



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

American Airlines Scrapbook

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2020

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	American Airlines Scrapbook
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0038
Date:	October 1945
Creator:	American Airlines
Extent:	0.68 Cubic feet (One flat box)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This scrapbook documents the introduction of American Airlines' Boston to London commercial service in October 1945.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Raymond Leonard, Gift, Unknown, NASM.XXXX.0038

Processing Information

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

Preferred Citation

American Airlines Scrapbook, NASM.XXXX.0038, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

American Airlines was developed from a conglomeration of 82 small airlines through acquisitions and reorganizations; initially called American Airways, it was a common brand for a number of independent carriers. These included Southern Air Transport in Texas, Southern Air Fast Express (SAFE) in the western US, Universal Aviation in the Midwest (which operated a transcontinental air/rail route in 1929), Thompson Aeronautical Services (which operated a Detroit-Cleveland route beginning in 1929) and Colonial Air Transport in the Northeast. On January 25, 1930, American Airways was incorporated as a single company, based in New York, with routes from Boston, New York and Chicago to Dallas, and from Dallas to Los Angeles. In 1934, American Airways Company was acquired by E. L. Cord, who renamed it "American Air Lines." Cord hired Texas businessman C. R. (Cyrus Rowlett) Smith to run the company. American was one

of the four airlines, along with United Eastern, and TWA, that dominated the major transcontinental routes. Today American Airlines, Inc. is the world's third-largest airline in passenger miles transported, passenger fleet size, and operating revenues.

Scope and Contents

This scrapbook contains the following types of material documenting the introduction of American Airlines' Boston to London commercial service in October 1945: newspaper articles; photographs of crew, passengers, and christening speakers; flight memorabilia; and three 78 rpm record son the christening of the aircraft *New England* on 21 October 1945.

Arrangement

No arrangement, one scrapbook.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Airlines
- Transatlantic flights

Container Listing

Box 1, Item 1

Scrapbook

[Image\(s\)](#)

[Image\(s\)](#)