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CURTIS, Wilfred Austin

MG 31, G 9

Finding Aid no. 1050/Instrument de recherche no 1050

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in 1978.

Préparé en 1978 par  
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Section des archives des  
affaires publiques.

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CURTIS, Wilfred Austin (1893-1977). Air Force Officer.

Originals, 1915-1974. 40 cm. F.A. No. 1050.

Wilfred Austin Curtis was born in Havelock, Ontario, and was educated in Toronto Public and Technical Schools. He joined the 99th Battalion in 1915, and transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service in 1916. Curtis served as a fighter pilot in France from 1917 to 1918. During the inter-war period he served in the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve, and the Toronto Scottish Regiment.

Called up for active duty in 1939, Curtis was placed in charge of selecting aerodrome sites for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. From 1940 to September 1941 he served as Director of Postings and Careers and then as commanding officer of Uplands Air Base. In September of 1941 Curtis was appointed Deputy Commander in Chief of the R.C.A.F. Overseas. In 1944 he became the Air Member for Air Staff, and from 1944 to 1947 served as the Senior R.C.A.F. Member of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence. In 1947 Curtis was appointed Chief of the Air Staff, a position he held until his retirement in 1953.

After his retirement, he was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Board of A.V. Roe Canada Ltd., and from 1961 to 1968 was the first chancellor of York University.

Presented in 1975 by Air Marshall Curtis.

The Finding Aid No. 1050 is a descriptive file list.

Personal and military files concerning his career in World Wars One and Two. Subject files concerning York University, the Toronto Scottish Regiment, the World War One Flyers' Association, unification of the Canadian Armed Forces, and various other military and aviation topics. Photographs and publications transferred to the appropriate media divisions.

DESCRIPTIVE FILE LIST

CURTIS - PERSONAL FILES

<u>Vol.</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - flying training and flying career: correspondence, clippings, itinerary.	1915-1948
	2	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - personal correspondence, clippings, postcards. Included is a letter from Raymond Collishaw.	1917-1921
	3	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - flying log books, and pilots licences.	1916-1918, 1935, 1955-1957
	4	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - diaries.	1915-1924, 1953
	5	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - retirement - correspondence, newspaper clippings, news release. Includes correspondence from Hon. Douglas C. Abbott, Hon. Ralph O. Campney, Hon. Brooke Claxton, Hon. Clarence Decatur Howe, Hon. Lester B. Pearson and Rt. Hon. Louis St. Laurent. Also included are Archibald Nye, British High Commissioner and T.C.A. Hislop, New Zealand High Commissioner.	1952-1953
	6	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - pension: correspondence, memoranda	n.d., 1948-1967
	7	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - biographical data: notes, lists, newsletters, cartoon, press clippings.	n.d.-1969
	8	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - general correspondence, "A-G": correspondence, memoranda, arranged alphabetically by author, including correspondence from William A. (Billy) Bishop, Hon. Brooke Claxton, Raymond Collishaw and Dwight Eisenhower.	1940-1973
	9	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - general correspondence, "H-N": correspondence, memoranda, arranged alphabetically by author, including a letter from James Lovell Jr.	1915-1972

<u>Vol.</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	10	Curtis, Wilfred Austin - general correspondence, "P-Z": correspondence, memoranda, arranged by author, including correspondence from Rt. Hon. Lester Pearson, Hon. Mitchell W. Sharp and Air Marshal Hugh Trenchard.	1952-1971

CURTIS - SUBJECT FILES-ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY

<u>Vol.</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	11	Air industry and aerospace - press clippings and magazine extracts.	n.d., 1970
	12	<u>Aerospace Historian</u> - extracts from the publication	1970-1971
	13	Avro-Arrow - press clippings.	n.d.-1959
	14	Canadian Army - 27th Infantry Brigade - article, "The Truth About the 27th Infantry Brigade" by Jamie Craik.	1953-1954
	15	Canadian Broadcasting Corporation - press clippings.	n.d., 1966
	16	Canadian political affairs - press clippings	n.d., 1969
	17	Collishaw, Raymond - biographical sketch.	n.d.
	18	Dingwall, Gordon - biographical sketch.	n.d.
	19	Hall of Canadian Aviation History, and Royal Canadian Air Force Memorial - correspondence, circular, press-release concerning fund raising.	1969-1970
	20	Henry, Major-General Guy - press clippings.	1967
	21	Invitations, programmes and menus	1944-1959
	22	MacLaren, Donald - biographical sketch	n.d.
	23	McGill, Frank - biographical sketch	n.d.



<u>Vol.</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	24	Miscellaneous - publications, newsletter, notes, articles.	n.d.-1971
	25	Nash, Gerald - biographical sketch.	n.d.
2	26	N.A.T.O. and military affairs - press clippings and magazine extracts.	n.d., 1969
	27	<u>The Permanent Joint Board on Defence, Canada and United States</u> - booklet.	1965
	28	Press clippings - general.	n.d., 1970
	29	Royal Air Force Escaping Society - newsletter.	n.d.
	30	Speeches and addresses.	n.d.
	31	Speeches and addresses.	n.d., 1952-1969
	32	Toronto Flying Club - stock certificate.	1929
	33	Toronto Scottish Regiment - correspondence, newsletter, speeches, lists.	1967-1969
	34	Tri-Services Identity Organization - correspondence, clippings, speeches, article. Included is a letter from Rt. Hon. Lester Pearson.	n.d., 1966-1969
	35	Unification of the forces - press clippings.	n.d., 1969
	36	Universities - press clippings.	n.d., 1969
	37	War Measures Act - press clippings.	1970
	38	World War One - Royal Naval Air Service, Squadrons 3 and 10: programmes, menus.	1917-1918
	39	World War One - Royal Naval Air Service and Royal Flying Corps - lists, correspondence concerning Canadian personnel. Included is correspondence from Air Vice Marshal Raymond Collishaw.	n.d., 1964-1969
	40	World War One Flyers Association - trip to Europe: correspondence, itineraries, lists.	1969-1970

<u>Vol.</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	41	World War One Flyers Association - correspondence, menus, lists, program, song sheets, publication.	1958-1971
	42	York University - establishment, correspondence, publications, map, memoranda, report.	1965-1971
	43	York University - correspondence, speeches, publications, convocation booklet, press clipping.	1965-1974