Manuscript Cataloging Project Test Phase Completed

By Paul A. Oelkrug, C.A.
Senior Curator

Special Collections recently completed a test of the Archives Cataloging Project and is ready to establish this project as an ongoing part of processing and describing the manuscript collection.

This project involves filling out a cataloging worksheet then turning it over to the McDermott Library Cataloging Dept. The two collections used as test cases were the Gordon C. Cornell Papers and the Dr. Charles L. Weldon, M.D. Papers, both valuable new additions to the HAC.

Once the cataloging department receives the worksheet, they create a MARC record (Machine Readable Code) similar to the kind created for books. This record is loaded onto the library’s online catalog where it can be found using typical search methods. In addition to being available on the library’s online catalog, the record is uploaded to a global system making it available worldwide.

By cataloging the collections, we expect increased use of the material. Of course, we have not forgotten about our existing collections.

We will begin cataloging those collections as soon as the schedule allows. In addition to the HAC staff who took part in this project, special thanks goes to Angela Jones who worked with us to help develop the worksheet and create the MARC records. Jones was manager of the cataloging department at the beginning of this project.

History of Aviation Collection Digital Update

By Thomas Allen
Special Collections Curator

The HAC has added new content to its Digital Archive with the inclusion of selected text documents to the Civil Air Transport/Air America Archives.

Now the Digital Archive is undergoing a new phase in its development. Over the coming months HAC Staff will be taking high quality, digital photographs of the many unique objects on display at the archive. These photographs will be added to the digital archive along with text and information about the artifacts.

So far we have taken photographs of items from the Civil Air Transport/Air America Archive, The Col. James H. Doolittle Collection, and the Ferko-Williams World War I Collection.

We are placing this material online and expect it to be accessible to the public next month.

The HAC continues to add new technology for the digitization of many different kinds of material. Recently the archive has acquired a computer specially configured to process film and video. We have also purchased high quality video production software.

This will allow us to digitize many of the film and video holdings in the collection. We will then be able to transfer some of this material to DVD, and make these fragile films and tapes more accessible to our patrons. We will also be able to edit some of this material and place small digital film clips in the Digital Archive. Coupled with our sound digitization equipment, this gives the HAC an almost professional level multimedia digitization system.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 3, 2006 - "My Career as an Experimental Test Pilot" by guest speaker Dennis Tuck, 3 p.m., McDermott Library Auditorium (MC 2.410). Free.

March 31, 2006 - "Love Field During World War II" by Erik D. Carlson, Ph.D., Coordinator of Special Collections, 3 p.m., McDermott Library Auditorium (MC 2.410). Free.

Mass of Aviation Magazines Electronically Cataloged

By Patrizia Nava
Library Assistant II

Beginning in the summer of 2005 Patrizia Nava, Library Assistant II of Special Collections, and Debbie Montgomery, serial cataloger of McDermott Library Cataloging Department, have been working closely with the volunteers regarding the organization of aviation magazines. The volunteers, namely the late Cam McGill with Bob Kopitzke, Willie Jones, and Don Lane, had established a system whereby titles of magazines were listed and the holdings brought up-to-date in a master index. The titles were not accessible to researchers and patrons, since they were not cataloged to Library of Congress standards.

Montgomery, with the aid of student workers, cataloged 500 different journals of bound volumes out of approximately 600-700 titles, ranging from AAHS (American Aviation Historical Society) to Zeitschrift für Flugtechnik und Motorluftschifffahrt (Journal for Aeronautical Engineering and Motorized Airship Travel). But there is still much work to do. Nava is responsible for the identification of loose issues, the subscriptions, and donations made by patrons, as well as the recognition of duplicates, filling in gaps of missing issues, the preservation of old and damaged issues, and preparing complete volumes for the bindery. More than 400 volumes are ready to be shipped to the bindery.

Patrons have electronic access to these journals via the website www.utdallas.edu/library/.

U.S., International Aviation Duplicate Books For Sale

The History of Aviation Collection has duplicate books for sale on all aspects of aviation history and aeronautics. In addition the HAC also sells two works it has published: Pioneer Aviator in China and Lt. Henry R. Clay Sopwith Camel Ace. If you have any questions, please contact Special Collections Dept. Administrative Assistant Carole Thomas at cthomas@utdallas.edu. For more information please visit the HAC website at http://www.utdallas.edu/library/collections/speccoll/abooka.htm.

Carlson Teaches U.S. Military History Course at UTD

In the fall 2005 semester, Special Collections Coordinator, Erik D. Carlson, Ph.D., taught a U.S. 20th Century military history course at UTD. The class covered the development of U.S. armed forces in war and peace from 1900 to the present. The course included an oral history project where students interviewed an aviation veteran. The transcripts and tapes were donated to the HAC. During the semester, Carlson’s students met in the Special Collections for Veterans Discussion Panels on World War II, Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Paul Oelkrug Named Senior Curator

In summer of 2005 Dr. Erik Carlson appointed Paul Oelkrug, C.A., as Senior Curator for Special Collections. In addition to his previous duties, Oelkrug is now in charge of the curatorial staff.
Doolittle Raiders Visit China, Present Plaque to Museum

Lt. Col. Richard E. Cole, co-pilot for Jimmy Doolittle, and Major Thomas C. Griffin, navigator on Plane No. 9, during the April 1942 attack on Japan were guests of the Sino-American Aviation Heritage Foundation in China, August 29-September 16, 2005. They joined a group of China-Burma-India theater veterans, including those of the Flying Tigers (AVG) and the China National Airways Corporation (CNAC) and visited WWII war memorials, universities and schools in Beijing, Chongsha, Kunming, Nanking and Shanghai. All were honored with medals in appreciation of their military service to assist the beleaguered Chinese.

Cole and Griffin presented a plaque to an aviation museum expressing “the undying gratitude of the American airmen...to the Chinese people who, in April 1942, at great risk to their lives and the lives of their families, gave protection, food, shelter and medical attention that ultimately led to freedom for the Doolittle airmen who sought their help.”

The late George Jalonick IV a great friend of the HAC

Those associated with the HAC were saddened during the summer at the untimely death of George Jalonick IV. He was a key figure in the establishment of the annual memorial lecture series that carries the name of his parents, George Jalonick III and Dorothy Cockrell Jalonick.

George looked forward each year to the special scholarly presentations about aviation and seeing old friends at McDermott Library. As the lecture series continues he will be remembered as a special friend and generous supporter of the HAC.

He certainly would have been proud of the 2005 lecture that featured distinguished history professor Dr. William M. Leary of the University of Georgia. Dr. Leary’s talk, “Last Flights: Air America and the Collapse of South Vietnam,” was highly successful. Mary Jalonick requested that donations in George’s memory can be made to the George Jalonick III and Dorothy Cockrell Jalonick Memorial Lecture Series in care of Special Collections, McDermott Library, PO Box 830643, MC 33, Richardson TX 75083-0643.

Antoinette ‘Toni’ Huckaby Retiring in January 2006

Mrs. Antoinette “Toni” Huckaby, a cataloger for McDermott Library’s Special Collections Dept., will retire in January, 2006. She joined the department in 1987 after a two-year stint with a civil engineering firm where she established circulation, processing, cataloging and shelving functions for books, maps and company files.

In addition to working with the Wineburg Philatelic Research Library, the Besterling Botanical Collection and the Jaffe Holocaust Collection at UTD, Toni is best known to aviation researchers as the cataloger for the History of Aviation Collection. Her knowledge of Latin and German proved especially useful in cataloging the extensive acquisitions by the Special Collections Dept.

Toni earned a Bachelor's degree in Classics at Austin College and a Master of Library Science degree at Texas Women’s University. Her diverse interests led to post-graduate courses in French, music and astronomy, in addition to courses in cataloging of rare books.

From 1983 to 1985, she was a part-time technician for a microwave facility where she used data on antennas, reflectors and signals to run programs for plotting charts and filing the company's extensive map collection.

She volunteered as a cataloger of books for a local elementary school library during the 1973-83. From 1968-73, Toni was a literature and history cataloger for the Dallas Public Library after employment in 1965-1966 as a technician in the Geosciences Department at the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest, the forerunner of UTD.

Her background has been of inestimable help in making the HAC one of the nation’s outstanding libraries of aeronautical magazines, books, films and files of historical aviation personalities.

Raids Say Goodbye to Crew Mate Crouch

Lt. Col. Horace E. “Sally” Crouch, navigator on Crew No. 10 of Doolittle’s Tokyo Raiders, died on Dec. 21, 2005. Born Oct. 29, 1918 in Columbia SC, he graduated from Columbia high School in 1936, received a BS degree in civil engineering from The Citadel in 1940 and served in the South Carolina National Guard from 1937 to 1940.

Crouch joined the Army Air Corps in 1940, completed bombardier and navigation schools and was among the 80 men who volunteered for the famous 1942 mission against Japan. He remained in the China-Burma theater after the raid until June 1943. After World War II, he served three tours in the Pacific and one tour each in England, North Africa and Germany. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1962.

Crouch returned to his hometown and taught mathematics in the Columbia school system until he retired a second time. He was a volunteer for many local causes including Meals on Wheels and working with the blind and diabetics.

There are now 16 of Doolittle's Raiders left. Their next reunion will be held at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force in Dayton, Ohio, April 17-21, 2006. An invitation is being initiated to hold their 2007 reunion Dallas.