



Smithsonian  
*National Air and Space Museum*

Thomas E. Steptoe Scrapbook Collection

2002

National Air and Space Museum Archives  
14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway  
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<http://airandspace.si.edu/research/resources/archives/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Air and Space Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Thomas E. Steptoe Scrapbook Collection
<b>Identifier:</b>	NASM.XXXX.0229
<b>Date:</b>	1911-1958
<b>Extent:</b>	0.23 cubic feet ((1 slim legal document box))
<b>Creator:</b>	Steptoe, Thomas E.
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Thomas E. Steptoe, gift, unknown, XXXX-0229, NASM

### Restrictions

No restrictions on access

### Conditions Governing Use

Material is subject to Smithsonian Terms of Use. Should you wish to use NASM material in any medium, please submit an Application for Permission to Reproduce NASM Material, available at [Permissions Requests](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

Thomas E. Steptoe, an early proponent of Airmail service, learned to fly at the Sloane Flying School, circa 1910. A paper on aviation in the postal service, which he wrote in 1916, urged adoption of Air Mail Service. Mr. Steptoe was granted his 'Expert Pilot' certificate by the Aero Club of America 26 April 1920. He was also a member of The Early Birds.

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## Scope and Contents

Included in this collection are numerous photographs of early Sloane, Deperdussen and Bleriot type aircraft. Newspaper clippings, photos and letters pertaining to the establishment of airmail service are an integral part of the collection. Photos of pioneer aviators such as Adolph Pegoud, Alys McKey Bryant, Percival Reid, Agnes Firth, and others are contained herein. Of interest are photos of the airship Hindenberg (purported to have been taken on her final voyage), a letter from Al Williams concerning the return of the Wright Flyer from London, and letters from the Christmas Aircraft Company.

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## General

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Cultures:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics -- 1903-1916
- Aeronautics, Commercial
- Aeronautics, Commercial -- United States
- Air mail service
- Bleriot Aircraft Family
- Deperdussin Aircraft Family
- Sloane Aircraft Family

Types of Materials:

- Clippings
- Correspondence
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks

Names:

- Bryant, Alys McKey
- Christmas, William Whitney (Aircraft manufacturer)
- Early Birds of Aviation (Organization).
- Firth, Agnes
- LZ 129 Hindenburg (Airship)
- Pegoud, Adolph
- Reid, Percival
- Sloane Aircraft Co, Inc
- Sloane Flying School
- Steptoe, Thomas E.
- Williams, Al