



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

## **Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Heth, Eugene B.**

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 01:13:53

**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.

where his parents again visited him to witness his flying. He then went on to Iowa and made flights at several places during September. October 2nd and 3rd he flew at Durango, Colorado, then on October 16th and 17th at Pueblo. From there he exhibited at City Park in Denver October 30th through November 2nd. Following this Heth flew at Cheyenne, Wyoming, for three days. Over the winter months of 1914-1915, with William Berger as his manager, he flew exhibition engagements throughout the South with Howard Rinehart.

In early March, 1915, Heth and Berger left for Monterey, Mexico, where Berger had contracted to deliver some planes and supply pilots for Pancho Villa, the Mexican bandit. Heth, Reinhart and Farnum Fish were to do the flying. They started operations there that month using three Wright planes, two Model B's and one HS fuselage type. There Heth had many a hair-raising experience, being shot at in the air by both forces. He remained in Mexico for five weeks, then decided he had had enough of Berger's operations with Villa, and returned to the States for more enjoyable and less risky flying. He flew exhibitions at several places in Colorado, the Middle West, then returned to Birmingham, Michigan, for the winter. In May, 1916, he started another tour of the Middle West and was in Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa until late in September to end the season.

When the United States entered World War I in the spring of 1917, Heth responded to the call for aviators, becoming a senior civilian flying instructor on May 14th, and served at Rantoul, Park, and Ashbourne U. S. Army Flying Fields. He was released from government duty on December 18, 1918, being listed as "one of the very best" instructors in the service. After the war Heth did some barnstorming and made his last flight as a pilot in 1920 when he ferried a plane from Cotton Plant, Arkansas, to Memphis, Tennessee. All told, Heth spent about nine years in early exhibition flying, government instruction service and barnstorming. He was never licensed and never had a serious accident, a most remarkable pioneer flying record.

4

where his parents again visited him to witness his flying. He then went on to Iowa and made flights at several places during September. October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> he flew at Durango, Colorado, then on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at Pueblo. From there he exhibited at City Park in Denver October 30<sup>th</sup> through November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Following this Heth flew at Cheyenne, Wyoming, for three days. Over the winter months of 1914-1915, with William Berger as his manager, he flew exhibition engagements throughout the South with Howard Rinehart.

In early March, 1915, Heth and Berger left for Monterey, Mexico, where Berger had contracted to deliver some planes and supply pilots for Pancho Villa, the Mexican bandit. Heth, Reinhart and Farnum Fish were to do the flying. They started operations there that month using three Wright planes, two Model B's and one HS fuselage type. There Heth had many a hair-raising experience, being shot at in the air by both forces. He remained in Mexico for five weeks, then decided he had had enough of Berger's operations with Villa, and returned to the States for more enjoyable and less risky flying. He flew exhibitions at several places in Colorado, the Middle West, then returned to Birmingham, Michigan, for the winter. In May, 1916, he started another tour of the Middle West and was in Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa until late in September to end the season.

When the United States entered World War I in the spring of 1917, Heth responded to the call for aviators, becoming a senior civilian flying instructor on May 14<sup>th</sup>, and served at Rantoul, Park, and Ashbourne U. S. Army Flying Fields. He was released from government duty on December 18, 1918, being listed as "one of the very best" instructors in the service. After the war Heth did some barnstorming and made his last flight as a pilot in 1920 when he ferried a plane from Cotton Plant, Arkansas, to Memphis, Tennessee. All told, Heth spent about nine years in early exhibition flying, government instruction service and barnstorming. He was never licensed and never had a serious accident, a most remarkable pioneer flying record.

4

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Heth, Eugene B.  
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers  
Extracted Mar-28-2024 01:13:53



## 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)