

FROM: AMERICAN AIRLINES SYSTEM

AMERICAN AIRLINES, INC.

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY OCT. 4

Election of L. G. Fritz as vice president of American Airlines in charge of operations was announced today by Ralph S. Damon, president. He succeeds Hugh L. Smith who will remain with the company as vice president on special assignments.

An air veteran of World War I and World War II, Fritz has been in Aviation all of his adult life. He was vice president in charge of operations for Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., when he was called to active duty with the U. S. Army Air Forces in April, 1942, and served as chief of operations, Air Transport Command, with rank of Colonel until September 1943, when he was assigned to the North Atlantic Wing as Commanding officer.

In June 1944, Fritz was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and has served as commanding general of the North Atlantic Division since the date of its activation in August, 1944.

In World War I he volunteered and served in the aviation section of the Signal Corps. He was pilot for the Ford Motor Co. from 1925 to 1927 and chief pilot of the Maddux Airlines, Los Angeles, from 1927 to 1929 and then became Vice President in charge of operations of the Southwest Air Fast Express, Tulsa, Oklahoma, which route is now a part of the American Airlines System.

Fritz joined T. W. A. in 1931, starting his tour of duty as division Superintendent in Kansas City, and was vice president of operations when he returned to the Army in 1942. He was decorated with the Air Medal and

the Legion of Merit.

Fritz is a native of Marine City, Michigan, and was educated at Michigan State College. He is an active pilot and a member of many aviation and service organizations.

In 1929, he married Ruth I. Merritt, and they have two sons and a daughter. They will make their home on Long Island.

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Mr. Carter;

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blame entirely

JRR
