

C. G. Grey

Correspondence

1910 – 1953

Given to the RAeS on January 20 1969

C G Grey — personal correspondence passed to the Royal Aeronautical Society by Thurstan James - 23 files and several separate projects and collections.

The files are arranged in approximately chronological order but many spread over several years and there is considerable overlapping. The recognisable names are filed alphabetically within each file and the unidentified ones at the end. The files are substantially in the same order as received from Thurstan James and presumably as filed by Grey.

The content of the files changes after 1939 when Grey left The Aeroplane and concurrently WW2 began. Up to this time only incoming letters have been retained by Grey but many contain vivid accounts of WW1 experiences of his friends. Churchill seems to have ensured that Grey himself was not called up. Later Grey has a secretary and the files contain the corrected draft of his own letters. He used a dictating machine and his letters are long, rambling and conversational but gratefully received and many of the replies are equally extensive.

Many of the official letters from people in high places are acknowledgments of congratulations on decoration or promotion or the receipt of some special publication. Grey missed no opportunity to keep open his lines of communication and some of the replies are diplomatically phrased. On the other hand there are many unsolicited expressions of friendship and gratitude. He responded energetically to problems offered to him for action such as the living conditions of the WAAFs during the war. The condemnations are very loud and clear and maybe Grey would not have wished them to be retained for posterity as he did offend many people.

Grey was essentially a journalist and not a historian and the post 1939 files illustrate his own personality rather than the historical events of the time.

B M Rimmer
April 1989

This version is a digitisation of the original typescript by B M Rimmer which has been converted to digital media via Optical Character Recognition (OCR). The process has enabled a word processor to be used to tidy up the origin typescript by incorporating hand corrections on the original, and using the WP facilities to enable tabulation and indexing to improve readability without attempting to deter from the typists original layout intentions.

M A Stanberry MRAeS
5/4/2012

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Notable sequences of correspondence are:-

Trenchard – very many letters of genuine friendship from 1914 to 1944.

Churchill – brief letters 1914(3), 1917 (5)(6)(7), 1924 (8).

Bullock, Sir Christopher – 1928 to 1936 as watchdog and adviser to Grey.

Sueter, Admiral – 1914 to 1951 sympathetic sequence.

Boothby – up to (8) about airships.

Brab, Lord Brabazon

Louis Noel – filed under Louis, WW1 experiences as an aviator.

Stephan of Ankara (14),(16),(20).

Hamaja, Finland (10)

The report of the RFC Judiciary Committee of 1916 is sensational even by today's standards but has doubtless been documented elsewhere.

Macfie (6) had several patents for motor vehicles (tanks), applied for around 1916 with publication delayed for security reasons until 1919.

Section 1

1910 - and some later

Unknown — Letter to CGG smuggled from prison from a person apparently convicted of espionage declaring his innocence and setting out the facts, emphasizing that "no living soul must know I have written to you". Probably written in 1927.

Unknown - Interesting letter about Macphie's tank and problems likely to be encountered. 17 July 1915.

Agreement between CGG and publishers Newnes about a "volume dealing with the Work of our Airmen". 2 July 1915,

Balfour, Harold "Bring me in as much as you like".

Brewer, Griffith - about his first flight as a British subject with the Wright Bros. 13 Sept 1916.

~~CGG — Military and Naval Aviation~~

~~———— The Future of Flying~~

~~———— Aviation and the Defence of England~~

Corinthian Club — Invitation to dinner 29 Aug. 1910

Curtis, W R Letters from the Ark Royal in Turkey, June 1920

Gilmour, Graham Interesting account of a flight from Amesbury with Gordon England as passenger. 1911

Hicks, W Joynson MP Thanks for questions 3 Jan. 1913

Illustrated London News 25 Jan 1918

Louis, On official notepaper Noel, Bucaresti - about death of Oswald (Short?)

Lougheed, Victor The Taft Peirce Manuf. Co. Woonsocket, RI.

News of American Aviation 5 April 1911

Patent Office, Provisional specification 14724 of 1907 for Grey's invention
"Improvements in goggles or eye protectors for use by motorists".

Shelley, Lady Eleanor — praise of airships.

Smith, Henry White Thanks for congrats. 5 Nov. 1925

British and Colonial Aeroplane Co. Surprised at news of leaving Aero. 6 March 1911.

Trenchard, Thanks 17 Sept. 1926 and 4 Jan 1927

Replies dated Oct. 1910 confirming the existence of the following

Aero Clubs :- Aero Club of Ireland, Sheffield and District, Lancashire,
Paddington & Districts, Northamptonshire, Scottish Aero. Soc., Sutton,
Arundel House School, Coventry Aero. Soc., Blackpool & Fylde,
Conisborough, East Riding, Manchester, Dundee, Birmingham, City of
Bradford Model Eng. Soc. Bristol & West of England.

White, Sir George 3 March 1911 Regret depart Aero.

Chanute, O 18 Aug 1909)
17 Nov 1909) Newsy & friendly
1 March 1910)

Iliffe 1911 Letters terminating work with the Aero.

Section 2

1913/14 correspondence and cuttings

Trenchard " when I feel that my usefulness is rapidly waning " 1921 plus his speech at the Independent Air Force Dinner.

Brewer, Griffith patent agent — asks Grey to be expert witness (22 July 1913) in contemplated action against Mr Mervyn O'Gorman regarding the manufacture of the BE2 considered to infringe the Wright Bros British patent 6732/04.

Recognition diagram of German aircraft

Cutting from Nottingham journal — 10 Aug. 1927 "Rude and personal attack on Nottingham".

Many news cuttings, post cards and letters from Louis Noel, sapeur aviateur, France and letters 1913/14 mostly from unidentified persons and without great significance.

Estrange Malone, Cecil Sq Ldr

HMS Ben—My—Chree 11 pages plus appendices
proposal for improvements in seaplanes 14 Nov 1915.

Section 3

1914-1921

Boothby, RN Airship Atation - several letters

Brewer, Griffith The British Wright Co Ltd. Infringement by Mervyn O’Gorman, nominee of the War Office, against Wright patent settled by paying £15000. Grey was expert witness. 12 Oct 1914

Churchill, "..come and see me.." 22 June 1917
 "Thanks for admirably pointed anecdote" 19 Aug 1921 Telegram

Clark, Dalrymple Newsy letter from Central Flying School, Uphaven 21 Feb 1915

Curtis, Burgess — Dunne 1914

Dockerill, T R 24 June 1915

L'Estrange Malone, Cecil HMS Lion, wartime news. 22 July 1917

Fulion? Aeronautical Inspection Dept. Long letter refuting complaints Dec. 19
 March 5 1915

Grahame-White, Claude Flying Certificate

Guest, Frederick Thank you 3 Aug 1922

Harford, H H 23 Feb 1915

Holt-Thomas 30 March 1921 and undated.

Loening Aeronautical Engineering Corp. NY. American news. 10 Sept 1917

Loraine, Robert Invite to first night 18 April 1920

Joubert de la Ferte, 8 June 1914

Longcroft, pass to visit Brooklands 4 Nov 1914

Louis Noel, 6 Aug 1914

Mapplebeck, Gilbert News from the front 17 May 1915

Marson?, Capt T B Info. on awards of commissions in the future RAF
 27 June 1919

Sueter, 21 July 1914

Tomkinson, Lancelot 19 Feb 1916

Raleigh, W R Thank you for help 31 Oct 1919

Waghorn, H W About trophy 21 Sept.

Section 4

1913 approx.

Bannerman—Phillips, Major H Lecture "Aircraft in warfare" 29 Jan. 1915

Bond, Capt — engine technicalities 2 Aug 1917

Boothby — article on airships and airship sheds undated

Godfree, Chas — ex Army Aircraft Factory, Farnborough.
13 pages, undated, of complaints, management, etc more complaints,
19 Feb 1912

~~Grey C G — Aircraft in the war — a review of a year's work by the Belligerent Flying
Service (which year?)
Military and Naval Aviation April 1912
Sea Power and air power, The Navy League 1912~~

Jackson, Col L C Lecture? on "The defence of localities against aerial attack"
22 April 1914

Joubert de la Ferte, C H 15 Oct 1915

Lanchester, F W 'Aircraft in warfare' in Engineering 20 Nov 1914

Louis, 1916, 1918

The National Aeroplane Fund (Aero Club of America) 21 Sept 1915 appeal for funds

Pemberton-Billing — poster and copy of Vigilante 8 Feb 1919
journal founded in 1916 by P-B

RNAS organisation with seniority list - 1914?

Sayers, W H — criticism 2 Oct 1914

Tales of the Flying Service

Wallace, John — some notes (20 pages) on the design of aero engines
27 March 1915

Vanity Fair, 13 Aug 1915 "Flight - and the rest", mostly about Cody.

The Wing, RNAS, First issue 19 Nov 1915

Also many cuttings and personal letters.

Section 5

1915-19

The Aeronautical Society of America — report of the Investigating Committee (many purple pages) see conclusion last page 2 April 1918

Aeronautical Inspection Dept. Farnborough 11 Jan, 14 Aug 1915

Air Dept. Admiralty "..... you could, I think, be of considerable use to the Admiralty....." 30 March 1915

Autocar CGG's attack on Coventry 22 Dec 1917

Boothby 27 Jan and 4 Feb 1919 from CCG? each four pages — Naval Air Services versus Army Flying Corps

Brab. Moore Erabazon 3 May 1916

Churchill "... my sincere thanks for the assistance you gave me and for the trouble you so willingly took". 22 April 1917

L'Estrange Malone, Cecil of HMS Ben-My-Cree 2 Jan, 28 May 1916

A flying officer in the RFC "... cannot stick your periodical outbursts of biting and scathing criticisms of our own products" 15 Feb 1916

Longcroft, C 3 March 1918 observers' schools, 27 June 1918 parachutes for aircrew.

Longmore, Arthur 16 Jan telling CGG that he is leaving things aerial and returning to the sea.

Lyrich?, Arthur House of Commons, "Our only salvation is to get out of this regime of incompetence altogether" 17 Nov 1915

Nieuport Scout - details from Flugsport

Joubert de la Ferte Pl. send Aeroplane - account of getting shot down. 29 March 1915

Northcliffe, The Times 30 April 1917

Risk, Charles E 7 June 1916

Sueter, Murray F 30 Oct 1914 and 6 Sept 1915 twelve pages mss.

Trenchard, Farnborough 5 Sept 1914 asking how he can recruit riggers. and 16 July 1920 — thank you for the wedding present, please come to the wedding.

This file contains many letters from friends on active service which have been grouped at the back, only significant names or events have been indexed. Maintaining such an extensive correspondence on a personal basis must have been very time consuming. CGG has not retained copies of his own letters but they are clearly much appreciated. This series provides an interesting picture of conditions in the flying corps during this war.

Section 6

1916 — with some 1914, 1915, 1917 and 1918

An interesting collection here with many letters recounting experiences of friends in the Services and giving information about the early days of the RAAS. Many of these letters are grouped at the back of the file and have not been listed individually.

Brab. Noore—Brabazon Lt Col. 9 Jan 1919

Churchill — exemption from military service for GGG 4/7/1917

Handley Page — can the Aeroplane do more publicity for aeroplane manufacturers,
22 July 1918

Hicks, Joynson " the feeling in the House was very strong that it is desirable
to preserve the Aeroplane newspaper fearless and independent
criticism of abuses in the Air Services

12 July 1917

Independent Air Force — toast speech, undated

McCudden, J B 1918

Macfie, R F The evolution of the "tank" idea, in envelope, 24 Oct 1916

Newbold, Geo, Aviation & Aeronautical Engg, New York, 7 Feb 1918

Northcliffe, Lord The Times 1 Feb 1915

A review of the principles adopted by the Royal Flying Corps since the Battle of the
Somme.

Short, Oswald — thanks for obit. on brother Horace and sending 50 guineas for out of
pocket expenses. 25 April 1917. Donated to RFC Hospital.

Sueter, M F 18 Feb 1917

Section 7

1916-18

Atkin Swan, Dr C, 6 June 1918, five pages of explanation on the Montrose ghost. See also Lord Dowding in 19.

Ackland, P W Vickers " the nice things you have said have knocked me sideways...."
Boothby, 6 Feb.

Bow Street Police Court 13 May 1918 Transcript of case for publishing information on location of firm. Fined.

Captive balloons in war.

Churchill (pp) No difficulty with Appeal Tribunal (military service) 8 July 1917

Curtiss, G H Curtiss Engg Corp, Long Island.

L'Estrange Malone (HMS Ben—My—Cree) Plan for second Air Service (for the Navy) 2 April 1916. From somewhere in the Red Sea, intrigues and scandals 27 July 1916

Fowler, H Royal Aircraft Factory, Farnborough "Thank you for calling my attention to "
Longcroft, parachutes 3 Sept. 1918

off to France again 1 April

about Trenchard's resignation "...the most fatal thing that can possibly happen
..... he's a damned sight too straight for these cursed politicians "

Louis 24 Oct. 1917

three pages about his life as a pilot, probably a lecture.

Mc Cudden, J B Capt. VC Several letters 1918 and photo of grave.

Montagu, 17 Sept. 1916

21 July 1917 - come to dinner at the House of Lords

d'Orcy, Aero Club of America, about airships 7 Sept 1916

Pemberton-Billing, Warrant of constitution of the British Parliamentary Lodge of
"Vigilantes" - 1917 Very small booklet.

Raleigh, Thank you "I don't know how on earth I could have done without you".

Samson, C R Commander RN "I wish you would stop writing all the beastly innuendos you
do about me"

Seely?, Hammondspost, NY Long business letter. 1 Jan 1917

Sheldrake, T S The Times — confirms CGG's articles 8000 words and 3000 words
22 Jan 1918

Sueter, History of armoured cars, juggernauts, land battleships, tanks 1916

Long letter, badly treated by the authorities 9 Dec 1918

Thomas, G Holt — criticism of lecture on Commercial Aeronautics 7 June 1917

Torpedoes carried by seaplanes

Trenchard, "You can understand that I cannot possibly discuss and you would not expect me to, my resignation" 17/4/18.· Provides preface to book "Five years in the RFC" 18/8/18

Wood, N L Vickers - has given the wrong impression of Sir Henry Norman "do the handsome thing in the next week's issue and apologise".

Section 8

1924—30 (some 1939)

Aero—Club von Deutschland — invite to competition in Berlin 8 May 1925

Allen, Hugh Goodyear

Bone, Reggie Brit. Embassy Paris 6 Dec 1930

Boothby, — clear out in Airship Service

Brab. Moore Brabazon Lt Col "I want to keep in touch with you as much as possible" 16 April 1940

Bradley, Samuel S NY 5 Nov 1924

Churchill, Winston S "Thank you for the current issue of the Aeroplane. You are always very kind to me in your remarks". 3 Aug. 1924

Christie, Gr Capt Air Attache, Washington on CGG'S visit 1924

Christin, M G Switzerland 31 Jan 1930

Deutsche Aero Korrespondenz - CGG recognises Germany wants to be free of the foolish restrictions on aircraft construction instituted by the Conf. of Ambassadors at the requ. France.

Grey's visit to Athens to witness selection trials of aircraft for Greek Air Service — black marks for Fairey reps.

Hoare, Sam — "delighted to sign two copies of my little book"

Lamb, Dean Ivan, New York - revolution in Brazil 18 Aug 1924

Lehmann, Ernst Luftschiffbau Zeppelin - Advice on ZRIII — 25/7/24

Longmore, Air Marshal Sir Arthur — asks help in preparing talk 12/5/38

Marson, T B Captain 12 May 1920

Pemberton-Billing, Noel 4 Dec 1939

Raleigh 21 Aug 1919

Risk, Charles

Ross, Sir James "...thank you for it (article in Aeroplane) with all my heart"
10 May 1938

Salmond, J 11 May 1938

Scote, The Times, Paris "You really are a great man" 27 March 1931

Sh , Imperial Airways - sympathy about "change in your fortunes" 4 Aug 1939

Spanish Military Attache — thank you

Stout, Bill, Stout Metal Airplane Co, Detroit. "..... no one in aviation anywhere has a softer spot in their heart than for one C G Grey of London". 4 Nov 1924

Trenchard — 4 Dec 1929 with photo, 1 Jan 1935, 9 May 1922
Vissering, Harry, Chicago 20/25 Nov 1924
Arrival of Zeppelin ZRIII in New York.

Many kind thoughts, even from Churchill.

Section 9

1928-35

Aero—Club von Deutschland, Berlin — congrats on Aeroplane Jubilee 30 June 1931
Atcherley, 13 April 1930
Babington, 6 Jan 1930
Baggs, Sq Ldr J L N Bennett 1930
Bedford, Duchess of Woburn Abbey, 18 Sept 1929, 25 Jan 1933, 7 Feb 1933, 23 May 1933
Bleriot, Reply to condolences on death of son. 22 Aug. 1929
Bowhill, Thank you 15 Sept 1932
Brab, 3 Dec 1934
Bridgman, Leonard The Aeroplane 1931
British Embassy, Lisbon 1 April 1930 — long letter about Portugese aviation.
Brancker, Sir Sefton from PA 17 Oct 1930
Bullock, 18 May 1931, 14 Dec 1934, 9 Oct 1934 "...send a polite letter of regret...", 30
Nov 1934 "personal favour if you would keep off this particular subject now
for a little while "
Dorman, Geoffrey Airways Pubs. 1930
Dornier, 13 Nov 1930, 30 Aug 1929
Eckener, Hugo 9 July 1932 "Hope to meet you"
10 Aug 1935 "Airship will be delayed"
Fairey Aviation, Need to turn down proposal (speed record attempt?) 21 April 1933
Goddard R V Baghdad 7 pages of commentary
Government House, Melbourne Flight of Scott and Campbell Black 30 Oct 1934
Hausser? Berlin, Thank you for Sefton Brancker's book, 23 Oct 1935
De Havilland, Geoffrey "Its terribly nice of you to say all this...' 13 July 1933
Humphery, G E Woods, Cape Town 23 Jan 1933
Hoare, Samuel 13 June 1929
Thank you for article on retirement 20 Aug 1932
Thank you for article in Aeroplane 24 Sept 1935
KLM, Thank you for article 28 Oct 1929
Korostovetz?, Vladimir — about Ukrainians 17 April 1935
Londonderry, 18 April 1935

On the occasion of the 10th birthday of the RAF

— “solicited” letters 1928 printed in The Aeroplane.

Baron Gorrell	Under Sec	1921-22
William Leach	" "	1924
Sir Philip Sassoon	" "	1924-28
Major Gen. Seely	" "	1919
Duke of Sutherland	" "	1922-24
Baron Thomson of Cardington	Sec of State	1924

Longcroft, leaving the Service 29 Nov 1929

Longmore, Arthur

MacRobertson, Thank you for flowers for Lady R 24 Aug 1935

Mitchell, R J Pleased to write article for Engg Supplement.

"I have always looked upon you as one of my best friends" 17 Sept. 1929

Montague, F 5 Sept 1931

Samson, C R 14 Nov 1929

Sassoon, Sir Victor 19 June 1931, 27 Sept 1935

Sassoon, Philip "...satisfaction to me to know at all times that I had your approval "

Seely, John Bernard — return von Richthofen's engine to the Germans 23 Jan 1931

Thanks for letter of appreciation of book "Fear and be slain"
21 Dec 1931

Short, Oswald Thanks for sympathy over death of Eustace.

Tedder, about his wife's health 3 Nov 1931

Thomson, Air Ministry stamps for Aero Exhib. 8 July 1929

The Times 2 Jan 1935

Trenchard, 26 May 1922, 4 Sept 1927, 18 Oct 1929, 15 Nov 1929, 9 Dec 1930,
12 Dec 1930, 16 Sept 1932, 29 Sept 1932, 24 Nov 1933, 9 Nov 1934
(from New Scotland Yard)

Wimperis, H E 23 Sept 1931

Few of these letters are significant. Most are letters of thanks for copies of the Aeroplane, congratulations, etc.

Section 10

1930-39

Balfour, Harold 2 May 1939 Good pictures
 18 May 1939 Well done Aeroplane
 20 July 1939 On GGG leaving the Aeroplane "... hope that you and I
 will continue etc ..."

Bowhill, AVM F W 1 Aug 1935 From GGG, criticism of training schools.

Bullock, Sir Christopher 28 March 1928 — 7 page letter "I think your essay etc are
 unduly captious and unfair"
 13 July 1931 "...returning offending letter "
 12 May 1952 "...I would be very loth to see the friendly relations
 which have always subsisted ... rudely interrupted'
 20 Sept 1931, 16 May 1932
 20 Sept 1932 "If it amuses you to pull the leg of the Ministry "
 1 April 1933 — advice offered
 3 May 1934 - "Can we lunch together"
 13 Dec 1934 "The negotiations with S Africa delicate.."
 21 Dec 1934, 8 Jan 1936

Eitzen, Kurt 23 Aug 1939 - postcard "The Fuhrer has declared repeatedly and has
 proved it moreover by sundry generous offers that he does not want
 any war".

Fedden, A H R RAeS 2 April 1939 — long letter replying to Grey's comments.

Hamilton-Gordon, British Embassy, Lisbon 22 Oct 1929, 3 July 1930
 Long letters about South Atlantic crossing.

Harmaja, Finland 25 Feb 1939 — long introductory letter
 28 Aug 1939, 19 Dec 1939, 12 Feb 1940 - from his mother, he was
 killed Feb 1.

LEM, The Aircraft Operating Co Ltd 25 Feb 1939 — now with new firm.

Leverton, H Spry 31 July 1931, 3 Sept 1931 — long letter about nothing.

Maxwell—Scott, Sir Walter 17 March 1939 — prewar letting off steam.

Portal, C 26 July 1939 Badly cut uniforms

Pye, D R 13 May 1932 Glad of support

Spanish letters - thanks for the Aeroplane

Stewart, Maj Jack 1 March 1939 "You have always been extremely kind to me".

Sueter, more airships needed
Trenchard, 22 May 1939 Good pictures
Water, C T te High Comm S Africa 23 Sept 1932 CGG's reply to criticism of his lecture.
Wintringham, T H Modern aeroplanes and the next war.
Wood, Kingsley

This long sequence from Bullock starting in 1928 and continuing to 1936 (see also other files) suggests that Bullock was official watchdog to Grey and that he took this task seriously. We only have his side of the correspondence and no indication of Grey's reaction other than the fact that he retained the letters.

Section 11

1935/6 mostly

Bowhill, AM

Bouderie, Air France — death of Robert Bajac

Bullock — many letters, gratitude unlimited

Dowding, H C T — government servants as patent holders

Eckener, Hugo Luftschiffbau Zeppelin, supply of helium for new airship.

Edwards, C H Byfleet, angry about Lord Lothian's letter

Foot, Charles L K Australia, Reserve air route

Hoare, Samuel

Londonderry, Lord

Mary ? , Kings African Rifles — pictures of Cobham's flight

Moray, Lord? Hatfield House

Richthofen, J Berlin - about CGG's visit

Skorapadsky, Paul Berlin — about the Ukraine 2 letters

Sassoon, Philip AM — reinstatement of Beamish

Shelmerdine

Slattery?

Tizard, H T — asking GGG to pass on any new ideas he hears about at home and abroad

Wenninger, German Air Attache

These are mostly letters of thanks for information or congratulations on promotion or decoration.

These collected in separate envelope.

Other items enclosed in 1935/6 file

Babington Smith, Constance 1936

Baumker, Berlin - from CGG thanks 1935

Bedford, Woburn Abbey 1937

Frankfurter Verkehrsverein

King, Sq Ldr — death of Peter Vickery

Milch, General - from CGG "I admire your Air Force" 1935

RAF display — notes

Trenchard — Mr Churchill and the Fleet Air Arm

Parkinson, B R Nay 1923 To CGG four pages on the origin of the Jews and seven pages of his reply.

Official report of briefing of General Koller, the German Chief of Air Staff pub. 1947

Captured German document — views on air support for ground forces pub. 1947

German Air Force operations against GB 1940-41

Effects of attacks on German synthetic oil plants June 1944

Report of Rommel and von Kluge

German view of the air war 1942-44

Quantas Empire Airways, Memo accompanying tenders

In plastic bag

Newspaper cuttings (Boxfile 2) July 1939 about CGG's resignation from the Aeroplane and his remarks in Janes in 1940.

Three letters from Handley Page about a form of annuity from the aircraft industry on CGG's 70th birthday, 1945. CGG apparently not very cooperative.

Oct. 1950 Appointed life member of RAeClub but "RAeS put me in a new category invented for those who have not adequate technical qualifications for any other grade".

Photographs of Pemberton Billing

In separate envelope:

Letter 1 May 1951 from Aviation News Pix (Norman Tracy) and article about Australia—Chile pioneer survey flight in a Catalina. Good photographs of aircraft and crew.

Section 12

1940

Babington—Smith, Constance

Billing, Pemberton

Bowhill

Claude ? Air Ministry

Hoare, Samuel

Londonderry

Sopwith, T O M

Sueter, F

Trenchard

Weer, Lord

Brief letters of thanks for copy of “History of the Air Ministry”
--

Beaverbrook (I hope that I win your general approval)

Breakell, T K Western Airways

Eridgman, Leonard Janes

Burbridge, F G invention, Moth Bomb

Collier, Col MAP

Courtenay, Air Marshal Chris

Dawes, George Fed. of Brit. Ind.

Garrod, A G R Air Min

Hoare, Samuel

Johnston, S Paul NACA

Mc Clure, Ivor long and confused

Outram

Peake, H Air Min

Sprigg, Sir Frank Hawker Sidd.

Taylor, Leonard Air League of the Brit. Emp.

Tedder, A V M A W Pemberton-Billing's slip wing

Tyrrell, Air Comm W

Westbrook?, Trevor

Wright, Lt Cdr Warwick

Wright, T P New York

Many letters here are replies from influential persons following investigations into complaints and grievances sent to Grey and passed on by him to the appropriate quarter.

Section 13a

1941

Alba, His Grace the Duke of

Alfonso, HRH El Infante Don, Seville, Spain	Long friendly letter
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Babbington Smith, Ass Sect Officer

Balfour, Harold Under Sec for Air long sequence

Barratt, Air Marshal Sir A S Blacker's gun

Beaverbrook, The Lord

Blow, H D Pub Rel

Boyle, Air Comm A R Investigations into the non-acceptance into the Services of a
certain Cyril B L Weiss

“Brab”, Moore Brabazon, Lt Col The Right Hon MP

Brewer, Sq Ldr Charles	Use of coloured search lights
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Carr, AVM C R

Devereux, W C MAP

Directorate of Public Relations - many letters about access facilities to various establishments

Dixon, Wing Cdr J N British Embassy, Madrid

Dodds, Sq Ldr L V AM

Doran—Webb Fl Lt J E Pendine

Garrod, Air Marshal A G R

Goddard, Air Comm AM

Gossage, Air Marshal Sir E L HQ Balloon Command, Avorio-Prassone Balloon

Hamilton Gordon, Capt A H Dept MI2 War Office

Harris, Air Marshal Sir Arthur

Hudson, Rt Hon Robert MP	Min of Ag	Use of grass on aerodromes
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James, Wing Cdr A W H MP talk about his visit to Spain

James, Thurstan

Kenderdine, Cdr Admiralty Press book on history of naval aviation

Kingwill, Sq Ldr A W

Min of Info censor re booklet on Combat Planes for the Lowell Cabot Foundation of

Norwich Univ

Sholto Douglas, Air Chief Marshal congrats on knighthood

Smith Barry, Col R

C G Grey Correspondence 1910-1953

This is a good period for CGG. He is busy and at peace with himself. He writes "I am as busy as I can be writing occasionally for the Aeroplane, but every week for the Sphere and every week for a big group of North Country papers which have an enormous circulation".

Many of the letters here are to important but relevant persons passing on information about problems he has noticed and making helpful suggestions. He also takes up complaints and injustices from readers. He tends to grovel a bit but the replies are courteous and informative often express appreciation.

Section 13b

1941

Balfour, Capt. Harold
Boyle, Air Comm. A R Air Min
Boyle, Alan
Chetwode, Admiral Sir George (Vosper) ".. you are barking up the wrong tree"
Clare, Capt. J
Cottenham, Earl of Los Angeles
Creed, F G with pamphlet "The Seadrome of Floating Station"
Cuthbertson, C E King Edward VII school
Dangerfield, Roland E (Temple Press)
Davidson, Frank about Janes
Deane, Capt. Gerald Buenos Aires
Duckham, Alex RAF Benevolent Fund
d'Erlanger, Gerard ATA
Fenwick, Hugh Vultee Aircraft
Forbes, Gerrit Canada
Friswell, Kenneth W "attack and defence"
Gardner, Lester "...probably never print your name again in Aero Digest"
 ".. uncalled for sarcastic remark in Janes"
Garrod, A G R
Gordon, John Sunday Express
Humphrey, Geo Woods Connecticut
Handley Page
Loening, Grover Florida

Mc Alery, Wing Officer C M (Scottie)
Metcalf, Wing Cdr RFC Ottawa
Perham, Miss Marjory (non-aero)
Sempill, The Lord
Sinclair, Sir Archibald from CGC re article in Janes "... I am not pro-Nazi, nor "
Smith-Barry, Sq. Ldr
The Sphere " our association should cease"
C G Grey Correspondence 1910-1953

Spriggs, Sir Frank

Park, AVM K R

**Trenchard

Tyrell, Air Comm W

Wedgwood, Josiah House of Commons "I think you are more dangerous to our war free than locked up"

Westbrook, Trevor

Williams, V E use of grass on aerodromes

Wilson, J B Pub. Rel. MAP

Woolton, Lord Use of grass on aerodromes

Wright, A Dickson

James Jackson Cabot, etc Vermont, Porter Adams etc

Boyer, Donald, Northwich Univ. Vermont

Many letters placed at the back, about the publication of "Combat Planes".

Mostly of little interest — use of grass on aerodromes, seadromes, requests from readers for help or information, references to the Janes episode and disconnection from the Sphere.

Section 14

1941 to June 1942

Aldwell, Group Capt. Gerald + biography?

Alfonso

Babington, Air Marshal John — vague, rambling sequence

Brab. Brabazon of Tara, The Lord — many lunches, many letters but nothing very profound

Balfour, Capt the Rt Hon MP — bad conditions for WAAFs at Morcambe

Barrow, Gen Sir George de S — the age of senior officers

Brewer, Sq Ldr Charles — friendly letters only

Casey, the Right Hon

Christie, Gr Capt M G

Cochrane, A V H the Hon R A

Collier, Lt Col R H

Colyer, Air Comm Douglas — unfair discharge of airman

Conningham, AVM Arthur

Cordingley, Air Comm — more unfair deals

Dunbar, A MAP " " "

Garrod, Air Marshal A G R " " "

Handley Page

Harris, Air Marshal A T

Hannay, Major A P C — treatise on Army Cooperation

Hildred, W P AM

Joubert de la Ferte, Air Chief Marshal

Kenderdine, Cdr RN

Longcroft, AVR Sir Charles

Loton, Wing Cdr A G

Mc Alery, Wing Officer Scottie

Medhurst, AVM C E H

Nanson, Gr Capt E R C Dir of Recruiting

Ofstie, Commander, American Embassy

Peck, AVM R H

Plugge, Capt F MP

Sempill, the Lord - recommending a person

Slessor, AVM J C

Stephan, Ankara

Strange, Marjorie ·

Sueter, Rear Admiral Sir Murray

Tedder, Air Marshal A W

Trefusis-Forbes, Ass Comm Miss J — more about the suffering of the WAAFs

Trenchard - many letters

Tyrrell, AVM W

Wakefield, C C MP

Westbrook, T C L

Wright, Wing Cdr J A C

Mostly on behalf of individual persons wanting to get in or out of the Services and the hardships suffered by the WAAFs, ·(see description at the back of the file). The only technicalities are at Handley Page and Ofstie.

Section 15

1942

Apsley, The Lady trouble in the ATS!

Benn, Sir Ernest JP

Blow, H D Dir of Pub Rel AM

Borton, AVN A E (Biffy)

Daily Mail

Daily Telegraph CGG's rambling about defence policy

Deane, Gerald N, Buenos Aires, Fairey Aviation Rep. (Many Pages)

Gordon, John. Sunday Express. Interesting informative sequence.

Dodds, Wing Cdr. L V

Hannay, Maj. A P C British Air Strategy (7 pages)

Harris, Air Marshal A T

Hilton, Brig. Gen. reply lists North Country papers Grey wrote for.

Jackson, R B no interest

Medhurst, Charles

Mellors, E A Improved side valve

Norman, Wing Cdr Sir Nigel

Palmer? C Dudley

Peck, Air Marshal Richard "It is a great advantage to have someone writing on aviation matters with the vast experience which you possess".

Perkins, Robert MP "... 100,000 niggers planted on this country "

Preston, Fl Lt Report of trials of Preston Green and Motley Stork gun mounting.

Snagge, Sir Harold Napiers "... how fastidious (thank heaven) you are "

Towers, Rear Admiral John, USN

Trenchard

Tymms, Sir Fred.

Section 16

1942-46

Alfonso of Spain, SAR The Infante, 12 letters, many pages, 1946-51

Dorman, Geoffrey Royal Aero Club 1946 several letters. He is writing a history of
aeronautics 1901-1951

Erno, Nagy Budapest 9 May 1946 post war news.

Gillman, H R 2 Aug. 1946 now British Air Charter Assn

Girdler, H R 25 Nov. 1947 news of Fritz von Falkenhayn

Howard-Williams, Air Comm E L 1942, 1943

Koolhoven, F 26 April 1946

Masefield, Peter March-July 1946 Interesting sequence from the British Embassy,
Washington

Payne, A James 1947

Preston, Ralph le Chevallier — sometime contributor to the Aeroplane. CGG's letters
between 1938 and 1950 but none from Preston.

Proctor, Capt. S R 1947 help to obtain employment

Smith, Geoffrey (Flight) 19 May 1948 Fritz von Falkenhayn has been cleared

Stephan, Ankara 1942, 1943, 1947 news

Sueter, Rear Admiral Sir Murray 1942

Thomas, Sir W M W 1943

The Times 1943 obit. on Cottenham

Twiss, Major Gen Sir W L O 1942 lecture to ROC

Tyrrell, AVM W 1942 Medical problems in general and the RAF Medical Service.

Venn, Air Comm G O 1943

Wilson, J A 18 Dec 1942, 1 Feb 1942 Dir. of Air Services, Ottawa

Section 17

Mostly 1943-44

Bruce-Gardner, Sir Charles SBAC

Leigh-Mallory, Air Marshall (Gr, Capt H V Alloway for)

**Londonderry, Marquess of

**Longcroft, Air Vice Marshal Sir Charles

**Longmore, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur

Macfadyen, Sir Eric

McClean, Lt Col Sir Francis K

**HcCloughry, Air Comm. E J Kingston

Maxwell, Capt Ian C Pobjoy Air Motors & Aircraft

Medhurst, AVM CEH

Newall, Marshal of the RAF Sir Cyril (from CGG)

North, J D (from CCG)

Peck, Air Marshal Richard

* Portal, Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles (& S/Ldr J Eeley)

**Preston, Fl.Lt. J de la Poer B

Robb, Air Vice Marshal J M

Robbins, George Institute of Journalists

Rosser, J schoolboy

* Salmond, Marshal of the RAF Sir John

Stokes, Major RR

Tedder, Sir Arthur

***Trenchard, Lord Includes leaflets "The principles of Air Power on War" and "Air Power and National Security"

Twiss, Maj. Gen. Sir W L O

Ward, W H RCAF, Ottawa

Wimperis, H E aeronautical education

Winster, Rt Hon The Lord

Daily Telegraph - CGG's letter complaining about arrival of black US troops in England and DT's refusal to print.

Section 18

1944/45 mostly

Baldwin, Hanson W	New York Times
Dowty, G H	enclosing article on "Liquid Springing"
Dyson, G W	criticising his letter to the Times
Hall, Col Melvin	Ninth US Air Force
Hannon, Sir Patrick	
Hildred, W P	Dir Gen of Civil Aviation
Hopkinson, Austin MP	
Leverton, Capt. H Spry	KLM
Lloyd, Major R N G	many rambling, mostly personal letters relating to the major's job hunting.
Mander, Sir Geoffrey MP	
Mills, G H Saxon	attack and defence Mills ".. your unspeakable friends (i.e. Germans} ..." CGG "... you are being insulting ..."
Wiss, Maj. C B L	overseas somewhere, mostly personal
Tennyson Jesse, Miss F	severely criticising her article on the Spanish Civil War.

Nothing significant here — half the file is taken up with correspondence with Lloyd.

Section 19

1948

Cox, Roxbee

Cooper, H J RAeClub

Deutsch, Hans

Dowding, Lord (the Montrose ghost)

Dowty, George

Gates, Wing Commdr R T F

Gardner, Lester D, NY, criticism of obit. on Orville Wright.

Gouge, A Saunders Roe

Gronau, Wolfgang von, denazification

de Havilland, Geoffrey

Herring, P G RAF Review (4)

Koff, V Polia, review of obit. on Benes

Netherwood Dalton, Printers

Narracott, Arthur N. Times

Norway, Neville Shute

Owen, Frank, Daily Mail

Paddon, Phil

Perring, W G A

Powell, Richard C

Procter-Gregg, M Rolls Royce

Public Relations, Dir. of, Air Ministry (from GGG)

Schmidt—Rex, Berlin, location of Germans

Snoller, Bill, Frankfurt, denazification "Fritz".

Sopwith, Tommy

Tilghman Richards, Geo. Sc. Mus.

Walker, C C, De Havilland

Watson, Arthur, Daily Telegraph

Deane, Gerald N, Buenos Aires.

Punch

Lord Tedder

Section 20

1949

Bowyer	SBAC
Dakers, Andrew	Publishers - request to write a book
Daily Mail —	many letters (political article refused)
Deutsch, Hans	Thermik, German gliding journal.
Dickens, Admiral	interesting letter
Gardner, Lester	
Gregg, S J Siddeley	
Gordon, John	Sunday Express
Guild of Air Pilots	
Lankester Parker	
Netherwood	Dalton & Co Printers
Norway, Neville Shute	
Packenham, The Lord MCA —	Keith Jopp's flying licence
Pritchard, J Laurence	RAeS request for help on early flying info., also complaint about non election of F A Butters
Provincial Newspapers Ltd	
Royal Aero Club Gazette	
Roe, Humphrey Verdon	
Sharp, Martin de Havilland,	about Elmdon races and Comet test flights
Smith, Maurice	
The Sphere	
Stack, Neville	
Stephan, Ankara	
Strange, Marjorie	
Swinton, Lord	
The Times	
Little significant	

Section 21a

About 1950

Baldwin, Hanson W

Camm, S Hawker Aircraft

Carnegie, AVM David (I do admire you)

Casey, Maj. the Rt Hon R G

Christiansen, Karl Heinz

Eddie, A R Canadian Air Line Pilots Assn

Hart, Liddell

Halford, Major F B

Handley Page

Humphrey, G E Woods (Sir John Reith's book)

Johnston, S Paul, Aeronautical Engg Review, NY

Jones, Sir Bertram

Jones, H K, South Africa

Kilbourne, General

Krogmann, Adolf

Lauries, D D, Trans Australian Air Lines

Lewin, Brig Gen A C

A Martel, Lt Gen Sir Giffard

Masefield, Peter G

Boothman, AVM John, Iraq (from CG)

Taylor, Capt P G, Melbourne

Section 21b

1950

Allen, H Goodyear, Ohio
Burke, A F De Havilland `
Davies, S Kenneth, Elliott Wire Rope
Deane, Gerald Buenos Aires
Desoutter, Marcel
Douglas-Hamilton, Lord Malcolm MP
Dowty
Edinburgh Evening News
Garrod, Air Chief Marshal Sir Guy
Gillman, Harold FAI, Paris
Gordon, John Sunday Express
Halford, Frank B De Havilland
Harrison, Capt. SAAF Journal
Hesketh—Nilliams, F J Friendship with Spain
King, P SBAC
Norway, Neville Shute interesting letter
Parkam, Brigadier H T
Pickering, W Geo
Poliakoff V
Practical Mechanics
Pritchard, J Laurence RAeS
Procter-Gregg Rolls Royce
Pyddoke, Mrs many pages, little interest
RAFA request for support
Sampson, H
Sempill — help for release of Christiansen
Shaw, H Shell
Sheffield Telegraph
The Sphere

Blackburn & Gen Aircraft (1949) "Do not publish
"History of Blackburn Aircraft".
1950 -- C E Ward

Boddy W 1974 Obit in Blackwood's Magazine on CGG

Only interesting item seems to be letter from Neville Shute.

Section 22

1951

Allen, Hugh,	Goodyear, Ohio
Clarke, Edward	Saunders Roe
Deane, Capt. Gerald	
Deutsch, Hans	Thermik (German gliding journal)
Gardner, Lester NY	all domestic news
Gillmain, Harold	FAI Paris
Gordon, John	Daily Telegraph Mexican beef
Harrison, Capt. Newton	SAAF Journal
Ionides, M G	SBAC
Newcastle Aero Club,	Australia
Saundby, Air Marshal Sir Robert	
Schofield, Guy	Daily Mail
Sopwith, T O M	
Sueter, Admiral	"My dear old Friend of all Airmen"

Nothing significant.

Section 23

1951-53

Mostly obits, book reviews, reports of events, etc, submitted to Thurstsn James, many highly critical — in manuscript and hard to read.

Letters indicating conflict with TJ placed at beginning of file — TJ 3 April 1951, CGG 26 Aug. 1951, CGG 11 Nov. 1951, TJ in Nov. 1951, CGG 19 Aug 1952.

Section 24

Letters to the Society 1941—53 (mostly to Pritchard)

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1941 | Referring to his controversial remark in Janes. |
| 1942 | Mostly about his new book and "...the incompetence of the US aircraft industry during the last war" and "history repeating itself exactly in this war". |
| 1944 | Six letters from CG some detailed criticism of the aerodynamics of certain aircraft others with jokes and more about US coloured troops in Britain. |
| 1948 | Still very offended not to be elected Fellow of the Society. |
| 1949 | Complaining because the Society was not represented at H V Roe's funeral and more about the Society's standards for membership. |
| 1950 | More, much more, about Society membership. |
| 1952 | To Ballantyne— Pritchard now retired. |
| 1955 | Refusing to attend the 50th anniversary dinner of powered by flight as he so much disapproves of the Wright Bros. — full details given. |

Section 25

The origin of the Races etc, — causes of war

Carbon copies of typed text, undated but probably written when WWII was in sight.

The origin of Races pp 1-12

Discussion of the "origin of the three great races, the white, the yellow and the black".
Illustrated with references to the Old Testament.

The three great Races (three altered to two by CG) pp 1-26

The Nations of Japheth - Japhetic Tribes in Europe - Japhet in Asia — Japhetic Manners and Movements - The Main Japhetic Nations (Sons of Noah — Shem = Semites/Jews; Ham = blacks; Japhet = others)

The Mongols and the outer Japhetic Peoples 29 pages

" those who populated the Far East and did not settle in Europe permanently " The Mongol invasions of Europe — China and the Isles of the Gentiles — The Genesis of Japan — A divergent view — The Nordic—Israel theory.

Collateral evidence paginated 65-88

The current distribution of the various races over Europe and the rest of the world, dividing lines and probable allegiance in the event of war. "..... now proceed to discuss the possible causes, strategy and tactics of such a war

Chapter I (probably Part I) On War paginated 7-34

"An understanding as to what is war" illustrated by references to WWI.

Part II The Great Race War pp 1-21

"The Race War means, to put it bluntly, the age long war of the Yellow Race against the White Race".

Part III The Next War pp 1-114

Possible causes of the war — The Russian Danger — The Parallel of the French Revolution.

Section 26

RFC Judiciary Committee 1916

This file contains reports of statements made at the enquiry and letters from friends in the Service with relevant technical criticisms marked and related newspaper cuttings with Pemberton-Billing's evidence.

RFC Inquiry - 5th and 6th day. CGG called in and examined, 21/22 June 1916 - many page verbatim.

Final report of the Committee on the Administration and Command of the Royal Flying Corps.

Cd. 8194 17 Nov. 1916

Severe criticism of defects in machines and pilot training.

Section 27

Misc. items in Box File 1

Photographs and Christmas cards — mostly pre~1940 (in envelope)

Air Force Interlude, A story of the Royal Air Force 1919-39 by Air Commodore J L Vichell
(Retd) 170 pages

A selection of objectives for Air Attack at the opening of a war by Sq. Ldr. E J Kingston
McCloughry DSO DFC. 34 pages.

Of Aeroplanes and Men. Sq. Ldr. Edward T Newton Clare DSO MBE 11 Nov 1939

Curtiss. The evolution of a Flying Man. Printed pages from Century Magazine.

Programme RAF Air Display, Hendon 1936

Official Souvenir Programme, Kings Cup Air Race. July 10 & 11 1936,

Spanish film ?

History of Hendon Chap. 1 only.

Luke, G F Linen Thread Co. Glasgow "Report on the situation in Germany". A perceptive
visit report dated 25 July 1933 describing the effect on the organization of
industry in Germany of the revival of the Nazi party and the reasons for the
persecution of the Jews.

Contract, 30 Nov. 1910 — memo of an agreement between C Grahame White and James V
Martin (of Seattle) to provide a Farman or Bleriot with Nomo engine before
* Jan. 1911.

The Flanders Monoplane — a scheme for the formation of company. (in small envelope)

Pemberton-Billing — open letter to the Prime Minister (printed and published)

Grimaldi, Rev. A B The origins of the Bible Manasseh in Scotland 1916

Official pamphlet 1915 - summary of D notices

J de la Poer B Preston — gun mounting

Post cards 1914 from Louis.

Cuttings in Box File 2 (also described as in separate envelopes)

History of Avro 1945

History of Blackburn 1946 - see letter file 21b (don't publish)

History of Short Bros — submitted to CGG (1951?)

History of Aeroplanes — many chapters, unpublished.

Civil Air Wars Chaps 12-18

See Section 26

RFC Judiciary Committee 1916 (possibly the only one of these which justifies retention)

Section 28

Articles — undated mostly

1. Bircham Newton
2. Arthur Baird, Qantas Airways, etc.
3. What sort of Communist?
4. Desoutter, a little horse story.
5. Reminiscences of Brussels, 1939 air show
6. Never another Battle of Britain
7. The state of the Indian State (not by Grey)
8. Some thoughts about helicopters
9. Some questions of air power
10. Concerning airborne troops
11. The menace to our Merchant Air Service
12. Some truths about Korea
13. What Korea means in the air
14. The first half century of aviation
15. Some thoughts on sea-air war
16. Would we be the better for more newsprint
17. The real danger of the atom bomb
18. Peace by air power
19. A memorandum on road accidents
20. What are the flying saucers?
21. Air power can enforce peace
- * 22. Aviation and the defence of England
- * 23. Military and naval aviation
24. Some snapshots of early British flying
25. The Air League and the RAF
26. This electrickery business
27. Forty plus years of the "Bristol" Company
28. A British pioneer reflects on Australia in the air
29. The war of the future (preface)
- * 30. The advantages of a single Air Force

- * 31. Air records and air power
- * 32. The battleship versus aircraft
- * 33. Japan against America
- 34. Snapshots of 50 years of flying, part III — between wars
- 35. The future of flying
- *36. Sea power and air power. The Navy League
- *37 A Aircraft in the war — a review of a year's work by the Belligerent Flying Service.
- 38. Handley Page's latest liners
- 39. Face the facts about Egypt

Those marked * cite Grey as "Editor of The Aeroplane" suggesting they were compiled before leaving that post.

Thurston James notes that nos 30 to 33 may have been written for USA.