physics Unit project computation record books, projecto #1-181. Contain stafiquies + computations regarding physics problems, iq. consist of certain metals, photographic mablems etc. problems, etc. Equipment Lab, Engr Div, project flas; corresp, RD2552mostly this & memos ne various types of equipment, eq, Moscopes, aupainspace meters, machineters, anspector humidity indicators, etc. Folderson any quien type of equipment are not voluminous and may inclary kind of documentation.

Mr. Phillip Edwards

National Air & Space Museum, Library

TEL: 202-381-6591

Henshould talk to this

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September 4, 1974

Mr. Herbert G. Geiger Chief, Documentation Systems Division HQUSAF/DAD Washington, DC 20333

Dear Herb,

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We are sending you an SF-115 for immediate disposal of fire-and-water damaged research and development case files at the National Personnel Records Center, as we discussed in our recent telephone conversation.

Following the Center fire of July 12, 1973, our St. Louis staff attempted to salvage these records through the freeze-dry technique which was used on personnel records. Although they were particlar successful in salvaging the R and D cases, the integrity of writes we destroyed and archival control was subsequently lost. We believe that the value of these records for purposes of historical or other research is insufficient to justify the labor and time required to reconstruct approximately 2,470 cubic feet of R and D cases. For this reason, we recommend immediate disposal.

In addition, we would appreciate yourconsidering the disposal of all research and development case files, regardless of date, 6 years after completion of the project, task, or subtask, and the permanent retention only of R and D technical reports. The National Archives approved these disposition instructions for Army R and D case file: in Disposal Request NN-164-25. If the Air Force authorizes similar retention periods, we shall screen these records at the Washington National Records Center and the National Personnel Records Center, and remove technical reports for permanent retention.

Research and development case files are not permanent records which the National Archives will ultimately accession. Unless Air Force case files differ markedly from Army files, we believe that the disposition standards of Disposal Request NN-164-25 should apply to Air Force R and D case files. Your concurrence in this request will significantly assist us in our disposition review of holdings at federal records centers.

Please call me at 963-5185, if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

(signed) THOMAS W. WADLOW

Acting Director Records Disposition Division

Enclosures

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OFFICIAL FILE:NC

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RECORDS

Cubic Feet (Classified) Cubic Feet (Unclassified) Total

780 330 would ret. require screen 8.848 9,628

Jan, 1960

Date period 1914 - current

Research and development records are created and accumulated by Air Force activities incident to the planning, programming, management, and conduct of the Air Force research and development mission. Records relate to such phases of the mission as: guidance on general descriptions of operational capabilities deemed necessary in the future and broad ideas on technological objectives, development, and establishment of weapons system programs and research projects; the management, supervision, and review of specific weapons systems and directed projects; and test and evaluation. These files contain a complete history of each approved R & D project, task and work unit from its initiation, through development, design, and testing to completion. Included are project authorization documents, requirements, plans, schedules; copies of contractual and procurement documents, drawings, specifications, photographs, reports, results and conclusions, notices of cancellation and completion, and related correspondence.

Included is a special collection identified as "Sarah Clark Files". (430 cu. ft.). This is a unique collection of documents and technical material representing the AF's investment of billions of dollars (1914-1947), and its total knowledge in pursuit of research and development in aerospace technology. This collection was accumulated and maintained by Mrs. Sarah Clark, now retired, a civilian employee at Wright Air Development Center,

Records are retired by creating activities two (2) years after termination of applicable R & D effort in accordance with par. 240203, AFM 181-5. They are indexed by creating activity and filed by project case number.

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AUGUST 1907 - OCTOBER 1959

ROUND - AIRCRAFT LABORAL

HISTORIC.

The Aircraft Laboratory, Directorate of Development, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research & Development Command of the Air Force grew out of the Aeronautical Division, which was created within the Signal Corps on 1 August 1907. The Aeronautical Division was redesignated Aviation Section on 18 July 1914. Under this Section an Airplane Engineering Dept. was activated on 13 Oct. 1917 and occupied tents at McCook Field on 4 Dec 1917. The Airplane Engineering Division of the Bureau of Aircraft Production of the Air Service was activated on 31 Aug. 1918, under which Chief Experimental Engineering operated. The Aircraft Engineering Division was designated the Technical Division on 1 Jan. 1919 under which the Airplane Dept. operated. On 13 March 1919 this Division was renamed Engineering Division, Engineering Dept., Airplane Section.

The Air Corps Act of 2 July 1926 changed the Air Service to Air Corps. Materiel Division under the Air Corps was established at McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio on 15 October 1926. In the spring of 1927 the Materiel Division was moved to Wright Field.

The Experimental Engineering Section was reorganized and there was created within it two staffs: the Administrative Staff, the Technical Staff, and eight laboratories (the former units and branches being redesignated laboratories) of which the Aircraft Laboratory was one, by M.D.G.O. Nr. 3, 11 April 1939.

Materiel Division assumed Command status 9 March 1942 and upon verbal orders of the O.G., AAF, was redesignated Materiel Center 6 March 1942, TT, C/S. Mat. Com., Washington to Adm. Exec., Materiel Center WF, 27 June 1942. Materiel Center was redesignated AAF Materiel Command 6 April 1942, Mat., Com. G.O. Nr. 16, 6 April 1942.

Engineering Division was formed 3 Dec. 1942, Mat. Com. Notice Nr. 103, 17 June 1942. Materiel Command was redesignated Air Technical Service Command on 1 Sept. 1944. AAF Hq. G.O. Nr. 12, 31 Aug. 1944. Effective 9 March 1946, the ATSC was redesignated the Air Materiel Command, AMC G.O. Nr. 27, 13 March 1946.

In July 1946, the Aircraft Laboratory operated under the Aircraft and Physical Requirements Sub-division. Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command. With the reorganization of the Engineering Division on 3 Sept. 1946, the Aircraft Laboratory operated directly under the Engineering Division.

On 22 March 1951, the Air Development Force was established. On 2 April 1951, the Aeronautics Division was activated under the Air Research & Development Command, Wright Air Development Center, under which the Aircraft Laboratory now operates, G. U. Nr. 5, 24 Jan. 1951.

Pursuant to WADC Notice Nr. 162, 2 Sept. 1952, the Weapons Components Division and the Aeronautical Division were consolidated and redesignated the Directorate of Laboratories. All personnel, equipment, and space were transferred to the new Directorate.

On 18 Jan. 1954, the Aircraft Laboratory was assigned the responsibility for research, development, testing and standardization of sub-systems and equipment for controlling the flight path of manned and un-manned aircraft, including instruments to detect, display, or otherwise transmit information for flight control purposes, WADC G.O. Nr. 2, 19 Jan. 1954. In accordance the following organizations were functionally transferred to the Aircraft Laboratory: (a) The Automatic Flight Control Branch of (b) The Instrument Branch of Equipment Laboratory. (c) In addition, the Armament Laboratory and the Equipment Laboratory transferred staff activities as mutually agreed to by the affected organizations.

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WADC G.O. Nr. 20, 19 July 1954, transferred the functions of the Flight Data Branch, Operational Services Division, DCS/Operations, and the functions of the Craphics Division, Office of Information Services, pertaining to the preparation of graphic materials for the Air Force Guide Program, to the Aircraft Laboratory, Directorate of Laboratories.

Pursuant to WADC G.O. Nr. 30, 16 Nov. 1954, the functions of the Meterorological Equipment Section, Instrument Branch, Aircraft Laboratory (WCLSI-5) were transferred to the Aerial Reconnaissance Laboratory (WCLR). G.O. Nr. 1, Hq. WADC, 12 Jan. 1955, established and activated the Flight Control Laboratory effective 16 Jan. 1955. Concurrently the following organizational elements of the Aircraft Laboratory were discontinued: Assistant for Flight Control (WCLSF), Flight Control Plans & Operations Office (WCLSP), Control Synthesis Branch (WCLSX), Control Equipment Branch (WCLSE), and Instruments Branch (WCLSI). Pursuant to WADCL 20-1 dated 2 July 1956, the following organizations of the Aircraft Laboratory were established: (a) Program and Project Records Office (WCLSZ), (b) Operations Office (WCLSO), (c) Technical Development Branch (WCLSO-1), (d) Operational Development Branch (WCLSO-2), (e) Programming Branch (WCLSO-3) (Formerly WCLSC). Effective October 1957, functions of the Service Section (WCLSS-4) were deactivated or transferred to other Sections within Structures Branch (WCLSS).

Per D.F. from WCLSA to WCONM, "Reorganization of Dynamics Branch", dated 30 Dec. 1957, the Analysis Section (WCLSY-2) and the Dynamic Loads Section (WCLSY-3) were combined and redesignated the Analysis Section, (WCLSY-2), the Special Projects Section (WCLSY-5) and the Vibration Section (WCLSY-6) were combined and redesignated the Vibration and Acoustics Section, (WCLSY-3).

Effective 24 August 1958, the Program and Project Record Office (WCLSZ) were abolished. Concurrently, essential functions associated with Program and Project Records, including cost accounting, was transferred to the Operations Office (WCLSO). This action is a result of the implementation of reductions directed by Hq. ARDC letter, subject "Functional Overmanning Inspection", dated 29 April 1958.

Pursuant to WADC letter 20-7, "Establishment of Flight Mechanics Branch, Aircraft Laboratory", dated 1 October 1958, the Wind Tunnel (WCLSW) and Aerodynamics Branches (WCLSR) were combined and redesignated the Flight Mechanics Branch, (WCLSF).

Per D.F. from WCD to WCL, dated 12 November 1958, the 20' Wind Tunnel was closed. The tube of this tunnel will be dismantled and replaced by the new Sonic Fatigue Test Facility which will utilize many of the major components of the present tunnel.

Effective 1 December 1958, the Hydraulics and Pneumatics Section, WCLSMH, of the Mechanical Branch, was transferred to the Aeronautical Accessories Laboratory, WCLE.

Pursuant to Hq ARDC (RDRAA) letter, dated 28 January 1959, "National Requirement for Spin Test Facilities", the 12' Wind Tunnel was closed. This facility was closed to enable transfer of manpower to the tunnels now under construction in Bldg. 254. Although this tunnel is no longer an active facility, it will be maintained on a stand-by basis. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will absorb the workload normally placed on this facility.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND - FLIGHT DYNAMICS LABORATORY

On 1 April 1961, two of the Air Force's major commands, the Air Research and Development Command, and the Air Materiel Command, were redesignated. They became the Air Force Systems Command and the Air Force Logistics Command, respectively.

At Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the change meant the combination of the former Wright Air Development Division and the Aeronautical Systems Center into a new Aeronautical Systems Division, under the Air Force Systems Command.

Effective 8 May 1961, the Deputy for Technology, Aeronautical Systems Division was organized. Under the Deputy for Technology, five Directorates were formed: Directorate of Materials & Processes, Directorate of R&D Contracting, Directorate of Aeromechanics, Directorate of Avionics, Directorate of Advanced Systems Planning. Under the Directorate of Aeromechanics, the Flight Dynamics Laboratory was formed with responsibility for state-of-the-art knowledge in aeromechanics areas such as gas dynamics and flight performance, structural design and vulnerability, flight vehicle dynamics, crew station and escape, launching and alighting, and related areas. Analyzes advanced systems to improve operational effectiveness.

The Flight Dynamics Laboratory consists of three Branches: Dynamics Branch, Flight Branch and Structures Branch.

The Dynamics Branch is responsible for applied research in the fields of aerothermoelasticity, vibration, and acoustics, dynamic loads, launching and alighting concepts, crew station and escape subsystems, and related items for future flight vehicles. Determines the effects of environments on structural dynamics, develops and extends dynamic theories, conceives and plans advanced experimental and analytical programs, develops design criteria and disseminates results. Estimates requirements for advanced experimental facilities.

The Flight Branch performs applied research in aero and gas dynamics and flight performance to establish optimum configurations and mission profiles for future flight vehicles. Analyzes flow phenomena to improve design data, develops design criteria and analysis methods, and disseminates results. Estimates requirements for advanced experimental gas dynamic facilities.

The Structures Branch performs applied research in structural design and vulnerability for future flight vehicles, conceives and plans supporting analytical and experimental programs and disseminates information and data resulting therefrom. Develops related design criteria. Evolves structural configurations employing new materials and new methods of construction and provides improved methods of structural analysis. Estimates requirements for advanced experimental facilities.

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