



Smithsonian
National Air and Space Museum

Harold E. Morehouse Flying
Pioneers Biographies Collection

Kate Igoe

1997



National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Chantilly, VA 20151
NASMRefDesk@si.edu
<http://airandspace.si.edu/research/resources/archives/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies collection
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0450
Date:	circa 1960s-1970s
Extent:	4.36 Cubic feet (4 records center boxes) 4.16 Linear feet
Creator:	Morehouse, Harold E., 1894-1973
Language:	English
Summary:	This collection consists of 355 biographies written by Harold E. Morehouse and intended for publication. These biographies discuss Morehouse's fellow early aviation pioneers, many of whom belong to the Early Birds, an organization open to those who soloed before December 17, 1916. Each biography discusses the subject's life and the majority of biographies include a photograph of the individual.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Morehouse, gift, 1960-1972, XXXX-0450, NASM

Processing Information

The National Air and Space Museum (NASM) received this collection in parts, with some arriving in 1960-63, 1965, 1967-1969 and 1971-1972. Each folder will contain a biography in several versions, each at a different stage of editorial preparation. It is believed that the final version of each biography was edited by Paul E. Garber and retyped.

In addition to these efforts, the collection received some preliminary archival processing work prior to 1997. Original order of the materials, where identified, has been maintained.

Preferred Citation

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection, Acc. XXXX-0450, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical

This collection consists of over 350 short biographies of early aviation's trailblazers written by Harold E. Morehouse (1894-1973). Conspicuous by its absence is a biography of the author, himself an innovator.

Born in Michigan, Morehouse channelled a youthful fascination with flight into training in the field of mechanical engineering. He began work in 1915 for the Van Blerck Motor Company and assisted in their development of aircraft engines. In 1917, Morehouse was working as a layout draftsman on the Standard J-1 Training Airplane for the Dayton-Wright Aeroplane Company. However, this assignment was quickly superseded by his placement on a secret project, supervised by C.F. Kettering and Orville Wright. Its aim was the production of a selfflying aerial torpedo which has since become known as the Kettering Bug. Morehouse contributed to all phases of this project, including its design, engine development and flight testing. The armistice arrived before the actual deployment of the Bug; Morehouse was to spend the next few years in engine design and development.

In 1925, Morehouse joined the Wright Aeronautical Corporation and both the Wright-Morehouse engine and the Wright-Whirlwind J-5 (a re-design of the J-4) were developed here under Morehouse. The latter engine was later to serve as the powerplant for the historic 1927 trans-Atlantic flight of the Spirit of St. Louis and this was a great source of satisfaction to Morehouse. He left Wright Aero in 1929 and in subsequent years designed the inverted Rover for the Michigan Aero Engine Company, the A-50 for the Continental Motors Corporation and the Engineering and Research Corporation's Erco engine.

About ten years prior to his retirement in 1965, Harold Morehouse began work on a personal project. His aim was to gather information on significant contributors to early aviation and distill this data to produce a set of brief biographies of these innovative men and women. He was assisted in this by his wife, Marvel Dyer. After Harold's death, Marvel worked in concert with Paul E. Garber of the National Air Museum to procure publication of the work. Sadly, the passing of Marvel Dyer and later of Paul Garber seemed to bring plans for publication to a halt.

This collection consists of hundreds of biographical narratives concerning the lives of the "Flying Pioneers." Many of those featured were members of the Early Birds of Aviation, Inc., a group whose members had the distinction of having soloed prior to 1916. Most of the biographies are accompanied by one or more photographs of their subject and comprise an invaluable resource on the accomplishments and sacrifices of those intrepid individuals who forged the history of American aviation. However, it should be borne in mind that the biographies are based in large measure on personal interviews and are concerned primarily with their subjects' careers in aviation.

Other sources should be consulted to obtain a complete portrait.

Contents

The Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection (accession XXXX-0450) contains approximately four cubic feet of material. It is also known as The Harold and Marvel Morehouse Aviation Pioneers Collection. The collection includes photographs, negatives, and typewritten material.

Arrangement

Container List: Series I: Biographies of Flying Pioneers; Series II: Miscellaneous related materials; Series III: Oversized materials

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Aeronautics
Aeronautics -- 1903-1916

Types of Materials:

Manuscripts
Photographs

Names:

Early Birds of Aviation (Organization).
Morehouse, Harold E., 1894-1973

Container Listing

Series 1.1: Biographies of Flying Pioneers 1.1

Series note

Each folder contains information on a significant figure in the annals of American aviation. Materials for each individual usually include several versions of a short biography, one or more photographs and may include negatives of those images. Some photographs that would be expected to be found within this series may be found, by reason of their size, in Series III.

For reasons that are unclear, several distinguished personalities of the age of early flight have been omitted for biography by Morehouse, including Glenn Curtiss and the Wright Brothers.

In December 2017, the Museum's Aeronautics Department transferred an additional set of biographies to the NASM Archives. This set follows this series as Series 1.2.

Box 1, Folder 1	Acosta, Bertram B. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 2	Adams, Baxter H. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 3	Addems, Walter J. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 4	Arens, Charles A. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 5	Armor, Robert J. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 6	Atwater, William B. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 7	Atwood, Harry N. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 8	Babcock, Verne C. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 9	Badger, William Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 10	Baldwin, Frederick W.

	Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 11	Baldwin, Ivy (William Ivy) Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 12	Baldwin, Thomas S. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 13	Barlow, Floyd E. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 14	Barnaby, Ralph S. (photographs only) Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 15	Barnhart, George E. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 16	Bates, Carl S. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 17	Bates, Mortimer F. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 18	Batts, Carl T. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 19	Beachey, Hillery Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 20	Beachey, Lincoln Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 21	Beatty, George W. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 22	Beech, Alexander C. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 23	Beers, Earle F. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 24	Beers, William C. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 25	Bell, Frank J.

	Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 26	Bell, Frank M. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 27	Bell, Grover E. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 28	Bellanca, Giuseppe M. Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 29	Benedict, C. Ray Image(s)
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Box 2, Folder 1	Billard, L. Phil Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 2	Blakely, Harold W. Image(s)
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Box 2, Folder 5	Boeing, William E. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 6	Boland Brothers: Frank E., Joseph J. and James P. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 7	Bonnalie, Allan F. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 8	Bonney, Leonard Warden

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Box 2, Folder 9	Borkland, Carl R. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 10	Boshek, Albert Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 11	Bounds, Overton M. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 12	Boyer, Phillip Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 13	Brabazon, Jesse C. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 14	Bragg, Caleb S. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 15	Brindley, Oscar A. Image(s)
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Box 2, Folder 18	Brodie, Otto W. Image(s)
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Box 2, Folder 20	Brown, Harold H. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 21	Brown, Harry B. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 22	Brown, Lawrence W. Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 23	Brown, Ralph M.

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Box 2, Folder 24	Bryant, Alys McKey and John Image(s)
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Box 3, Folder 4	Carlstrom, Victor Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 5	Carr, Walter J. Image(s)
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	Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 8	Cessna, Clyde V. Image(s)
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Box 3, Folder 10	Christmas, William W. Image(s)
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Box 3, Folder 13	Clarke, Julia Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 14	Claverie, Armond W. Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 15	Coffyn, Frank T. Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 16	Conover, William Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 17	Cooke, Weldon B. Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 18	Coombs, Clarence B. Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 19	Cooper, John D. Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 20	Copland, Harry D. Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 21	Crawford, Harvey Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 22	Crewdson, Harry B.

	Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 23	Cross, W. Redmond Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 24	Crowell, Henry K. Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 25	Curtis, Greely S. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 1	Daugherty, Earl G. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 2	Day, Charles H. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 3	Day, Curtiss LaQ. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 4	DeGiers, Clarence A. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 5	DeHart, Dana C. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 6	DeKor, Fred Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 7	Denehie, William A. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 8	DePew, Richard H. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 9	DeRemer, Lionel H. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 10	Diehl, William C. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 11	Diggins, Ralph Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 12	Dixon, Cromwell, Jr.

	Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 13	Doherty, William E. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 14	Domenjoz, John Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 15	Drew, Andrew Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 16	Dyott, George M. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 17	Eaton, Warren S. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 18	Eells , Fred C. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 19	Elton, Albert Image(s)
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Box 4, Folder 21	Engel, Albert J. Image(s)
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Box 4, Folder 23	Fay, Charles L. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 24	Fish, Farnum T. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 25	Forkner, Joseph R. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 26	Fowler, Robert G. Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 27	Francis, Roy N.

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Box 4, Folder 28 Freeman, Arch

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Box 5, Folder 1 Frisbie, John J.

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Box 5, Folder 2 Fritts, Earl V.

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Box 5, Folder 3 Gaines, Albert B., Jr.

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Box 5, Folder 4 Gage, Jay

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Box 5, Folder 5 Gallaudet, Edson F.

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Box 5, Folder 6 Gammeter, John R.

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Box 5, Folder 7 Gates, Ivan R.

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Box 5, Folder 8 Gertson, Louis H.

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Box 5, Folder 9 Gill, Howard W.

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Box 5, Folder 10 Gilpatric, John Guy

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Box 5, Folder 11 Glendinning, Robert E.

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Box 5, Folder 12 Godet, Eugene

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Box 5, Folder 13 Goodale, Frank W.

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Box 5, Folder 14 Goodnough, M.H.

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Box 5, Folder 26	Hammond, Edward Lee Image(s)
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Box 6, Folder 3	Haupt, William E.

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Box 6, Folder 4	Havens, Beckwith Image(s)
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Box 6, Folder 24	Hoxsey, Arch Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 25	Hubbard, Edward Image(s)
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Box 7, Folder 1	Hutchinson, Joseph R. Image(s)
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Box 7, Folder 4	Jaquith, Edwin K. Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 5	Jerwan, Shakir S. Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 6	Johnson, Edward A. Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 7	Johnson, James M.

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Box 7, Folder 8 Johnson, Walter

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Box 7, Folder 9 Johnstone, Ralph

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Box 7, Folder 10 Johnston, St. Croix

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Box 7, Folder 11 Jones, Harry M.

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Box 7, Folder 12 Kabitiski, J. William

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Box 7, Folder 13 Kaminski, John G.

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Box 7, Folder 15 Kastory, Frank

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Box 7, Folder 17 Kendrick, Beryl H.

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Box 7, Folder 18 Kerns, Thaddeus S.

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Box 7, Folder 19 Kimball, Wilbur R.

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Box 7, Folder 20 King, Bertell W. "Buzz"

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Box 7, Folder 21 Kirkham, Charles B.

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Box 7, Folder 22 Kiser, Daniel

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Box 8, Folder 2	Knabenshue, A. Roy Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 3	Korn Brothers: Edward A. and Milton H. Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 4	Kramer, Daniel A. Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 5	LaChapelle, Duval Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 6	LaGrone, John K. "Tex" Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 7	Laird, Emil M. "Mattie" Image(s)
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Box 8, Folder 9	Lambert, Albert B. Image(s)
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Box 8, Folder 12	Law, Ruth Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 13	Lawson, Alfred W. Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 14	Lees, Walter E. Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 15	Leon, Lawrence

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Box 8, Folder 16	Lillie, Max T. Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 17	Loening, Grover Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 18	Longren, Alvin K. Image(s)
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Box 9, Folder 1	McCurdy, John A.D. Image(s)
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Box 9, Folder 5	McMillan, Ralph E. Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 6	Macauley, Theodore C.

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Box 9, Folder 7	Maroney, Terah T.
Box 9, Folder 8	Mars, J.C. "Bud" Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 9	Martin, Glenn L. Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 10	Martin, James V. Image(s)
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Box 9, Folder 13	Merrill, Albert A. Image(s)
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Box 10, Folder 1	Morriss, Percy G.B. "Bud" Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 2	Morris, Raymund V. Image(s)
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Box 10, Folder 5	Musick, Edwin C. Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 6	Nelson, Nels Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 7	Niles, Charles Image(s)
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Box 10, Folder 12	Page, Rutherford B. Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 13	Pallisard, Joseph M. Image(s)
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Box 10, Folder 15	Parmelee, Phillip O. Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 16	Partridge and Keller: Elmer L. Partridge and Henry C. "Pop" Keller Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 17	Paterson, Charles H. Image(s)
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Box 11, Folder 27	Smith, Arthur R. Image(s)
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Box 12, Folder 12	Stinson, Katherine Image(s)
Box 12, Folder 13	Stinson, Marjorie Image(s)
Box 12, Folder 14	Stites, Frank M. Image(s)
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Box 13, Folder 7	Verplanck, John B.R. Image(s)
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Box 13, Folder 9	Vought, Chance M. Image(s)
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- Box 13, Folder 13 Walsh, Charles Francis
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- Box 13, Folder 14 Ward, James J.
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Series 2: Miscellaneous Related Materials

Series note

The materials in this series relate in part to efforts made by staff of the Museum in the early 1980s to publish the Flying Pioneers biographies. To this end, photographs from NASM's holdings were duplicated to supplement or replace those originally accompanying Morehouse's work. Textual material in this series is believed to have been collected by Morehouse.

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