

MS-431 The Cold War Aerospace Technology Oral History Project

Collection Number: MS-431

Title: The Cold War Aerospace Technology Oral History Project

Creator: Wright State University. Department of Archives and Special Collections

Summary/Abstract:

The Cold War Aerospace Technology Oral History Project primarily contains oral histories gathered from several workers in the field of Aerospace Technology during the Cold War (1946-1992). With few exceptions, the interviewees were all engineers and worked at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base on projects ranging from stealth and fly-by-wire technology to jet propulsion and foreign intelligence gathering, etc.

The collection/project began with a grant from the Department of Defense to use oral history as a means of information collection regarding this particular time in American history. Though the grant has ended, the project still continues. Thirteen men so far have been interviewed and in addition to their video and audio recorded oral histories, the collection contains type-written transcripts of those interviews along with any additional information the interviewees may have donated, or researchers may have uncovered, e.g., photographs, resumes, news clippings, other recorded material, etc.

Quantity/Physical Description: 6 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access:

One section of the interview with Joseph P. Luszczek Jr. has been restricted due to a possible conflict with the classified nature of the subject. There are no other restrictions on use with any of the other materials; however, researchers are requested to use the oral history videos and transcripts available online in CORE Scholar, Wright State University's Campus Online Repository, at http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms431/.

Restrictions on Use:

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Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date], MS-431, The Cold War Aerospace Technology Oral History Project, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Existence and Location of Copies:

Some interviews and transcripts have been digitized and are available online in Wright State University's Campus Online Repository (CORE Scholar):

http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms431/.

Related Material:

MS-118: Dr. John Keto Papers

MS-375: Harry Dyme Papers

MS-294: Seymour Dunham Collection

MS-335: Dr Von Ohain Papers

MS-362: Richard E. Thomas Collection

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged in 2 series.

Series I, Project Interviews, includes video interviews with the following individuals:

Bahret, William F.

Bilek, Vic

Brown, Squire L.

Dufour, Howard R.

Jenney, Gavin D.

Luszczek, Joseph

Morgensen, Otto Peter

Russo, Vincent J.

Richey, Dr. G. Keith

Sellen, John

Veghte, James J.

Interview DVDs

Series II: Project Administrative Files (These Files are not stored with the Interviews. These materials are located in the Special Collections and Archives, Departmental Files, stored in the University Archives and are organized into the following categories

Bibliographic Resources

Research

Other Projects

Department of Defense & Legacy

Advisory Board

General Administrative

Biographical/Historical Note:

In the fall of 2003, Dr. Richard Thomas, retired from a career at the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, OH, and also retired Director of the Center for Strategic Technologies at Texas A&M University, suggested a proposal to Dr. Stephen Foster, University Librarian at Wright State University. Fearing the rather sudden demise of the Soviet Union in 1992, and the widespread focus on the subsequent War on Terror, has pushed the period of the Cold War and its technology from public memory, Thomas proposed the creation of a Cold War research archive to be housed in Special Collections and Archives at Wright State University.

A proposal then was developed to seek funding for the creation of a Cold War Aerospace Technology Archive. This archive would document the technological dimensions of the Cold War, with an initial focus on aerospace technology emerging from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the Miami Valley region. Special Collections and Archives in the Wright State University Libraries would collect and preserve the experiences and stories of these individuals through oral and written histories and manuscript collections as the Cold War Aerospace Technology archive, within its larger aviation history focus.

Scope and Content:

Researchers studying the Cold War Aerospace Technology Oral History Project will gain insight into the history of the Cold War as seen through the eyes of those who lived it. Primarily, the collection is made up of audio/video interviews of men who worked in the field of aerospace technology during the years 1946 through 1992. The remaining materials document the history of the project. The collection is arranged in two series.

Series I, Project Interviews, include the audio and video interviews along with any information pertaining to the interviewees, e.g. resumes, CVs, biographical information, etc. Interviewees are arranged alphabetically by last name. Some interviews and transcripts are also available online in CORE Scholar: http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms431/.

Series II contains any information regarding the development of the project. These items include materials on the project's advisory board, bibliographies.

Subject Terms**Persons**

Bahret, William F.
Bilek, Vic
Brown, Squire L. (Squire Lee), 1941-
Dufour, Howard R.
Jenney, Gavin D.
Luszczek, Joseph J., Jr.
Mattice, James J.
Morgensen, Otto Peter, 1905-
Veghte, James J.
Richey, G. Keith

Russo, Vincent J.
Sellen, John

Organizations/Corporate Names

Places

Dayton (Ohio)
United States. Air Force
Washington (D. C.)
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (Ohio)

Subjects (General)

Aeronautics
Aeronautics, Military--Technological innovations--United States.
Cold War

Material Types

Videotapes
Correspondence
Newspaper clippings
Photographs

Container Listing

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
Series I: Project Interviews			
Bahret, William F.			
1	1	Background Readings	
1	2	Biographical Readings	
1	3	Correspondence	
1	4	Donated Items	
1	5	Release Forms	
1	6	Transcripts, Interview 1, Bound Copy	
1	7	Transcripts, Interview 1, Edits	
1	8	Transcript, Interview 1, Final Copy	22 Nov 2006
1	9	Transcript, Interview 1, Original	
1	10	Transcript, Interview 2, Final Copy	
Bilek, Vic			
2	1	Biographical Information	2005-2006
2	2	Forms	Undated
2	3	Transcript, Final	14 Nov 2007
2	4	Transcript, Original	14 Nov 2007

Box	File	Description	Date
Brown, Dr. Squire L.			
2	5	Biographical Information	
2	6	Forms	
2	7	Transcripts, Interviews, 1 & 2, Bound Version	Aug. 9 & 14 2006
2	8	Transcripts, Interviews, 1 & 2, Edited	Aug. 9 & 14 2006
2	9	Transcripts, Interviews, 1 & 2, Final	Aug. 9 & 14 2006
2	10	Transcript, Final	Oct 2006
Dufour, Howard R.			
3	1	Biographical Information	2004-06
3	2	Donated Materials	1941-63
3	3	Forms	Undated
3	4	Transcript, Bound Version	May, 17, 24, 31, 2006
3	5	Transcript, Final	May, 17, 24, 31, 2006
3	6	Transcript, Unedited	May, 17, 24, 31, 2006
Jenney, Gavin D.			
4	1	Biographical Information	Undated
4	2	Correspondence	Jul.-Sep. 2007
4	3	Donated Material	24 Oct 2003
4	4	Donated Material	2003, Undated
4	5	Forms	Undated
4	6	Transcript, Bound	26 Sep 2007
4	7	Transcript, Final	26 Sep 2007
4	8	Transcript, Original	26 Sep 2007
Luszczek, Joseph, R, Jr. (**Restrictions**)			
5	1	Biographical Information	1999-2006
5	2	Correspondence	Sep-Nov. 2007
5	3	Forms	Undated
5	4	Transcript, Original	21 Nov 2007
Mattice, James J.			
5	5	Biographical	Undated
5	6	Correspondence	Sep. 2006
5	7	Form	24 Aug 2006
5	8	Transcript, Bound	24 Aug 2006
5	9	Transcript, Unedited	24 Aug 2006
Morgensen, Otto Peter			
6	1	Biographical Information	1938-2006
6	2	Wright-Patterson AFB Interview	2000

Box	File	Description	Date
6	3	Transcript-Edits, Interview 1	6 Mar 2006
6	4	Transcript-Edits, Interview 2	5 Apr 2006
6	5	Transcript-Edits, Interview 3	9 May 2006
7	1	Transcript-Edits, Interview 4	5 Jun 2006
7	2	Transcripts-Final, Interviews 1-4	Mar-Jun, 2006
7	3	Final Transcript Items	Undated
Rall, Frederick, T. Jr.,			
7	4	Biographical Information	Undated
7	5	Correspondence	Jul-Nov, 2007
7	6	Forms	Nov. 2007
7	7	Transcript-Bound	31 Aug 2007
7	8	Transcript-Edit	31 Aug 2007
7	9	Transcript-Final	31 Aug 2007
7	10	Transcript-Original	31 Aug 2007
Richey, Dr. G. Keith			
8	1	Background Readings	1990, undated
8	2	Correspondence	Jun-Sep. 2006
8	3	Forms	28 Sep 2006
8	4	Transcript-Bound	24 Aug-31 Aug. 2006
8	5	Transcript-Final	24 Aug-31 Aug. 2006
8	6	Transcript-Original	24 Aug 2006
8	7	Transcript-Original	31 Aug 2006
8	8	Transcript-Edits	24 Aug-31 Aug. 2006
Russo, Dr. Vincent J.			
8	9	Biographical Information	2006, Undated
8	10	Correspondence	Jul-Oct. 2006
8	11	Forms	Oct. 2006
8	12	Transcript-Bound	16 Aug 2006
8	13	Transcript-Final	16 Aug 2006
8	14	Transcript-Original	16 Aug 2006
Sellen, John A.			
9	1	Biographical Information	1958-74, Undated
9	2	Biographical Information	Undated
9	3	Biographical Information	c. 1970s
9	4	Forms	14 Apr 2010
9	5	Photographs	1934-1958
9	6	Transcript-Bound	2 Dec 2009
Thomas, Dr. Richard, E.			

Box	File	Description	Date
10	1	Biographical Information	Undated
10	2	Correspondence	Jan 2005-Apr 2008
10	3	Transcript-Bound	5 Dec 2007
10	4	Transcript-Edit	5 Dec 2007
10	5	Transcript-Final	5 Dec 2007
10	6	Transcript-Original	5 Dec 2007
Veghte, Dr. James J.			
10	7	Biographical Information	1958-69, Undated
10	8	Correspondence	Oct-Nov. 2007
10	9	Transcript-Final	12 Dec 2007
10	10	Transcript-Bound	12 Dec 2007
10	11	Transcript-Edit	12 Dec 2007
Interview DVDs			
11	1	Bahret, William F.	22 Aug 2006
11	2	Bahret, William F.	22 Aug 2006
11	3	Bahret, William F.	27 May 2009
11	4	Bahret, William F.	27 May 2009
11	5	Bilek, Vic	14 Nov 2007
11	6	Bilek, Vic	14 Nov 2007
11	7	Brown, Dr. Squire L.	9 Aug 2006
11	8	Brown, Dr. Squire L.	9 Aug 2006
11	9	Brown, Dr. Squire L.	14 Aug 2006
11	10	Brown, Dr. Squire L.	14 Aug 2006
11	11	Dufour, Howard R.	17 May 2006
11	12	Dufour, Howard R.	24 May 2006
11	13	Dufour, Howard R.	31 May 2006
11	14	Jenney, Gavin D.	26 Sep 2007
11	15	Jenney, Gavin D.	26 Sep 2007
11	16	Mattice, James J.	24 Aug 2006
11	17	Mattice, James J.	24 Aug 2006
11	18	Morgensen, Otto Peter	6 Mar 2006
11	19	Morgensen, Otto Peter	6 Mar 2006
11	20	Morgensen, Otto Peter	9 May 2006
11	21	Morgensen, Otto Peter	9 May 2006
11	22	Morgensen, Otto Peter	5 June 2006
11	23	Morgensen, Otto Peter	5 June 2006
11	24	Rall, Frederick T. Jr., Part 1 & 2	31 Aug 2007
11	25	Rall, Frederick T. Jr., Part 3	31 Aug 2007
11	26	Richey, Dr. G. Keith	24 Aug 2006
11	27	Richey, Dr. G. Keith	24 Aug 2006
11	28	Richey, Dr. G. Keith	31 Aug 2006

Box	File	Description	Date
11	29	Richey, Dr. G. Keith	31 Aug 2006
11	30	Russo, Dr. Vincent J.	16 Aug 2006
11	31	Russo, Dr. Vincent J.	16 Aug 2006
11	32	Thomas, Dr. Richard E.	5 Dec 2007
11	33	Thomas, Dr. Richard E.	5 Dec 2007
11	34	Veghte, Dr. James J.	10 Dec 2007
11	35	Veghte, Dr. James J.	10 Dec 2007
Series II: Project Administrative Records			
Bibliographical Materials			
1	1-33	Bibliographical Materials	1971-2006
Research			
2	1-14	Research	1998-2006, Undated
3	1-2	Research	Undated
Other Projects			
3	3-10	Other Projects	2000-2010
Legacy Information			
3	11-15	Legacy Information	1994, 2005-2006
4	1-8	Legacy Information	2007
Advisory Board			
4	9-22	Advisory Board Materials	2004-2008
5	1-2	Advisory Board Materials	2004-2008
General Administration			
5	3-12	General Administration Materials	2004-2008