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Mary Clemons
Records, 1925-2000

Collection #372

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Emily Morgan, November 2023

Creator/Corporate Name: Mary Clemons

Inclusive Dates: 1925-2000, bulk Year-Year

Physical Description: 2 boxes, (2.0 linear ft.)

Language: English

Provenance:

The Mary Clemons records were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in May 2023.

Access:

These 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 Note:

Mary Clemons (1910-1992) was born in Marion, Illinois on February 18, 1910, to John Robert and Edith Caroline Grant Crenshaw. Mary Clemons served as the personal secretary to seventeen commanders at Chanute Air Force Base over the course of thirty-three years, retiring at the age of sixty in 1970. She maintained a personal interest in Chanute Air Force Base after her retirement, keeping materials from her own records and photographs as well as collecting news about the base and keeping in touch with those she had worked with. She died on October 13 1992.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains records, photographs, newspaper clippings, ephemera, postcards, magazines, issues of the Rantoul Guide and Directory, and correspondence between Mary Clemons and various Chanute Air Force Base personnel. Included are a considerable number of photographs documenting both work and casual daily life among personnel. Of significance are the quantity of awards and commendations Mary Clemons received in her time working at the base, as well as her military ID and a commemorative Chanute Air Force Base 50th anniversary coin.

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged into 4 series. Series 1 contains Mary Clemons' personal records, photographs, and scrapbook materials arranged chronologically. Series 2 contains general and individual folders of Chanute Air Force Base personnel organized alphabetically by last name. Series 3 contains materials arranged chronologically concerning Chanute Air Force Base itself, the Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum, Rantoul Guide and Directory highlighting the base, and materials from the University of Illinois concerning the base and its personnel. Series 4 contains oversized materials housed in box #2.

Subject Terms:

Air bases -- Illinois -- Rantoul -- History
Chanute Air Force Base (Ill.)



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Chanute Air Force Base (III.) – History
Military History, Modern – 20th Century
United States Air Force – Airmen
United States Air Force – History

Name Terms:

Bond, G.S.
Bryant, Rivers
Buck, Charles M.
Campbell, George D.
Churchill, Eugene
Clemons, Mary
Dusard, Leo F., Jr.
Ganey, Wiley D.
Gates, Byron E.
Good, Bob
Harper, Robert W.
Hopwood, Lloyd P.
Hubbard, Boyd
Kepner, William
Kinney, Andrew J.
Knapp, James B.
Reuben, Kyle
Mason, Howard
McHugh, Godfrey T.
Minton, A.M.
Montague, Robert D.
O'Neill, R. F.
Roberts, James E.
Scott, Clayton Allen
Tenold, Archie
Tripp
White, Thomas
Upthegrove, Fay R.



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Container List

Box #1

Series 1

- Folder 1: Mary Clemons Professional Documentation, 1928-1965
- Folder 2: Mary Clemons Photographs, 1930-1969
- Folder 3: Mary Clemons Scrapbook Correspondence, 1940-1970
- Folder 4: Mary Clemons Scrapbook Articles, 1952-1973
- Folder 5: Mary Clemons Military ID Card, 1989-1993

Series 2

- Folder 6: Chanute Air Force Base Personnel, 1925-1969
- Folder 7: G. S. Bond, 1942
- Folder 8: Rivers Bryant, 1944
- Folder 9: Charles M. Buck, 1951
- Folder 10: George D. Campbell, 1958
- Folder 11: Sgt. And Mrs. Eugene Churchill, 1946
- Folder 12: Leo F. Dusard Jr., 1964-1966
- Folder 13: Wiley D Ganey, 1959-19620
- Folder 14: Byron E. Gates, 1955-1970 (1/3)
- Folder 15: Byron E. Gates, 1951-1957 (2/3)
- Folder 16: Byron E. Gates, 1951-1957 (3/3)
- Folder 17: Bob Good, 1943
- Folder 18: Robert W. Harper, 1954
- Folder 19: Lloyd P. Hopwood, 1970
- Folder 20: Lloyd P. Hopwood Photographs, 1962-1964
- Folder 21: Boyd Hubbard, 1956
- Folder 22: William Kepner, 1953
- Folder 23: Andrew J. Kinney, 1957-1959
- Folder 24: James B. Knapp, 1969-1970
- Folder 25: James B. Knapp Photographs, undated
- Folder 26: Reuben Kyle, 1956
- Folder 27: Howard Mason, 1960
- Folder 28: Godfrey T. McHugh, 1961
- Folder 29: Godfrey T. McHugh Photographs, 1960
- Folder 30: A. M. Minton, 1955-1966
- Folder 31: A. M. Minton Photographs, 1954-1956
- Folder 32: Robert D. Montague, 1968
- Folder 33: R. F. O'Neill, 1944
- Folder 34: R. F. O'Neill, 1942-1947
- Folder 35: James E. Roberts, 1965-1978
- Folder 36: Clayton Allen Scott, 1960
- Folder 37: Archie Tenold, undated



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Folder 38: Tripp, 1954

Folder 39: Thomas White, 1964

Folder 40: Fay R. Upthegrove, 1970-1987

Folder 41: Fay R. Upthegrove, 1947-1948

Folder 42: Chanute Field / Air Force Base Photographs, 1938-1952

Folder 43: General Eisenhower's Ground and Air Commanders WWII, 1945

Series 3

Folder 44: University of Illinois Naval ROTC Unit, 1952-1953

Folder 45: Chanute Postcard and 50th Anniversary Coin, 1967

Folder 46: Rantoul Guide and Directory, 1963-1970

Folder 47: Chanute Newspaper Clippings, 1947-1979

Folder 48: Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum, 2000

Folder 49: Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum Photographs, 2000

Box #2 (oversized)

Series 4

Folder 1: Commemorative Edition of The Rantoul Press and Chanute Field News, 1967

Folder 2: Mary Clemons Scrapbook Awards and Recognition, 1958-1970

Folder 3: University of Illinois Impact Magazine, 1967