



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Charles Cohill Harris Collection

NMAH.AC.0049

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Charles Cohill Harris Collection
Date:	1904-1961
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0049
Creator:	Beakes, William Edgar Harris, Charles Cohill, 1898- (radio engineer)
Extent:	1 Cubic foot (3 boxes)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Immediate source of acquisition unknown.

Ownership and Custodial History

Transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Electricity.

Processing Information

Collection processed by NMAH Staff, undated

Preferred Citation

Charles Cohill Harris Collection, ca. 1906-1976, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical Note

Charles Cohill Harris (b. 1898) in St. Louis, Missouri was a radio engineer and executive who served in various capacities in the Tropical Radio Telegraph Company, a subsidiary of the United Fruit Company, 1916-1963.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, notes, articles, and photographs assembled by Harris on the history of the United Fruit Company and Tropical Radio Telegraph Company (TRT), 1904-1961. Also includes manuscript histories of companies; material on the application of teletypewriters to radio circuits; blueprints, schematics, reports, and manuals concerning the technical work on TRT; and a scrapbook of William Edgar Beakes, president of TRT, 1939-1943.

Arrangement

Collection arranged into one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Communications
- Electric equipment
- Electrical engineers
- Electrical science and technology
- Radio
- Radio engineers
- Technical literature -- Electric equipment
- Telegraph, Wireless

Types of Materials:

- Blueprints -- 20th century
- Correspondence -- 20th century
- Reports
- Scrapbooks -- 20th century
- Technical drawings

Names:

- Fessenden, R.A.
- Tropical Radio Telegraph Company.
- United Fruit Company.

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	History of the Communication System of the Tropical Radio Telegraph Company (by C.C. Harris), 1976
Box 1, Folder 2	Pictorial Wireless History of the United Fruit Company and the Tropical Radio Telegraph Company, Volume I, 1904-1924, 1976-02-20
Box 1, Folder 3	Pictorial Wireless History of the United Fruit Company and the Tropical Radio Telegraph Company, Volume II, 1925-1960, 1976-02-21
Box 1, Folder 4	Schematic circuit diagrams, 1928
Box 1, Folder 5	Miscellaneous correspondence and reports, 1930-1961 (bulk 1930-1932)
Box 2, Folder 1	Employee biographies, undated
Box 2, Folder 2	Rates, Rules and Regulations for Wireless Telegraph Department, 1910
Box 2, Folder 3	Simplex Manual for electrical engineers, contractors and wiremen, 1940
Box 2, Folder 4	Radio Equatorial Belt, 1945
Box 2, Folder 4	World Radio Trunk System, 1945
Box 2, Folder 5	Tropical Radio Telegraph Company, history, 1948-1952
Box 2, Folder 6	Radio Broadcast, 1922-09
Box 2, Folder 7	Unifriutco Golden Jubilee, 1949-07
Box 2, Folder 8	Tropical Radio Telegraph Company, annual report, 1954
Box 2, Folder 9	Diversity Receiver Operating Instructions, 1930
Box 2, Folder 10	Commercial radio receivers instructions, 1930s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 11	Short-wave Transatlantic Radio-Telephony, 1929
Box 2, Folder 12	Losses in twisted pair transmission lines at radio frequencies (by C.C. Harris), 1936
Box 2, Folder 13	Single-Sideband operation for International Telegraph (Edward Becken), 1956
Box 3, Folder 1-5	Photograph Album of William Edgar Beakes Notes: Beakes was president of Tropical Radio Telegraph (TRT) Company, a subsidiary of the United Fruit Company from 1939-1943. The scrapbook contains photographs of persons,

equipment, and locations related to Beakes' work with the TRT and his work with F. A. Fessenden on the Machrihanish, Scotland test station. Photographs include: Havana, Cuba; New Orleans hurricane destruction (1915) and Mardis Gras; Honduras village images; Cape Gracias, Nicaragua; Santo Marta, Columbia; Scotland; skeet shooting images; Guatemala; and Panama.