



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Robert Foster Papers

2004

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Robert Foster Papers
Date:	(bulk 1930-1974)
Identifier:	NASM.2004.0062
Creator:	Foster, Robert L, 1922-1994
Extent:	0.75 Cubic feet ((2 box))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Sally Foster-Chang, Gift, 2004

Preferred Citation

Robert Foster Papers, 2004-0062, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

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Biographical / Historical

Robert L. Foster (1922-1994) received a BSEE from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1952. Prior to his time at Georgia, Foster was in the US Army Corps of Engineers from 1942-1950. In 1953, he began his long association with McDonnell Douglas Corporation. At McDonnell Douglas Foster had a number of important positions, including the following: Group Engineer for Advanced Design (1958-1959), Senior Group Engineer for Project Mercury (1959-1960), Engineering Manager for Project Mercury (1960-1965) , and Operation manager for Project Gemini (1965-1967). Later in 1967, Foster was transferred from Cape Kennedy to Vandenberg Air Force Base where he served as base manager (1967-1968), Deputy Director (1968-1969) and finally Director (1969 -).

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of .75 linear ft of Robert L. Foster's professional papers, including the following types of material: reports, correspondence, photographs, invitations, McDonnell newsletters, interoffice

memorandums, and newspaper articles. The papers relate to his long association with the McDonnell Douglas Corporation, and his roles in Project Mercury, Project Gemini, and at Vandenberg Air Force Base.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Manned space flight
- Space vehicles

Types of Materials:

- Articles
- Correspondence
- Memorandums
- Newsletters
- Photographs

Names:

- John F. Kennedy Space Center
- McDonnell Douglas Corp
- Project Gemini (U.S.)
- Project Mercury (U.S.)
- Vandenberg Air Force Base (Calif.)