



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

George Blair Harrison Collection

2001

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	George Blair Harrison Collection
Date:	1904-1979 (bulk 1910)
Identifier:	NASM.1987.0012
Creator:	Harrison, George Blair, 1873-1930
Extent:	1.09 Cubic feet ((1 records center box))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Marion S. Harrison, gift, 1986, 1987-0012, not NASM

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

George Blair Harrison (1873-1930) was a pioneer aeronaut and businessman. Following graduation by Washburn College and University of Michigan, he entered the business world, working as a newspaperman (1898-1903, 1908-15), for the St.Louis World's Fair (1903-05), in printing and lithography (1905-07), and in the motion picture industry (1915-17). During this time he earned Federation Aeronautique International (FAI) Balloon certificate 32, becoming the first licensed balloon pilot west of St.Louis. In January 1910 he helped organize the first U.S. International air meet, at Dominguez Field, Los Angeles. He was also associated briefly with Wright Airplane Co (1910) and Glenn L. Martin Co. (1911). He joined the army as an aviation cadet when the US entered World War I, attending Ground School at Austin, TX (1917) and Balloon School, Ft. Omaha, NE (1917-18). After his discharge in 1919, he returned to commercial aviation, serving as airport inspector for Los Angeles County (1920, 1921), secretary and director of Universal Institute of Aeronautics, Inc., until his death.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents Harrison's aviation career. The material consists mainly of newspaper articles on Harrison and early aviation in general, as well as a small amount of material on his son, Bennett.

General

NASMrev

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics, Commercial -- United States
- Aeronautics, Military
- Airships
- Balloons
- Periodicals

Types of Materials:

- Correspondence
- Diaries
- Maps
- Photographs
- Publications

Names:

- Harrison, George Blair, 1873-1930
- United States International Air Meet