



Chanute Air Force Base Subject Files:
Aircraft

COLLECTION 200.003

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Thomas Kuipers

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
History of Flight



Chanute Air Force Base Subject Files:

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Subject Files
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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 Names and Designations
 - Publications
 - Ephemera
- Folder 4: American Aerolights Eagle
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 5: Beechcraft C-45A/18/AT-7/SNB-5
 - Official Profiles
 - Correspondence
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clipping, 2000
 - Staggerwing Museum Foundation Inc., Museum Media #128
- Folder 6: Beechcraft Misc.
 - "Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Beechcraft for 1957" Promotional Guide
- Folder 7: Beechcraft XA-38 "Grizzly"
 - Beech Aircraft Corporations Press Release (History/Tech Specs)
 - Specifications and Performance
 - Correspondence
- Folder 8: Bell AH-1
 - Official Profile and Photo File
- Folder 9: Bell UH-1
 - Histories
 - Artist Rendering
- Folder 10: Bell YFM-1 "Airacuda"
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 11: Bellanca C-27
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Famous First Flights That Changed History*, Pg. 234.
- Folder 12: Boeing B-9
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 13: Boeing B-15
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Postcard, 1940



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Ephemera

Folder 14: Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortress" (1/2)

Chanute Service Cards

Correspondence

"Birth of a Bomber" Essay by Wayne Goodwin, 1984

Folder 15: Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortress" (2/2)

Postcards, UNUSED

Emergency Escape Map

Ephemera

"Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress". *Sentimental Journey*, 1990

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 16: 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 17: Boeing B-47 "StratoJet"

Chanute Service Card

Fact/Information Sheets

Correspondence

Specifications

Student Notebook, 1958

The Chanute News, 1998

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 18: Boeing B-50 "Superbomber"

Chanute Service Card

Fact Sheet

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 19: Boeing B-52 "Stratofortress"

Chanute Service Cards

Fact/Information Sheets

Correspondence

Specifications

"Operation 'Power Flite'" by Jasper Burrell

Life. January 28, 1957

Publications

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 20: Boeing KC-97

Fact/Information Sheets

Specifications



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- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 21: 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 22: Boeing Misc.
 - Correspondence
 - Pacific Clipper History
 - Images
- Folder 23: Boeing P-12
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Brief History
 - Official U.S.A.F. News Release, 1983
 - AIR FORCE Magazine*, 1979
- Folder 24: Boeing P-26 "Peashooter"
 - Chanute Service Cards
- Folder 25: Boeing P-29
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 26: Boeing T-43A
 - Fact/Information Sheets
- Folder 27: Cessna 0-2A
 - Fact Sheet
 - Specifications
- Folder 28: Cessna T-37
 - Fact Sheets
- Folder 29: Cessna T-41 "Mescalero"
 - Fact Sheet
 - Specifications
- Folder 30: 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 31: Consolidated B-24 "Liberator" (1/2)
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - B-24 Pilot Training Manual*



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Folder 32: Consolidated B-24 "Liberator" (2/2)

- Correspondence
- Publications
- Ephemera
- Newspaper Clippings

Folder 33: 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 34: Convair B-58 "Hustler"

- Chanute Service Cards
- Fact/Information Sheets
- Specifications
- Correspondence
- B-58 MTU Operations Manual
- Official News Releases
- Ephemera
- Newspaper Clippings

Folder 35: Convair F-106 "Delta Dart"

- Specifications
- Official News Release
- Colors & Markings of the F-106 Delta Dart* by Bert Kinzey, 1984
- Images

Folder 36: Convair F-102A "Delta Dagger"

- Specifications
- Ephemera

Folder 37: Convair Misc.

- Correspondence
- Ephemera

Folder 38: Curtiss A-8 "Shrike"

- Chanute Service Card

Folder 39: Curtiss P-36A "Hawk"

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



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- Folder 40: Curtiss P-40 "Warhawk"
 - Pilot Training Manual for the P-40, 1943*
 - Official News Release
 - Publications
 - Images
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 41: Curtiss JN-4 "Jenny"
 - Correspondence
 - Publications
 - Model Kit Instructions
 - Drawings/Sketches
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 42: Curtiss Misc.
 - Correspondence
 - Drawings/Sketches
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 43: Curtiss YP-37
 - Correspondence
 - Drawing/Sketch
 - "A Chanute Plane" by Andrew A. Walz
- Folder 44: Dehavilland D.H. 4
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Ephemera
- Folder 45: Douglas A-4 "Skyhawk"
 - Wheels and Wings, 1989*
- Folder 46: Douglas A-20 "Havoc"
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - Drawing/Sketch
 - Resumé of George Bradley McNeely
- Folder 47: Douglas B-19
 - Specifications
- Folder 48: Douglas B-18 "Bolo"
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - Drawing/Sketch
 - Skywriting, Vol. XVII, No. 1, 1996*
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 49: Douglas B-26 "Invader"



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- Chanute Service Cards
- Specifications
- Folder 50: 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 51: Douglas BT-2
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 52: Douglas C-1
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 53: Douglas C-33
 - Chanute Service Card
 - "Air Corps 'TECH'", November 1937
 - Variant Information
- Folder 54: Douglas C-47 "Skytrain"
 - Specifications
 - "My Longest Day" by Joe Curreri, June 2005
 - Poems
 - Correspondence
- Folder 55: Douglas C-54
 - Sketches/Drawings
- Folder 56: Douglas C-74 "Globemaster"
 - "Bug-Eyed Monster" by Nicholas M. Williams, 1995
- Folder 57: Douglas C-118
 - Press Release, January 1956
- Folder 58: Douglas C-133 "Cargomaster"
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - Ephemera
- Folder 59: Douglas O-2
 - "Douglas Gets Four Douglas Airplanes." *The Chanute Field News*, 1926
- Folder 60: Douglas O-38
 - Specifications
- Folder 61: Douglas O-46
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 62: Douglas World Cruiser "Chicago"
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Publications
- Folder 63: Eberhardt SE-5
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Publication
- Folder 64: Engineering & Research Ercoupe PQ-13/YO-55



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- Information Sheet
- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Folder 65: Fairchild A-10 "Thunderbolt II"
 - Poster (includes brief history)
 - U.S.A.F. Fact Sheets
 - Correspondence
 - Aircraft Image, *AIRMAN*
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 66: Fairchild C-123K "Provider"
 - Specifications
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 67: Fairchild YF-1
 - Handwritten History of YF-1 at Chanute
- Folder 68: Fokker C-2
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Handwritten Note
- Folder 69: Fokker C-14
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Parachute Jumps from C-14
- Folder 70: Fokker D-VII
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 71: Fokker D-23 "Fighter"
 - Scale Drawings by Martin E. Dickinson
- Folder 72: Fokker T-2
 - Information Sheet
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 73: Ford Tri-Motor
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Publications
 - Ford Trimotor 5-AT Paper Cutout Model (COMPLETE)
 - Artist's Rendering
 - Ephemera
- Folder 74: 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 75: General Dynamics F-111 "Aardvark"
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Official Information Cards
 - Specifications



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Correspondence

Box 2:

Folder 76: 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 77: Grumman F-14A "Tomcat"

Official Information Card

Drawing/Sketch

Folder 78: Grumman F3F-2

Scale Aircraft Modeler

(Also Includes Seversky P-35A)

Folder 79: Grumman HU-16 "Albatross"

Chanute Service Card

Information Sheet

Copied Technical Manual (Incomplete)

Correspondence

"Grumman Albatross" by Kristen Davis, 2003

Folder 80: Grumman X-29

Official Press Release with Photograph

Folder 81: Hawker Demon

Images

Folder 82: Hugh Hefner and *Playboy*

Ephemera

Folder 83: Hughes H-4 "Hercules" (The Spruce Goose)

8"x10" Posters

Folder 84: Keystone B-4

Chanute Service Card

Folder 85: Langley Twin 4

Official Pamphlet with Performance Data Card

Folder 86: 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 87: Lockheed C-5 "Galaxy"

U.S.A.F. Fact Sheet

U.S.A.F. Press Release

Folder 88: Lockheed C-141 "Starlifter"



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U.S.A.F. News Release

Drawings/Sketches

Ephemera

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 89: 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 90: Lockheed F-94 "Starfire"

Specifications

8"x10" Poster

Folder 91: Lockheed F-104 "Starfighter"

Official Information Card

Specifications

Information Sheets

8"x10" Poster

Drawings/Sketches

Copied Images

Folder 92: 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 93: Lockheed P-38

Poem, 1943

Sketch

Advertisement for *Peter Three Eight: The Pilots' Story* by John Stanaway

Correspondence

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 94: Lockheed SR-71 "Blackbird"

"Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, Number 8, Group 1." *Aircraft of the World*, 1997.

Sketch

Folder 95: Lockheed T-33 "Shooting Star"

Fact Sheet

Brief History

Correspondence

Folder 96: Lockheed U-2 "Dragon Lady"

8"x10" Poster (Includes Brief History)

Postcard, UNUSED

Sketches

Ephemera



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- Folder 97: Lockheed XFV-1
 - Drawings/Sketches
- Folder 98: 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 99: Martin B-10
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Specifications
 - "Air Corps 'TECH'." November 1937
 - Ephemera
- Folder 100: 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 101: Martin B-57 "Canberra"
 - Specifications
 - Ephemera
 - RB-57 Information Sheet
- Folder 102: Martin MB-1
 - Chanute Service Card
 - Photograph, 1922
- Folder 103: Martin MB-2
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Short Bio of Reuel Christopher Tompkins, Sr., 2001
- Folder 104: 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 105: McDonnell F-101 "Voodoo"
 - Specifications



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- Information Sheet
- Correspondence
- Postcard, UNUSED
- Ephemera
- Folder 106: 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 107: McDonnell Miscellaneous
 - F-3 "Demon" Specifications
 - Correspondence
 - Johansen Collection Donation Receipt
 - C-9 "Nightingale" Sketches
 - Posters
 - Ephemera
- Folder 108: Messerschmitt Bf. 109
 - "The Messerschmitt Bf. 109 by James F. Craig
- Folder 109: Miscellaneous
 - Fighting Colors USAF Europe in Color Volume 2, 1947-1963* by Robert Robinson
- Folder 110: North American B-25 "Mitchell"
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Correspondence
 - "The Story of the B-25 Mitchell" *Doolittle Tokyo Raiders 16th Annual Reunion*
 - Ephemera
- Folder 111: North American B-29
 - Chanute Service Card
- Folder 112: North American B-45 "Tornado"
 - Correspondence with Attached Notes
 - Ephemera
- Folder 113: 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 114: North American F-100 "Super Sabre"
 - Specifications
 - "F-100 Super Sabre." *Wheels and Wings*, 1989
 - Correspondence
 - "F100" by Milene Wells



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- Skyline*. Volume 20, No. 4, 1962
 - Poster
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 115: North American OV-10A "Bronco"
 - Specifications
- Folder 116: 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 117: North American T-28 "Trojan"
 - Specifications
 - Ephemera
- Folder 118: North American X-15
 - "School Room for Orbital Flight." *Skyline*, 1961
 - Ephemera
- Folder 119: 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
 - Oversized Poster
 - Weapon System Pamphlet
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 120: Northrop B-2 "Stealth"
 - Correspondence
 - Legislative Update
 - "The B-2 in Perspective"
 - Pamphlets
 - Postcards, UNUSED
 - Posters
 - Ephemera
- Folder 121: Northrop F-5 "Freedom Fighter"
 - Specifications
 - Fact Sheet
 - Information Sheet
 - Technical Digest: Northrop F-5*, 1986-1987
- Folder 122: Northrop F-89 "Scorpion"



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- Specifications
- Fact Sheet
- Poster
- Folder 123: Northrop P-61 "Black Widow"
 - Correspondence
 - Posters
 - Sketch/Drawing
- Folder 124: 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 125: Northrop YF-23
 - Promotional Pamphlet
- Folder 126: Republic P-47 "Thunderbolt"
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence
- Folder 127: Restoration – Waco Glider CG4A "Fighting Falcon", 1996
 - Correspondence
 - Photographs
 - Seversky P-35A Record included in Folder X*
- Folder 128: 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 129: Ryan PT-22
 - Correspondence
 - Sky News. Ryan School of Aeronautics, 1990-92*
- Folder 130: Salmson 2A1
 - Postcard, UNUSED
- Folder 131: Seversky XP-41
 - Sketch/Drawing
- Folder 132: Sikorsky Helicopters
 - HH-53C "Super Jolly" Specifications
 - Ephemera



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- Folder 133: Sikorsky R-48
 - Specifications
- Folder 134: Sopwith Camel
 - Postcard, UNUSED
- Folder 135: Spirit of St. Louis (Museum Replica)
 - Correspondence
 - Press Releases
- Folder 136: Stinson Miscellaneous
 - Correspondence
- Folder 137: Vulcan B.2
 - Poster (Includes brief history)
- Folder 138: Vultee BT-15 "Valiant"
 - Technical Drawing
 - "The Survival of the BT-13" by Bob O'Hara. *Plane & Pilot*, 1979
 - Ephemera
- Folder 139: Vultee P-66
 - Technical Drawings
 - Sketch/Drawing
- Folder 140: Witteman-Lewis XNBL-1 "Barling Bomber"
 - Chanute Service Cards
 - Specifications
 - Correspondence