



Guide to the Nellis Air Force Base Photograph Collection

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Contributor:	Hinds, James R.
Contributor:	Minert, Kirk
Title:	Nellis Air Force Base Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00028
Date [inclusive]:	1926-1980
Physical Description:	0.2 Linear Feet (3 hanging folders, 1 shared box of negatives)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Nellis Air Force Base Photograph Collection contains photographs of Nellis Air Force Base and its predecessor, the Las Vegas Army Airfield, as well as photographs of Rockwell Field and McCarran Airport in Las Vegas, Nevada from 1926 to 1980. The materials contain photographs of military aircraft, hangars, buildings on the base, and aerial photographs of Las Vegas and the surrounding area. The materials also include photographs of the entrance of McCarran Airport, U.S. Senator Pat McCarran, and a mail plane arriving at Rockwell Fields in 1926.

Preferred Citation

Nellis Air Force Base Photograph Collection, 1926-1980. PH-00028. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Historical Background

The Las Vegas Army Airfield began official military operations in December 1941. It was renamed the Las Vegas Air Force Base in 1948, and finally named Nellis Air Force Base in 1950. The base is named after Lieutenant William Harrell Nellis, a native of Nevada and fighter pilot who died in 1944 during World War II while flying a mission in Luxembourg.

Sources:

"Lieutenant William Harrell Nellis," 99th Air Base Wing Public Affairs. July 12, 2012. <http://www.nellis.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=4095>

"Nellis Air Force Base," 99th Air Base Wing Public Affairs. October 28, 2014. <http://www.nellis.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=4096>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Nellis Air Force Base Photograph Collection contains photographs of Nellis Air Force Base and its predecessor, the Las Vegas Army Airfield, as well as photographs of Rockwell Field and McCarran Airport in Las Vegas, Nevada from 1926 to 1980. The materials contain photographs of military aircraft, hangars, buildings on the base, and aerial photographs of Las Vegas and the surrounding area. The materials also include photographs of the entrance of McCarran Airport, U.S. Senator Pat McCarran, and a mail plane arriving at Rockwell Field in 1926.

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Arrangement

Materials are roughly arranged by subject.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Some collection material has been digitized and is [available online](#).

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1974 by James Hinds, Nellis Air Force Base historian; accession number 1974-93. Materials were also donated in 1985 by Kirk Minert; accession number 1985-126.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections staff. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Lindsay Oden wrote the collection description in compliance with current professional standards.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

John R. Bruckman Photographs of Nellis Air Force Base, 1951-1954. PH-00215. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Robert B. Griffith Collection on Las Vegas Airfield, 1941. MS-00028. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Erle A. Taylor Collection on Aviation, 1955-1976. MS-00186. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- photographs
- Aviation
- Airplanes, Military
- Nellis Air Force Base (Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Site of the Las Vegas Army Airfield, Nevada, 1941 (0028_0001) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas Army Airfield under construction, 1941 October (0028_0002) (view online)	folder 01
Water tower construction, 1941 October (0028_0003) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas Army Airfield school after fire, 1941 October (0028_0004) (view online)	folder 01
Barracks, 1941 July (0028_0005) (view online)	folder 01
Construction workers, 1941 July 21 (0028_0006) (view online)	folder 01
B-29 Gunnery Trainer across from Las Vegas Boulevard, 1944 (0028_0007) (view online)	folder 01
Aerial view of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1942 October 15 (0028_0008) (view online)	folder 01
Insignia patch from the 3022nd Army Air Force Base Unit, 1942-1944 (0028_0009) (view online)	folder 01
F-51 Mustang plane crash, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, 1950 March 15 (0028_0010) (view online)	folder 01
Hangar and bombs, Nellis Air Force Base, 1950-1959 (0028_0011) (view online)	folder 01
Streets in Las Vegas, probably 3rd and B Street, 1954-1956 (0028_0012) (view online)	folder 01
Cafeteria, 1950-1959 (0028_0013) (view online)	folder 01
Hangar, 1950-1959 (0028_0014) (view online)	folder 01
Barracks, 1950-1959 (0028_0015) (view online)	folder 01
Warehouse, 1950-1959 (0028_0016) (view online)	folder 01
Warehouse interior, 1954-1956 (0028_0017) (view online)	folder 01
Old hospital, 1950-1959 (0028_0018) (view online)	

	folder 01
Barracks interior, 1950-1959 (0028_0019) (view online)	folder 01
Hangar interior, 1950-1959 (0028_0020) (view online)	folder 01
Hangar, 1950-1959 (0028_0021) (view online)	folder 01
Barracks, 1950-1959 (0028_0022) (view online)	folder 01
F-100 fighter aircraft in flight over Nellis Air Force Base, 1954 October (0028_0023) (view online)	folder 01
First mail plane in Las Vegas, Rockwell Field, 1926 April 17 (0028_0024) (view online)	folder 01
McCarran Airport	
Vintage airplanes at Las Vegas Airport, undated (0028_0025) (view online)	folder 01
Pat McCarran at McCarran Airport, 1941 (0028_0026) (view online)	folder 02
Airstrip at McCarran International Airport, undated (0028_0027) (view online)	folder 02
McCarran Field entrance sign, undated (0028_0028) (view online)	folder 02
Letter from R. B. Griffith to Major Schlatter, page 1, 1941 October 05 (0029)	folder 02
Letter from R. B. Griffith to Major Schlatter, page 2, 1941 October 05 (0030)	folder 02
Letter from R. B. Griffith to Major Schlatter, page 3, 1941 October 05 (0031)	folder 02
City commissioners and a commander, Las Vegas, 1941 (0028_0032) (view online)	folder 02
Negative: aerial view of Nellis Air Force Base, 1941 (0028_0033) (view online)	box SH-018
Nellis Air Force Base Library, 1977 (0028_0034) (view online)	folder 02
Aircraft	
F-84 fighter jet at Nellis Air Force Base, 1950-1952 (0028_0035) (view online)	folder 02
F-84 fighter-bomber aircraft at Nellis Air Force Base, 1950-1952 (0028_0036) (view online)	folder 02

F-86 fighter aircraft at Nellis Air Force Base near Indian Springs, Nevada, 1954-1956 (0028_0037) (view online)	folder 02
A-7D attack aircraft at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, 1972 (0028_0038) (view online)	folder 02
F-86 fighter aircraft, 1954-1956 (0028_0039) (view online)	folder 02
F-100 aircraft flying over Las Vegas, Nevada, 1957 (0040)	folder 02
F-100 fighter aircraft over Nellis Air Force Base, 1955-1956 (0028_0041) (view online)	folder 02
F-100 airplane over Nellis Air Force Base, 1955-1956 (0028_0042) (view online)	folder 02
F-86 fighter aircraft over Nellis Air Force Base, 1952 (0028_0043) (view online)	folder 02
Las Vegas Flexible Gunnery School	
Las Vegas Flexible Gunnery School, 1941-1945 (0028_0044) (view online)	folder 02
Boeing B-17 bomber aircraft in flight, Las Vegas Flexible Gunnery School, 1938-1944 (0028_0045) (view online)	folder 02
Las Vegas Flexible Gunnery School aircraft, 1941-1945 (0028_0046) (view online)	folder 02
Las Vegas Flexible Gunnery School planes in flight, 1944-1945 (0028_0047) (view online)	folder 02
T-6 trainer aircraft on land, Las Vegas Flexible Gunnery School, 1940-1944 (0028_0048) (view online)	folder 02
P-51D Mustang, Nellis Air Force Base, 3595th Pilot Training Wing, 1949-1952 (0028_0049) (view online)	folder 02
Aircraft Gunnery Squadron	
Aircraft at Nellis Air Force Base, 3595th Pilot Training Wing, 1950-1959 (0028_0050) (view online)	folder 02
F-86F in flight, Nellis Air Force Base, 3595th Pilot Training Wing, 1952-1959 (0028_0051) (view online)	folder 03
Lockheed T-33A trainer aircraft on land, 3595th Pilot Training Wing, 1950-1959 (0028_0052) (view online)	folder 03
F-100A fighter aircraft in flight, 3595th Pilot Training Wing, 1953-1959 (0028_0053) (view online)	folder 03
4520th Combat Crew Training Wing in flight, 1958 (0028_0054) (view online)	folder 03
4520th Combat Crew Training Wing, Kaman HH-43 firefighting/rescue helicopter in flight, 1958-1969 (0028_0055) (view online)	folder 03

Nellis Air Force Base tactical fighter aircraft in flight, 1969-1972 (0028_0056) (view online)	folder 03
Northrop T-38A trainer aircraft in flight, Nellis Air Force Base, 1973 (0028_0057) (view online)	folder 03
57th Fighter Weapons Wing, flying to MGM Grand Fire, 1980 November 21 (0028_0058) (view online)	folder 03
57th Fighter Weapons Wing, 1970-1979 (0028_0059) (view online)	folder 03
