# **Carl Spaatz**

## A Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Charles Cooney
Addition by Nan Thompson Ernst with the assistance of
Susie H. Moody



## **Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

Washington, D.C.

### 1998

Contact information: <a href="http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html">http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html</a>

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### **Collection Summary**

**Title:** Papers of Carl Spaatz **Span Dates:** 1919-1981 **Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1942-1963)

**ID No.:** MSS40725

Creator: Spaatz, Carl, 1891-1974

Extent: 120,000 items; 345 containers plus 1 classified; 145 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

**Repository:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Abstract:** Army and Air Force officer. Correspondence, diaries, cables, reports, research notes, typescripts of articles and speeches, flight records, personnel file, writings, and other papers. Includes material relating to Operation Torch (1942) in North Africa and Operation Overlord (1944) in Normandy during World War II; Spaatz's tenure as commander in chief of the U.S. Strategic Air Forces in Europe (1944) and in Japan (1945), as commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Forces (1946), and as chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force (1947-1948); correspondence and reports of Gen. Ira Eaker; records of the U.S. Strategic Air Forces, including those of its Historical Section and of Bruce C. Hopper; and Spaatz's activities in retirement.

### **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

#### Names:

Spaatz, Carl, 1891-1974

Anderson, Frederick L., 1905-1969--Correspondence

Arnold, Eleanor Pool--Correspondence

Arnold, Henry Harley, 1886-1950--Correspondence

Bradley, Omar Nelson, 1893-1981--Correspondence

Cherne, Leo, 1912- -- Correspondence

Cochran, Jacqueline--Correspondence

De Seversky, Alexander P. (Alexander Procofieff), 1894-1974--Correspondence

Eisenhower, Dwight D. (Dwight David), 1890-1969--Correspondence

Knerr, Hugh Johnston, 1887-1971--Correspondence

Lahm, Frank Purdy, 1877-1963--Correspondence

LeMay, Curtis E.--Correspondence

Lovett, Robert A. (Robert Abercrombie), 1895- -- Correspondence

Mack, Ted--Correspondence

Marshall, George C. (George Catlett), 1880-1959--Correspondence

Mitchell, William, 1879-1936 -- Correspondence

Nixon, Richard M. (Richard Milhous), 1913- -- Correspondence

Patterson, Robert Porter, 1891-1952--Correspondence

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

Snyder, John W. (John Wesley), 1895-1985--Correspondence

Stimson, Henry Lewis, 1867-1950--Correspondence

Symington, Stuart, 1901- -- Correspondence

Twining, Nathan F. (Nathan Farragut), 1897-1982--Correspondence

Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972--Correspondence

Vandenberg, Hoyt Sanford, 1899-1954--Correspondence

Warner, Jack, 1916- -- Correspondence

White, Thomas D. (Thomas Dresser), 1901-1965--Correspondence

United States. Air Force

United States. Army Air Forces

United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe

Eaker, Ira, 1896-1987. Papers of Ira Eaker

Hopper, Bruce C. (Bruce Campbell), 1892-1973. Papers of Bruce C. Hopper

#### **Subjects:**

Operation Overlord Operation Torch

World War, 1939-1945--Aerial operations

World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--Africa, North World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--France--Normandy

#### **Occupations:**

Air Force officers Army officers

### **Administrative Information**

#### **Provenance:**

The papers of Carl Spaatz, army and air force officer and first chief of staff of the United States Air Force, were given to the Library of Congress by Spaatz and the air force. Part I of the collection was given to the Library in 1948. Part II was given by the Air Force Office of Public Affairs in 1981 and by Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C., in 1988.

#### **Processing History:**

Part I of the papers of Carl Spaatz was arranged and described in 1968. Additional material received in 1981 and 1988 was processed as Part II in 1998. Part I of the Carl Spaatz Papers is described in the Library of Congress *Quarterly Journal*, vol. 6, May 1949, pp. 23-54.

#### **Transfers:**

Some photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

#### **Copyright Status:**

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

#### **Security Classified Documents:**

Government regulations control the use of classified items in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified material.

#### **Preferred Citation:**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Roman numeral designating the Part followed by a colon and container number, Carl Spaatz Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

### **Biographical Note**

Date Event

1891, June 28 Born, Boyertown, Pa.

1914 B.S., United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.

Commissioned second lieutenant, United States Army

1915-1916 Student, Aviation School, San Diego, Calif.

1916 Assigned to First Aero Squadron, the aviation unit of General John J. Pershing's expedition in

Mexico

1917	Married Ruth Harrison
1917-1918	American Expeditionary Forces in France during World War I; commanding officer of American aviation training center at Issoudun; flew combat missions with the Thirteenth Aero Squadron, Second Pursuit Group
1920-1933	Command positions in the Army Air Forces
1925	Air Service Tactical School
1929	Commanded the "Question Mark" flight, crewed by Ira C. Eaker, Elwood R. Quesada, and Harry A Halverson, which set endurance records for completing over 150 hours of continuous flight by refueling in mid-air
1933-1935	Chief, Training and Operations Division, Office of the Chief of Air Corps
1936	Command and General Staff School
1940	Chief, Plans Division, Army Air Force Headquarters Chief, Materiel Division, Army Air Force Headquarters Assistant Military Attaché (Air) in London, England, as official observer during the Battle of Britain
1941	Chief of Air Staff
1942	Commander, Air Force Combat Command Commander, Eighth Air Force Commander, Air Force, North African Theater of Operations, United States Army
1943	Commander, Northwest African Air Force, Italy
1944	Commander in chief, Strategic Air Forces, Europe
1945	Commander in chief, Strategic Air Forces, Japan
1946	Commanding general, Army Air Forces
1947	First chief of staff, United States Air Force
1948	Retired from the United States Air Force
1948-1961	Military affairs columnist, Newsweek
1974, July 14	Died, Washington, D.C.

# **Scope and Content Note**

#### Part I

Part I of the papers of Carl Andrew Spaatz (1891-1974) covers the years 1910-1953, with most of the material dated between 1942 and 1948. The material consists chiefly of correspondence, cables, and reports along with diaries, research notes, typescripts of articles and speeches by Spaatz, material collected by him for reference use, flight records, Spaatz's 201 (personnel) file, and assorted memorabilia. The papers in Part I are organized in nine series as <u>Diary and Notebooks</u>;

<u>Cables</u>; <u>Subject File</u>; <u>Chief of Staff File</u>; <u>Speech, Article, and Book File</u>; <u>Miscellany</u>; <u>United States Strategic Air Forces File</u>; <u>Eighth Air Force File</u>; and <u>Classified</u>.

Papers in Part I prior to 1941 consist primarily of the "diary," Spaatz's term for an assemblage of documents with added commentary. Though devoid of biographical data, Spaatz's diary became a repository during the war years for personal and official correspondence. Diary entries are interspersed with the correspondence. It appears that Spaatz began dictating diary entries in order to record decisions made at conferences, observations made during field inspections, reflections on operational problems, and comments on the course of the air war in general. After Spaatz's appointment in 1946 as commanding general of the Army Air Forces, responsibility for the maintenance of his papers shifted from his personal aide to an administrative assistant in his office. The effect of this change was that only a skeletal diary for subsequent years was maintained.

The voluminous material deemed neither personal nor significant enough for inclusion in the war diary comprises most of the remainder of Part I of the collection. Among these papers is a series of redline <u>cables</u>, redline being the circuit set up to provide private, high-level communication among senior Army Air Force officers in Europe and in the Mediterranean. The <u>Subject File</u> comprises the largest series, consisting of special reports, surveys, charts, and other items arranged by subject. Much of the material duplicates records in the Air Force Archives at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. Some material in the Subject File overlaps or complements material in other files. Cross references have been included in this finding aid to illustrate relationships between different files.

Spaatz's tenure as commanding general, Army Air Forces, and chief of staff of the United States Air Force is well documented in the <u>Chief of Staff File</u>. This series of Spaatz's papers constitutes what is, in effect, the working office files of the Air Force Chief of Staff.

Speeches and articles written by Spaatz from 1946 to 1948 are included in the Speech, Article and Book File, usually in typescript form. Prior to 1946, Spaatz's speeches and articles are included in the diary. Among these works are pamphlets written in the 1920s on pursuit aviation. Between 1946 and 1948, Spaatz's speeches and articles were maintained in three notebooks. The remainder of the series consists of drafts, outlines and research notes for the Spaatz report, a book-length work entitled *Air Power in Peace and War*, and a copy of the "Coffin report" entitled *The Contribution of Air Power to the Defeat of Germany*.

A small <u>Miscellany</u> series completes the personal papers in Part I. Among the papers in this file are financial records, Spaatz's 201 or personnel file, correspondence and reports, incomplete diaries, papers relating to Air Force officers such as Hugh J. Knerr, C. J. Moore, and Nathan Twining, and printed matter inscribed to Spaatz.

The collection also contains a sizeable body of documents of the <u>United States Strategic Air Forces</u> (USSTAF). The bulk of this material consists of papers of Bruce C. Hopper and the USSTAF Historical Section. When he learned of Spaatz's intention to place his papers in the Library of Congress, Hopper volunteered to turn his own files over to the Library. The Historical Section files include a section journal, the historian's journal, correspondence, historical studies, histories of various Army Air Force organizations, research material, and correspondence and studies by the USSTAF's German historians' project headed by Herhudt Von Rhoden.

Another group of papers in the collection includes correspondence files of Ira C. Eaker which have been placed in the Eighth Air Force File. They consist for the most part of Eaker's correspondence as commanding general of the Eighth Air Force and a substantial number of reports either to or from Eaker. This file was compiled by the Historical Section of USSTAF when a history of the Eighth Air Force was contemplated. There is also a separate collection of Ira C. Eaker's papers in the Manuscript Division.

Prominent correspondents in Part I include Henry H. Arnold, Omar P. Bradley, Jacqueline Cochran, Ira C. Eaker, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Hugh J. Knerr, Frank P. Lahm, Curtis E. LeMay, Robert A. Lovett, Ted Mack, George C. Marshall, William Mitchell, Robert P. Patterson, Alexander P. Seversky, John W. Snyder, Henry L. Stimson, Nathan F. Twining, Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Jack Warner, and Thomas D. White.

#### Part II

Part II of the Spaatz Papers ranges from 1915 to 1981 but most of the material is dated 1948-1963 and concerns Spaatz's activities after his retirement from the Air Force in 1948. Part II is organized in two series: Retirement File and Miscellany. Spaatz retired from active duty in order to be able to advocate his views on the development of air power. The Retirement File documents his affiliation with military and civic organizations, his consultancies and task force commissions, writing projects and speaking engagements, associates and friends, and business, social, and sporting interests.

The <u>Miscellany</u> series includes family and biographical material, a few World War II documents, and a file of writings and speeches which parallels material in the <u>Speech, Articles, and Book File</u> in Part I of the collection. Noteworthy among the World War II documents are plans for two principal operations, "Torch" in North Africa (1942) and "Overlord" in Normandy (1944).

Prominent correspondents in Part II include Frederick L. Anderson, Eleanor Pool Arnold (Mrs. Henry H. Arnold), Leo Cherne, Ira C. Eaker, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Curtis E. LeMay, Richard M. Nixon, Elwood R. Quesada, Stuart Symington, and Harry S. Truman.

### **Organization of the Papers**

The collection is arranged in two parts composed of eleven series:

• Part I

Diary and Notebooks, 1910-1953

Cables, 1943-1945

Subject File, 1929-1945

Chief of Staff File, 1946-1948

Speech, Article, and Book File, 1946-1948

Miscellany, 1915-1948

United States Strategic Air Forces File, 1942-1946

Eighth Air Force File, 1942-1945

Classified, 1942-1948

• Part II

Retirement File, 1928-1963, n.d.

Miscellany, 1915-1981, n.d.

### **Description of Series**

Container Series BOX I:1-31 Part I: Diary and Notebooks, 1910-1953 Diary, 1915-1953, consisting of correspondence, reports, invitations, copies of speeches and articles, diary entries, and printed matter, with an index, 1942-1945, and notebooks, 1910-1940. Most files are arranged chronologically. Part I: Cables, 1943-1945 BOX I:32-46 Redline cables, incoming and outgoing. Arranged in a chronological file and an alphabetical file by name of correspondent. BOX I:47-241 Part I: Subject File, 1929-1945 Reports, charts, surveys, graphs, maps, interviews, cables, and correspondence. Arranged alphabetically by subject. BOX I:242-267 Part I: Chief of Staff File, 1946-1948 Office file consisting of desk calendars, mail lists, telephone memoranda, correspondence, reports, invitations, and visitor records; general correspondence; and a subject file. General correspondence is arranged chronologically. The subject file is arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically thereunder. BOX I:268-274 Part I: Speech, Article, and Book File, 1946-1948 Typescripts, reading copies, and drafts of speeches; drafts of articles; interviews; research notes, outlines, and book drafts. Speeches, arranged chronologically, are followed by articles, interviews, and book material which are arranged alphabetically by title of the work. BOX I:275-283 Part I: Miscellany, 1915-1948 A 201 (personnel) file, financial papers, fragmentary diaries, papers of other Air Force officers, fragmentary correspondence and reports, and printed matter. BOX I:284-321 Part I: United States Strategic Air Forces File, 1942-1946 Correspondence, reports, journals, studies, research notes, news releases, personnel records, memoranda, and directives. Arranged alphabetically by name of organization. BOX I:322-329 Part I: Eighth Air Force File, 1942-1945 Correspondence, reports, journals, and printed matter. Correspondence files are arranged chronologically. Other files are arranged alphabetically by subject or document type. BOX I:CL 1 Part I: Classified, 1942-1948 Material containing security classified information. Organized and described according to the series and container from which the items were removed. BOX II:1-15 Part II: Retirement File, 1928-1963, n.d. Correspondence, memoranda, reports and studies, newsletters, minutes of meetings, programs, writings, speeches, statements, notes and research material, photographs, charts, maps, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by subject, title, or the name of an individual or an organization.

Correspondence, memoranda, reports, transcripts, maps, photographs, writing and speech

Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material.

Part II: Miscellany, 1915-1981, n.d.

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## **Appendix: Commonly Used Abbreviations in the Collection**

For a more comprehensive list and explanations of abbreviations used in the collection, see <u>Container I:47</u>, <u>Abbreviations</u>, <u>definitions</u>, <u>and codes</u>

**Abbreviation Definition** 

General

AAF Army Air Forces

AEAF Allied Expeditionary Air Force
AWPD Air War Plans Department
CBO Combined Bomber Offensive

COSSAC Chief of Staff, Supreme Allied Commander

ETOUSA European Theater of Operations, United States Army

GAF German Air Force

JOPC Joint Operational Planning Committee
MAAF Mediterranean Allied Air Forces
NAAF Northwest African Air Forces

NACA National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics

RAF Royal Air Force

SHAEF Supreme headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces

UK United Kingdom

USSBS United States Strategic Bombing Survey
USSTAF (E) United States Strategic Air Forces (in Europe)

Aircraft types

German

Do Dornier
FW Focke-Wulf
He Heikel
Ju Junker

Me Messerschmitt

American

A Assault or attack

B Bomber

C Cargo or carrier

 $\begin{array}{ccc} P & & Pursuit \\ X & & Experimental \end{array}$