



**INVENTORY TO
THE WILMER STULTZ PAPERS, 1927-1928**

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**



<http://www.lib.purdue.edu/spcol/>

© 2006 Purdue University Libraries. All rights reserved.

Revised: June 24, 2010

Processed: July 25, 2006

Compiled By: Sammie Morris and Shauna Borger

Descriptive Summary

Creator	Stultz, Wilmer, 1899-
Title	Wilmer Stultz Papers
Date Span	1927-1928
Abstract	Flight plan, photograph, contract, letter, and pilot's license documenting Wilmer Stultz's role as pilot in the 1928 transatlantic flight aboard the Friendship airplane
Quantity	0.5 cubic feet
Language	English
Repository	Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries

Administrative Information

Access	Collection is open for research.
Preferred Citation	MSP 38, Wilmer Stultz Papers, Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries
Acquisition	Purchased in 2006; Addition received by William Brantner, January 27, 2009
Custodial History	Papers were property of Wilmer Stultz's family and were acquired by the Purdue Libraries through Heritage Auction House, 2006; Addition was donated by William Brantner
Accession Number	20060719; 20090127
Location	ASC
Processed By	Sammie Morris, 2006; Shauna Borger, 2010

Subject Headings

Persons

Stultz, Wilmer
Byrd, Richard E.
Earhart, Amelia
Gordon, Lou

Organizations

Byrd Antarctic Expedition
Mechanical Science Corporation
Federation Aeronautique Internationale
National Aeronautic Association of U.S.A.

Topics

Aviation
Flights--Transatlantic

Geographic Places

Atlantic Ocean

Form and Genre Types

Letters/Correspondence
Contracts/Legal agreements
Photographs
Flight maps/charts
Licenses/certificates

Occupations

Pilots

Biography of Wilmer Stultz

Wilmer Lower Stultz was born on a farm near Williamsburg, Pennsylvania on April 11, 1900. In August 1917, he enlisted in the United States Army Air Force and in March of 1919, Stultz was honorably discharged. On August 4, 1919 he married Mildred Botts of Middletown. Stultz enlisted in the Naval Air Service on December 22, 1919 and was honorably discharged on December 1, 1922. In his government training, Stultz was one of a group of men to receive special instruction in aviation. He personally conducted the tests made on the Josephine Ford plane in which Commander Richard Byrd made his famous journey to the North Pole. Stultz was the winner of a national airplane speed race at Dayton, Ohio. He was approached in the Fall of 1927 by Commander Byrd to be the assistant pilot on Byrd's proposed South Pole flight. Frances Wilson Grayson employed Stultz as the pilot on her flight across the Atlantic. Grayson and Stultz turned around on their flight due to storms and Stultz ended their professional relationship. Stultz is primarily remembered today for his role as the pilot in the 1928 transatlantic flight aboard the "Friendship" airplane. During this flight, Stultz piloted the Fokker F7 (nicknamed the "Friendship") that carried Amelia Earhart across the Atlantic Ocean. Although she was only a passenger on the flight, Earhart became instantly famous for being the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. Tragically, Stultz died the following year during a test flight. He was thirty years old.

Scope and Contents of the Collection

The Wilmer Stultz Papers (1927-1928; 0.5 cubic feet) document Wilmer Stultz's role as pilot in the 1928 transatlantic flight aboard the "Friendship" Fokker airplane. Types of materials in the papers include a flight plan, photograph, contract, letter, and Stultz's pilot's license.

Preservation Note

All materials have been housed in polyester sleeves and acid-free, lignin-free folders and boxes.

Separations or Transfers of Materials

The oversized, framed flight plan has been stored separately for preservation purposes (Map Case).

Additions

Folder of materials collected by William Brantner about Wilmer Stultz. Collection includes one folder of materials. Photocopies of articles, articles and a souvenir booklet documenting the life and flying career of Stultz.

Related Materials

George Palmer Putnam Collection of Amelia Earhart Papers

Includes documents, photographs, and related materials relating to the 1928 transatlantic flight aboard the Friendship plane.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box	Contents
1	<p>Wilmer Stultz's pilot's license, Federation Aeronautique Internationale, National Aeronautic Association of U.S.A., aviator's certificate number 6802, October 11, 1927 (signed by Orville Wright)</p> <p>Letter from Richard E. Byrd to Wilmer Stultz regarding payment and contract between Stultz and Mechanical Science Corporation for the flight, May 19, 1928</p> <p>Contract between Mechanical Science Corporation and Wilmer Stultz for the proposed transatlantic flight, May 18, 1938</p> <p>Photograph of Amelia Earhart, Wilmer Stultz, Lou Gordon and officers aboard the <i>U.S.S. President Roosevelt</i> ship, circa 1928 (Photographs of Stultz grave stone marker, ca. 2009 (2 copies))</p> <p>Photocopy of photograph of Stultz, Earhart and Gordon, ca. 1928, (Friendship flight)</p> <p>Article on Wilmer Stultz, undated</p> <p>Photocopy of street scene, "ME 4401 Williamsburg station," undated</p> <p>Newspaper clipping, "Williamsburg native flew to fame as pilot," circa 1990s-2000s</p> <p>Newspaper clipping, "Well, mother made it OK," 1928</p> <p>Photocopy of photo of Stultz as child, circa 1900-1910</p> <p>Photocopy of souvenir booklet, homecoming celebration for Stultz after Friendship flight, Williamsburg, PA, July 18, 1928</p>
Map Case	Map of North Atlantic with notations showing Stultz's proposed flight path, circa 1928 (oversized, framed)