

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center
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Guide prepared by: Chloe Nielsen, Archivist

TITLE: Weissinger Star Air Lines Photograph

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2022.004

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: c. 1937-1939

Extent: 1 item

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Charles E. Weissinger

Administrative/Biographical History:

Per the donor, Charles E. Weissinger “was born in Indiana in 1900 and died in Anchorage in 1949. He had come to the Territory as a young sailor with the U.S. Navy where he met and wed [...] Olga Pavloff. [...] As a qualified radio operator, he was hired by Star Airlines in 1937 to transmit prevailing weather in Rainy Pass to aid pilots flying through to McGrath. When [Weissinger] took this photo, [he and his family] were living close by in a nice log cabin, provided by the airline [...]. The plane was one of those that brought in supplies and mail once a month, weather permitting.”

Star Air Service was formed in April 1932, beginning as a flight instruction and charter service. They began commercial operations in 1935 and purchased Arctic Airways and Alaska Interior Airways in 1937, when they changed their name to Star Air Lines. In 1943, they were acquired by Mirow Air Service, which in 1944 officially changed its name to Alaska Airlines, as it is known today.¹

¹ “Star Air Service,” *Alaska Airlines*, accessed June 27, 2022, <https://www.alaskaair.com/content/about-us/history/star-air-service>

Scope and Content Description:

This collection consists of one 2.5x3.5" black-and-white photographic print of a Star Air Lines airplane taken c. 1937-1939 by Charles E. Weissinger. The following is written on the back of the photograph:

A Star Airlines [?] taken at Rainy Pass
NC19831
(Plane crashed and burned Sept 14 1939? Pilot killed.)

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original items in good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. This collection is in the public domain.

Preferred Citation: Weissinger Star Air Lines Photograph, Anchorage Museum, B2022.4

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

This collection was donated to the Museum by Gerald E. Weissinger, son of the photographer, on July 8, 2022.

RELATED MATERIALS

B1989.016 Lu Liston Collection
B2019.002 Alaska Airlines Hawaiian Flight Photograph

SUBJECTS

Star Air Lines
Star Air Service
Alaska Airlines
Aeronautics, commercial
Airplanes

Guide written: July 2022