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Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

Arthur Raymond Brooks Collection - Diary, 1917-1918

Extracted on Sep-23-2024 09:49:00

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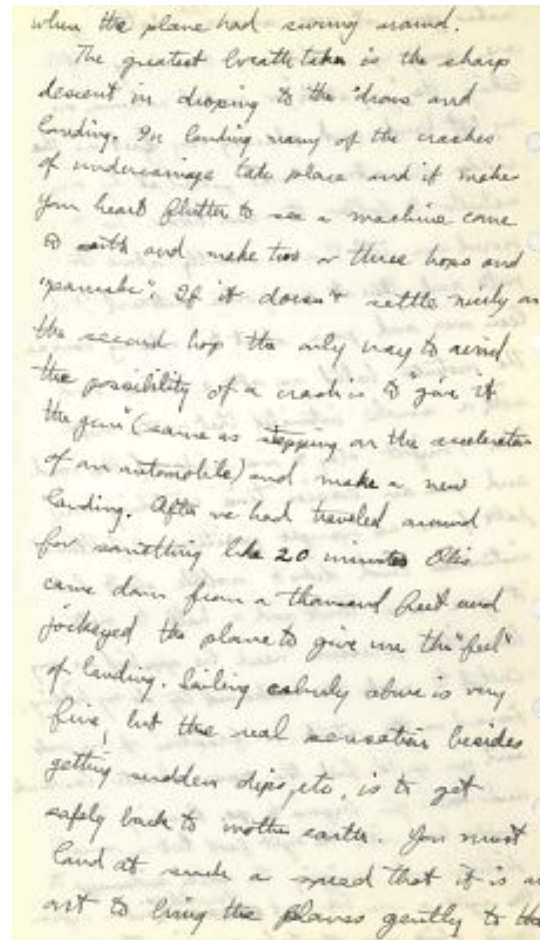
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when the plane had swung around.

The greatest breath taken is the sharp descent in dropping to the 'drome and landing. In landing many of the crashes of undercarriage take place and it makes your heart flutter to see a machine come to earth and make two or three hops and "pancake". If it doesn't settle nicely on the second hop the only way to avoid the possibility of a crash is to "give it the gun" (same as stepping on the accelerator of an automobile) and make a new landing. After we had traveled around for something like 20 minutes Ellis came down from a thousand feet and jockeyed the plane to give me the "feel" of landing. Sailing calmly above is very fine, but the real sensation besides getting sudden dips, etc. is to get safely back to mother earth. You must land at such a speed that it is an art to bring the planes gently to the

A photograph of a handwritten page from a diary. The text is written in cursive on aged, yellowed paper. The handwriting is somewhat slanted and matches the typed transcription provided. There are some faint circular marks on the right side of the page, possibly from a binder or punch holes. The text describes the experience of flying and landing, mentioning a 'drome, undercarriage crashes, and the 'feel' of landing. It also mentions traveling for 20 minutes and a pilot named Ellis.

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