



THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K0572

Walter W. Davis (1922-2011) Papers

1948-2007

1 cubic foot

Davis was a flight engineer with Trans World Airlines (TWA). Includes newsletters, publications, clippings, handbooks, and reports, and employee agreements, an employee grievance pamphlet, a retirement handbook, and a copy of a legal Motion for Intervention filed by Flight Engineers

BIOGRAPHY:

Walter W. Davis was born in Hemple, Missouri. He graduated from Brookfield, Missouri High School, and then studied at the Missouri Aviation Institute in Kansas City, Missouri. Davis was first employed by Curtis Wright in St. Louis, Missouri, working on the early manufacture of the C46. He moved to Kansas City and worked on the B25's, progressing to Tulsa, Oklahoma and 4-engine B24's. Davis entered the U.S. Navy in 1944 and served as an Aviation Machinist Mate until 1946. He joined TWA in 1946 and retired in 1984 as a flight engineer. Davis flew both domestic and international flights, on all airplanes requiring a Flight Engineer C54/747.

In 1976 Walter Davis was awarded Flight Engineer of the Year from the Chicago domicile. After his retirement, Davis became involved in the restoration of the Lockheed Constellation "Connie" in Kansas City. During the 15 years he worked with the "Connie", he was made "Designated Flight Engineer" by the F.A.A. He conducted yearly recurrent classes and personal instruction to new flight engineers for the "Connie." In 1996, Davis received the Charles Taylor Master Mechanics award, presented to those with 50 years aircraft mechanic experience.

Walter W. Davis married Frances Houser from Marceline, Missouri in 1942. They had one son who became a TWA pilot after service in the Navy. Of his two grandsons, one became a pilot with Jet Blue.

PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Mrs. Frances Davis as accession KA1802 on May 25, 2010. An addition, KA1930 was received on April 26, 2011.

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Specific item; folder number; *Walter W. Davis (1922-2011) Papers (K0572)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

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DESCRIPTION:

This collection consists of an inspection write-up report, employee agreements, an employee grievance pamphlet, a retirement handbook, and a copy of a legal Motion for Intervention filed by Flight Engineers August 1978. Additional materials include newsletters, publications, clippings, handbooks, and reports.

INVENTORY:

BOX 001

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| Folder 1 | Inspection Write-up report, L.B. Garriott, MCI Engineering to Capt. T. Cassutt, Flight Engineers W. Davis and R. Preston dated October 20, 1958. |
| Folder 2 | TWA Employee agreements 1948, 1968; employee grievance pamphlet, retirement plan handbook, 1955. |
| Folder 3 | Motion for Intervention- Air Line Pilots Association against TWA, Flight Engineers, interveners, August 23, 1978 |

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- Folder 4 Award of Excellence- Walter W. Davis, held at Stratford-upon-Avon, England, March 28-30, 1977
- Folder 5 Newsletters: Flight Engineers International Association, April 1961-March 1962
- Folder 6 Flight Engineers strike of 1961, scrapbook
- Folder 7 Feinsinger Report, 1961
- Folder 8 TWA reports progress of lack of ALPA cooperation 1962
- Folder 9 Clippings: re Flight Engineers strike, 1961
- Folder 10 *Standard Aircraft Worker's Manual*, Fletcher Aircraft School, 1941 [Mr. F.A. Pollmiller]
- Folder 11 TWA *Flight Engineer Bulletins*, June 10, 1955-June 13, 1958
- Folder 12 TWA *Flight Engineer Information Letter*; November 21, 1956, October 31, 1957, April 10, 1958
- Folder 13 TWA Flight Crew recurrent training questionnaire, May 7, 1976-November 7, 1983
- Folder 14 TWA Flight Crew recurrent training bulletin-1979, 1980, 1981, 1983; Flight Engineer training guides-February 28, 1974, November 18, 1974
- Folder 15 747 Questions, October 23, 1979
- Folder 16 Lockheed *Field Service Digest*, July 1954-June 1958
- Folder 17 Lockheed *Field Service Digest*, November 1954-August 1960
- Folder 18 TWA *Boeing 747 Flight Handbook*, December 10, 1980-May 17, 1982
- Folder 19 *Service and Line Maintenance Instructions PB-10 Automatic Pilot*, 1988
- Folder 20 *Flight Engineer Knowledge Test Guide*, 1999
- Folder 21 TWA *Systemwide Timetable*, December 20, 2000; TWA *Pocket Reference Cards-Flight Operations*, September 1976, November 1978, October 1980, January 1981, November 1982, August 1989
- Folder 22 Clippings, 1958-1962
- Folder 23 Clippings: Ona Gieschen, Save A Connie Museum, May 15, 1994
- Folder 24 Jackson County Historical Society Journal, Spring 2007- *TWA's Mid-Town Building. .With a Rocket on Top. .* by Ona Gieschen
- Folder 25 *A History of TWA Aircraft*
- Folder 26 *Men at Work- Flight Engineer* by Richard Thruelsen, reprint from Saturday Evening Post, 1954

- Folder 27 *Skyliner*, June 17, 1954; *Skyliner*, December 20, 1991
- Folder 28 1981 Retirement-Pilots
- Folder 29 Accidents: TWA Flight 800, July 17, 1996; Boeing Stratoliner
307, March 28, 2002; TWA Flight 841, September 8, 1974
- Folder 30 Photograph (color copy) Flight Engineers control panels