

John J. Rose Papers

MS – 178

Wright State University  
Department of Special Collections and Archives

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## Introduction

The John J. Rose Collection was received from his estate in the fall of 1985. The collection contains material that dates from 1914 to a few years before his death in 1983. Included in the collection are blueprints, patents, working notes, photographs, and patents of his various inventions. There are also materials that concern his family life, his involvement with his church, and his religious thought and his personal interests. There are no restrictions on this collection. The linear footage of shelf space occupied is approximately 3 ½ feet.

### Biographical Sketch

John J. Rose was born in 1892, of Dutch parents. He completed school through the eighth grade. He served in World War I, training personnel in maintenance and operation of aviation engines, at the U.S. School of Military Aeronautics at Princeton University. He was associated with aviation propulsion systems in the Air Force from 1917 until his retirement in 1962. Joining the Air Force at McCook's Experimental Test Center as a Technician in the Power Plant Laboratory in 1919, he worked on aviation engine developments, leading to a total of 17 patents on his own inventions. He was awarded the Exceptional Citation, the highest Civil Service Award, in 1945, for his contributions to better aviation engines. He also received many other awards, one of which was the \$2,000 Special Act Award for making the rapid relight of flameouts in gas turbine engines possible. On his retirement in 1962, he held the post of Engineering Technician – ASNPPF, Propulsion Equipment Branch in the Flight Vehicle division under the Directorate of Operational Support Engineering. He died in 1988.

## Scope and Content

The John J. Rose papers fall into two main categories: personal interests and work related subjects. The files cover the period of time between 1914 until a few years before his death in 1988. The personal series include his family history, biographic materials, his correspondence related to his religious interests, various newspaper articles and the outline for his book. The larger part of the collection is devoted to the series on his work. These files detail his accomplishments in the field of aviation. They contain work related correspondence from 1914 to 1962. They contain work agreements and assignments from 1928 until 1965. These files also contain detailed notes, photographs and reports on the various projects that Rose was involved in from 1927 through 1959.

## Container Listing

### **Series I: Personal**

#### **Sub-series A: Biography**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Biography and Family History	1918-1988
	2	Biographical Photographs	
	3	Awards: Organizations and Special Awards	
	4	Newspaper Articles	

#### **Sub-series B: Interests**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	5	Personal Correspondence	
	6	Tornado Attacks and other Inventions	
	7	Personal Religious Thoughts	
	8	Western Theological Seminary	
	9	South Park United Methodist Church	

#### **Sub-series C: Book**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	10	Various Outlines for Future Book	

### **Series II: Work**

#### **Sub-series A: Projects**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	11	McCook Field Reports	1927-1956
	12	Ignition Distributor Improvement	1940
	13	Engine Analyzer	1946
	14	Interrupter Igniter Plug	1950
	15	High Tension Ignition Harness for R 4360-41 Engines	1947-1951
	16	High Tension Ignition Harness for R 4360-41 Engines	1952-1961
	17	Ultra Violet Radiation Detector	1952
	18	Moisture Elimination in B-50 Magnetos	1954
	19	Ignition Improvements for R-3300 Engines	1954
	20	Boeing Ignition Tests	1954
	21	Flight Tests High Altitude Ignition	1952
	22	Torch Ignition Studies	1956
	23	Rapid Relight J-57 Project	1959
	24	Continuous Ignition	1961
	25	Various Projects Blueprints & Photographs	

**Sub-series B: Patents**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
3	26	Assignments & Agreements	1923-1939
	27	Assignments & Agreements	1940-1942
	28	Assignments & Agreements	1943-1947
	29	Assignments & Agreements	1948-1955
	30	Assignments & Agreements	1956-1960
	31	Assignments & Agreements	1961-1973
	32	Radial Engine Compensation	

**Sub-series C: Work Related Documents**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	33	Miscellaneous Correspondence Reports Technical Photograph Bulletins Memoranda Diagrams Charts	1914-1941
	34	Miscellaneous	1942
	35	Miscellaneous	1943-1952
	36	Miscellaneous	1953-1966
	37	Letters of Patent	1932-1942
	38	Letters of Patent	1943-1946

**Series III: Miscellaneous Items**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	39	Pamphlets & Appointment Book	
	40	Audio Tapes of John Rose	