

Glenn was invited, including trips to Taiwan in 1987, to India in 1989, and to both Jordan and Greece in 1994. A few of the files pertain to family travel, such as a trip to the Galapagos Islands in 1996.

Boxes nine through eleven contain six scrapbooks, dated 1957 and 1959 to 1963, compiled by Mrs. Glenn on the activities of her husband as a test pilot for the Marine Corps and as a Mercury Seven astronaut. The majority of the materials within the scrapbooks are chronologically arranged newspaper clippings, though scattered throughout the books are a few letters, ephemera, and photographs. The 1957 scrapbook contains materials on Project Bullet, John Glenn's record setting transcontinental flight. The remaining scrapbooks pertain to the Mercury Program and offer a good synopsis of NASA's first efforts to put a man in space as reported by the national media.

Series II: Military Records

Boxes 12 – 18

The military records consist of six cubic feet of materials dating from 1942 to 1965, along with two oversized items dating from the 1940s. These records document John Glenn's twenty-three years as a pilot in the U.S. Marine Corps. The first eleven files in the series contain copies of Glenn's official records as compiled by the Marine Corps. Records within the files are in their original order and are arranged in three sections, labeled commendatory, performance, and service. The commendatory files contain documents pertaining to Glenn's promotions, citations, and awards. The performance files contain fitness reports on Glenn written by his superior officers, while the service files contain various orders, physical fitness reports, and miscellaneous documents.

The remainder of the series consists of files arranged in chronological order, roughly divided into four sections titled World War II, Post-War, Korean War, and Test Pilot. Many of the files contain routine documents pertaining to Glenn's changes of duty station and his various promotions and awards. Within the World War II section are records of his civilian flight training in 1941 as well as his manuals, handbooks, and notes from the military flight schools he attended in Iowa and Texas from 1942 to 1943. Other notable files contain materials pertaining to VMO-155, the squadron Glenn flew combat missions with in the Marshall Islands. These items include a handbook, two official "war diaries" dating from June 1944 to February 1945, and a history of the squadron covering the years 1942 to 1944. Located within box 12 is a scrapbook containing annotated newspaper clippings, along with a few photographs and letters, compiled by Glenn during his flight training in 1942 and 1943. Box 12 also contains a navigational workbook used by Glenn during his training at Corpus Christi, Texas in 1942. Much of the Post-War section consists of routine orders, though notable among these are documents pertaining to VMF-218, the squadron Glenn flew with while posted in northern China and Guam in 1946 and 1947. Other files contain records from Glenn's training at the Naval School of All-Weather Flight at Corpus Christi, Texas in 1950.

The Korean War section contains extensive files from Glenn's training, from July through December 1951, at the Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia. Other files contain articles Glenn wrote for the *Marine Corps Gazette* in 1951 and 1952. The files pertaining to Glenn's combat flying during the war include a series of annotated maps of the Korean Peninsula

showing mission targets, some operational documents and handbooks from VFM-311, the Marine Corps squadron he flew with in Korea, and a handwritten listing of the combat missions he flew from February to May 1953. Also of note is a report Glenn wrote, dated August 1953, on aerial dogfight tactics between F-86 Sabre aircraft and MiG-15 jets.

The Test Pilot section consists of numerous files pertaining to Glenn's posting to and training at the Naval Aviation Test Center at Patuxent River, Maryland in 1953 and 1954. Other files contain routine orders and documents for his temporary duties at various postings around the country. Also included are extensive files on Project Bullet, Glenn's 1957 record setting transcontinental flight. Among these files are maps, planning documents, correspondence, and other official records of the flight. Other files contain materials pertaining to the national publicity Glenn received as a result of his record setting flight. These materials include newspaper and magazine clippings, fan mail, and items from Glenn's appearance on the national television program "Name That Tune." Since Glenn continued as an officer in the Marine Corps during his assignment to NASA's Mercury Program in 1959, the Test Pilot section contains a few records dating from the 1959 to 1965 time period. Notable among these documents is an official notice Glenn received informing him that due to his failure to complete a required written and flight examination he was permitted to fly only as a co-pilot. Glenn received this notice in January 1962, one month prior to his historic flight aboard the *Friendship 7* spacecraft.

Series III: NASA Records

Boxes 19 – 89

Sub-series 1: Mercury Seven

Boxes 19 – 74

The Mercury Seven Sub-series consists of fifty-six cubic feet of correspondence, memoranda, notes, reports, manuals, publications, newspaper clippings, and related materials dating from 1958 to 1973, though the bulk of the materials date from 1959 to 1964. The records document the six years John Glenn was assigned to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as one of the original Mercury Seven astronauts. Also included are materials relating to his continued association with NASA after he left the program in 1964. The sub-series is divided into the two main categories of personal files and working papers.

Personal Files

The thirty-six cubic feet of personal files consist of correspondence, fan mail, newspapers, resolutions and proclamations, subject files, and scrapbooks. The personal files generally relate to the publicity and recognition John Glenn received as a Mercury astronaut and provide insights into the elevation of Glenn to the status of a national hero following his historic space flight aboard the *Friendship 7* spacecraft on February 20, 1962.

The **correspondence** located within the personal files (boxes 19-22) consists of four cubic feet of invitations and requests sent to John Glenn from 1959 to 1964, though most letters date from February 1962 through December 1963. The majority of the letters are invitations for Glenn to speak or appear at a wide variety of events around the country and throughout the world. Scattered among the invitations are requests for Glenn to provide the author with such things as a memento, a statement, or an endorsement. The correspondence is divided into two sets of files.