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National Air and Space Museum

Agreement Between United Air Lines, Inc. and the Air Line Stewardesses Association

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Agreement Between United Air Lines, Inc. and the Air Line Stewardesses Association
Date:	1946
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.1119
Creator:	United Air Lines, Inc. Air Line Stewards and Stewardesses Association
Extent:	0.05 Cubic feet (1 folder)
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Air Line Stewardesses Association (ALSA) was founded in 1945 by flight attendants at United Air Lines. This collection consists of the first collective bargaining agreement negotiated between United Air Lines, Inc. and ALSA.
Digital Content:	Image(s): Agreement Between United Air Lines, Inc. and the Air Line Stewardesses Association

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Unknown, assumed to be Edith E. Lauterbach, NASM.XXXX.1119.

Processing Information

Arranged and described (2011), updated and encoded (2023) by Jessamyn Lloyd.

Preferred Citation

Agreement Between United Air Lines, Inc. and the Air Line Stewardesses Association, NASM.XXXX.1119, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

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Biographical / Historical

The Air Line Stewardesses Association (ALSA) was founded in 1945 by flight attendants at United Air Lines. The first president was Ada J. Brown, who left her position as chief stewardess and returned to the

ranks in order to be able to organize the union. The first collective bargaining agreement between United Air Lines and ALSA was signed on April 25, 1946 and won voluntary recognition of ALSA by United as well as important victories for the flight attendants including a pay raise, compensation for work done on the ground, monthly limits on flying hours, and reimbursement for half the cost of their first uniform. ALSA also won flight attendants the right to see their personnel files and established a grievance process to dispute disciplinary actions and dismissals. Edith E. Lauterbach was one of the founding members of the Air Line Stewardesses Association. The Association of Flight Attendants-CWA (ALSA's successor organization) gives the Edith Lauterbach Merit Award, named in her honor, to a member who shows exceptional leadership and commitment.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the first collective bargaining agreement negotiated between United Air Lines, Inc. and the Air Line Stewardesses Association. The document covers such areas as rates of compensation, hours of work, working conditions, and a procedure for the settling of disputes. The agreement is effective January 1, 1946 and is printed in a booklet which measures 4 by 6.5 inches. The booklet is stamped on the last page with Edith E. Lauterbach's name and address.

Arrangement

Collection is a single item.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Aeronautics