

**ALPA Governing Bodies: Central Executive Council**

1 linear feet (1 SB)  
1933-1946, bulk 1933-1946

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Kathy Makas on August 13, 2013.

**Accession Number:** LR002439

**Creator:** Air Line Pilots Association

**Acquisition:** These records are made up from documents from the Data Resources, Data Preparation, Engineering and Air Safety, President's, and Governing Bodies Support departments.

**Language:** Material entirely in English.

**Access:** Collection is open for research.

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**Notes:** Citation style: "ALPA Governing Bodies: Central Executive Council, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University"

**Related Material:**

## **Abstract**

The Air Line Pilots Association was formed in 1930 with the Board of Directors (BOD) as the decision making governing body. The BOD, however, only meets every two years and the Association soon became aware that another governing body was necessary to assist the President in fulfilling BOD directives and to take action on pressing matters in between conventions. In 1932 ALPA formed the Central Executive Council (CEC), which consisted of the President, First Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and regional Vice Presidents. The council functioned mainly as an advisory body to the President, and also worked on policies, planning, and programs for ALPA, though all major decisions were subject to BOD ratification. The CEC could approve charters and affiliations; deliberate on membership decisions such as acceptance of new members, or expulsion of current members; check and certify elections; call for balloting of the membership; and organize Local Executive Councils. In time the role of the CEC was called into question by the BOD as it was simply an advisory group which lacked real authority to take action on anything without BOD approval and its makeup did not allow for full representation of all the ALPA airlines. In 1947, the Council was abolished by the BOD and the Executive Board was created in its stead.

The records are made up of minutes of the Central Executive Council meetings from 1933-1946. Many of the subjects focus on the Council's work interpreting and creating policies for the still new Association, such as membership acceptance, expulsion, and discipline; the salary, term, status and voting procedures for ALPA president; donation policies; correspondence forms and language; affiliations; incorporation; the Association emblem, and local council policies. The Council also concentrated on legislation issues; airport, airways, and aircraft development and guidelines; and government appointments and committees. Some other subjects from this time period dealt with war-time contingencies such as deferring the 85 hour per month rule, the status of active military and reserve pilots, crew complement issues and pay scale. In addition the council also reviewed and advised on air traffic control problems relating to weather, radio communications, and airport safety; strikes and strike breakers on Eastern Air Transport, Braniff Airways, and National Airlines; as well as organizing on Aerovias Centrales, Braniff Airways, Martz Airlines, and Pan American Grace.

**Important Subjects:**

Air mail service—United States  
Air safety  
Air traffic control  
Aircraft accident investigation  
Airline pilots  
Airlines Collective bargaining  
Airlines—Employees—Labor unions  
Airlines—Mergers  
Airlines—Safety measures  
Airlines—Safety regulations  
Airlines—Strikes and lockouts  
Airlines—Technological innovations—United States  
Airlines—United States—Management  
Airplane Airworthiness  
Airplane crashes  
Airplanes—Piloting  
Airplanes—Piloting—Safety measures  
Pilots and pilotage

**Important Names:**

Behncke, David L.  
Cole, H.F.  
Harris, L.W.  
Huber, John  
Knoop, H.L.  
Kuhn, D.B.  
Malvick, W.G.  
Robertson, C.T.  
Rousch, Usher

**Box 1**

- 1 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1933
- 2 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1934
- 3 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1935
- 4 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1936
- 5 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1937-39
- 6 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1940-41
- 7 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1942
- 8 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1943
- 9 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1944
- 10 Central Executive Council Minutes, 1945
- 11 Index to Central Executive Council Minutes, 1946
- 12 Central Executive Council Minutes, January-May 1946
- 13 Central Executive Council Minutes, July-August 1946
- 14 Central Executive Council Minutes, September-November, 1946