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National Air and Space Museum

Holloman Space Decompression Studies [Koestler]

2015

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Holloman Space Decompression Studies [Koestler]
Identifier:	NASM.2015.0011
Date:	(bulk 1960-1975)
Creator:	Koestler, Alfred., 934-2014
Extent:	2.5 Cubic feet ((8 boxes))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Audrey Koestler, Gift, 2015

Preferred Citation

Holloman Space Decompression Studies [Koestler], Accession 2015-0011, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

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Biographical / Historical

Alfred Koestler (1934-2014) was born in Kelheim, Germany. He studied engineering for two years at the University of Stuttgart, Germany, before attending Baylor University, Texas, where he received his doctorate in experimental and industrial psychology. Koestler conducted aerospace medical research for the United States Air Force at Holloman in support of Projects Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo. He was a Research Psychologist (Physiological and Experimental) in the Comparative Psychology Division's 6571st Aeromedical Research Laboratory. He worked with comparative-experimental psychology in evaluating behavioral performance in chimpanzees in aerospace and related hazardous environments which posed risks to the military and civilian populations. His most notable work was in space decompression studies. After his work at Holloman, he taught at the University of Texas at El Paso, and then became Director of Psychological Services for Blue Bell, Inc. in Greensboro, North Carolina. In 1987 he became Vice President for Human Resources for the US Operations of the Robert Bosch Corporation.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of 2.5 cubic feet relating to Dr. Alfred Koestler's research relating to behavioral performance of chimpanzees in aerospace environments, particularly regarding space decompression. The following types of material are included: black and white photography; color prints and slides; newspaper articles; Ham and Enos ink footprints; over 140 4 by 3.25 inch glass-mounted lantern slides; publications about both the general aeromedical work at Holloman and specifically about the work of Dr. Koestler; and publications authored by Dr. Koestler.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Astronautics
- Aviation medicine
- Chimpanzees

Types of Materials:

- Lantern slides
- Photographic prints
- Publications