

Ralph Damon Selected Bibliography

There are no formal papers of Mr. Damon but materials are available at the National Air and Space Museum and at the Trans World Airline Corporate Archives in Kansas City, Missouri. The TWA files located at the Western Historical Society Library on the campus of the University of Missouri at Kansas City are labeled K0453 and covers the years 1929-2002 containing 272 cubic feet and was revised in 2013. The files contain information on personnel, aircraft and a large section on accidents. On the campus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis the Jefferson and Mercantile libraries houses materials on TWA in the collection numbered M-234.

From various sources there are references to materials being housed at the corporate headquarters of American Airlines in Texas and so I wrote for possible access. Below is the result of my inquiry.

Dear Dr. Libby

I am so sorry to have to turn down your request for information on Ralph Damon. However, the privacy of all of our employees is very important to us.

Dr. Libby, I hope you will understand our position and again, we are sorry to disappoint you.

Sincerely,
Dana M. Hoerig
Customer Relations
American Airlines
AA Ref# 1-1356531723

The curious aspect of this response is found on page 472 of Robert Serling's fine study: *Eagle: The Story of American Airlines* (New York: St. Martin's/Marek, 1985) when he notes the files of American Airlines in Dallas and those at its Tulsa Museum contained information relating to "personalities from the airline's past." He concluded the works "provided a rich lode of information for which I am beholden."

I am indebted, however, to Ms. Jan Grenchi, research specialist at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., for her continuing assistance in my study of Mr. Damon.

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He was active in the early 1930s in seeking to eliminate the stop signs between downtown St. Louis and the airport to reduce transit time to and from the field.

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