

Elwood R. Quesada Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2005

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81037135>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms009098>

Prepared by Richard B. Bickel and Grover Batts
Revised and expanded by Patrick Kerwin with the assistance of Cheryl Adams and Lia Apodaca

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2009
Revised 2010 April

Collection Summary

Title: Elwood R. Quesada Papers

Span Dates: 1927-1960

ID No.: MSS37135

Creator: Quesada, Elwood R. (Elwood Richard), 1904-1993

Extent: 2,450 items

Extent: 7 containers

Extent: 2.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81037135>

Summary: Air force officer and public official. Correspondence, memoranda, speeches and statements, reports, drawings, press releases, and other material pertaining primarily to Quesada's career as a United States Air Force officer and as director of the Federal Aviation Administration.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Quesada, Elwood R. (Elwood Richard), 1904-1993.

Organizations

United States. Air Force. Board of Review for Tactical Operations.

United States. Air Force. IX Fighter Command.

United States. Air Force. IX Tactical Air Command.

United States. Federal Aviation Administration.

United States. Joint Chiefs of Staff. Joint Task Force-3.

Subjects

B-36 bomber.

Nuclear weapons--Testing.

World War, 1939-1945--Aerial operations, American.

World War, 1939-1945--Africa, North.

World War, 1939-1945--Europe.

Places

Eniwetok Proving Grounds (Marshall Islands)

United States--Armed Forces.

Titles

Elwood Richard Quesada papers

Occupations

Air Force officers.

Public officials.

Provenance

The papers of Elwood R. Quesada, air force officer and public official, were given to the Library of Congress by Quesada in 1954 and 1960.

Processing History

The papers of Elwood R. Quesada were arranged and described in 1957 and an addition was made in 1963. The collection was reprocessed and the finding aid revised in 2004.

Other Repositories

Additional Quesada papers are at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library and Museum in Abilene, Kansas.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Elwood R. Quesada is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Elwood R. Quesada are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Elwood R. Quesada Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1904, Apr. 13	Born, Washington, D.C.
1923-1924	Attended University of Maryland, College Park, Md.
1924-1925	Army Air Service
1927	Commissioned as an officer in the Army Air Corps
1927-1928	Engineering officer, Bolling Field, Washington, D.C.
1927-1928	Attended Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
1928-1930	Aide to Major General James Fechet
1930-1932	Assistant military attaché, Cuba
1932	Promoted to first lieutenant
1935	Promoted to captain
1937-1938	Flight commanding officer, 1st Bomb Squadron, Mitchel Field, N.Y.
1938-1940	Technical advisor to the Argentine air force
1940-1941	Assigned to intelligence in the Office of the Chief of the Air Corps
1941-1942	Commanding officer of the 33rd Pursuit Group, Mitchel Field, N.Y.
1942	Promoted to lieutenant colonel
1942	Promoted to brigadier general
1943	Commanding officer, 1st Air Defense Wing and 12th Fighter Command, North Africa
1943	Commanding general, IX Fighter Command, England
1944	Promoted to major general
1945	Returned to the United States as assistant chief of air staff for intelligence
1947	Promoted to lieutenant general

1949-1951	Commander of Joint Task Force-3
1951	Retired from the United States Air Force
1958-1961	Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration
1993, Feb. 9	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Elwood Richard Quesada (1904-1993) span the years 1927-1960 and consist of correspondence, memoranda, reports, drawings, speeches, charts, Quesada's personnel file, and other material.

The bulk of the collection consists of material compiled by units under the IX Fighter Command and IX Tactical Air Command at the end of World War II to reflect the contributions of each unit to the war effort. The correspondence includes letters written and received by Quesada during his deployment to North Africa and Europe, 1943-1945. Other correspondence relates to the unification of the armed forces, the B-36 investigation, and Quesada's deployment to the Pacific in 1951 as commander of Joint Task Force-3 during a series of atomic tests on the Pacific atoll of Eniwetok.

Included in the collection is Quesada's personnel "201" file; documents relating to operations and training during World War II; speeches and statements by Quesada, including speeches given while he was administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration; and items relating to the United States Air Force Board of Review for Tactical Operations.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material or topic.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	B-36 investigation, 1949
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1943-1951 (13 folders)
BOX 2	Federal Aviation Administration, 1958-1959 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Operation "Q," 1944 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Personnel "201" file
BOX 2	1927-1944 (2 folders)
BOX 3	1945-1951 (3 folders)
BOX 3	Project Chore, 1949
BOX 3	Report on German defeat, 1945
BOX 3	School of Air Support, Royal Air Force, Old Sarum, England, 1945
BOX 3	"Site Selection Survey: Additional Airport for Washington, D.C.," 1957
BOX 3	Speeches and statements
BOX 3	By others, 1947, undated
BOX 3	By Quesada
BOX 3	1946-1947
BOX 4	1950-1960, undated (4 folders)
BOX 4	Statistical data regarding operations, 1945
BOX 4	Unification of the armed forces, 1945, undated
BOX 4	Unit histories, IX Fighter Command and IX Tactical Air Command, 1945
BOX 4	48th Fighter Group
BOX 4	64th Airdrome Squadron
BOX 4	67th Tactical Reconnaissance Group (1 folder)
BOX 5	(1 folder)
BOX 5	365th Fighter Group
BOX 5	474th Fighter Group (2 folders)
BOX 5	554th Signal Aircraft Warning Battalion
BOX 5	A-1
BOX 5	A-2
BOX 5	A-3
BOX 5	A-4
BOX 5	Adjutant General
BOX 5	Chaplains Section
BOX 5	Chemical warfare
BOX 5	Communications

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 5	Control Section
BOX 6	Finance Section
BOX 6	G-2
BOX 6	G-3
BOX 6	General, 1943-1945 (15 folders)
BOX 6	Intelligence
BOX 6	Judge Advocate General Section
BOX 6	Medics
BOX 6	Operational Research Section
BOX 6	Ordnance
BOX 6	Provost Marshall
BOX 6	Public Relations
BOX 6	Quartermaster
BOX 7	Signal Section (2 folders)
BOX 7	Special Services
BOX 7	Statistical Control Section
BOX 7	United States Air Force Board of Review for Tactical Operations, 1949 (3 folders)