

Reference code: GB3299-MILI

Title: Jaguar Military Collection

Name of creator: Jaguar Land Rover Ltd.

Dates of creation of material: c. 1952-1989

Level of description: fonds

Extent: 6 boxes

Administrative history: The original company was established at Blackpool in Lancashire, on 4 September 1922, as a partnership between William Lyons (1901-1985, knighted 1956) and William Walmsley (1891-1960), trading as the Swallow Side Car Company. 1926, change of name to Swallow Side Car and Coach Building Company. 1928, moved from Blackpool to Foleshill, Coventry. Swallow Coachbuilding was registered as a limited company in 1930. SS Cars Limited was incorporated on 10 October 1933, with a public share issue in January 1934. Walmsley left the company at this point. The sidecar business was devolved to Swallow Sidecars (1935) Limited, which was sold to the Helliwell Group in December 1944. In 1939, Motor Panels (Coventry) Limited was bought by SS Cars Limited but was sold in 1943 to Robery Owen.

Jaguar Cars Limited was incorporated on 11 November 1937, and in April 1945 became the main operating company, with SS Cars Limited as a subsidiary. In 1952, the company moved to Browns Lane, Allesley, Coventry. In 1954, a subsidiary company was established in the USA, as the Jaguar Cars North American Corporation.

The following companies were taken over by Jaguar Cars Limited: The Daimler Company in May 1960, including its subsidiaries such as Lanchester, Barker and Hooper, which were all bought from the BSA Group; Guy Motors Limited, Wolverhampton, in 1961; Coventry Climax Engines Limited, Coventry, in 1963; Henry Meadows Limited, Wolverhampton, in 1964.

In July 1966, Jaguar Cars Limited and its subsidiary companies merged with the British Motor Corporation (BMC) to form a joint holding company, British Motor Holdings (BMH). In January 1968, BMH merged with Leyland to form British Leyland Motor Corporation which underwent several reorganisations and was de facto nationalised in 1975. Sir William Lyons had retired in May 1972. Jaguar Cars Limited had ceased to exist as an operating company by 1 January 1973 and then became part of British Leyland (UK) Limited, also known as BL UK Limited, later BL Cars Limited. Jaguar became part of BL's Specialist Car Division which in 1978 was re-named Jaguar Rover Triumph. Coventry Climax, Guy and Henry Meadows were assigned to other divisions of the BL group. In 1983, Jaguar was a founder member of the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust.

In 1984, BL sold Jaguar (including Daimler) via a public share issue on the London Stock Exchange in a new company, Jaguar Cars plc, which had a subsidiary operating company, Jaguar Cars Limited, and a US subsidiary,

Jaguar Cars Inc. Jaguar had an interest in two joint operations, Venture Pressings Limited together with GKN (1988-1994), and Jaguar Sport together with Tom Walkinshaw (1988-c.1994), with a subsidiary company XJ220 Limited.

In December 1989, Jaguar Cars plc accepted an offer for its shares from the Ford Motor Company, and became a wholly owned subsidiary of Ford. Subsequently, following other acquisitions by Ford including Land Rover in 2000, from 2001 Jaguar, Land Rover, Aston Martin and Volvo were merged to form the Premier Automotive Group (PAG), which was a Ford subsidiary. In 2006, with the closure of the Browns Lane factory, the registered office of Jaguar Cars was moved to Whitley, Coventry. In 2008, Ford sold Jaguar and Land Rover to the Tata Group, which established a wholly-owned subsidiary under the name of Jaguar Land Rover.

Scope and content: During World War II, Jaguar resources at Foleshill in Coventry were devoted to a number of military projects, including the repair of Whitley bombers. After the war when Jaguar needed to relocate in order to expand, one of the conditions of the lease of the Browns Lane Shadow factory from the Ministry of Supply was that Jaguar would supplement Rover's work on the Rolls-Royce Merlin based tank engine known as the Meteor. With its purchase of Daimler in 1960, Jaguar acquired the Daimler Ferret military scout car business, including its in-house transmission. Subsequently the Jaguar XK engine was developed for military applications and installed in the Alvis Scorpion range of light tanks and support vehicles from around 1970. In order to service these commitments the Jaguar Military Business Operations Committee was later formed.

The collection comprises two boxes of papers including a handwritten ledger of repair records for Meteor tank engines, a proposal for the development of a military version of the Jaguar XK engine, agreements for the sale of Jaguar military products in various markets, and an offer for the sale of the Jaguar military gearbox business, together with the minutes of the Jaguar Military Business Operations Committee 1986-89.

System of arrangement:

Access conditions: Open

Conditions governing reproduction: No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns

Immediate source of acquisition: Mostly sourced from N Heslop's files (Chairman – Military Business Operations Committee)

Archivist's note: Fonds level description created by K. Knight in January 2015

MILI/001

Military Publications: Certain UK and other government publications.

MILI/001/001

UK Government Publications

MILI/001/001/001	Annex to Radiography of Castings and Fabrications: Annex to Radiography of Castings and Fabrications published by the Quality Assurance Directorate for Fighting Vehicles and Equipment.	December 1966	1 volume
MILI/001/001/002	Modification Approval Procedure: Ministry of Supply Fighting Vehicles Research and Development Establishment modification approval procedure.	July 1963	1 volume

MILI/001/002

Other Government Publications

MILI/001/002/001	Manual for a Small Petrol Engined Generator: USA War Department Technical manual for small petrol engined portable generator PU-6/TPS-1.	March 1944	1 volume
------------------	--	------------	----------

MILI/002

Jaguar Military Papers

MILI/002/001

Jaguar Papers

MILI/002/001/001

Meeting Minutes

MILI/002/001/001/001	Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee	1986-1989	
MILI/002/001/001/001/001	Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1986: Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1986.	1986	1 file
MILI/002/001/001/001/002	Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1987: Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1987.	1987	1 file
MILI/002/001/001/001/003	Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1988: Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1988.	1988	1 file
MILI/002/001/001/001/004	Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1989: Minutes of the Military Business Operations Committee 1989.	1989	1 file

MILI/002/001/002

Company Papers

MILI/002/001/002/001

Product Papers

MILI/002/001/002/001/001	Product Papers Relating to the Meteor Tank Engine	1953-1955	
MILI/002/001/002/001/001/001	Handwritten Ledger, Mainly Repair Records for Meteor Tank Engines: Handwritten ledger, mainly repair records for Meteor tank engines under contract DO/6/FV/5816/CB26A/JAS.	1953-1955	1 volume
MILI/002/001/002/001/002	Product Papers Relating to the Military Version of the Jaguar XK engine (J60)	1966	
MILI/002/001/002/001/002/001	Proposal for the Development of a Military Version of the 4.2 Litre Jaguar XK engine: Proposal for the development of the 4.2 Litre Jaguar XK engine submitted to the Fighting Vehicles Research and Development Establishment.	December 1966	3 volumes

MILI/002/001/002/00 2	Commercial Papers	1984-1988	
MILI/002/001/002/00 2/001	Consultancy Agreement with Kramer Associates: Consultancy agreement between Kramer Associates and Jaguar relating to the sale of J60 military engines in Egypt.	September 1987	1 volume
MILI/002/001/002/00 2/002	Proposal for Jaguar to Supply J60 Engines Directly to the Ministere de la Defense Nationale: Proposal For Jaguar to supply J60 military engines directly to the Belgian Ministry of Defence rather than via the UK Ministry of Defence.	December 1984	1 volume
MILI/002/001/002/00 2/003	Agreement Appointing Comauto as Distributor of Jaguar Products to the Belgian Ministry of Defence: Agreement appointing Comauto as distributor of Jaguar products to the Belgian Ministry of Defence.	February 1988	1 volume
MILI/002/001/002/00 2/004	Offer for Sale of the Jaguar Military Gearbox Business: Offer for sale of the Jaguar military gearbox business.	December 1988	1 volume