



Smithsonian
National Air and Space Museum

John A. Macready Collection

2005

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

Table of Contents

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

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	John A. Macready Collection
Identifier:	NASM.2004.0060
Date:	(bulk 1920-1968)
Extent:	1.47 cubic feet ((1 flat box))
Creator:	Macready, John
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Sally M. Wallace, Gift, 2004

Preferred Citation

John A. Macready Collection, Accession 2004-0060, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

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Biographical / Historical

John A. Macready (1887-1979) enlisted in the US Air Service in 1917 and earned his pilot's wings at Rockwell Field, San Diego. While a flight instructor at the Army Pilot School at Brooks Field, Texas, he authored a book, "The All Through System of Flying Instruction as Taught at Brooks Field" which became the basic manual for student pilots in the early years of US military aviation. During the postwar years, he was assigned to the Air Service Experimental Test Center at McCook Field, Ohio, where he was the chief test pilot for the Air Service from 1920 to 1926. On October 5, 1922, Lt. Macready and his associate, Lt. Oakely Kelley established a world flight endurance record of 35 hours, 18.5 minutes in the skies over San Diego. This endurance flight led to experiments that produced the first air-to-air refueling system. In May 1923, Lts. Macready and Kelley took off from Roosevelt Field, New York in a Fokker T-2 and landed some 27 hours later at Rockwell Field, San Diego after having completed the first nonstop US transcontinental

flight. Besides these endurance and altitude flights, Macready also had the following firsts: he made the first night parachute jump; he invented the first aviator glasses; he was the world's first crop duster; he took the first photos of a solar eclipse; he made the first aerial photographic survey of America; he conducted the first tests in a pressurized cockpit; and he was the first and only person to three times win the Mackay Trophy for outstanding aviation achievement.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes the following types of material chronicling John Macready's exceptional aviation career: two 3/4" (U-Matic) video tapes; a VHS tape "Macready and the Mackay"; an August 1957 National Geographic Magazine containing article "History Written in the Skies"; newspaper and magazine articles, photographs, speeches, correspondence and a 21" x 25" brown scrapbook containing newspaper clippings of Macready's many aviation accomplishments.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics -- Awards
- Aeronautics -- Flights
- Endurance flights
- Fokker T-2 (F.IV)
- Mackay Trophy
- Parachuting
- Transcontinental flights -- United States

Types of Materials:

- Scrapbooks

Names:

- Kelly, Oakley G.
- McCook Field, Ohio