



Smithsonian
National Air and Space Museum

Lynn V. Blankman Collection

2001

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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<http://airandspace.si.edu/research/resources/archives/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Lynn V. Blankman Collection
Identifier:	NASM.1989.0088
Date:	1906-1959
Extent:	0.23 Cubic feet ((1 slim legal document box)) 0.21 Linear feet
Creator:	Blankman, Lynn V.
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Oren Lee Martin, Gift, 1989, 1989-0088, NASM

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Lynn Blankman, pioneer aviation engineer and flyer, was born in 1891. He started his aviation career with Glenn Curtiss, president of the Curtiss Aeroplane Corporation. Blankman was involved with aeroplane and motor construction and performed flying operations on land and water craft, including the construction of early flying boats. From 1914-1917, Blankman served with the War Office of the British Government, and was, among other roles, Chief Inspector. After WWI he served as the Assistant to the President, and manager of Curtiss Engineering Corp. In 1919, he was part of the Wright-Martin Corporation in charge of engineering controls. He headed an expedition to Asia for the shipment of H-16 Flying Boats and Hydro Aeroplanes. In Asia he studied flying routes and established the first air base in Asia near Macao, China. In 1930, Blankman initiated the first consolidation of Aviation/Accessory Companies into one corporation, the Bendix Aviation Corp. In 1933, he negotiated contracts with Rumanian Government for reorganization of military, civil, and airmail contracts with the view to establish manufacturing plants, airlines, and military flying schools. He later turned this over to American interests. Blankman later held various positions at Douglas Aircraft. Over his career, Blankman worked with a total of 18 different aviation motors, as well as marine engines and locomotives.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of photographs and newspaper clippings chronicling Blankman's exploits in the aviation field. Included are photographs of Roy Francis, as well as other early pioneer aviators; photographs of aircraft including Sikorsky, Curtiss, Martin, Savoia-Marchetti; photographs of a 1930s trip to Alaska in a Sikorsky S-38; and photographs of family and friends. Also included is correspondence from clubs and companies (1916-1929), and a few miscellaneous items such as a 1920 passport.

General

NASMrev

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics -- Romania
- Sikorsky (USA) S-38 Amphibion Family

Types of Materials:

- Correspondence
- Maps
- Photographs

Names:

- Blankman, Lynn V.
- Curtiss Engineering Corp
- Francis, Roy