The Descriptive Finding Guide for the General Dynamics Astronautics Special Collection. SDASM.SC.10052

Alan Renga
San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
1/4/2016
2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park
San Diego 92101
URL: http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/
The paraphernalia of this collection comes from Stan Hodges, Art Director at Convair in the mid-1950s and 1960s. He designed many of the posters that were placed in the plant, as well as the General Dynamics sign.

**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**
The Convair division of General Dynamics Corporation initially was tasked with the development of the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile, which later became the vehicle to transport vehicles and men into space. In 1955 and 1956, measures were taken create a separate division of Convair in order to work on the Atlas Model 7 Project. The new division was known as Astronautics. General Dynamics directors voted to acquire land and to build an Astronautics plant in San Diego. A similar amount was provided by the Air Force for equipment. Another milestone in 1956 was the beginning of construction of the Atlas plant in Kearny Mesa, San Diego. The following year, Astronautics formally became an operating division of Convair. An Atlas component test facility was constructed at Point Loma, San Diego. Other missile test facilities were established at Edwards Rocket Site north of Los Angeles and at Sycamore Canyon near San Diego. In June 1961, the official name of Convair-Astronautics changed to General Dynamics Astronautics.

**Scope and Contents**
This is a two box collection with measurements 12 ¼ x 10 ½ x 5 inches and 12 ¼ x 10 ½ x 2 ½ inches. The contains mainly corporate documents – mostly publications and periodicals, booklets, a calendar, a sign catalog, reports, photographs, posters, and 35mm slides. Included in this collection are some General Dynamics patches, commemorative coins, decals, and tie tacks – all of which can be found in the curatorial department. Two General Dynamics newsletters (Both of them Astronautic Ed., Vol. 17, No. 17, August 12, 1964) have been removed from this collection and placed in the General Dynamics Newsletter Collection. One oversized poster has been placed in the Oversized Material Special Collection, OMSC_00001.

**Related Materials**
Convair/General Dynamics Collection Atlas Missile Collection

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Atlas (missile) -- History
Convair
General Dynamics Astronautics Division
General Dynamics Corporation. Convair Division
Hodges, Stan
Series I - Publications

Folder 1 - General Dynamics Corporate Publications I

Folder 2 - General Dynamics Corporate Publications II

Folder 3 - General Dynamics Booklet
Physical Description: 1. “Space Primer – an introduction to astronautics, Convair Division of General Dynamics Corporation.” 2. Convair Astronautics Employee Handbook

Folder 4 - General Dynamics, Reports, Proposals, & Presentations

Series II - Periodicals

Folder 5 - Periodicals

Series III - Miscellaneous
**Folder 6 - Sign Catalog**

Physical Description: 1. This is a corporate book laying out the terms, regulations, and designs for signs. This catalog belongs to Stan Hodge of General Dynamics Astronautics. Revised October, 1963.

**Folder 7 - General Dynamics Dictionary**


**Series IV - Photographs, Posters, Calendar and Slides**

**Folder 1 - 1989 Calendar with Convair History**

**Folder 2 - 35mm Slides**

Physical Description: 1. Over 200 metal and paper 35mm slides. Topics include missiles, buildings, and equipment.

**Folder 3 - Posters**

Physical Description: 1. This folder contains four cartoonish and humorous posters that were placed in General Dynamics facilities.

**Folder 4 - Photographs**

Physical Description: 1. This folder contains twenty-four photographs of General Dynamics posters and a General Dynamics Atlas missile exhibit.

**Series V - Pins and Patches**

**Folder 5 - Patches with Certificates**

Physical Description: 1. RQ-4A Global Hawk ELINT Demonstration patch and certificate. 2. RQ-4A Global Hawk Milestone - 1,500 combat flight hours patch and certificate. 3. RQ-4A Global Hawk 14-15 April, 2000 - 31.5 hours; World Record Breaking UAV Jet Powered Endurance Flight patch and certificate.

**Series VI - Oversized Materials**

Physical Description: There is one oversized poster labeled as GD Astro_1 in the Oversized Material Special Collection, OMSC_00001.
Items stored in Curatorial Department

**Physical Description:**
1. Northrup Grumman Miniature American Flag
2. Northrup Grumman Global Hawk Chrome tie pin or luggage lock (inside a colorful rectangular box)
3. Brass commemorative coin of the first flight of the Northrop Grumman Global Hawk at the Global Hawk Maritime Demonstration (also inside the colorful rectangular box)
4. Black and silver F-111 pin with various wing sweep positions
5. Electric Boat made by GD
6. Silver Global Hawk pin
7. Two aluminum commemorative coins from General Dynamics dated July 13, 1958; Five year dedication to the opening of the Kearny Mesa facilities (given to attendees of event)
8. Convair United States Navy Sea Launch Cruise Missile Program pin, also known as Tomahawk
9. Brass Tomahawk pin
10. One golden tie tack of the USS Whale SSN-638, a nuclear powered attack submarine
11. One silver tie tack of the USS Whale SSN-638, a nuclear powered attack submarine
12. One gold tie tack of given to the GD/Astronautics Safety Committeeman
13. One brass(? ) tie tack of an F-102 Delta Dagger
14. One brass(?) tie tack of an unidentifiable rocket - possibly a Scout rocket
15. One Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical E-Systems Global Hawk sticker
16. Two Giant General Dynamics Astronautics patch (one large, one small)
17. One Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical Firebolt patch
18. One Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical Global Hawk patch
19. One Global Hawk ELINT Demonstration patch (America and Germany)
20. One USAF Global Hawk Industry Team Enduring Freedom patch
21. One DSTO Global Hawk patch (America and Great Britain)
22. One Global Hawk 1000 hours of flight patch.