

SMS 149  
9 December 2022  
Schreck, Christopher J.

**MCGRADY, J. LEROY**  
**1917-1968**  
**LINEAR FT.: .4**  
**APPROX. NO. PGS.: 125**  
**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

J. Leroy McGrady was an American fighter pilot stationed in France during World War I. He received a pilot's license from aviation pioneer Orville Wright in 1929, and he was a stunt pilot in the 1930s.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection consists of one box divided into six series, outlined in the *Arrangement and Description* section below. The highlight of this collection is a photo album that was assembled by McGrady documenting his experiences in France during World War I (Box 1, Folder 4).

**Names:** McGrady, J. Leroy

**Keywords and terms:** World War I; World War, 1914-1918; 196th Aero Squadron; Pilots; Curtiss-Wright Exhibition Corporation; American Expeditionary Forces; US Air Service; Ruins; Airplanes; Early Aircraft; Airfields; Air Depots; Issoudun, France; Reims, France; Chateauroux, France; 1910s

For information on how to cite the materials in this collection, see the Clark Special Collections Citation Guide at <https://usafa.libguides.com/spc>, or contact Clark Special Collections at (719) 333-4674.

**ARRANGEMENT AND DESCRIPTION**

**SERIES ONE: CORRESPONDENCE, 1929-1964**

**BOX 1**

Folder 1      McGrady Correspondence

                 From Curtiss-Wright Exhibition Corporation, 1929-1930 (3 letters)

                 From Flying Aces, 9 August 1933

                 From the Martin Company, 24 September 1959

                 From Gen. Yancey, 5 June 1961

                 To Russ Worthington, 17 July 1964

From Russ Worthington, no date

**SERIES TWO: PRINTED MATTER**

**BOX 1**

- Folder 2      Printed Matter
- Application form for membership to Aviation Pioneers OX 5 Club
- Recommendation form for OX 5 Club membership
- Two Air Show schedule of events
- Ticket to Air Show
- Curtiss-Wright schedule showing the cities to which it had air service

**SERIES THREE: NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, JUL 1930-OCT 1968**

**BOX 1**

- Folder 3      Articles and pictures of Mr. McGrady and WWI aviation days, and various other articles and pictures of Mr. McGrady and other aviators and aircraft after WWI

**SERIES FOUR: PHOTOGRAPHS**

**BOX 1**

- Folder 4      Photo Album, 1917-1918. Titled "John Leroy McGrady, Air Service, U.S.A. Amexforce, France." Most pictures are captioned, and depict early aircraft, airfields, air depots, French cities, building ruins, and members of the 196th Aero Squadron during World War I. Locations pictured include Chateauroux, Issoudun, and Reims, France.
- Folder 5      12" x 8" captioned photograph of Lt. J.L. McGrady, A.S., USA A.E.F., France, 1918
- 8" x 10" captioned photograph of Lt. J.L. McGrady
- Eight 3" x 5" photographs depicting early aircraft and the men who flew them, four captioned
- 8" x 10" composite-titled, Curtis-Wright Exhibition Corporation, 1930
- Four 8" x 10" photographs of various early aircraft and officers, two captioned
- 7" x 5" photograph of a group of people standing in front of a car and trailer marked Air Tours. Photograph is in a Folder marked, "Havana Cuba," and is autographed by several people
- 5" x 7" framed captioned photograph of Mr. McGrady, aged 70

3" x 5" uncaptioned photograph of Mr. McGrady

5" x 7" glass-framed photograph of Lt. McGrady in WWI uniform, (glass cracked)

8" x 10" captioned photograph of Mr. McGrady and others at a banquet

**SERIES FIVE: LEGAL AND MILITARY DOCUMENTS**

**BOX 1**

- Folder 6      Renewal notice for pilot's license, 16 April 1931
- Application for pilot's license to Department of Commerce, undated
- McGrady's pilot's log, Fifth Annual National Air Tour, 5-21 October 1929, with several autographs
- Registration card for military service, 5 June 1917
- Legal document where Mr. McGrady is one among several named as defendant, 30 November 1930
- Agreement between Curtiss-Wright Exhibition Corporation and Mr. McGrady, 23 January 1930
- Military orders and certificates addressed to Mr. McGrady, pertaining to his WWI service
- Folder 7      Licenses and Identification
- Various identification cards and pilot's licenses dated 1929-1930 belonging to Mr. McGrady, two of which are signed by Orville Wright
- John Leroy McGrady's Social Security Card