



AMERICAN AIRLINES INC.

100 EAST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE
VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

April 20, 1944

Mr. Amon G. Carter
The Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Amon:

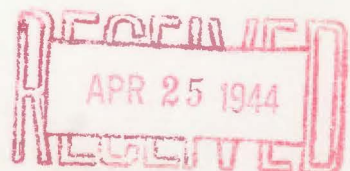
I am enclosing a sheet with some startling statements about how our war effort is being slowed down due to the lack of airplanes assigned to the airlines.

If anyone questions the authenticity of any of the statements, you can quote me (if you want to).

If you think the cause is worthy, would you be willing to help my "small voice crying in the wilderness" by either an article or an editorial on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

Raepph
R. S. Damon



War priorities are supposed to travel fast.

That is why every passenger and every pound of air mail and air express on the airlines is subject to war priorities. Non-priority material can ride only when priority material is not riding.

On many of the major domestic air routes today war priority loads are higher than was the highest peacetime load.

Today the war priorities have grown to such an extent that the airplanes left with the airlines plus the very few returned can no longer accommodate the priority loads they are called upon to handle.

Every day war priority passengers, war priority express and air mail is being refused because of shortage of airline airplanes.

Every day war priority passengers and express and air mail are being off-loaded to accommodate higher priority load so that on certain flights only the highest categories can be accommodated.

War priority passengers and express are supposed to be helping the war by speeding up munitions to the fighting fronts.

Delaying of war priority passengers and material due to shortage of airplanes assigned to the airlines is slowing down these loads which should be speeded up.

Factory production of transport type planes has reached an all-time high.

An allocation to the domestic airlines of only a few hours' production would greatly alleviate this condition.

The American people want the winning of the war speeded all possible.

The airlines started the war with 359 airplanes. A Presidential order seized over half of them. To date only a very few have been returned and total airplanes in service on the airlines today are less than 200.

Return of transport type planes to the airlines will help to speed the war.

R. S. Damon