



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT), Inc. Collection [Sheaffer]

Jessamyn Lloyd

2020

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT), Inc. Collection [Sheaffer]
Date:	1928-1952 (bulk 1928-1943)
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0267
Creator:	Sheaffer, Daniel
Extent:	1.91 Cubic feet (1 legal document box, 1 slim legal document box, and 3 flatboxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) was the first US airline associated with railroads (Pennsylvania and Santa Fe) in providing a rapid form of coast to coast transportation service. This collection includes material that Daniel M. Sheaffer collected about Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT).

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Mrs. Daniel M. Sheaffer, Gift, unknown, NASM.XXXX.0267

Processing Information

Arranged and described by Patricia Williams in 1992, updated by Kristin Harley (intern) in 2010. Further updated and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2020.

Preferred Citation

Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT), Inc. Collection [Sheaffer], NASM.XXXX.0267, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

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Biographical / Historical

The Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) was the first US airline associated with railroads (Pennsylvania and Santa Fe) in providing a rapid form of coast to coast transportation service. Daniel M. Sheaffer, as the chairman of the executive committee of TAT, was a pioneer in the development of commercial aviation for

mail express and passengers. He assisted in the actual development of the TAT line and with the inauguration of the service.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes material that Daniel M. Sheaffer collected about Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT), including: tickets, advertisements, brochures, route maps, schedules, TAT business documents, TAT Air Mail and Postal Telegraph documents, photographs, postcards (showing "TAT plane over" various geographical landmarks), correspondence, and scrapbooks. There is also some material pertaining to Curtiss-Wright Corporation. The photographs show TAT terminals and aircraft, and famous personalities including Amelia Earhart and Will Rogers.

Note: The digital images in this finding aid were repurposed from scans made by an outside contractor for a commercial product and may show irregular cropping and orientation in addition to color variations resulting from damage to and deterioration of the original objects. In addition, images of some material in the collection have been excluded from online display due to possible copyright restrictions.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged by type of material.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics, Commercial
- Aeronautics, Commercial -- Passenger traffic
- Aeronautics, Commercial -- United States
- Air mail service
- Air travel
- Railroad travel

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements
- Brochures
- Business records
- Correspondence
- Maps
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks
- Tickets

Names:

- Curtiss-Wright Corporation
- Earhart, Amelia, 1897-1937
- Pennsylvania Railroad Company
- Santa Fe Railroad

Sheaffer, Daniel
Transcontinental Air Transport

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Photo Album "Construction"
Box 1, Folder 2	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Inauguration July 7-9, 1929
Box 2, Folder 1	Meeting of the Board of Directors held at Curtiss-Wright Corporation, Airplane Division, Buffalo Plant, Thursday, 2/11/1943
Box 2, Folder 2	Scrapbook
Box 2, Folder 3	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT), Inc. Scrapbook Vol. I
Box 3, Folder 1	Curtiss-Wright Corporation Propeller Division Indianapolis Plant Book, 1943
Box 4, Folder 1	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Tickets
Box 4, Folder 2	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Advertisements and Schedules
Box 4, Folder 3	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) and Maddux Air Lines Material
Box 4, Folder 4	"Inauguration of the First 48 Hour Coast - to - Coast Service by Rail and Air"
Box 4, Folder 5	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT), Photocopies of Scrapbooks
Box 4, Folder 6	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Photographs
Box 4, Folder 7	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Illustrated Map (Hard Cover)
Box 4, Folder 8	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) and Maddux Air Lines Brochures and Schedules
Box 4, Folder 9	Photo Album
Box 4, Folder 10	Correspondence
Box 4, Folder 11	Photographs
Box 4, Folder 12	Newspaper Articles
Box 4, Folder 13	Air Mail Documents, Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT)
Box 4, Folder 14	Curtiss-Wright Documents
Box 4, Folder 15	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Documents [Folder 1 of 3]
Box 5, Folder 1	Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) Documents [Folder 2 of 3]

Box 5, Folder 2 [Transcontinental Air Transport \(TAT\) Documents \[Folder 3 of 3\]](#)

Box 5, Folder 3 [Airway Maps](#)

Box 5, Folder 4 [Miscellaneous](#)