

Dec. 5, 1932.

I, Edward E. McBride, do hereby of my own free will and accord make the following statement;

On or about Oct. 7, 1932, Norman A. Zolezzi for whom I was formerly employed called at my home and said to me; " Ed I have a big deal on and I need your assistance. I will pay all your expenses and for one week's work I will pay you One thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), payable a week from to-day if you go all the way through." I agreed and inquired of him what it was all about and he replied, " I'll not go into this with you until we get on the job, and in the meantime do not mention a word to anyone else about our trip. You have got to keep mum. If things work out as I expect I'll see that you get at least Five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00)." He then asked me for a letter addressed to him so as he could show it to Mr. Cord and get an additional Two thousand dollars, (\$2,000.00). I gave him a letter stating that I would assist him. He said " I just got Two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00), from him a short while ago and he was to have a man here with somemore dough, as soon as I got hold of you. I'll run up to Auburn myself and get the money right away and we will beat it for Chicago." Wednesday Oct. 20th at midnight we started for Chicago and registered at the Harrison Hotel. Mr Zolezzi wanted me to register under an assumed name but I refused. We retired after Mr. Zolezzi made several calls arranging interviews for the following day. We both occupied the same room. The following day (Friday) Mr. Zolezzi called the Hotel clerk and ordered an additional room for consultation purposes, which room was occupied by me untill Saturday noon, when we checked out. When we arrived at the Hotel Harrison we took a nap till noon, then ate and returned to the Hotel and he then laid my work out for me. I was to meet a Personal Representative of Mr. Cord, and tell him the following;- I made a trip to Washington Jan. 30th 1932, and interviewed Mr. Hinshaw, Vice-president of American Airways, at his office in the Carlton Hotel and told him that I could wreck the Century Airline, if I had the funds to do it with. After listening to my proposal, he said it looked good to him. He then said he would have to call the Money man and hear what he thought of it. I asked him who the Money man was and he said Lamont Cahu was the Monay man and the one who was interested in demoralizing the Century Airline and their Pilots. He then made his call and then refered me to Mr. Coburn, President of the American Airline. I immediately went to New York and saw Mr. Coburn at his office on the 47th floor of the Chrysler Building and after a short talk he gave me Five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) and told me to get back to Chicago and raise hell with the Century Pilots. I came back to Chicago and as

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a Labor Worker got the Pilots incensed against the Century on account of the cut in wages they received. I was also to say I arranged for Mr. Briggs of American Airways to broadcast over the Labor Radio W.C.F.L. Chicago.

I was also instructed to state that Hinshaw and Coburn, both told me to not be afraid because Lamont Turk had a half dozen congressman on his payroll to take care of his Mail Contracts.

I then went to St. Louis and there I met Mr. Zolezzi who insisted i quit demoralizing the Century Pilots. Mr. Zolezzi said " Mac, its all a racket and Lamont Cahu is just trying to wreck the Century. I quit then. I thought my work was to organize the Pilots so as to Keep the scale up but when Zolezzi informed me it was Cahu's intention to wreck the Company, I refused to go any further and quit.

NOTE ; I was then asked to make an affidavit of the above and have it notarized. I refused and Zolezzi said you must Ed, It means a whole lot to Mr. Cord and I'll tell you why. " Mr. Cord at his last Director's Meeting told the same thing to the Director's and they would not believe it and with your affidavit he can prove it is true. You sign the affidavit and I'LL get you enough dough to take a trip to California and keep you for several years." Zolezzi then said " Ed, if you do this for me, Mr. Cord is going to outfit an office for me in Indianapolis, and finance it for me. I have already picked out a three room office in the Medical Arts Building in Indianapolis. Why Ed, he is also financing a New Pilots Monthly Magazine for me, and I'll start publishing it by the first of the year. Do this Ed, and I'll just ask one more favor of you. I'll finance a trip to New York for you so you can get a look at Coburn and Hinshaw, and if it ever becomes necessary you can recognize them both. Also get a good look at Lamont Cahu, and then I'll introduce you to two girls who will swear he is a degenerate. Zolezzi then said " why I get anything I ask for from Mr. Cord, he even gave me a Plane for the American Legion Convention. I get anything I ask for".

I then told Mr. Zolezzi that he could count me out, that I positively would not sign an affidavit, and told him I was going home. That was the end of it as far as I was concerned. I did not know what it was all about, and did not care at the time. About a month latter I chanced to notice an article in a local paper telling all about the proxy fight about to be staged in New York between Cord and Cahu, and then and not until then did it dawn on me what it was all about. I immediately dispatched a letter to Mr. Cahu notifying him that work of an underhand nature was being done to discredit him and also to stigmatize his character, and I did not propose to sit idly by without a protest on my part. I am doing this thru no selfish motive. I am simply

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doing my duty as I see it. I refuse to remain quite and permit racketeering to endanger the life of a national organization, without a protest on my part. Also, I do not propose to remain quite and allow anyone to stigmatize a man's character, when I am in a position to know that the whole thing is a frame-up.

I hereby declair the forgoing to be the truth.

Edward E. M. Bride

State of Indiana)

SS

County of Marion)

Sunscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public,
10th day of December, 1932.

commission expires June 30, 1936

Lara Schrader
Notary Public.

