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QUESADA, ELWOOD R.: Papers, 1920-67

Accession A69-50  
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The papers of General Elwood R. ("Pete") Quesada were deposited in the Eisenhower Library by General Quesada on May 26, 1969.

Linear feet shelf space occupied:	5
Approximate number of pages:	10,750

General Quesada signed an instrument of gift for his papers on May 11, 1970. Literary property rights in the unpublished writings of General Quesada were reserved to Quesada during his lifetime, but subsequent to his death in 1993, passed to the people of the United States.

By the terms of the instrument of gift, the following classes of documents were to be withheld from research use:

1. Papers relating to Quesada's family and private business affairs.
2. Papers relating to the family and private business affairs of other persons who have had correspondence with Quesada.
3. Papers relating to investigations of individuals or to appointments and personnel matters.
4. Papers containing statements made by or to me in confidence unless in the judgment of the Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library the reason for the confidentiality no longer exists.
5. All other papers which contain information or statements that might be used to injure, harass, or damage any living person.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

April 13, 1904      Born in Washington, D.C.

1924                Cadet, Air Service Primary Flying School

1925                Received Air Reserve Commission

1927-28            Engineering officer at Bolling Field, Washington, D.C.

1928                Aide to Maj. Gen. James Fechet, then Chief of the Air Corps

January 1-7, 1929    Crew member aboard the Question Mark plane

1930-32            Assistant Military Attaché to U.S. Ambassador, Harry Guggenheim, Cuba

1932-33            Engineering officer at Bolling Field, Washington, D.C; flying aid to F. Trubee Davidson, Asst. Sec. of War

1933-34            Chief pilot, New York-Cleveland air mail route

1936-37            Attended Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

1937-38            Flight commander, First Bombardment Squadron, Mitchel Field, New York

1938-40            Technical adviser to the Argentinean Air Force

1940-41            Chief of the Foreign Liaison Section of the Intelligence Division of the Office of the Chief of the Air Corps

1941-42            Commanding Officer, 33<sup>rd</sup> Pursuit Group at Mitchel Field, New York

1942                Commanding Officer, Philadelphia Region of the First Fighter Command

1942-43            Commanding Officer, First Air Defense Wing, Mitchel Field, New York

1943                Commanding General, 12 Fighter Command and Deputy Commanding General of the Northwestern African Coastal Air Force

1943-44            Commanding General, 9<sup>th</sup> Fighter Command

1944-45            Commanding General, 9<sup>th</sup> Tactical Air Command

1945-46            Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, HQAAF

1946-48	Commanding General, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Air Force and Tactical Air Command
1948-49	Reserve Forces Chief, HQUSAF
1949-50	Chairman, Joint Technical Planning Committee for the Joint Chiefs of Staff
1950-51	Commander, Joint Task Force Three for the Joint Chiefs of Staff
1943-55	Vice-President, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation
1957-58	Special Assistant to the President for Aviation
1957-58	Chairman, Airways Modernization Board
1958-61	Administrator, Federal Aviation Agency
1963-1977	President, L'Enfant Properties
1973-1978	Chairman, Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
February 9, 1993	Deceased

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Quesada papers are comprised of correspondence, memoranda, affidavits, articles, reports, newspaper clippings, photographs, books and maps from the period, 1920-1967. The Quesada papers arrived at the Library unarranged; staff archivists devised folder titles and file arrangement. The papers are divided into three series: Military, Post-Military Career, and Scrapbooks and Oversized Materials.

A major portion of the Military Series concerns Operation Combine III held in the fall of 1948, the fourth in a series of joint operations presented by the Army Field Forces and Tactical Air Command to students of the USA's leading service schools as well as to student officers of allied nations. This exercise, which involved a hypothetical military situation, was conceived in order to emphasize the doctrines and tactics of joint Air, Army and Navy operations. It consisted of two phases: a series of skits portraying the planning stages of the war and an air demonstration depicting the application of tactical air doctrine.

The remainder of the military materials deals mainly with World War II and Quesada's work with Joint Task Force III. Included is information on World War II air operations in the European Theater, Operation Greenhouse, air personnel, Philadelphia's celebration for returning war heroes, and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day.

The Post-Military Career Series deals with Quesada's civilian work in aviation as both a corporation executive and as Administrator of the Federal Aviation Agency. Subjects documented include airplane accidents, the Guggenheim Foundation, aviation development including the supersonic transport (SST), the origins and development of the FAA, and the FAA air safety program. The latter included such matters as the "third seating" issue, a maximum age for pilots, and medical rulings.

The Scrapbooks and Oversized Documents Series contains scrapbooks consisting of newspaper clippings dating from June 1958 through February 1961. Additional documents include statistics for Joint Task Force Three, costs for Operation Greenhouse and newspaper clippings regarding the June 1945 celebration for returning war heroes in Philadelphia.

## CONTAINER LIST

### Box No.   Contents

#### 1      MILITARY SERIES

Bolling Field

Books (turned over to the book collection)

Cadet class of 1925

D-Day commemoration (20<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

Maps (turned over to the audio-visual collection)

Operation Combine III (1)-(5)

Patches from the China-India-Burma Theater (turned over to the museum)

Philadelphia celebration for returning WWII heroes [June 4, 1945]

Photographs and Phonographic Records (turned over to the audio-visual collection)

Tactical Air Command—Commanding General's Notebook (1947-8)

“Tactics and Techniques developed by the U.S. Tactical Air command in ETO”  
(1945)

WWII correspondence with families of airmen re: medals, casualties, furloughs (A-E)

WWII correspondence with families of airmen re: medals, casualties, furloughs (F-L)

WWII correspondence with families of airmen re: medals, casualties, furloughs (M-R)

WWII correspondence with families of airmen re: medals, casualties, furloughs (S-Z)

WWII miscellaneous correspondence

#### 2      POST-MILITARY CAREER SERIES

Air Safety (1)-(2)

Aircraft accident investigations

- Aircraft noise (1)-(2)
- Airplane collision between United Air Line and Trans World Airlines, New York, 12/16/60 (1)-(2)
- Airplane crash involving Arctic-Pacific flight C46, Toledo, Ohio, 10/29/60
- Airplane crash involving H. Greenman, Compton, California, 1/31/60
- Airplane crash involving United Airlines N 8040U, Denver, 7/11/61
- ATAC Program
- Atlantic Research
- Awards
- Biographies used in ML 304
- Curtis Report on aviation facilities planning, 5/14/57
- “Defense Research in Non-Profit Organizations”
- Electra controversy
- Federal Aviation Agency (speech delivered at MIT, March 28, 1960 on its history and goals)
- Federal Aviation Agency (senatorial confirmation of Quesada as its 1<sup>st</sup> administrator)
- Federal Aviation Agency and its critics (AOPA, ALPHA, EAL, Mr. Hartranft, C. Engles) (1)
- 3 Federal Aviation Agency and its critics (AOPA, ALPHA, EAL, Mr. Hartranft, C. Engles) (2)
- Guggenheim Foundation
- “High Temperature Structures and Materials”
- Jet Commander 1121
- “Legal Ramifications of Aircraft Accident/Malfunction Data”
- Maximum age for airline pilots (1)-(2)

- MacArthur speech, West Point, May 12, 1962
- Medical Rule
- National Security
- Pilot's strike over the 3<sup>rd</sup> seat issue, 1960 (1)-(2)
- Personal
- SST (1)-(3)
- 4 SST (4)
- Sabotage of airplanes
- Violations of procedure and ethics
- 5 SCRAPBOOK AND OVERSIZED DOCUMENTS
- Joint Task Force Three, Statistics
- 6 Scrapbook: Press Clippings, June 1958-Dec. 1958 [passage of Federal Aviation Act; appointment of FAA staff; coming of jet age; aircraft noise]
- Scrapbook: Press Clippings, Jan. 1959-July 1959 [federal aid to airports; establishment of FAA; Quesada's appointment; FAA funding; air safety; Quesada's critics]
- 7 Scrapbook: Press Clippings, July 1959-Jan. 1960 [air safety; development of facilities to handle jet aircraft; air traffic control; Project Friendship]
- Scrapbook: Press Clippings, Jan. 1960-Oct. 1960 [air safety; pilot strike over 3<sup>rd</sup> seat issue; aircraft noise; Electra controversy; Quesada's acquisition of a baseball team]
- 8 Scrapbook: Press Clippings, Nov. 1960-Feb. 1961 [Quesada's acquisition of a baseball team; airplane accidents; pilots critical of Quesada; resignation from FAA]
- 9 Operation Greenhouse, Cost
- Philadelphia celebration for returning WWII heroes

END OF CONTAINER LIST