Descriptive Finding Guide for the Grumman F3F-2 Collection SDASM.SC.10059

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2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park
San Diego 92101
URL: http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/
**Language of Material:** English

**Contributing Institution:** San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives

**Title:** Grumman F3F-2

**creator:** San Diego Air and Space Museum

**Identifier/Call Number:** SDASM.SC.10059

**Physical Description:** 1.2 Cubic Feet; Three (3) boxes; two 5"x10.5"x12" and one 5"x10.5"x15.5".

**Date (inclusive):** 1936-1990

**Date (bulk):** bulk

**Abstract:** The materials in this collection relate to the restoration of a salvaged Grumman F3F-2 that was restored by San Diego Aerospace Museum staff and volunteers in 1990.

**Biographical / Historical**

The Grumman F3F was a last US biplane fighter aircraft, serving in the interim-war period. In 1990, SDASM restored a Grumman F3F that had been ditched off the coast of San Diego.

The Grumman F3F fighter/bomber was brought into service in 1936 to replace the Grumman F2F, serving both the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. It was the last American biplane fighter that served between World War I and World War II. Before it could serve in World War II it was retired and replaced by the Brewster F2A Buffalo. This aircraft was found to be ineffective before the start of World War II and was taken out of service in 1941 and was replaced by the Grumman F4F Wildcat.

In August 1940, First Lieutenant Bob Galer, USMC, was forced to ditch his Grumman F3F-2 off the coast of San Diego. This aircraft was found at the bottom of the ocean in 1988 and lifted out in 1990. The plane was then transported to the San Diego Air and Space Museum where they agreed to do the restore the fighter for the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola, Florida in exchange for a North American Aviation T-28 Trojan and a loan of a Grumman F4F/FM-2 Wildcat.

**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.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

The materials in this collection were collected by staff and volunteers of SDASM while restoring this aircraft in 1990.

**Related Materials**

A more detailed finding guide for this collection is available at http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/collections/collection_item.php?id=135

**Preferred Citation**

[Item], [Filing Unit], [Series Title], [Subgroups], [Record Group Title and Number], [Repository “San Diego Air & Space Museum Library & Archives”]

**Scope and Contents**

Three (3) boxes; two 5"x10.5"x12" and one 5"x10.5"x15.5". All of the materials in this collection are largely oversized blueprints and directions on the assembly of the aircraft. The contents of this collection are organized by order of assembly and by general categories.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Airplanes -- Motors
Airplanes -- Wings
Engineering drawings
Grumman F3F-2
Pensacola (Florida)
Fighter planes
World War, 1939-1945
Aircraft cabins
Aircraft industry -- Employees
Airplanes -- Conservation and restoration
Aircraft accidents
Airplanes -- Fuselage
Airplanes -- Landing gear
San Diego Air and Space Museum
Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation

Box 01

SERIES I: Fuselage

Folder 01 - Fuselage Line
Folder 02 - Fuselage Assembly
Folder 03 - Induction System
Folder 04 - Cowling

SERIES II: Wings

Folder 01 - Wing Erection
Folder 02 - Rudder Assembly
Folder 03 - Stabilizer Assembly
Folder 04 - Tail Erection
Folder 05 - Rib
Folder 06 - Lower Wing Assembly

Box 02

SERIES II: WINGS

Folder 07 - Upper Wing Assembly
Folder 08 - Covering Lower/Upper Panel
Folder 09 - Control Rudder Tab
Folder 10 - Tricing Sling
Folder 11 - Hoisting Sling
Folder 12 - Fixed Equipment

SERIES III: Cabin

Folder 01 - Windshield Assembly
Folder 02 - Cabin Assembly
Folder 03 - Useful Load
Folder 04 - Enclosure Cabin
Folder 05 - Pilot Seat
Folder 06 - Panel Aux (auxiliary)

SERIES IV: Engine

Box 03
SERIES V: Other Systems

Folder 01 - Hand Crank
Folder 02 - Landing Gear
Folder 03 - Arresting Gear
Folder 04 - Control Wobble Pump
Folder 05 - Inboard Profile
Folder 06 - General Arrangements
Folder 07 - General Layout
Folder 08 - Final Assembly
Folder 09 - Weapons System
Folder 10 - Fin System
Folder 11 - Fin
Folder 12 - Bomb Control Installation
Folder 13 - Cone

SERIES VI: Miscellaneous

Folder 01 - Pictures
Folder 02 - F3F Drawings Booklet
Folder 03 - Manuals and General Information I
Folder 04 - Manuals and General Information II
Folder 05 - Manuals and General Information III
Folder 06 - Miscellaneous
  Subjects and Indexing Terms
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