



Smithsonian
National Air and Space Museum

Apollo 10 Flight Recovery Letter [Fearn]

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2018

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository: National Air and Space Museum Archives

Title: Apollo 10 Flight Recovery Letter [Fearn]

Identifier: NASM.2018.0041

Date: 1969

Extent: 0.05 Cubic Feet (1 folder)

Language: English

This collection is in English.

Summary: This collection consists of a letter, in a commemorative postal cover, written by Ernest Frederick Fearn on board the USS *Arlington* while waiting for splashdown of Apollo 10. The collection also contains a color photograph of Fearn, in uniform, with his wife, Donna.

Digital Content: [Image\(s\): Apollo 10 Flight Recovery Letter \[Fearn\]](#)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Patricia Ammerer, Gift, 2018, NASM.2018.0041, Donated in honor of Joann C. Fearn.

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Apollo 10 Flight Recovery Letter [Fearn], NASM.2018.0041, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Apollo 10 (May 18 to May 26, 1969) was the first flight of a complete, crewed Apollo spacecraft to operate around the moon and served as a "dress rehearsal" for the lunar landing. Apollo 10 was also responsible for the first live color TV transmissions to Earth from space. The Apollo 10 Command Module, named *Charlie Brown* by the crew, splashed down in the Pacific Ocean. The primary recovery ship was the USS *Princeton*, and the USS *Arlington* was designated the primary landing area communications relay ship. Ernest Frederick Fearn was a Senior Chief Electronics Technician - ETCS aboard the USS *Arlington* during the Apollo 10 flight recovery mission.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of a letter written by Ernest Frederick Fearn on board the USS *Arlington* while waiting for splashdown of Apollo 10. In the letter, written to his nephews, Fearn describes recovery plans. The letter was mailed in a commemorative postal cover from the U.S. Navy Recovery Force which is also included in the collection. Finally, the collection contains a color photograph, measuring approximately 1.75 by 3.25 inches, of Fearn in uniform with his wife, Donna.

Arrangement

This collection is in original order.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aircraft carriers
- Astronautics
- Space flight

Types of Materials:

- Correspondence
- Photographic prints