



Smithsonian
National Air and Space Museum

1909 Gordon Bennett Balloon Race Passport

Jessamyn Lloyd

2010

National Air and Space Museum Archives
14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway
Chantilly, VA 20151
NASMRefDesk@si.edu
<https://airandspace.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Administrative Information | 1 |
| Biographical / Historical..... | 1 |
| Scope and Contents..... | 2 |
| Arrangement..... | 2 |
| Names and Subjects | 2 |

Collection Overview

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Repository: | National Air and Space Museum Archives |
| Title: | 1909 Gordon Bennett Balloon Race Passport |
| Identifier: | NASM.XXXX.0980 |
| Date: | 1909 |
| Extent: | 0.05 Cubic feet (1 folder) |
| Language: | This collection contains text in German, French, and English. |
| Summary: | The 1909 Gordon Bennett Balloon Race was held in October in Zurich, Switzerland. This collection consists of a Balloon Passport issued to the <i>Clouth V</i> for the event. |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Unknown, Gift, NASM.XXXX.0980

Processing Information

Arranged and described (2010) and encoded (2020) by Jessamyn Lloyd.

Preferred Citation

1909 Gordon Bennett Balloon Race Passport, NASM.XXXX.0980, 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](#)

Biographical / Historical

The 1909 Gordon Bennett Balloon Race was held in October in Zurich, Switzerland. The event featured three contests. A point-to-point race was held on October 1 in which ten competitors chose from fourteen different designated points. This event was won by the Swiss balloon *Mars* piloted by Mr. Farner. A distance race was held on October 2 and included twenty-one competitors from various classes based

on size with prizes being awarded in each class. The *Clouth V* was entered into the Class 4 competition (for balloons ranging in size from 1201-1600 cubic meters). Class 3 was won by the *Harburg II* piloted by H. Sticker, Class 4 was won by the *Hessen* piloted by A. Engelhard, and Class 5 was won by the LZ 127 *Graf Zeppelin* piloted by Otto Korn. The Gordon Bennett Race started on October 3, 2010 and involved seventeen competitors. This race was won by Edgar W. Mix in the *America II* after a 696.5 mile flight ending in Poland that lasted more than 35 hours.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of a Balloon Passport issued to the *Clouth V* for the 1909 Gordon Bennett Balloon Race. The passport is on paper that measures approximately 20 x 16 inches and is written in both German and French. The passport bears several seals and includes engravings of balloons along with the motto "Gordon Bennett, Zurich, 1909."

Arrangement

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:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics -- Competitions
- Balloons
- Clouth V

Types of Materials:

- Passports

Names:

- Gordon Bennett Balloon Race