



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Diehl, William C.

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 06:16:10

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), 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

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.

During 1919 Diehl was also engaged to do some flying for Pathe' News, carrying wing walker and stunt man, Morton St. Clair. They took off from Teter-boro in the Avro and were to fly around the Battery and up the East River under the Brooklyn and Williamsburg Bridges with St. Clair doing his stunts for the cameraman. While flying under the bridges the LeRhone started to rapidly lose power. Sensing real trouble Diehl headed for Teterboro the quickest and short-est way possible - up 42nd Street and across Manhattan, with St. Clair standing on the top wing waving to people in the skyscrapers. His judgement was good for he landed safely at Teterboro before the engine quit. On September 8th Diehl had the pleasure of a most noteworthy assignment for the New York Aerial Police when the City of New York welcomed the triumphal return of General John J. Pershing from overseas. Diehl was engaged to fly over the line of vessels as they came up the harbor, where he put on a great show, looping and rolling in honor of our returning hero.

Diehl continued to barnstorm well into the 1920's and made friends with many renowned figures in the aviation fraternity, including Frank Hawks and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schirra, air pioneers themselves who are better known today as the parents of astronaut Walter Schirra, Jr. In 1927 Diehl became an engine flight test pilot for the Wright Aeronautical Corporation of Paterson, New Jersey, fly-ing their test planes at Teterboro Airport. He was with them about three years contributing much to the first air testing of the celebrated Wright J-5 Cyclone, ~~and~~ Whirlwind series engines, all of which went on to establish such a long and excellent reputation in the aviation industry.

Diehl continued flying until 1945 at which time he still held a valid second class pilot license. During his flying career Diehl taught several who became airline pilots. After retiring from flying he devoted considerable time to the study of mufflers to reduce the noise of planes over cities, and also developed and patented several useful devices for household and industrial plumbing. William Diehl died in 1974.

3.

During 1919 Diehl was also engaged to do some flying for Pathe' News, carrying wing walker and stunt man, Morton St. Clair. They took off from Teter-boro in the Avro and were to fly around the Battery and up the East River under the Brooklyn and Williamsburg Bridges with St. Clair doing his stunts for the cameraman. While flying under the bridges the LeRhone started to rapidly lose power. Sensing real trouble Diehl headed for Teterboro the quickest and short-est way possible - up 42nd Street and across Manhattan, with St. Clair standing on the top wing waving to people in the skyscrapers. His judgement was good for he landed safely at Teterboro before the engine quit. On September 8th Diehl had the pleasure of a most noteworthy assignment for the New York Aerial Police when the City of New York welcomed the triumphal return of General John J. Pershing from overseas. Diehl was engaged to fly over the line of vessels as they came up the harbor, where he put on a great show, looping and rolling in honor of our returning hero.

Diehl continued to barnstorm well into the 1920's and made friends with many renowned figures in the aviation fraternity, including Frank Hawks and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schirra, air pioneers themselves who are better known today as the parents of astronaut Walter Schirra, Jr. In 1927 Diehl became an engine flight test pilot for the Wright Aeronautical Corporation of Paterson, New Jersey, fly-ing their test planes at Teterboro Airport. He was with them about three years contributing much to the first air testing of the celebrated Wright J-5 Cyclone, ~~and~~ Whirlwind series engines, all of which went on to establish such a long and excellent reputation in the aviation industry.

Diehl continued flying until 1945 at which time he still held a valid second class pilot license. During his flying career Diehl taught several who became airline pilots. After retiring from flying he devoted considerable time to the study of mufflers to reduce the noise of planes over cities, and also developed and patented several useful devices for household and industrial plumbing. William Diehl died in 1974.

3.

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Diehl, William C.
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Mar-28-2024 06:16:10



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

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

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