The Descriptive Finding Guide for the John Johannes “Jack” Hospers Personal Papers SDASM.SC.10076

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San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
1/12/16
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: John Johannes “Jack” Hospers Personal Papers
Identifier/Call Number: SDASM.SC.10076
Physical Description: .4 Cubic Feet The collection is housed in three boxes (2 measuring 12.5”x10.5”x2.5”, 1 measuring 12.5”x10.5”x5”) and contains nineteen files.
Date (inclusive): 1901-1989
Abstract: John Johannes “Jack” Hospers was a representative for the Chance Vought and Sikorsky divisions of UAC, and by 1945, was the company’s vice president.
Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open to the public by appointment
Conditions Governing Use
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Immediate Source of Acquisition
This collection of materials was donated to the San Diego Air and Space Museum.
Preferred Citation
[Item], [Collection Name], Archives, San Diego Air & Space Museum
Biographical / Historical
John Johannes Hospers was born October 5, 1901 in Ommen, Netherlands and became a naturalized citizen of the United States on January 4, 1926. He was married to Sally Ann Kata of Oswego, New York, and had one daughter. He attended the college at the Graduate Aviation Engineering School in New York City and in 1922, joined the Merchant Marine. After leaving the Merchant Marine, he worked briefly at a flying school in New York, and then joined the United Aircraft Corporation. In 1928, he became a field representative for the Chance Vought and Sikorsky divisions of UAC, and by 1945, was the company’s vice president.
Hospers was caught behind German lines during the fall of France, where he was serving as a “Tech Rep” for the French Navy’s V-156 (SB2U Vindicator), then in service as a dive bomber. Eventually, he made his way to a neutral country and was repatriated. During the Pacific War, he served as a Lt. Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserves aboard several aircraft carriers. He was also the head “Tech Rep” for the fleet introduction of the F4U Corsair and helped sort out early difficulties, such as collapsing tail wheels and other engineering issues. All aircraft damage not credited to enemy action was given to him to investigate and to make recommendations. Postwar, he evaluated extreme cold carrier operations aboard USS Midway and led the fleet introduction of the F7U Cutlass, one of the first Navy fighter jets.
After his service, Hospers remained active with the Navy League and the Dallas-Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. He was also active with the Dallas Grand Jury Association, a member of the Texas Aeronautics Commission Advisory Council, and served as the Director of the Dallas Health and Science Museum and the Caruth Rehabilitation Center. Jack Hospers passed away on December 17, 1989 and is buried at Restland Memorial Park in Dallas, Texas.
Scope and Contents
Materials include personal papers and correspondence, Chance Vought and United Aircraft Corporation communications, certificates, booklets, and newspaper clipping.
Related Materials
Vought images on SDASM’s Flickr stream.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Vought OS2U Kingfisher
Vought Aircraft
Corsair (Fighter plane)
Vought F4U Corsair
Vought F7U Cutlass
Hospers, John Johannes “Jack”

Series I: Correspondence
Folder 1 – Jack Hospers Personal
1. Application for enlistment into the Civil Air Patrol.
2. Notes for talk for the Bridgeport Lion's Club, Sept. 2, 1942
3. Photographer's ID card.
4. FCC restricted radiotelephone operator permit, April 28, 1948.
5. Bureau of Aeronautics application for proposed foreign visit to France and Tunisia, July 1953.

Folder 2 – Jack Hospers Personal Correspondence
1. Assorted typewritten and handwritten personal correspondence.

Folder 3 – Ephemera
1. “A and R” newsletter addressing propaganda.
2. Basegram for SECNAV to ALNAV, September 3, 1942.
5. “Description of Accident, May 1, 1944” drawing.
6. Flying certificates.
7. Invitations.
8. Navy Aeronautics Officer’s Questionnaire.
   A Letter from President Roosevelt to Members of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences on the Institute’s Tenth Anniversary, 1942.”
10. Vought-Sikorsky Aircraft greeting card.
12. Two newspaper clippings, 1941 and 1949.

Folder 4 – USS Midway
1. Communication to CO of USS Midway from Hospers requesting permission to accompany part of a “shakedown cruise,” September 1945.
2. Communications regarding social invitations, March/April 1946.
4. USS Midway Cold Weather Cruise Report, November 6, 1946.

Folder 5 – Corsair Biplane 1930
1. “Notes of the Corsair Seaplane at Felixstone, 1933.”

Folder 6 – F4U Corsair
2. Letter from J.J. Hospers to George B. Barnes, ACMM, October 14, 1942.
4. Telegram from C.J. McCarthy to J.M. Barr, November 2, 1942.

Folder 7 – F7U Cutlass

Folder 8 – OS2U/SBU2
3. “News Letter - Confidential - to be destroyed after reading,” June 7, 1940.
5. Letter from J.J. Hospers to Ensign Albert Hospers, November 6, 1942.

Series II: Notebook

Folder 9 – Personal Logbook, 1928-1931
1. One daily logbook for Hospers’s work at Chance Vought on the O3U-2, the Navy's original 1930 “Corsair.” Includes explanation of duties and serial numbers of airframes

Series III: Reports
Folder 1 - Report
Physical Description: 1. XSO2U-1 Airplane, 1940. observation plane.

Folder 2 - Report

Folder 3 - Miscellaneous documents re Project Joe No. 2, 1945

Folder 4 - Report

Folder 5 - Press reports

Folder 6 - Report

Folder 7 - Memo

Folder 1 - Field Service Report 1936

Folder 2 - Field Service Report 1938
Physical Description: 1. Field Service Reports Nos. 276-377 Inclusive, 1938. Folder of documents, 2 in. (Acco fastener binding).
Folder 3 - Service Reports, 1939-1940