

# LIBERTY AVIATION MUSEUM



Robert W. Gilmer Collection

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## **Introduction**

This collection was given to the Liberty Aviation Museum from Mrs. Denice Walker of Laura, Ohio in June 2016. This paper collection was purchased by her husband at an auction near Dayton, Ohio in ca. 2007-2008. Permission to use this collection for research purposes was granted by the donors.

## **Biographical Sketch**

This collection features archives from Richard W. Gilmer. Mr. Gilmer served in the United States Army Air Forces in World War II from 1941-1945. He was born 18 February 1917 in Lewisburg, Ohio to the late Claude and Helen (Coy) Gilmer. He graduated from the Lewisburg Union High School in 1935. Before the war, he worked as a general farm hand. He enlisted in the US Army on 8 March 1941 at Fort Thomas in Newport, Kentucky. While in the Army, he attended the University of Susquehanna in Selinsgrove, PA. as an Aviation Cadet. After training, his wartime service, in part, was in the the Pacific Theater in New Guinea and the Philippines. He received an Associate Degree from Sinclair College.

After the war, he returned home to his birthplace of Lewisburg, Ohio. In 1946, he went to work for the Chrysler Corporation-Airtemp Division in Dayton, Ohio as a Product Development Supervisor in the Engineering Department. He retired in 1976 from Chrysler after thirty (30) years of service. Mr. Gilmer was politically active in his community, he served on the village council of Lewisburg from 1965-1967 and as the Mayor of Lewisburg from 1980-1984. He also sat on the board of trustees for the Brown Memorial Library and served on the Lewisburg Board of Education. He was a freemason, a member of the Lewisburg United Methodist Church, the Army Airways Communication System, the Air Force Museum in Dayton and many other organizations. Richard W. Gilmer died at the age of eighty-seven (87) on 8 October 2004 near Brookville, Ohio and is buried in Roselawn Cemetery in Lewisburg.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection includes various documents, i.e. World War II, USAAF training manuals, a pilot rating book, wartime newsletter, handwritten training notes, aviation cadet personal portfolios, flying regulations manual, weather map symbol chart and ecetera. The entirety of the collection was acquired during his training and active service in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II. The collection has been categorized and organized into three folders and to be stored in an archival document box.

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## **Inventory**

### **Box 1**

#### **Folder 1**

Two aviation cadet military subjects portfolios  
One aviation mathematics workbook  
One USAAF flying regulations guidebook  
One loose-leaf set of handwritten aviation training notes

#### **Folder 2**

One USAAF student's weather training workbook  
One USAAF student's Physics training workbook  
One Civil Aeronautics Admin. "Fundamentals of Elementary Flight Maneuvers"  
Training Bulletin No. 32  
One (Special Edition) "Instrument Flying" training manual

#### **Folder 3**

One ca. 1943, C.A.A. "Pilot Rating Book" of Richard W. Gilmer  
One ca. 1940s "Flying Map Symbol Chart"  
One typed transcript of a WWII Japanese pilot's war diary, Jan-Apr. 1944.  
One 68<sup>th</sup> AACCS ("Army Airways Communication System" unit), APO 565,  
newsletter, dated June 20, 1945  
One sheet of "Maxwell Field, Alabama" stationery w/ [undefined] handwritten  
text.

\* Objects in relation to the Richard W. Gilmer Collection, Accession 2016.36,  
can be viewed upon request, on site, at the **Liberty Aviation Museum** in Port Clinton,  
Ohio. \*

