

Bette Murphy Collection

Papers, 1942-1981

**2 linear feet
2 storage boxes**

Accession # 1357
DALNET #
OCLC #

Bette Murphy was born on Staten Island, New York on November 29, 1918. She started working as a riveter at Douglas Aircraft Company's Long Beach, California plant in 1942, and became active in UAW Local 148 after the union won certification in 1944, serving in various positions, including chief steward and executive board trustee. Bette Murphy was the first woman supervisor and the first woman manufacturing engineer at Douglas and retired in 1978.

The papers of Bette Murphy contain UAW Local 148 minutes and finance reports as well as UAW convention material relating to the activities of Local 148. Also included are newspaper clippings and other documentation of Local 148 strikes at Douglas Aircraft in 1951-52 and 1977-78.

A transcript of an oral interview with Bette Murphy may be found in the Rosie the Riveter Revisited series of oral histories on deposit at the Archives.

PLEASE NOTE: Folders are computer-arranged alphabetically in this finding aid, but may actually be dispersed throughout several boxes in the collection. Note carefully the box number for each folder heading.

Important subjects in the collection:

Aircraft industry workers--California
Collective bargaining--Aircraft industry--California
Communism
Douglas Aircraft Company
McCarthyism
Strikes and lockouts--Aircraft industry--California
UAW--Local 148 (Long Beach, Calif.)
Women aircraft industry workers

Non-manuscript material:

Several photographs have been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Collection and a large number of issues of Local 148's newspaper, *Air-Scoop*, have been transferred to the Archives Library.

Box-folder	Folder heading
1-1 thru 41	Local 148; minutes, 1942-81
2-1 thru 30	Financial reports, 1944-81
2-31	Douglas Aircraft Co. clippings, 1951-52, 1975
2-32 thru 48	Local 148; UAW convention proceedings, 1943-77
2-49	Local 148; collective bargaining, 1977-78
2-50	<i>Betty Murphy v. Ruthe N. Sullivan and Adam Webb</i> ; brief, 1957 Oct 5-7
2-51-55	Bulletins, "Air-Scoop", 1977-78