

1908, Camp d'Auvours, Le Mans, France

Partial view of flying field at Camp d'Auvours, showing spectators lined up at edge of field to witness flights by Wilbur, who had come there from the Hunaudières area seeking a larger, better place from which to fly.

U.S. Air Services, v. 9, Aug. 1924: 30

Interior view of part of hangar at d'Auvours which served as Wilbur's workshop, kitchen, and bedroom, August to December 1908.

MCFWP 167; SMIN A42,845-R. Similar view: Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Sept. 20, 1908: 11; L'Illustration, v. 132, Sept. 19, 1908: 189

Wilbur, full length, wearing cap, high collar, tie, and vested suit, black dog named Flyer lying at his feet.

MCFWP 166; ADAMSF 1909: 70; EWWLM 8; SMIN 42,709; YPHA 36

Group photograph of Deputy Jean Laroche, Mr. and Mrs. Lazare Weiller, Wilbur, and Henri Deutsch de la Meurthe.

L'Illustration, v. 132, Sept. 26, 1908: 212; PEPHO facing 84

Wilbur with two of his students, Capt. Paul Lucas-Girardville and Count Charles de Lambert, October.

SMIN 43,063-B

Group photo of Maj. B. F. S. Baden-Powell, Charles S. Rolls, Wilbur, and Frank Hedges Butler.

Autocar, v. 21, Oct. 31, 1908: 654; Illustrated London News, v. 133, Oct. 24, 1908: 561

Rear view of Wright airplane being placed on towing dollies, workmen at front of airplane.

SMIN 43,064-D

Right side view of Wright airplane being pulled to launching derrick by three workmen.

Bollettino della Società Aeronautica Italiana, v. 5, Dec. 1908: 412

Front view of Wright airplane following a flight, being towed back to starting point by automobile.

L'Illustration, v. 132, Sept. 19, 1908: 189; SMIN A43,064-A

Close-up rear view of the center section of the Wright airplane.

Bollettino della Società Aeronautica Italiana, v. 5, Dec. 1908: 413; Revue aérienne, v. 1, Nov. 25, 1908: 74

Right front view of Wright airplane, workman placing a towing dolly on underside of airplane to pull airplane to launching derrick.

Bollettino della Società Aeronautica Italiana, v. 5, Dec. 1908: 413

Close-up right rear view of Wright airplane on ground.

Aero Manual, 1909: 109; Conquête de l'air, v. 5, Nov. 1, 1908: 1

Wilbur carrying a section of launching track.

SMIN 43,064-F

Wilbur at apex of launching tower adjusting pulley.

SMIN A42,846-F

Wright airplane on flying field being made ready for flight by workmen, launching derrick at right.

Autocar, v. 21, Dec. 19, 1908: 999

Three-quarter front view of Wright airplane, Wilbur seated at controls ready for takeoff.

FWGMBH 6

Left front view of Wright airplane on flying field following a flight.

Conquétede l'air, v. 5, Oct. 15, 1908: 5

Group of men, including French Minister of Public Works Louis Barthou and Wilbur, walking across flying field to inspect Wright airplane.

L'illustration, v. 133, Jan. 9, 1909: 36

Leon Bolée (back to camera) at front of Wright airplane explaining its operation to Louis Barthou.

American Heritage, v. 11, Feb. 1960: 63

Close-up view of Wilbur seated at the controls of Wright airplane.

SMIN 42,534-B

Wilbur near Wright airplane explaining its operation to two interested men at either side of him, another in rear.

COCKDH following 168; U.S. Air Services, v. 13, Dec. 1928: 29; YPHA 34

Wilbur in level flight past the hangar and nearby roadway with starting derrick at extreme right, September 5.

Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Sept. 13, 1908: 47; Automotor, v. 13, Sept. 12, 1908: 1209; Flight, v. 1, Mar. 20, 1909: 13; Motor, v. 14, Sept. 8, 1908: 134; SMIN 10,879-C

Ernest Zens, French balloonist and Wilbur's first European passenger, seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom he flew on September 16.

L'Aérophile, v. 16, Dec. 1, 1908: 470; Automotor, v. 13, Oct. 3, 1908: 1303; Flight, v. 1, Mar. 20, 1909: 11; Illustrated London News, v. 133, Oct. 3, 1908: 477; PEPHO facing 64; Revue de l'aviation, v. 3, Oct. 15, 1908: 14; SMIN 10,879-G; SMIN A10,879-L; U.S. Air Services, v. 13, Dec. 1928: 32; VCAAF 57

Wilbur in airplane approaching from the left and about to pass the starting derrick, crowd at left gazing up at him, at twilight, September 21. The flight lasted 1 hour, 31 minutes, 25 4/5 seconds, establishing world flying records for duration and distance.

American Heritage, v. 11, Feb. 1960: 63; BIAFW facing 52; CHAHA 65; DOBOHA 196; L'Illustration, v. 132, Sept. 26, 1908: 212; MARWBC 23; MILWA v. 2: 148; SMIN 42,445-J; Vie grand air, v. 15, May 29, 1909: 355. Similar, without starting derrick: Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Oct. 3, 1908: 37; Motor, v. 14, Sept. 29, 1908: 252

Wright airplane approaching starting derrick from right in low-level flight on Wilbur's flight of September 21.

MCFWP 168; Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Oct 3, 1908: 37; BIAFW facing 52; Revue aérienne, v. 1, Oct 15, 1908: facing 9; R Aero Soc J, v. 57, Dec. 1953: 779; SMIN A3404

Front view of Wright airplane during flight of 54 minutes, 3 1/5 seconds carried out in an especially strong and gusty wind, September 24.

Revue de l'aviation, v. 3, Oct. 15, 1908: 5

Side view from below of Wright airplane in level flight to right, Wilbur and passenger Franz Reichel flying for 55 minutes, 32 1/5 seconds (this flight thus qualifying as one of the two stipulated in the Wright contract with Lazare Weiller), October 3.

Everybody's Magazine, v. 20, Jan. 1909: 112; LVTNA 316. Similar: Aviation, v. 25, Dec. 1, 1928: 1726; LOCA 207

Hart O. Berg seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom he flew on October 7.

Illustrated London News, v. 133, Oct. 24, 1908: 561. Similar: Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Oct. 18, 1908: 31

Mrs. Hart O. Berg seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom she flew as his first woman passenger on October 7, the first real flight made anywhere in the world by a woman.

L'Aérophile, v. 16, Nov. 1, 1908: 428; Allg Auto Zeit v. 9, Oct. 18, 1908: 31; ASHWB 71; Bee-Hive, v. 28, Fall 1953: 28; GSEFM; GSIA 148; GSPA 33; HILBW 38; Illustrated London News, v. 133, Oct. 24, 1908: 561; London Magazine, v. 21, Feb. 1909: 623; PEPHO facing 76; SMIN 18,094-E; SMIN 31,246-H; SMIN 43,064-B

Frank Hedges Butler seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom he flew as a passenger on October 8.

American Heritage, v. 11, Feb. 1960: 62; Autocar, v. 21, Oct. 31, 1908: 654; Illustrated London News, v. 133, Oct. 24, 1908: 561

Paul Doumer, member of the French parliament, seated in Wright airplane in preparation for flight as passenger with Wilbur, October 31.

DOBOHA 197

Full left side view of Wright airplane on launching track.
ADAMSF 47; SMIN 42,846-A. Similar, with Wilbur at rear right near rudder: BIAFW facing 24

Close-up left front view of Wright airplane on launching track, Wilbur kneeling between skids making adjustments to airplane.
SMIN 42,846-B

Wilbur in front of airplane elevator preparing to attach launching line to airplane.
SMIN 43,063-H

Wilbur in conversation with unidentified person in front of Wright airplane, third person approaching from right.
SMIN 43,064

Left rear view of Wright airplane on starting track, Wilbur between skids inspecting the motor before takeoff, two workmen standing by ready to swing the two propellers.

COCKDH following 168: Esso Air World, v. 6, Nov./Dec. 1953: 68; SMIN A3406; SMIN 42,584-A

Left rear view of Wright airplane at starting rail, Wilbur in shirt sleeves standing between skids at throttle of motor, workman near one propeller.

Esso Air World, v. 6, Nov./Dec. 1953: 69; FWGMBH 4; SMIN 42,845-E

Left front view of Wright airplane on launching track.
SMIN 43,063-C

Rear view of Wright airplane being prepared for takeoff by Wilbur, two assistants aiding and a large group of spectators in background, October 10.
SMIN 42,447-C

Front view of Wright airplane on launching rail, workmen active around airplane, launching derrick in background, large group of spectators observing preparations for flight on October 10.
R Aero Soc J, v. 57, Dec. 1953: 778

Right rear view of Wright airplane on ground, Wilbur on ladder adjusting rudders, Hart O. Berg standing nearest to wing.
SMIN 42,846

Front view of Wright airplane on starting rail with men nearby hoisting launching weight in preparation for takeoff.
SMIN A42,845-A

Charles S. Rolls, founder of British Rolls-Royce automobile firm, seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom he flew as a passenger on October 8.

Automotor, v. 13, Oct. 31, 1908: 1413; Illustrated London News, v. 133, Oct. 24, 1908: 561; R Aero Soc J, v. 57, Dec. 1953: 776

Maj. B. F. S. Baden-Powell, president of the Aeronautical Society of Great Britain, seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom he flew as a passenger on October 8.

Automotor, v. 13, Oct. 31, 1908: 1413

Griffith Brewer, first Englishman to fly, seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom he flew as a passenger on October 8.

Autocar, v. 21, Oct. 31, 1908: 654; Illustrated London News, v. 133, Oct. 24, 1908: 561; R Aero Soc J, v. 57, Dec. 1953: 776

Maj. B. F. S. Baden-Powell, Charles S. Rolls, and Frank Hedges Butler photographed in front of Wright airplane on visit to Camp d'Auvours on October 8.

The Car, v. 27, Dec. 16, 1908: 256

Right rear view of Wright airplane on flying field with group of people, including in center Dowager Queen Margherita of Italy, nearby in foreground to witness flights by Wilbur, October 8.

SMIN 42,845-C. Similar: American Heritage, v. 11, Feb. 1960: 63

Group of people including Wilbur, Dowager Queen Margherita, and Hart O. Berg gathered near Wright airplane on October 8.

SMIN A42,846-G

Side view of front elevator of Wright airplane, Wilbur on far side visiting with Dowager Queen Margherita, October 8.

Bollettino della Società Aeronautica Italiana, v. 5, Dec. 1908: 412; SMIN 42,845

Mrs. Lazare Weiller seated in Wright airplane with Wilbur with whom she flew as a passenger on October 9.

Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Oct. 18, 1908: 31; L'Illustration, v. 132, Oct. 17, 1908: 261; LVTNA 314; Revue aérienne, v. 2, Nov. 25, 1908: 73

Right front view of Wright airplane in level flight, Wilbur and passenger Prof. Paul Painlevé, mathematician and member of the French Institute, establishing a new world flying record of 1 hour, 9 minutes, 42 2/5 seconds, October 10.

L'Aéronaute, v. 42, Jan. 15, 1909: 3; Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Oct. 17, 1908: 29. Similar, Wilbur just passing launching derrick visible below at right: Automotor, v. 13, Oct. 17, 1908: cover.

Left rear view of Wright airplane on ground at end of starting rail, unsuccessful in taking off.

Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Oct.3, 1908: 35

Right rear view of Wright airplane taking off from starting rail.

GSWB 21; LVTNA 311; Revue aérienne, v. 2, Jan.25, 1909:56; Revue de l'aviation, v. 3, Sept. 15, 1908:5; Wiener Luftschiffer-Zeitung, v. 7, Nov.1908:218

Left rear view of Wright airplane in low-level flight just after takeoff from starting rail.

Allg Auto Zeit, v. 9, Oct. 3, 1909:35

Right front view of Wright airplane immediately after takeoff, the jettisonable undercarriage visible beneath the skids.

MCFWP 169; SMIN A3403

Left rear view of Wright airplane in flight just after takeoff.

SMIN 43,064-K

Side view of Wright airplane in level flight.

GSAS facing 128; GSEFM; GSREA b. 272-273; London Magazine, v. 21, Feb. 1909:622; Vie grand air, v. 21, June 8, 1912: 400

Full front view of Wright airplane in flight, witnessed by spectators in distant background and two unidentified men at extreme right.

SMIN 42,846-D

Right front view of Wright airplane, Wilbur in training flight with Count Lambert, buildings visible in lower foreground.

LVTNA 311

Left front view of Wright airplane in level flight passing to the right of the starting derrick at nightfall.

Everybody's Magazine, v. 20, Jan. 1909:111; London Magazine, v. 21, Feb. 1909:621. Similar: L'aviation illustrée, v. 1, Mar. 6, 1909:cover; HATWYF facing 33

Left front view of Wright airplane in level flight above treetops.

CHAHA 64; Revue de l'aviation, v. 3, Sept. 15, 1908:6; Wiener Luftschiffer-Zeitung, v. 7, Nov. 1908:279

Wilbur in Right turning to his left near edge of flying field.

L'Aérophile, v. 16, Oct. 15, 1908:398; L'Aérophile, v. 16, Dec. 1, 1908: 475; Revue aérienne, v. 2, Jan 25, 1909:34

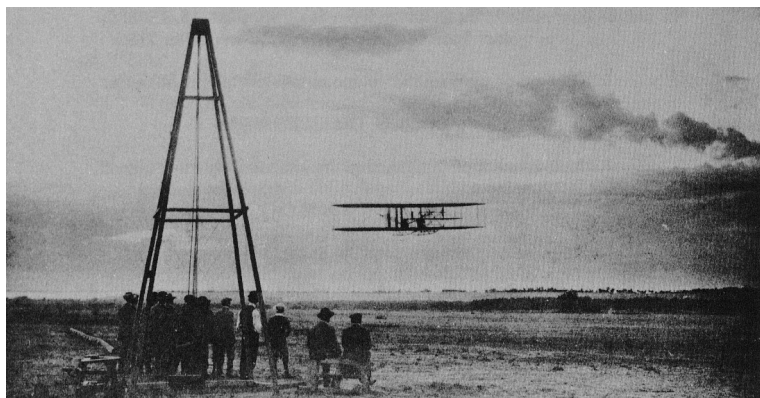
Wright airplane in low-level flight, turning to right, with marker Rag, two men, and woman at lower right.

SMIN 43,055-E

Right front view of Wright airplane in flight over flying field, only trees visible in far distance.

SMIN 43,147-A

Wilbur guides his plane past the starting derrick at Camp d'Auvours, Le Mans, France, at twilight on September 21, 1908, for a flight that established world records for distance and duration. National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, photo no. A42445J.



Wright airplane in high-level flight on November 18, Wilbur flying to an altitude of 60 meters and winning the 25-meter altitude prize of the Aero-Club de France.

MCFWP 170

Wright airplane in high-level flight, Wilbur flying above a 100-meter balloon to an altitude of 115 meters, establishing a new world record and winning the altitude prize of the Aéro-Club de la Sarthe, December 18.

MCFWP 171; L'Aérophile, v. 17, Jan. 1, 1909:12; American Heritage, v. 11, Feb. 1960:62; DOBOHA 196; Fachzeitung für Automobilismus, v. 3, Jan. 17, 1909:16; Graphic, V. 78, Dec. 26, 1908:815; L'Illustration, v. 132, Dec. 26, 1908:443; IllAero Mitteil, v. 13, Jan. 13, 1909:3; Motor, v. 14, Dec. 29, 1908:741; Revue aérienne, v. 2, Jan.25, 1909:58; Revue de l'aviation, v. 4, Jan. 1, 1909:11

Right front view of Wright airplane in flight passing an American flag raised on the Auvours flying field at the start of Wilbur's record-breaking flight (which won the Michelin Cup for 1908 and a prize of 20,000 francs) covering 123 kilometers, 200 meters in a time of 2 hours, 18 minutes, 33 3/5 seconds, December 31.

L'Illustration, v. 133, Jan. 8, 1909:36

Wright airplane in flight near sundown and end of Wilbur's record-breaking flight, December 31.

HILBW 58