



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

## **Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Boeing, William E.**

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 08:29:02

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

In 1919 and into 1920 Boeing rebuilt 50 Army DH-4 planes. When completed Ed Hubbard tested the B-1 flying boat at Lake Union, then in 1920 purchased it to start a mail service between Seattle and Vancouver.

Hubbard made a distinct success of this venture, then in 1926 he and Boeing executive Claire Egfredt proposed that Boeing enter a bid for the Chicago-to-San Francisco air mail route. Boeing approved of this idea and was awarded the contract. He then formed Boeing Air Transport on July 1st, 1927 to carry on the service and prepared to build the necessary planes for the operation. The route prospered, additional lines were added and they started carrying passengers.

In 1929, Boeing and Fredric Rentschler of Pratt and Whitney formed the United Aircraft and Transport Corporation, to become the largest and strongest power in American aviation. The new combine included the Boeing Airplane Company, the Boeing Air Transport, Pratt and Whitney Corporation and many other American and Canadian aviation firms. Boeing became Chairman of the new corporation and Rentschler was President.

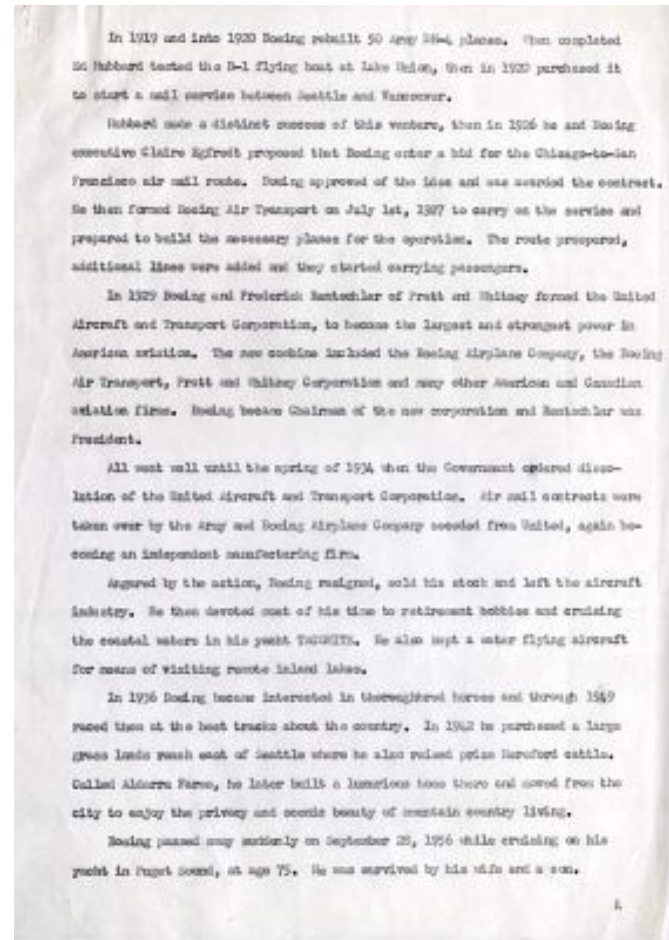
All went well until the spring of 1934 when the Government ordered dissolution of the United Aircraft and Transport Corporation. Air mail contracts were taken over by the Army and Boeing Airplane Company seceded from United, again becoming an independent manufacturing firm.

Angered by the action, Boeing resigned, sold his stock and left the aircraft industry. He then devoted most of his time to retirement hobbies and cruising the coastal waters in his yacht TACONITE. He also kept a water flying aircraft for means of visiting remote island lakes.

In 1936 Boeing became interested in thoroughbred horses and through 1949 raced them at the best tracks in the country. In 1942 he purchased a large grass lands ranch east of Seattle where he also raised prize Hereford cattle. Called Aldarra Farms, he later built a luxurious home there and moved from the city to enjoy the privacy and scenic beauty of mountain country living.

Boeing passed away suddenly on September 28, 1956 while cruising on his yacht in Puget Sound, at age 75. He was survived by his wife and a son.

4



Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Boeing, William E.  
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers  
Extracted Apr-19-2024 08:29:02



## Smithsonian Institution

*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)