



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Knabenshue, A. Roy

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 04:11:57

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.

with Glenn Martin through part of 1912 managing Martin, Blanche Scott and others.

When Roy left Glenn Martin he devoted full time to the compilation of the new airship. It was the largest dirigible made in the United States up until that time, being 50 feet long, 30 feet diameter and powered by a 40 H.P. Hansen engine driving two propellers. It had a long all-aluminum fuselage-like car underneath and an entirely new method of fore-and-aft control by placing movable surfaces both front and rear which were interconnected, and proved very effective.

In February, 1913 permission was obtained from the Pasadena city government to rent ten acres of land and erect a hangar. Roy and Brookins made the first flight with the new ship on May 3rd and were very pleased with the performance. Tests continued through May 20th and they planned to start their airline soon. Through the balance of the 1913 season several hundred passengers were carried and many special trips were made with groups that wanted to see specific places from the air. By the end of the year they had established an unprecedented record of safe airship passenger operations and eastern aviation leaders were interested.

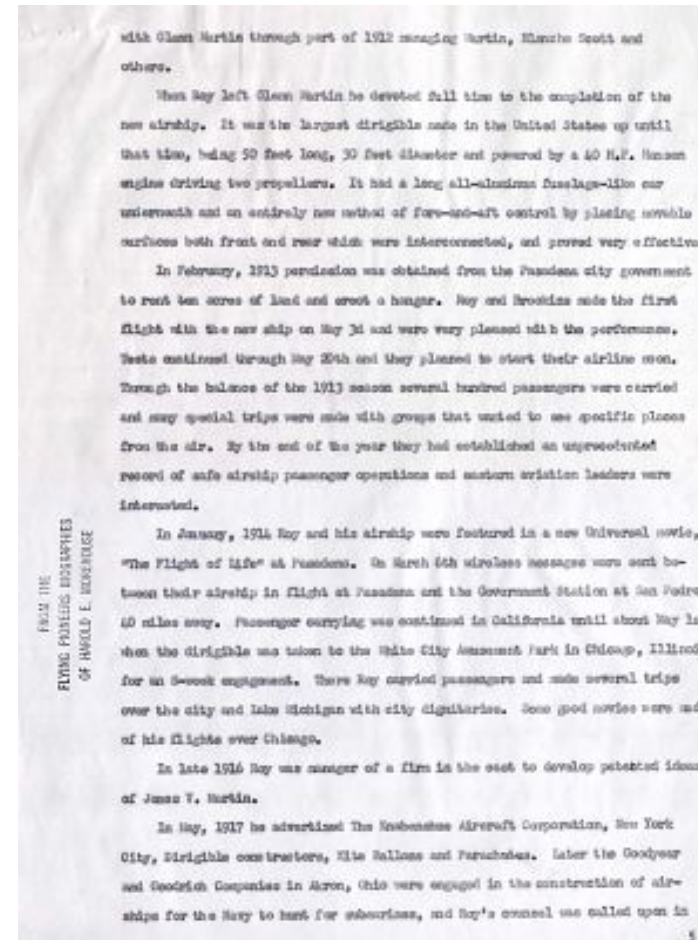
In January, 1914 Roy and his airship were featured in a new Universal movie, "The Flight of Life" at Pasadena. On March 6th wireless messages were sent between their airship in flight at Pasadena and the Government Station at San Pedro, 40 miles away. Passenger carrying was continued in California until about May 1st when the dirigible was taken to the White City Amusement Park in Chicago, Illinois for an 8-week engagement. There Roy carried passengers and made several trips over the city and Lake Michigan with the city dignitaries. Some good movies were made of his flights over Chicago.

[[left margin]] [[stamp]] FROM THE FLYING PIONEERS BIOGRAPHIES OF HAROLD E. MOREHOUSE [[/stamp]] [[/left margin]]

In late 1916 Roy was manager of a firm in the east to develop patented ideas of James V. Martin.

In May, 1917 he advertised The Knabenshue Aircraft Corporation, New York City, Dirigible constructors, Kite Ballons [[Balloons]] and Parachutes. Later the Goodyear and Goodrich Companies in Akron, Ohio were engaged in the construction of airships for the Navy to hunt for submarines, and Roy's counsel was called upon in

[[right margin]] 5 [[/right margin]]



Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Knabenshue, A. Roy
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-23-2024 04:11:57



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)