



Guide to the
Daily Flight Logs, 1949-1950
AFS7910.01

NASA Ames History Office
NASA Ames Research Center

Contact Information:

NASA Ames Research Center
NASA Ames History Office
Mail-Stop 207-1
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000
Phone: (650) 604-1032
Email: ARC-DL-history@mail.nasa.gov
URL: <http://history.arc.nasa.gov/>

Collection processed and guide prepared by:
April Gage, November 2005

Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary	3
Administrative Information	3
Custodial History	4
Administrative History	4
Indexing Terms	5
Scope and Content	5
Container List	6

Descriptive Summary

Title:

Daily Flight Logs, 1949-1950

Collection Number:

AFS7910.01

Creator:

United States. National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. Ames Aeronautical Laboratory. Flight Operations.

Dates:

Inclusive: 1949-1950

Extent:

Volume: .35 cubic feet

Repository:

NASA Ames History Office
Moffett Field, California 94035

Administrative Information

Access:

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights:

Copyright does not apply to United States government records. For non-governmental material, researcher must contact the original creator.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of item], Daily Flight Log, 1949-1950, [Container number]: [Folder number], NASA Ames History Office, NASA Ames Research Center

Acquisition Information:

Transferred by Mike Landis in August 2004.

Custodial History

When the Flight Operations group decided to dispose of their paper-based flight logs, Michael R. Landis, a long-time employee of NASA Ames, acquired the 1949 and 1950 daily flight logs. The two logs remained in Mr. Landis's personal possession until 2004, when he transferred them to the NASA Ames History Office.

Administrative History

The administrative history of these records was conveyed by Mr. Landis, with comments by Warren Hall and corrections from the written materials noted.

Daily records of flight activity of the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), which took place at what is now Moffett Field, California, were recorded by the committee's Flight Operations Group. When the National Aeronautics and Space Act became law in July 29, 1958, the NACA was incorporated into NASA and the group came under the purview of the NASA Ames Research Center (Hartman, 1970). The group was initially located in Building N210, which, in addition to being one of the first buildings, was one of the first hangars erected by the NACA. Later, Flight Operations moved to another hangar, Building N211, which is still in use today.

The Flight Operations Group used these daily logs to record such information as tests performed (e.g., "Remote control of SB2C-5," "body drop" or "Calibration of N.A.A. swivel head & ck. Of transducers") and round-trip flights between Moffett Field and locations such as the High Speed Flight Research Station at Muroc, California (now Dryden Flight Research Center), Sacramento, and various Air Force bases. Although most of the flights appear to have been for testing, pilot training exercises and passenger transport, some were for equipment transfer. Pilots, co-pilots, and flight mechanics are indicated, but only by last name (e.g., there are multiple listings for a "Cooper" who was, presumably, George E. Cooper, a test pilot at the time these logs were created). Other information recorded in the logs includes passengers by last name, including an entry for a "Hemingway."

Flight Operations organized daily flight logs by calendar year until the 1970s, when the group began to keep them by fiscal year. During the 1960s, Flight Operations initiated the process of maintaining flight log records on computers, while retaining the traditional practice of keeping track of flights using pen and paper. Although the computer records included details similar to those in the paper records, such as the crew, type of aircraft, and purpose of the flight, they contained more information than the traditional, paper-based logs. Unlike the early logs, details in the computer records were encoded, requiring the use of a key to decipher their meaning, making the contents less accessible than the physical books. However, the computerized logs contained much more data, such as pilot qualifications (e.g., experience flying a given aircraft, date of last flight, date of last physical), which helped dispatchers readily determine whether a pilot was eligible to fly. Flight Operations kept paper-based daily flight logs until 1985, after which only computer records were kept.

In addition to the logs maintained by Flight Operations such as those in this collection, pilots kept personal flight logs.

Indexing Terms

The following terms may be used to index this collection.

Corporate Names

Ames Aeronautical Laboratory (U.S.)
United States. National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.
Ames Research Center.

Subject Terms

Logbooks
Airplanes Testing
Airplanes Piloting

Geographic Name

Moffett Field (Calif.)

Scope and Content

Daily Flight Logs, 1949 - 1950 (.35 cubic feet) is composed of flight logs kept by the Flight Operations group of the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory of the **National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA)**. These records were kept on a daily basis for the years 1949 and 1950 and were originally contained in two separate binders, one for each year's logs. This collection is divided into two series, which are arranged by date.

Information is recorded in the logs by hand and includes details such as the type of airplane flown; test performed; names of pilot, co-pilot and passengers (if any); and takeoff and landing times.

Container List

SERIES I: Daily Flight Log, 1949

Box	Folder	Folder Title
1	1	Image of the 1949 Binder
	2	January
	3	February
	4	March
	5	April
	6	May
	7	June
	8	July
	9	August
	10	September
	11	October
	12	November
	13	December

SERIES II: Daily Flight Log, 1950

14	Image of the 1950 Binder
15	January
16	February
17	March
18	April
19	May
20	June
21	July
22	August
23	September
24	October
25	November
26	December

End of the Daily Flight Logs, 1949-1950 Guide