



Chanute Air Force Base Subject Files:

Aircraft

COLLECTION 200.003

Location: C114-2

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Thomas Kuipers and Ani Karagianis

Creator/Corporate name: Chanute Air Force Base

Inclusive Dates: 1911-2000, bulk 1918-1993

Physical Description: 2 boxes, 2.0 linear feet

Provenance:

The Chanute Air Force Base Subject files were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives from the defunct Chanute Air Force Base Museum upon their closure. The Subject Files were curated and maintained by the History Office of the Chanute Air Force Base and later preserved by the museum.

Access:

The records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Aircraft at Chanute were used for training, combat, and exhibits. The base was founded shortly following the first recorded flight of the Wright brothers (1903) and, as a result, the aircraft used at the base are important to the foundations of aeronautical history. Throughout the base's active existence, base personnel flew and trained with aircraft representing nearly the entire first century of human made flight. This included aircraft from nearly every major American aeronautical company. The aircraft were used for a variety of tasks related to the Air Force and U.S. military beyond combat. They were active in World War I through Operation Desert Storm, with some used into the 21st century.

Scope and Content Note:

Collection includes aircraft that were housed at and/or visited Chanute Air Force Base and the Octave Chanute Air Museum in Rantoul, Illinois. This includes active aircraft, ones used for technical training, and exhibit pieces. Files include records related to specifications, correspondence, promotional materials, newspaper clippings, ephemera, and more.

Arrangement:

Files are arranged alphabetically by aircraft name. Most files relate to a specific aircraft, but there are a few files with miscellaneous or related records. Files are arranged with a focus on the physical descriptions of the aircraft, followed by tangential records like correspondence and newspaper clippings.

Subject Terms:

Chanute

Chanute Air Force Base

United States Air Force

Military History



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Chanute Air Force Base Subject Files:

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History of Flight

Subject Files

Aircraft

Container List:

Box 1:

Folder 1: 1911 Steco Aerohydroplane

Newspaper Clipping, 1997

Folder 2: A-7 Corsair II

"A-7 Corsair II." *Wheels and Wings*, 1989

Publications

Posters

Folder 3: Aircraft—Air Park Location, 1983-2004

List of Aircraft Flown by Thunderbirds

Newspaper Clippings

Air Park History

Air Park Plan

Correspondence

Folder 4: Aircraft—Names and Designations

Publications

Ephemera

Folder 5: Aircraft—Painting and Markings, 1984-1985

Paint Specs

Folder 6: American Aerolights Eagle

Chanute Service Card

Folder 7: Beechcraft C-45A/18/AT-7/SNB-5

Official Profiles

Correspondence

Ephemera

Newspaper Clipping, 2000

Staggerwing Museum Foundation Inc., Museum Media #128

Folder 8: Beechcraft Misc.

"Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Beechcraft for 1957" Promotional Guide

Folder 9: Beechcraft XA-38 "Grizzly"

Beech Aircraft Corporations Press Release (History/Tech Specs)

Specifications and Performance

Correspondence

Folder 10: Bell AH-1

Official Profile and Photo File

Folder 11: Bell UH-1

Histories

Artist Rendering

Folder 12: Bell YFM-1 "Airacuda"



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Location: C114-2

- Chanute Service Card
- Folder 13: Bellanca C-27
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Famous First Flights That Changed History*, Pg. 234.
- Folder 14: Boeing B-9
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 15: Boeing B-15
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Postcard, 1940
 - Ephemera
- Folder 16: Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortress" (1/2)
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Correspondence
 - "Birth of a Bomber" Essay by Wayne Goodwin, 1984
- Folder 17: Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortress" (2/2)
 - Postcards, UNUSED
 - Emergency Escape Map
 - Ephemera
 - "Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress". *Sentimental Journey*, 1990
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 18: Boeing B-29 "Superfortress"
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Correspondence
 - Specifications
 - "Memories" from the 40th Bomb Group Association, 1987
 - Publications
 - Post Card, UNUSED
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 19: Boeing B-47 "StratoJet"
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Fact/Information Sheets
 - Correspondence
 - Specifications
 - Student Notebook, 1958
 - The Chanute News*, 1998
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 20: Boeing B-50 "Superbomber"
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Fact Sheet
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 21: Boeing B-52 "Stratofortress"
 - Chanute Service Cards



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Location: C114-2

- Fact/Information Sheets
- Correspondence
- Specifications
- "Operation 'Power Flite'" by Jasper Burrell
- Life*. January 28, 1957
- Publications
- Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 22: Boeing KC-97
 - Fact/Information Sheets
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 23: Boeing KC -135
 - Fact/Information Sheets
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - "C-135 Fleet Report", 1991
 - Official Boeing Technical Data Guide
 - Progress Report, 1954-1959
 - Images
 - Ephemera
- Folder 24: Boeing Misc.
 - Correspondence
 - Pacific Clipper History
 - Images
- Folder 25: Boeing P-12
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Brief History
 - Official U.S.A.F. News Release, 1983
 - AIR FORCE Magazine*, 1979
- Folder 26: Boeing P-26 "Peashooter"
 - Chanute Service Cards
- Folder 27: Boeing P-29
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 28: Boeing T-43A
 - Fact/Information Sheets
- Folder 29: Cessna 0-2A
 - Fact Sheet
 - Specifications
- Folder 30: Cessna T-37
 - Fact Sheets
- Folder 31: Cessna T-41 "Mescalero"
 - Fact Sheet



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Specifications

Folder 32: Chanute Display Aircraft

Correspondence

Chanute Display Aircraft Official Guide

U.S.A.F. Museum Program and Policies, 1983

CAFB "Museum News"

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 33: Consolidated B-24 "Liberator" (1/2)

Chanute Service Cards

B-24 Pilot Training Manual

Folder 34: Consolidated B-24 "Liberator" (2/2)

Correspondence

Publications

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 35: Convair B-36 "Peacemaker"

Chanute Service Cards

Specifications

Correspondence

Story of William Lafferty

"Why the Convair B-36 at Chanute Should Remain There."

B-36 in Action by Jacobsen and Wagner, 1980

Thundering Peacemaker by Frederick A. Johnson, 1978

Pacesetter, July 27, 1990

Publications

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 36: Convair B-58 "Hustler"

Chanute Service Cards

Fact/Information Sheets

Specifications

Correspondence

B-58 MTU Operations Manual

Official News Releases

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 37: Convair F-102A "Delta Dagger"

Specifications

Ephemera

Folder 38: Convair F-106 "Delta Dart"

Specifications

Official News Release

Colors & Markings of the F-106 Delta Dart by Bert Kinzey, 1984



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Images

Folder 39: Convair Misc.

Correspondence

Ephemera

Folder 40: Curtiss A-8 "Shrike"

Chanute Service Card

Folder 41: Curtiss P-36A "Hawk"

Specifications

"Curtiss P-40: Last of the Hawk's Heritage" by Peter M. Bowers, 1983

Drawing/Sketch

Ephemera

Folder 42: Curtiss P-40 "Warhawk"

Pilot Training Manual for the P-40, 1943

Official News Release

Publications

Images

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 43: Curtiss JN-4 "Jenny"

Correspondence

Publications

Model Kit Instructions

Drawings/Sketches

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 44: Curtiss Misc.

Correspondence

Drawings/Sketches

Ephemera

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 45: Curtiss YP-37

Correspondence

Drawing/Sketch

"A Chanute Plane" by Andrew A. Walz

Folder 46: Dehavilland D.H. 4

Chanute Service Cards

Ephemera

Folder 47: Douglas A-4 "Skyhawk"

Wheels and Wings, 1989

Folder 48: Douglas A-20 "Havoc"

Specifications

Correspondence

Drawing/Sketch

Resumé of George Bradley McNeely



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- Folder 49: Douglas B-19
 - Specifications
- Folder 50: Douglas B-18 "Bolo"
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - Drawing/Sketch
 - Skywriting*, Vol. XVII, No. 1, 1996
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 51: Douglas B-26 "Invader"
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Specifications
- Folder 52: Douglas B-66 "Destroyer"
 - Fact/Information Sheets
 - Specifications
 - Aerofax Minigraph 19: Douglas B-66 Destroyer* by René Francillon and Mick Roth, 1988
 - Correspondence
 - Certificates
 - Sketch/Drawing
- Folder 53: Douglas BT-2
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 54: Douglas C-1
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 55: Douglas C-33
 - Chanute Service Card
 - "Air Corps 'TECH'", November 1937
 - Variant Information
- Folder 56: Douglas C-47 "Skytrain"
 - Specifications
 - "My Longest Day" by Joe Curreri, June 2005
 - Poems
 - Correspondence
- Folder 57: Douglas C-54
 - Sketches/Drawings
- Folder 58: Douglas C-74 "Globemaster"
 - "Bug-Eyed Monster" by Nicholas M. Williams, 1995
- Folder 59: Douglas C-118
 - Press Release, January 1956
- Folder 60: Douglas C-133 "Cargomaster"
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - Ephemera
- Folder 61: Douglas O-2



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“Douglas Gets Four Douglas Airplanes.” *The Chanute Field News*, 1926

Folder 62: Douglas O-38

Specifications

Folder 63: Douglas O-46

Chanute Service Card

Folder 64: Douglas World Cruiser “Chicago”

Chanute Service Card

Publications

Folder 65: Eberhardt SE-5

Chanute Service Card

Publication

Folder 66: Engineering & Research Ercoupe PQ-13/YO-55

Information Sheet

Correspondence

Ephemera

Folder 67: Fairchild A-10 “Thunderbolt II”

Poster (includes brief history)

U.S.A.F. Fact Sheets

Correspondence

Aircraft Image, *AIRMAN*

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 68: Fairchild C-123K “Provider”

Specifications

Ephemera

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 69: Fairchild YF-1

Handwritten History of YF-1 at Chanute

Folder 70: Fokker C-2

Chanute Service Card

Handwritten Note

Folder 71: Fokker C-14

Chanute Service Card

Parachute Jumps from C-14

Folder 72: Fokker D-VII

Chanute Service Card

Folder 73: Fokker D-23 “Fighter”

Scale Drawings by Martin E. Dickinson

Folder 74: Fokker T-2

Information Sheet

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 75: Ford Tri-Motor

Chanute Service Cards

Publications



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Ford Trimotor 5-AT Paper Cutout Model (COMPLETE)

Artist's Rendering

Ephemera

Folder 76: General Dynamics F-16 "Fighting Falcon"

Official Information Cards

U.S.A.F. Fact Sheets

History of the 944 Tactical Fighter Group

Correspondence

8"x10" Poster

Folder 77: General Dynamics F-111 "Aardvark"

Chanute Service Card

Official Information Cards

Specifications

Correspondence

Box 2:

Folder 1: Gliders

McAuliffe, Kathleen. "Crossing the Lines on Silent Wings." *Smithsonian*, 1994

"The American World War II Military Glider Pilots" (One Sheet)

Airship History Calendar, 2002/2005

Postcard, UNUSED

Folder 2: Grumman F-14A "Tomcat"

Official Information Card

Drawing/Sketch

Folder 3: Grumman F3F-2

Scale Aircraft Modeler

(Also Includes Seversky P-35A)

Folder 4: Grumman HU-16 "Albatross"

Chanute Service Card

Information Sheet

Copied Technical Manual (Incomplete)

Correspondence

"Grumman Albatross" by Kristen Davis, 2003

Folder 5: Grumman X-29

Official Press Release with Photograph

Folder 6: Hawker Demon

Images

Folder 7: Hugh Hefner and *Playboy*

Ephemera

Folder 8: Hughes H-4 "Hercules" (The Spruce Goose)

8"x10" Posters

Folder 9: Jet Facts Pamphlet

Pamphlet

Folder 10: Keystone B-4



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- Chanute Service Card
- Folder 11: Langley Twin 4
 - Official Pamphlet with Performance Data Card
- Folder 12: Lockheed AC-130 "Hercules"
 - Specifications
 - Fact Sheets
 - U.S.A.F. News Release, 1975
 - Official Technical Manual
 - Official Technical Transparencies
 - Drawing/Sketch
 - 8"x10" Poster
 - Ephemera
- Folder 13: Lockheed C-5 "Galaxy"
 - U.S.A.F. Fact Sheet
 - U.S.A.F. Press Release
- Folder 14: Lockheed C-141 "Starlifter"
 - U.S.A.F. News Release
 - Drawings/Sketches
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 15: Lockheed F-80 "Shooting Star"
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Specifications
 - Combat Planes "F-80 Shooting Star"*
 - "Lockheed F-80C 'Shooting Star'" Air Force Museum Pamphlet
 - Correspondence
 - Sketches/Drawings
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 16: Lockheed F-94 "Starfire"
 - Specifications
 - 8"x10" Poster
- Folder 17: Lockheed F-104 "Starfighter"
 - Official Information Card
 - Specifications
 - Information Sheets
 - 8"x10" Poster
 - Drawings/Sketches
 - Copied Images
- Folder 18: Lockheed F-117 "Nighthawk"
 - "Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk, Number 5, Group 6." *Aircraft of the World*, 1997.
 - Postcard, UNUSED
 - "Stealth Fighter to Appear at EAA Oshkosh 90'." June 13, 1990
- Folder 19: Lockheed P-38



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- Poem, 1943
- Sketch
- Advertisement for *Peter Three Eight: The Pilots' Story* by John Stanaway
- Correspondence
- Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 20: Lockheed SR-71 "Blackbird"
 - "Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, Number 8, Group 1." *Aircraft of the World*, 1997.
 - Sketch
- Folder 21: Lockheed T-33 "Shooting Star"
 - Fact Sheet
 - Brief History
 - Correspondence
- Folder 22: Lockheed U-2 "Dragon Lady"
 - 8"x10" Poster (Includes Brief History)
 - Postcard, UNUSED
 - Sketches
 - Ephemera
- Folder 23: Lockheed XFV-1
 - Drawings/Sketches
- Folder 24: L.W.F. Model V
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Technical Drawing
 - Correspondence
 - Map
 - "Siberian Odyssey" *Air Classics Magazine*, May 1979
 - Chronology by Raymond DiScala, 1968
 - Ephemera
- Folder 25: Martin B-10
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Specifications
 - "Air Corps 'TECH'." November 1937
 - Ephemera
- Folder 26: Martin B-26 "Marauder"
 - Correspondence
 - "The Martin B-26 Marauder of W.W.II" by J.K. Havener
 - Magazine Articles
 - Ralph M. Wefel Scrapbook
- Folder 27: Martin B-57 "Canberra"
 - Specifications
 - Ephemera
 - RB-57 Information Sheet
- Folder 28: Martin MB-1
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Photograph, 1922



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Folder 29: Martin MB-2

- Chanute Service Cards
- Short Bio of Reuel Christopher Tompkins, Sr., 2001

Folder 30: McDonnell F-4 "Phantom II"

- Specifications
- Information Sheet
- U.S.A.F. Fact Sheets
- Flight Manual, 1987
- "F-4 Phantom II." *Wheels and Wings*, 1989
- "Vietnam Phantom, Number 6, Group 7." *Aircraft of the World*, 1997.
- Publications
- Posters
- Oversized Poster
- Ephemera
- Newspaper Clipping

Folder 31: McDonnell Douglas F-15 "Eagle"

- Specifications
- U.S.A.F. Fact Sheets
- F-15 Playbook*, 1986
- "F-15C Eagle." *Wheels and Wings*, 1988
- "Aviation Week Flight Report." *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, 1991
- Posters

Folder 32: McDonnell F-101 "Voodoo"

- Specifications
- Information Sheet
- Correspondence
- Postcard, UNUSED
- Ephemera

Folder 33: McDonnell Miscellaneous

- F-3 "Demon" Specifications
- Correspondence
- Johansen Collection Donation Receipt
- C-9 "Nightingale" Sketches
- Posters
- Ephemera

Folder 34: Messerschmitt Bf. 109

- "The Messerschmitt Bf. 109 by James F. Craig

Folder 35: North American B-25 "Mitchell"

- Chanute Service Cards
- Correspondence
- "The Story of the B-25 Mitchell" *Doolittle Tokyo Raiders 16th Annual Reunion*
- Ephemera

Folder 36: North American B-29

- Chanute Service Card



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Folder 37: North American B-45 "Tornado"

Correspondence with Attached Notes
Ephemera

Folder 38: North American B-86 "Sabre"

Chanute Service Card
Specifications
"F-86 Sabre." *Wheels and Wings*, 1988
Air Force Magazine, 2008
Correspondence
Ephemera
Newspaper Clippings

Folder 39: North American F-100 "Super Sabre"

Specifications
"F-100 Super Sabre." *Wheels and Wings*, 1989
Correspondence
"F100" by Milene Wells
Skyline. Volume 20, No. 4, 1962
Poster
Ephemera
Newspaper Clipping

Folder 40: North American OV-10A "Bronco"

Specifications

Folder 41: North American P-51 "Mustang"

Chanute Service Card
Specifications
Correspondence
"P-51 Mustang." *Aircraft of the World*, 1997
"P-51 Mustang." *Wheels and Wings*, 1988
Publications
"Mustang Vs. Bearcat" By Mike Dillon (Includes Poster), 1973
Sketch
Ephemera
Newspaper Clippings

Folder 42: North American T-28 "Trojan"

Specifications
Ephemera

Folder 43: North American X-15

"School Room for Orbital Flight." *Skyline*, 1961
Ephemera

Folder 44: North American XB-70 "Valkyrie"

"North American XB-70 Valkyrie, Number 16, Group 16." *Aircraft of the World*, 1997
Background Sheet
Correspondence
"B-70 Valkyrie." *The Register*, 1962



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- Oversized Poster
- Weapon System Pamphlet
- Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 45: Northrop B-2 "Stealth"
 - Correspondence
 - Legislative Update
 - "The B-2 in Perspective"
 - Pamphlets
 - Postcards, UNUSED
 - Posters
 - Ephemera
- Folder 46: Northrop F-5 "Freedom Fighter"
 - Specifications
 - Fact Sheet
 - Information Sheet
 - Technical Digest: Northrop F-5, 1986-1987*
- Folder 47: Northrop F-89 "Scorpion"
 - Specifications
 - Fact Sheet
 - Poster
- Folder 48: Northrop P-61 "Black Widow"
 - Correspondence
 - Posters
 - Sketch/Drawing
- Folder 49: Northrop T-38 "Talon"
 - Specifications
 - Fact Sheets
 - Background Story
 - Press Release
 - Correspondence
 - USAF Aggressor Squadrons* by Bert Kinzey and Ray Leader, 1988
 - "T-38 Talon." Air Force and Space Digest*, 1961
 - Ephemera
- Folder 50: Northrop YF-23
 - Promotional Pamphlet
- Folder 51: Republic P-47 "Thunderbolt"
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
- Folder 52: Research Materials
 - Fighting Colors USAF Europe in Color Volume 2, 1947-1963* by Robert Robinson
- Folder 53: Restoration – Waco Glider CG4A "Fighting Falcon," 1996
 - Correspondence
 - Photographs
 - Seversky P-35A Record included in Folder X*



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Folder 54: Rockwell B-1

- Fact Sheets
- “B-1: Manned Strategic Bomber for the 1980s and Beyond”
- Flight Test Summary
- Deputy B-1 Organization Chart
- Pamphlets
- Sketches/Drawings
- Posters
- Ephemera
- Newspaper Clippings

Folder 55: Ryan PT-22

- Correspondence
- Sky News*. Ryan School of Aeronautics, 1990-92

Folder 56: Salmson 2A1

- Postcard, UNUSED

Folder 57: Seversky XP-41

- Sketch/Drawing

Folder 58: Sikorsky Helicopters

- HH-53C “Super Jolly” Specifications
- Ephemera

Folder 59: Sikorsky R-48

- Specifications

Folder 60: Sopwith Camel

- Postcard, UNUSED

Folder 61: Spirit of St. Louis (Museum Replica)

- Correspondence
- Press Releases

Folder 62: Stinson Miscellaneous

- Correspondence

Folder 63: Vulcan B.2

- Poster (Includes brief history)

Folder 64: Vultee BT-15 “Valiant”

- Technical Drawing
- “The Survival of the BT-13” by Bob O’Hara. *Plane & Pilot*, 1979
- Ephemera

Folder 65: Vultee P-66

- Technical Drawings
- Sketch/Drawing

Folder 66: Witteman-Lewis XNBL-1 “Barling Bomber”

- Chanute Service Cards
- Specifications
- Correspondence