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K0570

R.L. (Lewis) Proctor (1912-1998) Papers
1942-1952
1/3 cubic feet

Papers of a flight engineer for Trans World Airlines (TWA). Includes training manuals, a flight engineers handbook, Far East Survey Flight notebooks, a few photographs and biographical information.

BIOGRAPHY:

R.L. (Lewis) Proctor, of Carthage, Missouri, attended the University of Kansas, Lawrence for two years before entering Parks Aircraft College in East St. Louis. In 1930-31 he earned a Limited Commercial Pilots license and Aircraft Engine Mechanics license. Lacking enough flying hours and mechanical experience on airplanes Proctor went to work for TWA in 1935 on a ground job. In 1940, Proctor became a Flight Engineer on the new Boeing 307 and participated in the first flight of its operation as part of World War II. He was flight engineer on the first long distance flight of the DC-4 across the North Atlantic to Scotland. On April 17, 1944, Proctor was the co-flight engineer on the Lockheed Constellation's TWA Model 049 first transcontinental speed flight from Burbank California to Washington D.C. completed in just over six hours. Howard Hughes was pilot, and Jack Frye, president of TWA was co-pilot.

Near the end of the war, TWA sent Proctor to Kansas City to set up a flight engineering program for the old Boeing 307's which were being modified to use on domestic operation in the U.S.A. When TWA consolidated the domestic and international divisions, Proctor was named systems manager of flight engineers. He held this position for several years.

PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Ruthann Proctor as accession KA1795 on May 17, 2010.

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Specific item; folder number; *R.L. (Lewis) Proctor (1912-1998) Papers* (K0590); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

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DESCRIPTION:

The collection consists of training manuals, a flight engineers handbook, Far East Survey Flight notebooks, a few photographs and biographical information.

INVENTORY:**BOX 001***MANUALS*

- Folder 1. *Hydraulic Principles*, Airlines War Training Institute, 1942
- Folder 2. *Hydromatic Propellers-Model 43E60- Maintenance manual*, Hamilton Standard, November 1952
- Folder 3. *Engine Principles*, Airlines War Training Institute, 1943
- Folder 4. *Constellation-Flight Engineer's Handbook*, Lockheed Aircraft Service, January 1946
- Folder 5. *Far East Survey*, flight notebook , TWA, October 1952 (2), includes loose pages handwritten and typed

BIOGRAPHICAL

- Folder 6. Clippings, autobiographical history, photographs including; flight engineers group, autographed photo of Warren Lee Pierson, chairman of the board, TWA, and R.L. Proctor.