

Polhamus, Edward C., Papers

Edward C. Polhamus Papers

1962-1986



Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1990.051

Unit Date

1962-1986

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

Edward C. Polhamus (1923-2001) was an aeronautical engineer active in aerodynamics research related to the development of high-speed aircraft. The collection include reprints of articles and reports by Polhamus, correspondence, notebooks, photographs relating to his patents, and materials relating to his Wright Brothers lectureship.

Creator

Polhamus, Edward C. (Edward Charles), 1923-2001

Extent

0.4 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Source of Acquisition

This collection was donated to Special Collections in September 1990.

Processing Information

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Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Edward C. Polhamus Papers, Ms1990-051, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Edward C. Polhamus (1923-2001), an aeronautical engineer active in aerodynamics research related to the development of high-speed aircraft, received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland (1944) and joined the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) in 1944. Polhamus was head of the Stability and Performance Branch, the Fluid Dynamics Branch, and a Distinguished Research Associate at NASA Langley Research Center, retiring from NASA in 1981. Polhamus is an associate fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and has been and advisor to the U.S. Defense Department and the Air Force on variable-sweep technology. He is the holder or co-holder of three U. S. patents on variable-sweep wing technology; furthermore, Polhamus is recognized as the co-inventor of the variable-sweep aircraft configuration concept that led to the U. S. Air Force F-111 and B-1 aircraft. Polhamus presented the AIAA Wright Brothers lecture on 1983.

Scope and Content

The Edward C. Polhamus Papers include reprints of articles and reports by Polhamus, correspondence, notebooks, and photographs relating to his patents on variable wing sweeps, F-111 aircraft and cryogenic wind tunnel development and vortex lift aerodynamics, Congressional testimony on the TFX contract investigation, and materials relating to his Wright Brothers lectureship.

Keywords

Aeronautical engineers
Archives of American Aerospace Exploration (AAAE)
Science and Technology
United States. National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into subject files.

Description of Subordinate Components

Variable Sweep Wing Patents & Research. E. Polhamus.

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E.C. Polhamus. Variable Sweep Aircraft Wing Patent. 17 September 1963. W.J. Alford, Jr. and E.C. Polhamus. Variable Sweep Wing Configuration. 11 September 1962. E.C. Polhamus et al. Variable Sweep Aircraft Patent. 6 September 1966. Ann Ewing. Supersonic Airplane with Changing Wing Patented. 9 September 1962. Donald D. Baals & Edward C. Polhamus. Variable-Sweep Aircraft-Past, Present, and Future. June 1963. NATO. Aiken, W.S. Aiken, Jr., Polhamus, E.C., & Toll, T.A. NASA Variable Research Geometry. April 1963. NASA. Edward C. Polhamus & Thomas A. Toll. Research Related to Variable Sweep Aircraft Development. May 1981. NASA. Alford, William J. Jr., Foster, Gerald V., Polhamus, Edward C. Technical Memorandum. December 1962. Journal of Aircraft. E.C. Polhamus. Applying Slender Wing Benefits to Military Aircraft. August 1984.

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