

MARION CODDINGTON BROMLEY COLLECTION

MS-002

International Women's Air and Space Museum
Burke Lakefront Airport
1501 North Marginal Road, Cleveland, OH 44114

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August 1994

INTRODUCTION

The Marion Coddington Bromley Collection was accessioned into IWASM on July 28, 1994. The material was donated by Marion Bromley and is dated from 1931 to 1985. The material fills one Hollinger box and is organized as follows:

1. Pilot Log Books
2. Small Page Scrapbook
3. Large Page Scrapbook
4. Miscellaneous

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Marion Collington Bromley was born in 1912. Her first flight, in a WACO airplane, took place at Robbins Air Service, Akron, Ohio on October 12, 1930 and lasted three minutes. After a second flight on July 25, 1931 that lasted fifteen minutes, she was determined to learn to fly. Like many student pilots during the Depression, she worked hard to save enough from her \$22-23 a week typing job to pay for lessons, fifteen minutes at a time at \$25 per hour. She received instruction from Frankie Renner, soloed on January 9, 1932 after six and one-half hours of dual time, and earned her Private Pilots license on October 11, 1932.

Marion flew for enjoyment, was active with other Akron area pilots, flew in the All-Ohio Air Tour and the Dawn Patrol, and was a member of the Squadron of Death and Women With Wings organizations. She attained a Limited Commercial Certificate on July 19, 1939, but used it only to take a few passengers around the airport. The last entry in her log book, marking the end of her flying "career", is dated December 7, 1941.

During World War II Marion worked for a religious pacifist organization, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, in New York, and in 1948 attended the organizing conference of Peacemakers, a group dedicated to nonviolence, with her husband Ernest Bromley. They returned to Ohio and settled in Cincinnati.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This is a small collection of papers from Marion Bromley's aviation days. The pilot log books start with her first solo flight; the record of time before solo was kept at the hanger and lost in a fire that destroyed the Robbins Flying Service. The collection consists primarily of newspaper clippings that were pasted in the two scrapbooks. Most of these are dated 1931 to 1938 and have been copied. The subjects are aviation related and include local Akron pilots, the Squadron of Death, and the Women With Wings organization. There is one black and white photograph of the Squadron of Death and one of a Women With Wings outing.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Box 1	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Folder 1	Pilot Log Books: two books	1932-1941
Folder 2	Small Page Scrapbook: newspaper articles	1931-1932
Folder 3	Large Page Scrapbook: newspaper articles	1931-1938
Folder 4	Miscellaneous: photos, letters, articles	1931-1985