

Gilbert W. Douglas, LTJG, USNR (Naval Aviator # 105 1/2)

Gilbert Wilson Douglas was born in Brooklyn, New York on July 27, 1896. He learned to fly at the Curtiss Aviation School at Buffalo before enrolling in the Navy as a Carpenter's mate 3/c on June 15, 1917. He completed ground school at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and qualified at NAS Bay Shore, Long Island, NY. He received his commission as Ensign and Naval Aviation designation (Naval Aviator #105 1/2 HTA) at NAS Key West on December 12, 1917, but dated October 4, 1917 to reflect his previous qualifications at Bay Shore. He was assigned to both Key West as Engine Officer and NAS Rockaway before going to Naval Ammunition Depot, Akron, Ohio in August 1918 for free balloon training. Heserved as the Senior HTA Officer at Rockaway when he retired from active duty in June 18, 1919. He re-enrolled in the Navy as a LTJG on May 25, 1922