

PRELIMINARY INVENTORY
K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsofmo-kc@umsystem.edu.

Introduction

Approximately 8 cu. ft.

Personal papers of Jerry W. Cosley, vice president of corporate communications at Trans World Airlines, include correspondence, press releases, clippings, reports, publications and photographs related to TWA and his work in public relations there and with other airlines and communications companies.

Cosley was born October 13, 1935, in Dayton, Ohio to John Weddell and Jessie Blanche (Hussey) Cosley. He was raised in Troy, Ohio, graduating from Troy High School in 1953. He joined the Army, serving from 1954-1956. After an Honorable Discharge, Jerry attended Bowling Green State University, graduating in 1960 with a Bachelor's Degree in business, majoring in journalism and minoring in foreign languages. He completed graduate work in aerospace science at Miami University of Ohio and also attended McGill University in Montreal as well.

During his 25-year career with TWA, he worked in public relations departments in Chicago (1960-1963), Los Angeles (1963-1967), San Francisco (1967-1973), Kansas City (1973-1978) and New York (1978-1985), ultimately retiring in 1985. That same year, he accepted a position with Eastern Airlines in Miami. Jerry returned to Kansas City in 1989 as an employee of United Telecom. He briefly returned to TWA in 1992; two years later he accepted a position with UtiliCorp United, Inc., retiring as senior vice president of corporate communications in 2001.

On Dec. 11, 1999, Jerry married Cheryl Darlene Christy. He had two sons, Doug and Matt Cosley, and one daughter, Dana Lambo.

A licensed pilot, Jerry also had a love of airplanes, owning a Stolp Starlet which he donated to the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He was involved with the Airline History Museum and the Save-A-Connie.

He died at the age of 76 on October 6, 2012 and is buried at Lathrop Cemetery in Lathrop, Missouri.

Donor Information

This gift was received from Cheryl Cosley as accession KA2123 on June 28, 2013.

Box List

Box 1 (030305)

Personal Correspondence, 1970-1993

Correspondence

Wes Bunter, Gordon "Parky" Parkinson, Ed Betts, 1979-1981

Robert and Dottie McKay, 1987-1994

Arnold B. Crank, 1988-1989 (includes photographs and Crank's obituary)

Robert Serling, 1994-2008

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

George R. Bauer, 1975, 1999-2000 (author of *The Dreamers and the Doers*)

Interoffice correspondence (memos, emails, faxes, letters, articles)

- Miscellaneous, 1955-1958
- Staffing and job descriptions, 1977-1994
- TWA response line, 1981-1985
- Pass privileges dispute 1985-1995
- Cosley's TWA OpEd piece, 2001
- Newsgrams, 1980-1981
- Newsgrams, "View the Note," by Jerry Cosley, 1994

Press Releases, "News from TWA"

- 1953-1969
- January 30, 1965 (full television news coverage of Sir Winston Churchill's funeral)
- 1970-1976
- 1994

Company Publications

- TAT Plane Talk*, July 1929 (Transcontinental Air Transport, Inc.)
- Skyliner*, 1947, 1958-1969, 1974-1992 (incomplete)
- TWA Ambassador*, December, 1957
- TWA Today*, June 19, 1972
- Miscellaneous publications, n. d., 1977
- 30 Years of Service: Trans World Airlines*, 1955
- Where It's At*, 1982
- TWA Seniors Club, 2002

General Publications

- Project: Guidelines to Equal Opportunity Employment*, March-April, 1966
- Maddux Air Lines*, brochure, pre-1930
- TWA's Services to Ethiopia*, April 1959 (8th Case Study, United States Business Performance Abroad)
- 40th Anniversary Coast to Coast United States Airmail*, September 8, 1960
- "Howard Hughes's Biggest Surprise," *Fortune Magazine*, July 1, 1966
- Steel Rails and Silver Wings*, by George Foster & Robert Serling, n. d.
- Dow Jones News Service articles, 1983-1987, 1993-1994, 2001
- "Icahn Unleashed," *Forbes*, April 15, 2013
- "Missouri Aeronautical Chart," 1974
- Falcon*, & *The Suburban Pilot*, newspapers, 1975 & 1977
- Newspaper clippings, 1957-1994
- Save-A-Connie/Airline History Museum, newsletters, articles, 1994-2003

Executives

- Betts, Fred Col. (TWA VP of Purchasing), *One-Third Century in the Air*, n. d.
- Blackburn, Harold F. (Pilot, TWA Director of Travel Development), bio, articles, transcript, 1946-1961
- Breech, Ernest R. (TWA Honorary Chairman, Director Emeritus), speech and interview, 1966 & 1970
- Brenner, Melvin A. (TWA VP of Marketing Planning), speeches, 1970

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

Burgess, Carter L. (TWA President), speeches, 1957
Clemson, John H. Col. (TWA VP of Passenger Services), Legion of Merit, bio, articles & writings, 1944-1979
Corris, John J. (TWA Assist to VP of Public Relations, Chairman of TWA PR committee), writing for PR Journal, 1971
Damon, Ralph S. (TWA President), speech, 1955
Gilmore, Gordon (TWA VP Public Relations), speeches, lectures, 1959-1973 (2 folders)
Hall, Floyd D. (Chairman, khJet Planning Committee), speech, n. d.
Hughes, Howard (Airplane designer), 1942-1947 & 1962-1963
Magurno, Richard P. (TWA Sr. VP & General Counsel), position announcement, resume, 1994
Meyer, C.E. Jr. (TWA President), publications, speeches, articles, testimony, 1976-1980
Neff, William James (TWA VP Technical Services, Maintenance, Purchasing, Sales), obituary, 2002
Smart, Edwin (TWA chairman), obituary, 1998
Tillinghast, Charles C. Jr. (TWA President), interviews, *U.S. News & World Report*, 1970 & 1975
Tillinghast, Charles C. Jr. (TWA President), speeches, articles, obituary, 1974, 1981 & 1998
Wilson, Robin H. H. (TWA Sr. VP Operations), speech, 1976
Wilson, Robin H. H. (TWA Co-CEO), "Corporate Restructuring...", March 17, 1993
Wiser, F. C. (TWA President), speeches, 1969-1972
Zander, Glenn R. (TWA Co-CEO), "An Industry in Crisis," testimony, March 10, 1993

Box 2 (030506)

Incidents

Civil Aeronautics Board Aircraft Accident Report, 1962 (Flight 529, September 1, 1961)
Miscellaneous, n. d., 1966
National Transportation & Safety Board Releases and Reports, misc., 1969-1976
Boeing 707-331C, San Francisco (September 13, 1972); report, clippings & correspondence, 1972-1973
Grand Canyon; correspondence, articles, *Today Show* transcript, 1976
Croatian hijackers, September, 1976
TWA flight 847 hijacking (June 1985); transcript, articles, correspondence, 1985-1987
TWA flight 800, July 17, 1996; book reviews, articles, 2002-2003

Reports

Aircraft operated by TWA and predecessor companies, 1925-1967
TWA Jet Planning, 1958-1960
Engine Monitor Program, 1965
Jet Fleet Audit, 1966

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

- TWA's "Visit USA" Efforts, March 29, 1968
- Official list of aircraft prepared by Finance Dept., 1968-1969
- TWA Technical Services Training, 1970
- "Management Realignment," confidential special project prepared by Golightly and Co. International, Inc., September 30, 1980
- TWA Study Plan for Review of Organization, February 21, 1984
- TWA Progress Review for the Study of Organization, May 22, 1984
- Review of the Results of "The Turn Around Plan," TWA, May 9, 1994
- Trans World Airlines, Inc. Management Summary, June 2, 1994
- Presentation, Analyst Briefing TWA LLC Integration, 2001
- Public Relations, TWA (objectives and manuals), 1963-1979
- Employees
 - TWA Suggestion Plan (Daniel McGrogan), 1969
 - TWA Benefits –ESOP, 1993-1999
 - TWA Kansas City Alumni Roster, 2007
- Historical
 - Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., Agreement with Douglas Aircraft Co., September 20, 1932
 - Transcontinental & Western Air, Inc., Book of Rules, personnel, memos, 1930-1934
 - Flight log of TWA Constellation Number 310, April 17, 1944 (copy)
 - Stock certificate for Fairchild Engine and Airplane Corporation, July 19, 1954
 - First round the world flight, 1955 (clipping, press release)
 - Historical photograph file, 1967 (not photographs)
 - "Wings of Empire: a history of TWA," by Dr. James E. Pollard, Ohio State University, September 7, 1967
 - TWA history (articles, timelines & chronological lists), 1967-1968, 1993
 - Douglas DC-2 50th Anniversary Ceremonies program (1934-1984), May 1984
 - News briefs, histories of TWA, 2001
 - Aircraft history, 2001-2002, 2008
 - TWA historical book project (research, correspondence), edited by Dan McGrogan, 1968-1970
- Legal
 - Continental Airlines-Texas International Airlines-TXIA Holdings Corporation, Bankruptcy Court proceedings, 1984
 - Proposed merger between TWA and Icahn, August 5, 1985
 - Amended findings (Continental & IAM), U.S. Bankruptcy Court, August 9, 1985
 - TWA/Texas Air Corp Merger, 1985-1987
 - International Air Carrier Reorganization Act, n. d.

Box 3 (030492)

Chicago Office, 1960-1963

Cosley began his career with TWA when he accepted a position as public information representative assigned to central region sales staff based in Chicago in August 1960. During his tenure there, he went to New York on special assignment to cover the grand opening of TWA Flight Center at Idlewild International Airport (now

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

JFK) designed by Eero Saarinen in May 1962. The materials in this section include Cosley's resume, college interview form, and job inquiries as well as interoffice communications, articles regarding TWA and public relations materials.

Employment history, 1960-1962

TWA publicity, 1960-1963

Jet service start-up IND/TUL, 1961-1962

TWA Flight Center Dedication & Charity Ball, May 1962

Nagua Fouad (Egypt's #1 belly dancer) in New York, 1962, 2003

Los Angeles Office, 1963-1967

Cosley transferred from Chicago to the Los Angeles office in May 1963 where he continued his work in public relations for TWA as assistant to the public relations director serving southern California and the Far East. Materials in this section include documents pertaining to his transfer, as well as office communications, press releases and clippings related to TWA.

Employment history, 1963-1967

TWA publicity, 1963-1968

Royal party of Monaco, 1967 & 2001

San Francisco Office, 1967-1973

Cosley continued his career with his appointment as public relations manager for TWA's northwest region based in San Francisco. Materials in this section include transfer correspondence, interoffice communications, clippings and other documents relating to events occurring while at the San Francisco headquarters.

Employment history, 1967-1973

TWA publicity, 1968-1969

Interoffice correspondence, 1968-1973

Publicity, Harrah's Ford Tri-Motor (Tin Goose Flies Again), 1970

Grape Boycott, 1970-1971

United Nations 25th Anniversary (June 26, 1970), 1970

TWA Flight 8100A to China by Captain Dixon, February, 1972

Ida Staggers (TWA air hostess) retirement, 1971-1972 (3 folders)

TWA SF Bay area sales reunion, September 12, 1994

Kansas City Office, 1973-1978

Cosley was named director of public relations at TWA's operational headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri in April of 1973. Materials in this section include correspondence and communications from this office.

Employment history, 1973-1977

Interoffice correspondence, 1973-1978 (5 folders)

New York Office, 1978-1985

Cosley transferred from Kansas City to New York when he accepted a position as vice president of corporate communications in 1978. He also served as ATA vice chairman. His retirement from TWA was effective November 1, 1985, and he continued his career as senior vice president of corporate communications at Eastern Airlines in Miami. Materials in this section include correspondence and documents relating to his transfer, retirement and other office communications.

Employment history, 1978-1979

Interoffice correspondence, 1979-1984 (4 folders)

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

Cartoons, n. d., 1979
Management realignment, 1980-1981
Meeting agendas, 1984
TWA Retirement & Eastern Airlines hire, 1985
Kansas City Office, 1992-1994
Cosley returned to TWA in 1992 and worked there until his termination June 30, 1994. Materials in this section pertain to office communications conveyed during that time and include employment agreements and termination documents.
Employment History, 1991-1993
Interoffice correspondence, 1992-1994
Interoffice correspondence, June 1994 & 2004

Box 4 (030493)

Kansas City Office continued
Resumes & cover letters, 1992-1993
Naval Aviations, 1992-1993
Termination of employment with TWA, June 30, 1994

China

Materials in this section include documents relating to TWA's business with services in China (CAAC – Civil aviation Administration of China) such as preliminary studies, negotiations conferences, and publications.

Publications

TWA introduction brochure and annual report, n. d. & 1971
U. S. policy toward China, July 15, 1971-January 15, 1979
TWA China study, 1979-1980 (artifact, notebook, removed)
U. S. – People's Republic of China Service Proceeding Docket 38629
before Civil Aeronautics Board, Washington D. C., n. d.
CAAC-TWA negotiation presentation, March 1980 (2 folders)
TWA-Beijing conference, March 5-8, 1980 (artifact, binder, removed)

Correspondence

TWA-CAAC, 1972-1980
TWA-CAAC, negotiation agreements, March-July, 1980
U. S.-China negotiations, July-August, 1980 (improper communications)
G.Y. Linn Employment contract & termination, 1980
Crew briefings for charters, 1980

United Telecom

Cosley worked for United Telecom as vice president of corporate communications from 1989-1991 before going back to TWA in 1992.

Correspondence

Interoffice memos (misc.), May-July 1990 (2 folders)
Correspondence & clippings (shareholder's lawsuit), 1990
Memos & contract (Cosley's transition and settlement), 1990-1991
Correspondence (securities, litigation), 1992-1993

Newspaper clippings, 1992-1993

Photographs

Miscellaneous, n. d. (TWA Cpt. S. J. Fallucco, Jr., Jerry Cosley)

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

Miscellaneous & awards, n. d., 1959, 1965
Miscellaneous, n. d. & 1972 (China, Cpt. W. A. "Bill" Dixon, The Kansas Clipper)
Airplanes (Air France, U. S. Air Force & unidentified), n. d.
"Aleggie? Anderson Orchids," n. d.
Ford Tri-Motor (Barbara "Bobbi" Darby, 1970 Reno Nat'l Championship Air Races Queen), n. d. & 1970
China, preliminary study, 1973-1979 (2 folders)
Cargo Jet 707 N15712 crashes in SF Bay, n. d.
Ida Staggers' retirement, 1972
Douglas DC-2 50th anniversary (1934-1984), May 1984
Negatives, February 1, 1985
Negatives, slides, n. d.
Memorial Service – USS Independence at Sea, September 10, 1974 (photo, letter & program in three panel leather book)

Box 5 (030517)

Alpha Project (Northrop Alpha, NC11Y TWA restoration project)

Discovered in a Wisconsin barn in 1975, the Northrup Alpha was brought to TWA's KC Technical Services Center in pieces where TWA volunteers reconstructed it in eight months. The airliner of the early 1930s, and last of its kind, was presented to the new Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington D. C. for their bicentennial display. The roll-out ceremony took place in Kansas City January 26, 1976. John K. Northrop designed the Alpha and Dan McGrogan was the project's technical coordinator.

Publications

The Alpha, by John Northrup (original & copy), n. d.
The Flying Wings of Northrup, by Leo J. Kohn, 1974
Northrup Flying Wings, by Edward T. Maloney, 1975
John Knudsen Northrup: 1895-1981, n. d.
Le Fanatique de L'Aviation, August 1978
International Antique Airplane News, 1975
"Kansas City Heartland U.S.A.," from *National Geographic*, July 1976
Alcoa Aluminum Newsletter, Spring & Summer 1976
Airline Pilot, October, 1975 & July 1976
Airliner Special No. 2, Summer 1976
Sport Aviation & Aerospace, June 1976
TWA Ambassador ("The Odyssey of NC11Y," by Jerry Cosley), July 1976
Suburban Views (Platte County, Missouri), January 29, 1976
The Suburban Pilot, January-February 1976
TWA Skyliner, 1975-1976 (2 folders)
Alpha NC11Y: our gift to aviation history..., June 1975-January 1976
"TWA Celebrates 50th Anniversary," *FAA Intercom* (newsletter), 1976
TWA Award of Excellence (photograph booklet from Vienna), n. d.
TAT Commemorating the 50th anniversary of transcontinental rail-air service (brochure), 1976

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

The Irish Times, May 22, 1976
Miscellaneous publications, n. d.
The Kansas Citian (misc. articles), 1931
News clippings, 1975-1987 (3 folders)
Miscellaneous articles, n. d.
Press releases, *TWA News*, 1975-1976
Photo caption sheets, 1975-1976
Transcontinental & Western Air Annual report to stockholders, 1935-1938
History of Northrop Alpha Serial Number 3 & The Restoration of the Northrup Alpha (handwritten), n. d.
Northrup history (copy), 1973
John K. Northrup interview transcript, October 3, 1975
News film usage reports and script, 1976
DC-1 Contract and specifications, 1932
Alpha N11Y registration and bill of sale (copies), 1973
Civil Aeronautics Administration, Aircraft registration, bill of sales, 1941-1945
Civil Aeronautics Administration, N-11Y owners (registration, license, sales), 1930s-1970s
Civil Aeronautics Administration, MTC records (operation inspection reports), 1931-1938
Airplane disposition sheets, 1930s
Mechanical interruption reports, 1933 & 1935
Northrup Aircraft Corporation Stress Analysis of the Northrup Airplane Model 2 (Alpha) Book 1: Aerodynamic data and static tests (copy), n. d.
TWA Engineering Report No. 665: Operating Cost Analysis, December 12, 1945
TWA maintenance information letter, Project Alpha, March 15, 1975
Smithsonian Chemical Processing Specification for Restoration and Preservation of Aerospace Artifacts, 1975
TWA Services Aircraft Cleaning, Painting & Standard Processes Manual, 1969
Alpha Project personnel forms, 1975
Alpha address master list, n. d.
Drawings & specs, n. d.
Pratt and Whitney Engines, n. d.
AWA membership roster, 1974-1975
Experimental Aircraft Association, 1976

Box 6 (030518)

Alpha Project cont.

Correspondence

Letter of agreement, 1975
John Batchelor, 1975-1976
Dan McGrogan, 1970-1976 (2 folders)
Emails regarding Dan McGrogan, 1993
Dan McGrogan (Mim & Erin), 1990s (photos and negatives)
General Correspondence, 1974-1979 (16 folders)
Miscellaneous correspondence, n. d.

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

Dan McGrogan biographical information and obituary, 1990s
Northrup Alpha project miscellaneous information, 1975-1976
Items removed from scrapbook: news clippings, photographs & press release
Distinguished Service Award certificates, n. d.
Metal serial tags for Stearman Aircraft Co., 1931-1932
Alpha Project Spirit of '76 patches (eight)
Photographs
 Northrup Alpha restoration & Spirit of '76 collages, 1975-1976
 Northrup Alpha in storage, 1975
 Retrieving Alpha from Wisconsin, 1975
 Aerial view of barn, n. d.
 Flattening metal, n. d.
 Restoring Northrup Alpha, 1975 (4 folders)
 Alpha unveiling, January 1976 (Dan McGrogan & John Northrup)
 Alpha unveiling, January 1976 (Dan McGrogan & unidentified men)
 NC11Y restored (unidentified people, color photos), n. d.
 Restored NC11Y (John Northrup signed), n. d.
 Restoration on television, Stan Carmack reporting, n. d.
 Alpha at the Smithsonian, 1976
 KC Chamber of Commerce presenting beside plane, n. d.
 Inside airplane repair center, n. d.
 Plane parts, n. d.
 NC11Y next to L-1011, n. d.
 Wrecked planes, n. d. (NC 999-Y, NC 993-Y)
 Northrup Alpha NC 11-Y, 1931-1932 (removed from frame)
 Planes, n. d., 1932 (NR 11-Y, NC 11Y)
 Planes, early 1930s (Bill Coyle, pilot; Miss St. Louis, NC 942Y)
 Planes, n. d., 1930 (T. Hamilton, W. Boeing, K. Jay, E. A. Bellande, J. K. Northrup; X-127 W, X-2W, NC 966Y)
 Planes, n. d., 1932 (NC 961Y, engine cowl and landing gear)
 Planes, n. d., 1930 (NC 933Y, NC 9650, NC 9639, NC 994Y, X12292)
 Military Alphas, n. d.
 Planes, n. d. (NS-1 Aircraft Corporation Aloha)
 Planes, n. d. (F-20 Tigershark, unidentified people)
 Miscellaneous planes, n. d.
 Northrup flying wing, n. d.
 Inside airplane, n. d.
 Dan McGrogan, John Northrup & unidentified men, n. d.
 Dan McGrogan & unidentified people, n. d.
 Dan McGrogan's awards, 1975-1976
 Project volunteers, unidentified, 1992
 Miscellaneous, n. d.
 Photocopies
 Negatives & slides, n. d.

Box 7 (030519)

K1279 (KA2123)
JERRY WEDDELL COSLEY (1935-2012) PAPERS

Alpha Project continued

Steno notebooks

Project notes, book 2 & 3, 1975

Project notes, 1975-1976

Sign-in books, 1975-1976

Aircraft and engine data, 1975

Slides

Carousel Universal Slide Trays, Alpha Project (4 boxes)

Slides, Alpha Project, used and not used (2 boxes)

VHS tapes

TWA Today

TWA 847

3M UCA 60 ColorPlus Videocassette

Restoration of NC 11 Y

Box 8 (030520)

Alpha Project continued

Slides, Alpha Project, start Dec. 20, 1975 (2 metal boxes)

Connie Project

The Connie Project involved the restoration of a 1945 C-69 L-049 Lockheed Constellation, "Star of Switzerland," fleet no. 517 by TWA volunteers from 1977-1979. The restored plane was then put on display in the Pima County Air Museum in Tucson, Arizona. The plane was discovered by TWA Tucson cargo agent, Cy Tuhy.

Correspondence, 1977-1980

Lockheed Constellation survey, n. d.

Writings, 1978

Restoration program ceremony, n. d. & 1980

Publications

Pilot News, August, 1979

Pima Air Museum brochures and postcard, n. d. & 1977-1978

News clippings, 1978-1980

Photographs

Photographs (5x7 black and white), n. d.

Photographs (8x10 color), n. d. (3 folders)

Photographs (8x10 black and white), n. d. (3 folders)

Photographs, (8x10 color), unidentified group of men, n. d.

Photographs (4x6 color) restored plane in Tucson, n. d. (3 folders)

Negatives, n. d.

Negative sheets (color), n. d.

Negative sheets (black and white), n. d.

Steno notebooks

Project notes, 1977-1979