

NEWSLETTER

THE FLYING TIGER LINE INC.

(LINE OF THE SKY TIGERS)

April 23rd 1948

Vol. II No. 9

FLYING TIGER ATC RESERVE

As the result of a survey which was conducted by Col. Thomas O. Hardin and Lt. Col. Rufus K. Ward, The Flying Tiger Line has been selected for the establishment of an Air Transport Command Reserve Unit!

What this means to you is that, in the event of an emergency which would require the mobilization of the Reserve on Active Status, The Flying Tiger Line would be activated as an ATC Unit. In other words, FTL employees who indicate a willingness to become a part of our Unit, are not likely to receive a call back to active status in whatever branch of the armed forces they served during World War II. Also, non-Veterans will be activated into The Flying Tiger Line Reserve Unit instead of being drafted.

All of us sincerely desire peace and we hope that The Flying Tiger ATC Reserve Unit will never be activated. However, the Company has been requested that all employees be informed of the Air Transport Command's proposal and that we take the necessary steps toward the establishment of a Reserve Unit. Should an emergency occur, most of us would rather see The Flying Tiger Line and its employees kept intact as a transport unit rather than for the employees to be individually called back into their former service status, or drafted.

Col. Hardin has notified us that every Veteran, who has not received formal notice to the contrary, is still eligible for Reserve Status. In addition, Col. Hardin emphasized the importance of enlisted men, particularly those with specialist ratings. It was also stated that the ATC will be empowered to vacate your present Reserve Status in the Army or Navy by transfer to The Flying Tiger Line Reserve Unit, if you consent to this action.

WHAT TO DO - - Every employee of The Flying Tiger Line, who is a Veteran of World War I or II should fill out the attached blank and send it to the PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, BUREBANK, as soon as possible. Non-Veterans need not complete the attached blank as their present occupational classification will be submitted to the ATC by the Company.

All Veterans are asked to follow through and turn in the required information as soon as possible.

* * * * *

THE AIR FORCE AND AIR CARGO

American Aviation Daily reports the following: "Maximum stimulation of the air cargo industry as a large factor in the interest of national defense has been urged upon CAB in official communications from Cornelius V. Whitney, assistant secretary of the Air Force. Correspondence between Whitney and CAB Chairman Joseph J. O'Connell, Jr., and former Chairman James M. Landis disclosing the Air Force stand has just been made public by the Board.

"Whitney's first letter to Landis, written early last December, expressed 'deep concern' of the Air Force over the growth of the air cargo industry, indicating that the Department has been giving the subject continuing study 'to determine a means of developing it practicably and efficiently'. Whitney said a 'well developed air cargo industry' was one of the best means of bridging the gap between peace-time military air transport and 'the initial requirements of these forces in the event of an emergency, or of war.' He urged Landis at that time to 'bear in mind our feeling' about the air cargo industry in arriving at CAB decisions.

"Earlier this month, Whitney reiterated the Air Force's views in a letter to Chairman O'Connell, noting that several cases currently before CAB relate to the development of the air cargo industry. 'We believe the national defense point of view might well be considered not only in connection with the Air Freight Case (Docket 810 et al.) but also in connection with other related cases receiving the attention of the Board,' Whitney wrote. He asked that his original December letter be made part of the public record in each such case. Copies of Whitney's latest letter were sent to other agencies in order that they 'may be informed of the Air Force policy on this subject'. Included in the list were State, Commerce, Navy, Post Office, Budget and National Security Resources Board."

* * * * *

FOREIGN DIVISION

To further the Company's service and operations a Flying Tiger Line Foreign Freight Department is being set up headed by Mayo Thomas. This Department will have available complete information for shippers covering routings, and service on freight to foreign countries. This service will include customs clearances, handling of in-bond shipments, international clearances and all documents concerning foreign shipments which require trans-shipment from our line either by air or water to any country in the world.

Present negotiations are in the conclusion stage for the signing of interline agreements with Scandinavian Airlines System, K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines and Peruvian International Airways.

In view of these negotiations it is felt that news concerning the above foreign lines will be of interest to FTL personnel.

Scandinavian Airlines is composed of 7 airlines operating between New York and the Scandinavian countries with interconnecting lines to all parts of Europe. K.L.M Royal Dutch Airlines are also operating all-cargo flights between New York and Europe. Both lines operate three all-cargo flights weekly carrying automobile parts, drugs, clothing, machinery and food, and are the two leaders in international airfreight.

Peruvian International Airways operates cargo service to the Canal Zone, and Central America as well as the West Coast of South America. This company has recently added an important oil center on the northwest coast of Peru to its route between New York and Washington.

As Domestic carrier for these three foreign lines your Company is accepting the responsibility for maintaining a service that is in keeping with the established tradition of these veteran lines.

Complete details as to the handling of foreign freight shipments will be announced to all personnel shortly.

* * * * *

ST. LOUIS, MO.

The Company's new office in St. Louis, under the direction of Gilbert E. Siebert, is FTL's first downtown airfreight terminal and will be used as a guide to the opening of similar downtown terminals at various other Cities served by us. This downtown terminal affords a freight receiving station for freight originating and being transferred through the St. Louis gateway and offers shippers and freight consolidators a decided convenience.

Mr. Siebert, is a native of St. Louis, and is thoroughly conversant with the transportation setup in that City. He has spent ten years in the freight forwarding business.

* * * * *

NOTES OF INTEREST

A movement is on foot to form an Air Cargo Institute of California, which will be a non-profit commercial enterprise sponsored by the California Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce. George T. Cussen and Mayo Thomas are serving on the Committee for the formation of this Institute. Plans are underway to develop a means of shipping more perishable produce eastward aboard cargo transports in an effort to broaden California's eastern produce markets. Air packaging, more adequate terminal facilities, design of refrigerated cargo planes and sales promotion have been discussed.

* * * * *

With the airfreight lines breathing heavily down its neck the railway freight business had to do something in an endeavor to retrieve some of its lost customers. Railway Express cars are now hooked onto fast passenger trains thus speeding ground transcontinental deliveries to four and five days, in place of the seven to eight days it took in the more leisurely days.

* * * * *

Three bills scheduled to be introduced in Congress this month are of special interest: (1) Providing for the carriage of all first class mail by air where delivery can be expedited; (2) Establishment of an Air Parcel Post Service and (3) the elimination of the tax on transportation of persons and property.

* * * * *

SKY TIGER FLYING CLUB

A number of Tigers at the Burbank station have indicated a desire to form a private flying club and purchase one or more light planes. So far, twenty-five Tigers have gotten together to start the ball rolling. It is planned to rent or purchase an Aeronca or Piper Cub. To those of you who are interested we can tell you that it is the lowest cost flying possible. Other clubs have found that employees can fly for as little as one dollar an hour.

We hope to form the club in several groups, utilizing as many as four airplanes. Also, several of our pilots, who have instructor's ratings, have offered to give dual time at very reasonable rates.

Employees who wish to join our Flying Club should contact WALT LOEFFLER, BURBANK Maintenance.

* * * * *

BLUE CROSS HOSPITALIZATION

On April 15th, Hospitalization and Surgical Insurance went into effect on all employees who had signed application cards. Seventy-five percent of the Tigers signed up for this insurance. For those of you who do not have Blue Cross, you may apply for it by notifying the Personnel Department, BU. However, there will be a waiting period for those who had previously refused the insurance. Deductions for Hospitalization and Surgical Insurance will be made from the paycheck received nearest the 15th of each month. Cost of the insurance for single male employees is \$1.70 per month, single female employees \$1.85, employee and one dependent \$4.30, employee and two or more dependents \$5.00 per month.

Insurance certificates have been issued and are now being distributed to insured employees. If you have not received your certificate, please contact GENEVA SCHINDELE, PERSONNEL DEPT. BU.

* * * * *

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

There is one sure way to find out a lot of things about your Company - just join the Sales Speech Service. Addressing three to four business groups each month, talking airfreight and Flying Tigers, is guaranteed to keep you awake nights looking up all the answers to questions you have to answer - after your speech.

It seems there is a pretty good story running in the Saturday Evening Post, under Title "You've Got to be Happy" - all about an airfreight line getting underway. It's being made into a movie by Universal, incidentally. Reports coming into the NEWSLETTER say all FTL personnel will appreciate - that is, those with a yen for a busman's holiday.

Speaking of stories, there is the one about the dear little old lady on her first visit to an airport who pointed to the revolving props and remarked: "I suppose you take those things off in the winter".

* * * * *

E N D