DESCRIPTION

This collection contains materials from three generations of families involved with events and activities in the Southwestern United States from the late 19th century until the 1990s. In addition to personal family history the contents portray the early history of aviation through Ralph Vaughan career from its early infancy with bi-planes to jet aircraft. An outstanding photograph section depicts family members on cabinet cards, tintypes, carte-de-visites, and snapshots. A significant portion of photographs shows early airplanes, commercial flying service activities, and modern aircraft and activities.

23 Boxes, 14 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Ruth L. Vaughan in 1990.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Dave Tackenberg in March 2005.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John L. Vaughan came from Scotland to Pennsylvania and learned the trade of weaving. He married Abbie G. Strouble in 1866 and the couple moved to Merkel, Texas in 1882 where he became a railroad station manager and telegraph operator for the Texas & Pacific Railroad. Abbie Vaughan also learned the telegraph trade to the point that she could send and receive messages and is given credit with saving two trains from collision when they mistakenly got on the same track. At the age of 19 their son, Henry Lathobe Vaughan became a night shift operator at the same railroad station with his father. In 1892 Henry moved to Mexico to work as a railroad station attendant with the Mexican Central Railroad. Ultimately his father relocated also to Mexico. In 1893 Henry married Sissie Garoute.
Both Vaughan families were forced to flee Mexico in 1912 as a result of the Mexican Revolution and both relocated to California. John L. Vaughan died in 1922 and Abbie Vaughan died in 1924. Henry L. Vaughan worked in California as a carpenter, managed a farm operation, owned a hardware store, worked with an oil company, and later with Singer Sewing Machine Company at Long Beach, CA. The Vaughan’s three sons enlisted in the First World War with Ralph and Edwin serving with aviation units.

Ralph G. Vaughan became a pilot and aviation instructor prior to his discharge in 1919. Upon being released from active duty he immediately joined the Army Air Corps Reserve. In 1920 Ralph opened an auto garage in Ontario, California and married Ruth E. Lewis. Shortly after these two events Vaughan managed to purchase an airplane and established a flying school and aviation business. While in Ontario Ralph taught Reserve Aviation Officers in 1925 and 1926, performed crop dusting, and invented a camera to take aerial photographs from his bi-plane. In 1929 he and Ruth moved to Globe, AZ and opened the Apache Airlines commuter service providing connections to Phoenix, AZ. The airlines closed as a result of the Depression and Vaughan maintained work by performing barnstorming events throughout the western states. In 1940 he was recalled to active duty with the Army Air Corps.

Assigned to Boeing Aircraft at Wichita, KS as the Army representative Vaughan worked on the development of the B-29 bomber for the war effort. After the war he was transferred to Fort Worth, TX to work on the next line of Air Force bombers, the B-36. Released from active duty again Vaughan returned to Tucson, AZ and opened a salvage business, buying surplus buildings from the government and salvaging construction materials. Called back to service for the Korean War, he worked with the Strategic Air Command revising maintenance procedures and helping to organize the Inspector Generals Department. He remained in the Air Force, assigned to Davis-Monthan AFB in Tucson until 1958 when he retired at the rank of Colonel. He died in 1989 at the age of ninety-one.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of materials from three related family groups from the late nineteenth century to the middle nineteen-nineties. Arranged into six series the materials entail manuscript items and photographs. Family scrapbooks and photo albums enhance the collection as well. Images and manuscript items provide an interesting history of the development of aviation through the career of Ralph G. Vaughan from 1918 to the late 1950s.

Series 1 contains materials related to family background of Ralph and Ruth Vaughan. Additional family names present in the collection include Garoutte, Gildart, and Lewis. Dora Garoutte worked as a schoolteacher in Texas and the collection contains her school scrapbooks and diaries for the period 1893 to 1931. Henry L. Vaughan in addition to being a railroad station operator also wrote poems and did art work. The collection contains numerous draft manuscripts by him of short stories, poetry, and essays on aspects of life in Merkel, TX at the turn of the century. An additional biographical essay records his life in 1913 after the Vaughan families fled Mexico to California. Ruth (Lewis) Vaughan married Ralph G. Vaughan in 1920 and five folders contain correspondence, travel materials, identification cards, legal papers, and a World War II ration booklet.

Series 2 represents the bulk of the manuscript materials of the collection and largely centers around the aviation career of Ralph G. Vaughan. A military resume in folder 39 documents
his career through the Second World War. Two folders document the aviation training offered to Reserve Officers in 1925 and 1926 which Vaughan and his brother Edwin participated with as instructors. Vaughan’s military personnel folder and payroll documents are also contained. Eleven folders document military activities, orders, memo, and circulars impacting Vaughan from 1940 to 1958 and his retirement. Three folders provide information on work with Boeing Aircraft of Wichita, KS and development of the B-29 bomber for World War II. Numerous publications and newspaper articles are present focusing on Vaughan’s successful career and achievements.

Series 3 provides photographs of family relatives and activities from both Ralph’s and Ruth’s families. Cabinet cards, tintypes, and carte-de-visites of family members are present in this series. Additional family images depict the railroad station and activities in Mexico where both Henry L and his father worked prior to 1912. Holiday postcards with poetry written by John Vaughan are present in folder 119. Folder 118 depicts mounted images from Merkel, TX including the first gin mill constructed, the railroad depot, and cowboys working cattle.

Series 4 depicts photographs associated with the aviation career of Ralph G. Vaughan. His work with the Reserve Aviation Officer training in 1925 and 1926 shows group photographs as well as individuals and aircraft. Aerial photographs, which Vaughan invented a camera for taking, are present in this section. Numerous images show passengers and activities associated with several of Vaughan’s air services companies. A series of images show Monument Valley in northern Arizona photographed from the air by Vaughan in the 1930s. Folder 138 depicts three airplane crash scenes, which Vaughan was involved with.

Series 5 contains negatives associated with Ralph and Ruth Vaughan. Only seven negatives have photo images associated with them in the collection and are contained in folder 10. Negatives show aerial views of Globe, AZ, mining facilities, homes in the desert environments, animals, desert landscape, and aerial views of a city. All negatives are stored separate from the collection in the negative storage location of the Historical Society.

Series 6 provides the location for oversized photos, scrapbooks, and photo albums associated with Vaughan family relatives and aviation activities of Ralph G. Vaughan. Of special note are two old photo albums of the Garoutte family members containing mounted cabinet card. Pencil drawings and colored portraits of family members by Henry L. Vaughan are present in box 16. One photo album and two scrapbooks provide images, documents, and clippings of Ralph Vaughan’s aviation career located in box 23.

**BOX AND FOLDER LISTING**

**Box 1**  
**Series 1: Family History, 1854 – 1994**

Folder 1: Vaughan Family Genealogy  
F.2 Gildart Family Correspondence, History and Documents 1928 – 1968  
F.3 Garoutte Family Correspondence, History and Documents 1854 – 1964  
F.4 Garoutte Family Death Notices 1854 – 1931  
F.5 Dota Garoutte – Clippings Scrapbook 1893 – 1899  
F.6 Dota Garoutte – Clippings Scrapbook 1908 – 1929  
F.7 Dota Garoutte – Clippings Scrapbook (Loose Items) 1931  
F.8 Dota Garoutte Diaries 1892 – 1893  
F.9 Dota Garoutte School Scrapbook 1875 – 1899
Box 2

F.10 Dota Garoute School Scrapbook (Loose Items) 1890 – 1928

Box 3

F.14 Vaughan Family Documents
F.15 Vaughan Family Newspaper Clippings
F.16 Vaughan Family Correspondence 1910/1949/1978
F.17 John L. Vaughan and The San Augustin Mining Company 1907
F.18 Henry L. Vaughan and The Mexican Fibre Company 1913/1922
F.19 Henry L. Vaughan – Legal Papers 1919 – 1946
F.20 Henry L. Vaughan – Correspondence 1904 – 1957
F.21 Henry L. Vaughan and the Zigzag Stitch Sewing Machine 1931
F.22 Henry L. Vaughan – “My Life in California” N.D.
F.23 Henry L. Vaughan – Poetry
F.24 Henry L. Vaughan – “In the Moving Hills”
F.25 Henry L. Vaughan – Short Manuscripts
F.26 Henry L. Vaughan – Manuscript on Mrs. Abbie Vaughan with the B & O Railroad N.D.
F.27 Henry L. Vaughan – Stories About Merkel, Texas N.D.
F.28 Henry L. Vaughan – Correspondence with Publisher 1950 – 1959
F.29 Henry L. Vaughan – Newspaper Clippings 1921 – 1955
F.30 Ruth Elizabeth (Lewis) Vaughan Documents 1898 – 1946

Box 4

F.31 Ruth Vaughan Ration Booklet 1942
F.32 Ruth Vaughan Travel to Europe 1956
F.33 Ruth Vaughan – Correspondence 1983 – 1993
F.34 Ruth Vaughan – Identification Cards
F.35 Ralph and Ruth Vaughan Legal Papers 1918 – 1989

Series 2: Ralph G. Vaughan and Aviation Career, 1917 - 1957

F.36 Ralph G. Vaughan – Articles on Career 1933 – 1957
F.37 Ralph G. Vaughan – Death Notice 1989
F.38 Ralph G. Vaughan Address Books
F.39 Ralph G. Vaughan Military Resume 1917 – 1946
F.40 Pilot Training Logbook 1918 – 1919
F.41 Camp of Organized Reserves, Air Service, Rockwell Field, CA 1925
F.42 Air Service Reserve Officer Training Camp 1926
F.43 514th Observation Squadron (Reserve) Rockwell Field, CA 1928
F.44 Flight Logbook 1927 – 1928
F.45 Flight Logbook 1928 – 1929
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<td>F.101 Army-Navy Production Award to Boeing Company of Wichita, KS</td>
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<td>F.102 Publication: “Contact” (Publication by Boeing Employees-</td>
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<td>F.103 Publication: “Combat Crew” (Publication of Strategic</td>
<td>Sep 1958</td>
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<td>F.104 Publication: “Super Fort” (Newsletter Published by U.S.</td>
<td>Apr 13, 1945</td>
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F.105  Publication: “The Beach Log” (Publication of Beach Aircraft Corporation) Nov 24, 1944

F.106  Publication: “Boeing Magazine” Mar 1943/Mar 1945/Apr 1945

F.107  Ralph G. Vaughan – Field Economic Mobilization Course 1950

F.107a Ralph G. Vaughan Trip to Okinawa 1954

F.108  Ralph G. Vaughan – Roster of World War I Overseas Flyers 1972

F.109  Ralph G. Vaughan – Aviation Hall of Fame Induction 1991

F.110  Ralph G. Vaughan – Scrapbook of Poems from Clippings 1919

F.111  Two VHS Tapes “Ralph G. Vaughan”

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Series 3: Photographs of Vaughan Family Members

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   Family Group Photos
   Dota and Olive Garoutte - 1927
   Dota and Olive Garoutte – 1924 Christmas
   Theodore B. Garoutte and Wife
   Two Cabinet Cards of Texas Short Horned Steer
   “Raised by T.B. Garoutte Farm Near Merkel, TX”

F.113  Gildart Family and Friends
   Sam Batman and Family Members
   Plowing for Alfalfa at Élsinore, CA
   Rubber Reduction Plant
   Rowing Boats on Elsinore Lake
   Four Men Standing with Pigs
   Ant Eater
   Two Men Seated in Front of Blacksmith Shop Taylor County, TX – 1943

F.114  Strouble and Lewis Families (Carte-de-Visites Removed To Rare)
   Abbie Strouble
   Mrs. Louis Strouble (Abbie Strouble’s Mother)
   S. C. Lewis and Millie Lewis
   Daughters of S.C. Lewis – 1948/1949
      Ruth Vaughan
      Mary Bowie
      Millie Hunts
      Millie H. Gildart Lewis (Wife of S.G. Lewis)
      Vera Lewis Basinger
   Ben Strouble and Amanda Strouble
   Elvira Strouble
   Abigail Strouble
   Cynthia Ann Strouble
   William Strouble
   Lieutenant General U.S. Grant (No Relation)

F.115  Strouble and Vaughan Families (Tintypes Removed to Rare)
   Agnes Vaughan
   Bessie Vaughan
   California Scenery
   Strouble Man
   Meryart Vaughan
F.116  John L. and Abbie G. Vaughan in Moctezuma, Mexico
   Horses Pressing Sugar Cane
   Deer at Railroad Station
   J. L. and Abbie Vaughan
   Mexican with Burro and Children
   Abbie Vaughan Picking Corn on Ladder – 1902
F.117  John L. and Abbie G. Vaughan in California
   Abbie Beside Century Cactus Plant
   50th Wedding Anniversary Announcement – 1916
   California Home (Exterior)
F.118  John L. and Abbie G. Vaughan in Merkel, TX
   25th Wedding Announcement – 1891
   Abbie Vaughan – 1893
   Railroad Depot at Merkel, TX
   Home with Windmill
   Cowboys at Supper
   Branding Cattle
   First Gin Mill at Merkel, TX (Labeled H.L. Vaughan)
   Railroad Station at Diaz, Mexico – 1892
F.119  Postcards and Holiday Announcements from John and Abbie Vaughan
   1905/1912-1913/1915-1916/1919
F.120  Henry L. and Sissie (Garoutte) Vaughan
   Home at Southgate, CA
   Clipping with Photo
   Theodore Vaughan (Son of Henry and Sissie) with Vegetables
   Sissie Vaughan
   Henry L. Vaughan with Paintings
F.121  Henry L. and Sissie G. Vaughan
   Henry L. Vaughan
   Sissie Vaughan Standing on Steps
   Paintings by Henry Vaughan
   Portraits of Vaughans
F.122  Vaughan Family & Friends in Texas
   Janet Vaughan Cox
   Young Girl in Dark Dress
   Montana View
   Man Beside Trees
   Man with Label of “Leslie”
F.123  Unidentified Vaughan Family & Friends
   Men Seated by Blacksmith Shed
   Men Standing on Boulders
   Beach Scene
   Woman Feeding Deer
   Small Boy Portrait “E.D.V.”

Series 4: Ralph G. and Ruth L. Vaughan Photographs

F.124  Ralph G. Vaughan and Reserve Officer Summer Camp
       1926
       Military Men in Uniform Beside Airplane
       Group Photos
       Military Men Firing Pistols on Range
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<td>Camp Activities Image</td>
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<td>367th Observation Squadron Members</td>
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<td>490th Bombardment Squadron Members</td>
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<td>476th Pursuit Squadron Members</td>
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<td>Loose Photos From Military Paper Folder #61</td>
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<td>Military Personnel Around Airplane</td>
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<td>California Air Service with WACO Plane</td>
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<td>Ralph Vaughan with Aerial Camera</td>
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<td>Vaughan with Air Passengers</td>
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<td>Ralph G. Vaughan and California Air Service</td>
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<td>Ralph Vaughan Greeting Passengers</td>
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<td>Ralph Vaughan in Airplane</td>
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<td>Camera Case Used to Take Aerial Photos</td>
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People Around Aircraft
Camping Out
Large Rattlesnake in Camp

F.136  Ralph G. Vaughan Barnstorming and Aviation Flights  1937 – 1939
Stinson Aircraft
Aviation Travel Sign Mounted on Car
Patrons Around Aircraft
Car, Trailer, and Airplane

F.137  Misc. Airplane Photos
Old Bi-Plane with Three in Seat
Gilpin Airlines Service Postcard – California

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F.140  Ruth Vaughan as Teacher with Students at La Union, New Mexico  1917-1920
F.141  Vaughan Family Trip to Yellowstone National Park  1938
Jerry Vaughan with Bears
Bears Begging for Food
Group Seated Around Old Faithful
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F.142  Young Women Dressed Up in Costumes and Dancing (Unidentified)
F.143  Ralph G. Vaughan Dressing a Deer in Basement of Home
F.144  Loose Photo of Woman in Sailor Outfit from Vaughan’s Poem Book (Folder 110)
F.145  Ralph G. Vaughan’s Aerial Photos of Globe and Mining Area  1929
Aerial Views of City Areas
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Box 12

F.146  Misc. People, Places, and Activities
Ant Eater
Waterfall Area
Group Beside River in Pines
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Crane Removing Wrecked Railroad Cars
Large Colored Vase
Group Scene Along Beach with Large Bird
Aviator in Flight Suit

F.147  Misc. People, Places, and Activities
Prisoners of War Camp Play at Florence, AZ
Red Cross Worker
Aviator by Plane
Swimming Scene
Man in Sailor Uniform
Old Piano
Image of Mesa Verde Cliff Ruins
Joe Pacotti (Worked for Ralph Vaughan)
Dogs at Play
F.148  Railroad Wreck in Mexico
F.149  Ralph G. Vaughan Military Portrait (World War II)
F.150-152 Ralph G. Vaughan with Military Survey of Strategic Bombing Survey
Of World War II
Bombed Out City Area
Vaughan Meeting People (Unidentified)
F.153-154 Ralph G. Vaughan Work with Boeing Company
  Airmen Beside Plane
  B-29 Bomber
  Ralph G. Vaughan with Boeing Company Officials

Box 13
Series 5: Negatives (No Copy Photos Available)

(Stored in Negative Storage Area)

F.1 Aerial Views of City Area
F.2 Bryce Canyon and Canyon Land Areas
F.3 Aerials of Globe, AZ and Mining Areas
F.4 Aerials of Homes in Desert Areas
F.5 People
  Two Adults and Cats
  Lady with Long Coat
F.6 Animals
  Fish
  Camel
  Birds in Nest
F.7 Images of Cities and Homes
  Aerials of City Homes
  Cabins/Homes in Woods
  Piano in Home
F.8 Water and Vegetation
  Lakes and Rivers
  Trees and Hillsides
F.9 Landscape Images
  Aerial Views of Hills and Desert Areas
  Forest Areas
F.10 Negatives with Prints in Collection of Ralph G. Vaughan and Aircraft
  F.128 (E)
  F.130 (C)
  F.131 (I)
  F.133 (A)

Series 6: Oversized Photos, Manuscripts, Photo Albums, and Outside Items
Box 14 Oversized Photos

  Ralph G. Vaughan in Military Uniform
  Bryce Canyon
  Lewis Family Group at Rillito, AZ 1935

Box 15 Oversized Photos – Boeing Company Promotional

  B-29 Aircraft Production Scenes
  Factory Workers Assembling Aircraft
Box 16 Oversized Manuscript Materials and Drawings

F.1 Certificate from Daughters of the American Revolution for Ruth Lewis Vaughan
F.2 Newspapers: “Yank” July 27, 1945 and Undated Issue
   “The Stars and Stripes” July 26, 1945
   “The Roundup” Mar 22, 1945
   “Jet Scoop” May 3, 1957
F.3 Newspaper: “Plane News” Jan 18, Jan 25, Feb 3, Feb 15, Feb 22, Mar 5, 1919
F.4 Newspaper: “Boeing Plane Talk” Jan 2, Jan 30, 1943/ Jun 9, Jul 7, Nov 17,
   Dec 1, Dec 8, 1944/ Jan 5, Jan 12, Jan 23, Feb 23, Mar 23,
   Apr 27, Aug 3, Aug 24, 1945
F.5 Portraits of Mary Kiser Lewis, Abbie Vaughan, and Unidentified Woman by
   Henry L. Vaughan
F.6 Portrait of Mary Almeda Allen by Henry L. Vaughan
F.7 Portrait of Theodore Garoutte by Henry L. Vaughan

Box 17 Garoutte Family Photo Album

T. B. Garoutte
Mary A. Allen Garoutte
Stonewall Garoutte
John L. Vaughan
Henry L. Vaughan and Sissie Garoutte Vaughan
Baby Photos

Box 18 Garoutte Family Photo Album

Mary A. Allen Garoutte
Theodore B. Garoutte
Olive Garoutte
Walker A. Garoutte
Stonewall Garoutte
Sissie Garoutte
Henry L. Vaughan
Garoutte Home at Merkel, TX
Baby Pictures

Box 19 Ruth (Lewis) Vaughan School Photo Album

Gadsen High School, New Mexico Student Outing
Clair Lewis
Ruth Lewis in High School Pictures
Millie Lewis
Soldiers with Trucks on Mexican Border
Cowboys on Horses
Gadsen School Class with Ruth E. Lewis as Teacher

Box 20 Sissie Garoutte Vaughan Photo Album

Muriel Vaughan
Kenneth Vaughan
Children Playing in Yard
Baby Pictures
House at Riverside, CA
Crystal lake Swimming Scene, California
Henry L. Vaughan
Sissie Vaughan
Dore Vaughan
Teddy Vaughan in Uniform

**Box 21 Ralph G. Vaughan and World War I Photo Album**

Ralph G. Vaughan as Child
Henry L. Vaughan
Fishing and Hunting Scenes
Soldier in Uniform with Barracks
Christmas Card – 1918 from Dover, England
Family and Friends (Unlabeled)
Camping Trip

**Box 22 Aerial Photos of Globe, AZ and California Photos**

Globe, AZ Mining Buildings and Facilities
Orchard Beside Hills – California
Rocky Canyon Area
Fairground Scene
Edison Electric Appliance Company at Ontario, California
William Hurst's Castle – California
Ranch Buildings
Bi-Planes in Flight
Smelting and Mining Operations from Air
Superior, AZ Aerial View
Globe, AZ to Superior, AZ Highway

**Box 23 Three Scrapbooks**

Photo Album #1:

Ralph G. Vaughan Operating Flying Service
Pilots and Aircraft Images
Pacific Western Airways Scenes
Hunting Scenes with Dead Pheasants
Monument Valley Aerials
Bears
Advertisement for Flying Rides Posted to Vehicle
Negatives to Photos: (P), (V), and (AA)

Scrapbook #2:

Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings and Photos of Ralph Vaughan’s Military Career
Portrait - Ralph G. Vaughan in Military Uniform
Destroyed Airplane on Ground – B29??
Airplanes and Pilots

Scrapbook #3: 1920-1929
Newspaper Clipping Announcing Vaughan’s Aviation School in 1920
Air Service at Ontario, CA
“Vaughan School of Aviation”
Aerial Circus at Ontario, CA – 1928
Articles Announcing Vaughan Doing Aerial Photos of Globe, AZ – 1929

Outside Items
Poster: “Well Done – COL Ralph G. Vaughan, 307th Bomb Wg.”
Photo: World War I Aviators, “Susyd Surkus, French-American Trained Pilots
Stationed at Issoudun, France”