



# Smithsonian

## *National Air and Space Museum*

### Charles Lindbergh Autographed Photograph

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Air and Space Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Charles Lindbergh Autographed Photograph
<b>Date:</b>	May 20, 1927
<b>Identifier:</b>	NASM.2009.0001
<b>Extent:</b>	0.05 Cubic feet (1 folder)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	This collection consists of one 10 by 8 inch black and white photograph, in a mat, showing Charles A. Lindbergh shaking hands with Charles L. Lawrance shortly before Lindbergh leaves Roosevelt Field, Long Island, New York on his solo transatlantic flight, May 20, 1927.
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Charles Lindbergh Autographed Photograph</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Paul E. Fabiano, Gift, 2008, NASM.2009.0001.

### Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2024.

### Preferred Citation

Charles Lindbergh Autographed Photograph, NASM.2009.0001, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

No restrictions on access

### Conditions Governing Use

Material is subject to Smithsonian Terms of Use. Should you wish to use NASM material in any medium, please submit an Application for Permission to Reproduce NASM Material, available at [Permissions Requests](#) .

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## Biographical / Historical

On May 21, 1927, Charles Augustus Lindbergh completed the first solo nonstop transatlantic flight in history, flying his Ryan NYP *Spirit of St. Louis* 3,610 miles (5,810 kilometers) between Roosevelt Field on Long Island, New York, and Paris, France, in 33 hours, 30 minutes. With this flight, Lindbergh won the \$25,000 prize offered by New York hotel owner Raymond Orteig to the first aviator to fly an aircraft directly across the Atlantic between New York and

Paris. When he landed at Le Bourget Field in Paris, Lindbergh became a world hero who would remain in the public eye for decades. Charles L. Lawrance, originally a race car engine designer, built his first air-cooled aircraft engine in 1921 for a US Navy contract. The Lawrance J-1 9-Cylinder Radial was the first practical American radial engine and satisfied a Navy need for a compact lightweight engine, not plagued with water leakage problems, for use on aircraft carriers. The engine had superior performance, weighed less, and was easier to maintain than liquid-cooled engines in comparable aircraft. With encouragement from the Navy, Lawrance merged with Wright, and the Lawrance J-1 developed into the famous Wright Whirlwind series of engines. The most famous Wright Whirlwind application was the 1927 New York-to-Paris flight of Charles Lindbergh. In 1928, Charles Lawrance was awarded the Collier Trophy for the outstanding performance of his engines based on records set in 1927.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of one 10 by 8 inch black and white photograph, in a mat, showing Charles A. Lindbergh shaking hands with Charles L. Lawrance shortly before Lindbergh leaves Roosevelt Field, Long Island, New York on his solo transatlantic flight, May 20, 1927. Three policemen and two other unidentified men look on as a third man adjusts something on top of the wing of the Ryan NYP *Spirit of St. Louis* (r/n N-X-211) in background. The print is autographed by Lindbergh and Lawrance at bottom left.

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## Arrangement

Collection is a single item.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Ryan NYP "Spirit of St. Louis"
- Transatlantic flights

### Types of Materials:

- Photographs

### Names:

- Lawrance, Charles Lanier, 1882-1950
- Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus), 1902-1974