



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

## **Captain Michael Gitt Papers - Colonial Airlines Annual Reports 1946, 1948, 1953, 1954**

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 09:13:40

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

In order to increase our passenger loads on ordinarily light traffic days and increase our equipment utilization, we are presently offering a 20% discount to round-trip passengers between all points on our domestic system who depart on Tuesday or Wednesday and return any day except Friday and Sunday. The results of this promotional plan have been gratifying.

One of the substantial elements in the cost to the passenger of airline transportation is the 15% Federal tax on travel tickets. This tax was imposed on air and other forms of transportation during World War II to restrict unnecessary travel. The purpose of the enactment of this law has long since been served, however the tax is still a burden to the airline passenger and a barrier to increased volume to air travel. If this tax were repealed, your management is confident that, using the same basic fare structure, more passenger traffic can be generated. The enclosure submitted will show you how you can be of assistance in the campaign to have this tax repealed.

#### SAFETY RECORD

We are particularly pleased to report that your Company has completed another year with out experiencing an accident causing fatality or serious injury to passenger or crew member. April 19, 1949, will mark the beginning of the TWENTIETH year of this enviable and unsurpassed record of safe operations and your Company is once again qualified to receive the yearly award of National Safety Council. We will continue to exert every effort to maintain this record.

#### OUTLOOK

Due to seasonally extreme weather conditions, operating revenues in the months of January and February of each year have been consistently disappointing. However, during these months in 1949 Colonial transported more passengers than in any comparable months in its history. Domestic passengers carried in January and February 1949 as compared with the same months in 1947 and 1948 are given below:

#### Passengers Carried

	1947	1948	1949
January	7646	6834	10078
February	6808	7626	10829

This pick-up in traffic is indeed encouraging when it is realized that it was generated in the face of winter weather conditions resulting in 111 flight cancellations in the month of January and 31 cancellations in the month of February of this year.

Our Bermuda traffic for these months has been seasonally low and has not come up to our expectation is that Bermuda is now being served by four airlines-Trans Canada Airlines started operations last May. Ocean travel has also been augmented by the recent return of the Queen of Bermuda to regular service. Every effort is being exerted by your management towards maintaining our competitive position in this market

In order to increase our passenger loads on ordinarily light traffic days and increase our equipment utilization, we are presently offering a 20% discount to round-trip passengers between all points on our domestic system who depart on Tuesday or Wednesday and return any day except Friday and Sunday. The results of this promotional plan have been gratifying.

One of the substantial elements in the cost to the passenger of airline transportation is the 15% Federal tax on travel tickets. This tax was imposed on air and other forms of transportation during World War II to restrict unnecessary travel. The purpose of the enactment of this law has long since been served, however the tax is still a burden to the airline passenger and a barrier to increased volume of air travel. If this tax were repealed, your management is confident that, using the same basic fare structure, more passenger traffic can be generated. The enclosure submitted will show you how you can be of assistance in the campaign to have this tax repealed.

#### SAFETY RECORD

We are particularly pleased to report that your Company has completed another year with out experiencing an accident causing fatality or serious injury to passenger or crew member. April 19, 1949, will mark the beginning of the TWENTIETH year of this enviable and unsurpassed record of safe operations and your Company is once again qualified to receive the yearly award of the National Safety Council. We will continue to exert every effort to maintain this record.

#### OUTLOOK

Due to seasonally extreme weather conditions, operating revenues in the months of January and February of each year have been consistently disappointing. However, during these months in 1949 Colonial transported more passengers than in any comparable months in its history. Do-

estic passengers carried in January and February 1949 as compared with the same months in 1947 and 1948 are given below:

	PASSENGERS CARRIED		
	1947	1948	1949
January	7646	6834	10078
February	6808	7626	10829

This pick-up in traffic is indeed encouraging when it is realized that it was generated in the face of winter weather conditions resulting in 111 flight cancellations in the month of January and 31 cancellations in the month of February of this year.

Our Bermuda traffic for these months has been seasonally low and has not come up to our expectations. One of the factors responsible for this reduction is that Bermuda is now being served by four airlines-Trans Canada Airlines started operations last May. Ocean travel has also been augmented by the recent return of the Queen of Bermuda to regular service. Every effort is being exerted by your management towards maintaining our competitive position in this market and the advance bookings for the Easter holidays are holding up very well.

Your management feels that the year 1949 can prove to be a profitable year for your Company providing the cost levels of labor, gasoline, parts, supplies and taxes can be held within reasonable limits and the Civil Aeronautics Board establishes adequate mail rates for your Company. We also hope that the Board will, at an early date, permit some logical adjustment and extension of our route pattern that will considerably increase our revenue and operating efficiency resulting in substantial savings in our operating costs.

and the advance bookings for the Easter holidays are holding up very well.

Your management feels that the year 1949 can prove to be a profitable year for your Company providing the cost levels of labor, gasoline, parts, supplies and taxes can be held within reasonable limits and the Civil Aeronautics Board establishes adequate mail rates for your Company. We also hope that the Board will, at an early date, permit some logical adjustment and extension of our route pattern that will considerably increase our revenue and operating efficiency resulting in substantial savings in our operations costs.

6

Captain Michael Gitt Papers - Colonial Airlines Annual Reports 1946, 1948, 1953, 1954  
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers  
Extracted Apr-19-2024 09:13:40



## Smithsonian Institution

*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)