The Descriptive Finding Guide for Bill J. Hodges Personal Papers
SDASM.SC.10073

San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
1/11/16
2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park
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URL: http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
Title: Bill J. Hodges Personal Papers
Identifier/Call Number: SDASM.SC.10073
Physical Description: 1 Cubic Feet
These boxes contain a large number of Ryan company files including photographs, news articles, blueprints, company reports, promotional material, and spec logs of various Ryan company aircraft both commercial and military. These documents belonged to Bill J Hodges, founder of the International Ryan Club, and the Texas chapter of the Antique Airplane Association. The collection contains three boxes 12.5” x 5” x 10”.

Date (bulk): bulk

Abstract: This collection contains information on Bill Hodges, who was the founder of the International Ryan Club and was the newsletter editor until his death.

Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open to researchers by appointment.

Conditions Governing Use
Some copyright may be reserved. Consult with the library director for more information.

Preferred Citation
Please credit the San Diego Air and Space Museum’s Library and Archives

Immediate Source of Acquisition
The materials in this Collection were donated to the San Diego Air and Space Museum.

Biographical / Historical
Bill J. Hodges, often known as “Billie Joe Hodges,” son of Benjamin U. Hodges and Vera V. Holms, was born in Paris, TX on October 6th, 1929. He attended San Jose State College, served in the Air Force during the Korean War, and retired at the rank of Master Sergeant. Bill married Martha Poynor in Alameda, California on June 14th, 1957. He was the founder of the International Ryan Club and was the newsletter editor until his death. He began this task in 1963 when he sent out fliers to AAA members inviting them to a fly-in. The weather that day was a freezing mix of ice, rain, and slush. Despite the bleak weather conditions nine members showed up and began forming the Northeast Texas chapter of the AAA and organizing their first fly-in at the grand Prairie Airport on May 25-26th 1963. After the formation of the chapter, Bill became the vice president. He spent time writing and publishing a newsletter expressing interest in antique aircraft throughout the area. The first fly-in was a massive success with 26 home-built and antique aircraft in attendance. Bill took detailed records of the fly-in and activities of the chapter. He also continued to publish a newsletter and was soon elected president of the North East chapter. After this Bill proceeded to buy a Stinson 10A and a Fairchild 24. He moved with his family to Ottumwa and worked at the Air Power museum. Next he moved to Oshkosh and worked at the EAA museum before returning to Texas. When he returned to Texas he organized the Ryan Type Club and was elected President and newsletter editor. Bill maintained his chapter’s membership and worked with Norm Justice in hosting a number of fly-ins at Birdnest Airport. At the Denton fly-ins Bill was seen with his scrapbooks containing the histories of all the well-known Ryan Aircraft. Bill Hodges started with nine members and no flying aircraft to having over two hundred members with over one hundred flying antique and classic aircraft. Bill Hodges passed away on Friday, January 23rd, 2004 at the age of 75. He is buried at Oak Grove Cemetery in Searcy, Arkansas.

Scope and Contents
The collection contains three boxes 12.5” x 5” x 10”. These boxes contain a large number of Ryan company files including photographs, news articles, blueprints, company reports, promotional material, and spec logs of various Ryan company aircraft both commercial and military. These documents belonged to Bill J Hodges, founder of the International Ryan Club, and the Texas chapter of the Antique Airplane Association.

Related Materials
Ryan Aeronautical Collection.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Ryan Aeronautical
International Ryan Club
Ryan L-17 Navion
Ryan PT-22 Recruit
Ryan S-T Sport Trainer
Box 1 of 3
1. Ryan FR-1 “Fireball”
2. Ryan XFR-4
3. Ryan XF2R-1 “Dark Shark”
4. Ryan 205 “Navion”
5. Ryan 260 “Navion”
6. Ryan L-17
7. Ryan 72
8. Ryan’s Australia New Zealand AUST AIR DATA
9. U.S ARMY, WWII TOs (Technical Orders) SPECIFICATIONS, etc.
10. Ryan, Blue Print List.
11. Ryan PT-22
12. Ryan YPT-25
13. Ryan Basic training airplane
15. Ryan Listings (aircraft)
16. Ryan Formation Flying
17. Ryan LOGOS/ICONS
18. Ryan Maintenance Notes.
20. Ryan Models
21. Ryan - Riggings PT-22
23. Palo Alto Airport Inc. Mesa Del Rey Field, King City, California (WWII)
24. Wright Army Air Field, U.S Army Air Corps, Dayton, Ohio.
25. Eagle Field, 13 AAF/FTD (LOAST AVIATION CORP) Dos Palos, California.

Box 2 of 3
2. Lindbergh Field, Ryan School of Aeronautics, San Diego, California.
3. Gary Field, 10th AAF/FTD Morton Air Academy, Blythe, Calif.
4. Mesa Del Rey Field. 3rd AR/FTD, Palo Alto Airport, INC. King City Calif.
5. Sequoia Field, 8th AAF/FTD. VISALIA- Dinuba School of Aeronautics, Visalia, California.
7. Mas Memphis/ NATIC Millington, Tenn.
10. Ryan - Civil Air Register.
12. Ryan Airlines Inc. 3200 Barnett Ave, San Diego, CA.
13. Ryan Flying Co.
14. B.F Mahoney Aircraft Corp, San Diego, CA.
15. Mahoney-Ryan Aircraft Corp, Anglum, Missouri.
16. Ryan Aircraft Corp, Division of Detroit Aircraft Corp, St. Louis, Missouri.
17. Ryan Mechanics Monoplane co.
18. Ryan Aeronautical Co, San Diego, California
19. Ryan Aeronautical Corp, San Diego California
22. Ryan PT-22A
23. Ryan NR – 1
24. Ryan YPT-16
25. Ryan PT-16A
26. Ryan PT-20
27. Ryan PT 20A
28. Ryan STM-2

Box 3 of 3
1. Ryan YO - 51 “Dragonfly
2. Ryan ST-3
3. Ryan PT-21 “Recruit”
4. Ryan ST
5. Ryan STA
6. Ryan STA Special
7. Ryan STK
8. Ryan STM
9. Ryan SCM
10. Ryan SC W
11. Ryan XPT-16
12. Ryan B-2
13. Ryan B-1 “Brougham”
14. Ryan Cloudster
15. Ryan N-Y-P (Replica)
16. Ryan Hall Monoplane
17. Ryan B-3
18. Ryan C-1 “Foursome”
19. Ryan B-5
20. Ryan “Speedster”
21. Tubal Claude Ryan
22. Ryan M-1
23. Ryan M-2
24. Ryan NYP-2
25. Ryan School of Aeronautics, Lindbergh Field, San Diego, California.
26. Ryan M-2C “Bluebird”
27. Ryan PT-22(MISC)