



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Captain Walter J. Seaborn World War I Collection

2003

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Captain Walter J. Seaborn World War I Collection
Date:	(bulk 1917-1919)
Identifier:	NASM.2003.0053
Creator:	Seaborn, Walter J. Captain, 1892-
Extent:	0.63 Cubic feet ((1 legal document box, 1 slim letter document box))
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of original papers documenting Captain Walter Seaborn's World War I service, especially his duties relating to the Army Air Service's evaluation, procurement, and transfer of German aircraft and equipment to the United States after the war. The following types of material are included in the collection: correspondence, memorandums, reports, photographs, passenger lists, resumes, supply receipts, rosters, notes, publications, and military orders. There is also a photocopy of letters, photographs, and documents, bound in a book entitled "The Seaborn Family 1882-1972." This book contains information about Captain Seaborn and his family.
Digital Content:	Image(s): Captain Walter J. Seaborn World War I Collection, NASM.2003.0053 (NASM.2003.0053-M0000013-00020)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Helen Seaborn Hopson, Gift, 2003

Processing Information

Processing Information - Arranged, described, and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2017. Digital assets attached by Allan Janus, 2020.

Preferred Citation

Captain Walter J. Seaborn World War I Collection, Accession 2003-0053, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Captain Walter J. Seaborn (1892-19??) attended high school and the Western Military Academy in Illinois. He attended several different business schools before graduating from the University of California with a law degree in 1912. In 1917, after having held a variety of jobs and traveling, Seaborn joined the Army Air Service and was assigned to Kelly Field. He was promoted to Commanding Officer of the 25th Aero Squadron and ordered overseas, to England and then to France. In France, Seaborn worked as the Liaison Officer between the Technical Section SOS and the Zone of Advance. In 1918, Seaborn was promoted to captain and after the war he transferred to the 3rd Army where his duty was to secure types of all available German aircraft for shipment to the United States for further evaluation.

Scope and Contents

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Arrangement

The Captain Walter J. Seaborn World War I Collection is arranged by content type.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Airplanes -- Germany
- Enemy property
- World War, 1914-1918

Types of Materials:

- Correspondence
- Memorandums
- Photographs
- Receipts
- Reports
- Resumes
- Rosters

Names:

- Seaborn, Walter J. Captain, 1892-
United States. Army. Air Service
United States. Army. Air Service. 25th Aero Squadron

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Walter J. Seaborn - Personal and Military Records
Box 1, Folder 2	Photographs
Box 1, Folder 3	Reports and Memoranda (1 of 4)
Box 1, Folder 4	Reports and Memoranda (2 of 4)
Box 1, Folder 5	Reports and Memoranda (3 of 4)
Box 1, Folder 6	Reports and Memoranda (4 of 4)
Box 1, Folder 7	Program of Instruction of Flying Personnel Belonging to American Air Service, 1917
Box 1, Folder 8	"Manual of Air Service Stations in France", August 1, 1918
Box 1, Folder 9	"The Future Role of American Bombardment Aviation" - Report
Box 1, Folder 10	Maps
Box 1, Folder 11	Brochures
Box 1, Folder 12	Miscellaneous
Box 1, Folder 13	The Seaborn Family, 1882-1972