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ABILENE, KANSAS

QUESADA, ELWOOD R.: Papers, 1920-67

Accession A69-50  
Processed by: MB, CJS, JL  
Date Completed: March 20, 1972

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
Approximate number of items:	1,200

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 Literary property rights in the unpublished writings of General Quesada were reserved to Quesada during his lifetime, but subsequent to his death in 1993, passed to the people of the United States.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 Attache 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 Argentinian 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

## 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 papers are divided into two series: one covering Quesada's military career and the other his civilian work in aviation. A major portion of the military segment 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 second 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, 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 Quesada papers arrived at the Library unarranged; staff archivists devised folder titles and file arrangement.

## CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Military
	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
	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-L)
	WWII correspondence with families of airmen re: medals, casualties, furloughs (M-Z)
	WWII miscellaneous correspondence
2	Operation Greenhouse, Cost
	Operation Greenhouse, Statistics
	Philadelphia celebration for returning WWII heroes
3	Civilian

Air Safety

Air Safety

Aircraft accident investigations

Aircraft noise

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)

- 4 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
- McArthur speech, West Point, May 12, 1962
- Medical Rule
- National Security
- Operation Greenhouse, Costs (Joint Task Force Three)
- Pilot’s strike over the 3<sup>rd</sup> seat issue, 1960 (1)-(2)
- Press Clippings, 1958-61
- Personal
- SST (1)(2)
- 5 SST (3)(4)
- Sabotage of airplanes
- Statistics (Joint Task Force Three)
- Tactical Air Command-Coming General’s Notebook
- Violations of procedure and ethics
- 6 Press Clippings, June 1958-Dec. 1958
- Press Clippings, Jan. 1959-July 1959
- Press Clippings, July 1959-Jan. 1960
- Press Clippings, Jan. 1960-Oct. 1960
- Press Clippings, Nov. 1960-Feb. 1961

END OF CONTAINER LIST