



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Air France Concorde Collection [Martus]

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2020

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Air France Concorde Collection [Martus]
Date:	1978
Identifier:	NASM.2019.0030
Creator:	Air France Trans World Airlines
Extent:	0.01 Cubic feet (One legal folder.)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This accession consists of ephemera relating to Virginia D. Martus and Dorothy K. de Silva's Air France Concorde flight on May 28, 1978.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Virginia D. Martus, Gift, 2012, NASM.2019.0030

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Patti Williams, 2020.

Preferred Citation

Air France Concorde Collection [Martus], NASM.2019.0030, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

The first supersonic airliner to enter service, the Concorde flew thousands of passengers across the Atlantic at twice the speed of sound for over 25 years. Designed and built by Aérospatiale of France and the British Aviation Corporation (BAC), the graceful Concorde was a stunning technological achievement that could not overcome serious economic problems. In 1976, Air France and British Airways jointly inaugurated Concorde service to destinations around the globe. Carrying up to 100 passengers in great comfort, the Concorde catered to first class passengers for whom speed was critical. It could cross the Atlantic in fewer than four hour—half the time of a conventional jet airliner. However its high operating costs resulted in very high fares

that limited the number of passengers who could afford to fly it. These problems and a shrinking market eventually forced the reduction of service until all Concorde were retired in 2003.

Scope and Contents

This accession consists of the following material relating to Virginia D. Martus and Dorothy K. de Silva's Air France Concorde flight on May 28, 1978: Air France flight certificates, along with letters explaining the certificates; two copies of the "Concorde Network" brochures, one from de Silva's is annotated with flight information; three postcards of the Air France Concorde; one 8.5 by 10 inch photograph of the Air France Concorde; a "Guide for the Supersonic Traveller" brochure, produced by Air France; and two menus. This collection also contains two Trans World Service (TWA) menus, presumedly from their trip back to the United States.

Arrangement

Arranged by type.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics, Commerical -- Meals
- Airlines
- Concorde (Jet transports)

Types of Materials:

- Ephemera -- 1890-2000