

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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TITLE: Dirigible *Norge* and Umberto Nobile Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B1984.121

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1926-1992

Extent: 0.4 linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Gertrude Nobile

Administrative/Biographical History:

Umberto Nobile designed the airship *Norge* and commanded the expedition to fly the dirigible over the North Pole. The trip was planned by Nobile and Roald Amundson, and financed by Lincoln Ellsworth. The ship departed King's Bay, Spitsbergen, on May 11, reached the North Pole at 1:30 a.m. on May 12, and then landed at Teller, Alaska, where the ship was dismantled.

Scope and Content Description:

The collection consists of photographs, publications, and ephemera gathered by Gertrude Nobile beginning in 1983, on the occasion of the placing of plaques in commemoration of the flight. Later materials were sent as addenda to the collection.

Arrangement: Arranged by format.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original items in good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

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Preferred Citation:

Dirigible *Norge* and Umberto Nobile Collection, Anchorage Museum, B1984.121

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by Gertrude Nobile, widow of Umberto Nobile, to the Cook Inlet Historical Society in 1983. Later items sent in installments by G. Nobile.

Notes

Many copy prints are stamped "Archivio: Gen, Umberto Nobile." Others bear the stamp "Stato Maggiore Aeronautica."

RELATED MATERIALS

B2012.007 William C. Lyon Papers

SUBJECTS

Nobile, Umberto, 1885-1978

Amundsen, Roald, 1872-1928

Ellsworth, Lincoln, 1880-1951

Norge (Airship)

Airships

Teller (Alaska)

North Pole -- Aerial exploration

Arctic regions -- Aerial exploration

Detailed Description of the Collection

B1/F1

Photographs

.1 – The route of the airship "Norge" N 1 from King's Bay, Spitsbergen, to Alaska, 1926. First polar route flight.

.2 – [Route map]

.3 – Die Norge im Augenblick der Landung. Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight, 1926, Rome/Alaska, with the airship N 1 "Norge." Landing at Teller, Alaska, 13.5.1926

- .4 – Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight 1926 with the airship N 1 Norge, 18,500 m. First polar route flight.
- .5 – “Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight,” 1926
- .6 – Departure of the airship “Norge” N 1 from King’s Bay, Spitsbergen, for the transpolar flight 1926 from Rome to Teller, Alaska. 11 May 1926.
- .7 – Landing at Teller
- .8 – [Landing at Teller]
- .9 – Deflating after landing, Teller, Alaska
- .10 – [Dismantling the *Norge* at Teller]
- .11 – [Men pulling section of *Norge*, Teller]
- .12 – The dismantled nose of the airship “Norge” at Teller, Alaska, 1926
- .13 – The airship “Norge” N 1 in flight over the Arctic Ocean, 1926, from Rome to Alaska via North Pole
- .14 - [Dismantling the *Norge* at Teller, Nobile in foreground]
- .15 – Dropping the three flags over the North Pole: of Italy, Norway and the United States: 12 May 1926
- .16 – “Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight” 1926, Rome/Teller (Alaska) with the airship N1 “Norge.” At Teller: the Italian crew dismantling the airship, May 1926
- .17 – Amundsen au repos dans sa cabine; au-dessus de lui, illisible sur le cliché, la carte du basin arctique que servile le dirigeable. The Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen during the flight on board the airship Norge N 1 – 18,500 m
- .18 – [version of .17]
- .19 – The frontal part of the cabin of the “Norge.” The commander, the mascot, and the “fascio” of Rome. Teller, Alaska, May 1926
- .20 – [Nobile with two dogs]
- .21 – Gen. Umberto Nobile after the “Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight” from Rome to Teller/Alaska, via the North Pole, with the airship “Norge”, designed and commanded by Nobile during the flight
- .22 – 1926. Gen. Umberto Nobile at Teller/Alaska after the “Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight” from Rome to Teller/Alaska with the airship N1 “Norge” designed and commanded by him with mascot Titina
- .23 – Roald Amundsen and Umberto Nobile with an American child and the mascot dog ‘Titina’ after the transpolar flight with the airship “Norge” N 1, May 1926
- .24 – [Nobile with Native boy, both wearing fur-trimmed parkas]
- .25 – Col. Umberto Nobile inside the airship “Norge” N 1 during the transpolar flight, 1926, Roma/Alaska
- .26 – Teller (Alaska), May 1926 General Umberto Nobile after the “Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight” from Rome to Alaska with the airship N 1 Norge
- .27 – Amundsen, Ellsworth, Nobile with mascotte [sic] ‘Titina’, and the crew of the airship, after the transpolar flight 1926 from Rome to Teller, Alaska, with the airship N 1 Norge, 18,500 m. First polar route flight in history
- .28 – Gen. Umberto Nobile at Teller, Alaska, with two inhabitants of Teller after landing the airship 13 May 1926
- .29 – At Teller: dismanteling [sic] the airship, May 1926
- .30 – Una scuola missionaria protestante per bambini esquimesi: 27 maggio 1926 Teller (Alaska)

- .31 – At Teller: Gen. Umberto Nobile takes a ride on a dog sledge. May 1926
- .32 – Teller (Alaska): Protestant school for Eskimo children, May 1926
- .33 – [Teller, view of buildings along shore]
- .34 – [Eskimo mother and children, nose of *Norge* in background]
- .35 – [Dog team outside General Merchandise store and Teller Post Office]
- .36 – King's Bay, 19.6.1984 Baia del Re, Ny-Alesund (Svalbard) 79 [degrees] Nord
- .37 – 79 [degrees] 12' North: King's Bay, Svalbard. On 19 June 1984 a commemorative plaque of the "Amundsen-Ellsworth-Nobile Transpolar Flight" 1926 was fixed on this mooring mast, constructed then by Gen. Umberto Nobile. The mooring mast is a landmark of King's Bay today; from there both polar expeditions with the airships "Norge" 1926 and "Italia" 1928 departed. The same plaque was placed last year 1983 at Nome, Alaska, point of arrival of the "Norge."
- .38 – 16.6.1984 at Gardermoen airport (near Oslo): King Olav V conversing with Mrs. Gertrude Nobile in the royal tribune during an international aeronautical show. King Olav V, when crown prince, had been an eyewitness of the "Norge"; during the stop-over at Pulham, England, he had visited the airship and greeted the commander, then Col. Umberto Nobile. Amundsen came on board later at King's Bay, Svalbard.
- .39 – Nome statue

B1/F2

By and about Nobile

B1/F3

Celebrations and plaques

Publications:

- [Photocopy.] Nobile, Umberto. "Navigating the 'Norge' from Rome to the North Pole and beyond." *National Geographic*, LII:2, August 1927.
- Nobile, Umberto. *In volo alla conquista del segreto polare*. Milan: Mondadori, 1928.
- Nobile, Umberto. *Ali sul Polo: storia della conquista aerea dell'Artide*. Milan: Mursia, 1975.
- Pesce, Giuseppe. *The Italian airships*. English photographic edition. Modena: Mucchi, 1983.
- Polar literature in the "Umberto Nobile Documentation Centre:" a bibliography*. Rome: Museo Storico-Aeronautica Militare, 1990.
- Padiglione Nobile: spedizioni polari con le aeronavi Norge N-1 (1926) e Italia N-4 (1928)*. Rome: Museo Storico-Aeronautica Militare, 1991.
- The lighter-than-air: a bibliography*. Rome: Museo Storico-Aeronautica Militare, 1992.
- Museo Storico dell'Aeronautica Militare*. [Rome: The Museum, no date]

Guide written: July 18, 2012