Descriptive Finding Guide for Howard Waldorf Personal Papers
SDASM.SC.10152

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San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
July 23, 2013
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: Howard Waldorf Personal Papers  
source: Waldorf, Howard  
creator: Oakland Chamber of Commerce (Oakland, Calif.)  
creator: Waldorf, Howard  
creator: Oakland Post Enquirer (Oakland, Calif.)  
Identifier/Call Number: SDASM.SC.10152  
Physical Description: 0.36 Cubic FeetOne (1) box, 12.5” x 10” x 5”  
Date (inclusive): 1916-1992  
Abstract: The Howard Waldorf Personal Papers contains materials relating to and/or written by Waldorf. He was a prominent aviation journalist in the San Francisco Bay area following his service as a test pilot in World War I.  
Arrangement  
This collection is arranged by the mediums it contains, including photographs, business and personal correspondence, and many newspaper and magazine articles written by Waldorf himself.  
Biographical / Historical  
Howard Waldorf began his career as a World War I test squadron pilot, afterwards entering journalism where he would eventually come to be known as one of the foremost aviation writing specialists.  
Howard Waldorf began his career in aviation by joining World War I as a teenager who falsified his age in order to serve with a crack test squadron at Wilbur Wright Field. Once the armistice went into effect, Waldorf entered the newspaper profession following John Taylor Waldorf, his father. Waldorf worked for the Oakland Post Enquirer, and soon after he began his writing career he was recognized as one of “the earliest and best of the fast vanishing breed of aviation writing specialists.”  
Waldorf covered all of the pioneering flights across the Pacific and maintained close relationships with famous pilots of the day. He always took the opportunity to fly in newly released military and commercial aircraft, and he even participated in the searches for lost fliers. When an airplane crash occurred, Waldorf always tried to promote passenger confidence in airline safety by “taking the next plane out – day or night, and reporting on the comfort and convenience of this phase of transportation.” His coverage was so extensive and accepted that he received a pass by United Air Lines to go anywhere at anytime. In Waldorf’s life as a reporter, he flew on many momentous flights, including the dirigibles Akron and Macon, the giant Mars Flying boat, the four engine F-32, Army gliders in “snatch” takeoffs, the B-36, the first B-17 bomber, the B-52, and a ski plane carrying dynamite to the arctic.  
Quoted content found in Papers of Howard Waldorf Collection, Folder 01, page 2 of the Quick Bio.  
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 donated to the San Diego Air & Space Museum in 1992. The collection has been processed and is open for research with no restrictions.  
Preferred Citation  
[Item], [Filing Unit], [Series Title], [Subgroups], [Record Group Title and Number], [Repository “San Diego Air & Space Museum Library & Archives”]  
Related Materials  
A more detailed finding guide is available at http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/collections/collection_item.php?id=88  
Digitized images from this collection are available at http://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/sets/72157634777885511/ 
http://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/sets/72157634777885511/  
Scope and Contents  
The dimension of the box for this collection is 12.5” x 10” x 5.” This collection is arranged by the mediums it contains, including photographs, business and personal correspondence, and many newspaper and magazine articles written by
Waldorf himself. The collection repeatedly uses the acronym O.P.E., which stands for Oakland Post-Enquirer.

**General**
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**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
- World War, 1939-1945
- Fire extinction
- Douglas DC-3 Family
- Cold-weather aviation
- Fighter pilots
- Douglas DC-4 Family
- Aeronautics -- History
- Aerospace writers
- Flight training
- Aeronautics, Commercial
- Airships
- Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress Family
- Air Mail Service
- Air shows
- Stunt flying
- San Francisco Bay Area (Calif.)
- World War, 1914-1918
- Women air pilots
- Journalism, Aeronautical
- Journalism
- Oakland (California)
- Newspapers
- Waldorf, Howard
- Waldorf, John Taylor
- Oakland Chamber of Commerce (Oakland, Calif.)
- Oakland Chamber of Commerce (Oakland, Calif.)
- Waldorf, Howard
- San Diego Air and Space Museum -- Correspondence
- Oakland Post Enquirer (Oakland, Calif.)
- Oakland Post Enquirer (Oakland, Calif.)
- Akron (Airship)
- Macon (Airship)

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**Box 01**
- Folder 01 - Biographical Content
- Folder 02 - Oakland Post-Enquirer (O.P-E) World War II News Articles
- Folder 03 - O.P-E Miscellaneous News Articles
- Folder 04 - Hiller Helicopter Articles (Some O.P-E.)
- Folder 05 - China Clipper Articles, Rough Draft, and Magazine Article
- Folder 06 - Items related to Oakland, CA (Bay Area) Aviation
- Folder 07 - Waldorf Anecdotes
- Folder 08 - Museum Correspondence
- Folder 09 - Other Correspondence
- Folder 10 - Miscellaneous
- Folder 11 - Major Army, Navy, and Airforce Installations, USA Map
Folder 12 - Photographs