The Texan Giant: Braniff International Airways (1948-1982)



In the mid-20th century, Braniff International Airways emerged as a prominent airline in the United States. Operating from 1948 to 1982, this iconic Texan giant left an indelible mark on the aviation industry. With its bold and colorful branding, innovative business strategies, and distinctive passenger experience, Braniff

International Airways set itself apart from its competitors and became a symbol of luxury air travel.

The Formation of Braniff International Airways

Braniff International Airways was founded by brothers Thomas and Paul Braniff, who initially established a small regional airline in 1928 named Braniff Airways. However, it wasn't until 1948 that the airline achieved its global presence by adopting the name Braniff International Airways. The rebranding allowed the airline to establish itself as a major player in international air travel.



Braniff International Airways: The Texan Giant,

1948-1982 by Lynette Anderson (Kindle Edition)

★★★★ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 19893 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 99 pages

Lending : Enabled



Luxury in the Skies

One of the key factors that set Braniff International Airways apart was its commitment to luxury and style. The airline employed renowned fashion designers, including Emilio Pucci and Alexander Girard, to create elegant and eye-catching uniforms for the flight attendants. The cabin interiors were also designed with utmost care, featuring vibrant colors and comfortable seating arrangements.

The "End of the Plain Plane" Campaign

In 1965, Braniff International Airways launched its groundbreaking "End of the Plain Plane" campaign. This advertising initiative aimed to introduce a new level of creativity and excitement into the airline industry. The campaign featured brightly painted airplanes with bold and unconventional colors, showcasing Braniff's commitment to breaking away from the traditional norms of commercial aviation.

Innovations and Firsts

Braniff International Airways was known for its constant pursuit of innovation and pioneering spirit. The airline was the first to offer in-flight movies, superseding the traditional entertainment options. Additionally, Braniff introduced the concept of all-business class flights with their Lockheed L-1011 "Tristar" aircraft, catering to the growing demand for premium travel experiences.

Expansion and Global Reach

During the 1970s, Braniff International Airways expanded its route network extensively, connecting major cities across the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America. Their modern fleet of aircraft, including Boeing 747s and Concorde supersonic jets, enabled them to capture a significant share of the international air travel market.

Challenges and Legacy

Despite its initial success, Braniff International Airways faced financial difficulties in the late 1970s. Rising fuel prices, increasing competition, and economic instability led to its decline. In 1982, the airline was forced to file for bankruptcy and ultimately ceased operations.

However, the legacy of Braniff International Airways lives on. The airline's innovative marketing campaigns, luxurious aesthetic, and commitment to passenger comfort have influenced the aviation industry to this day. Braniff's iconic branding and attention to detail remain a testament to the Texan giant that transformed air travel and touched the lives of millions of passengers.

Braniff International Airways, the Texan Giant, played a pivotal role in revolutionizing the airline industry during its four decades of operation. From its bold branding choices to its drive for innovation, the airline left an unforgettable mark on commercial aviation. Although its demise was unfortunate, Braniff International Airways will forever remain a symbol of luxury, style, and the Texan spirit that captured the hearts of travelers worldwide.



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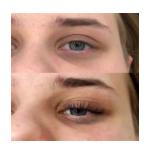
Braniff International Airways revolutionized the civil aviation industry in the 1960s with its colorful and enigmatic President, Harding Lawrence. It went from an airline which was not dissimilar from other U.S. airlines, to an airline that infused color and soul into its image, and its passengers. This is the story of that airline. From the founders Paul and Thomas Braniff, to the bright airliner colors,

unforgettable advertising campaigns, pizzazz, and High Couture air hostess uniforms, Braniff was

unmatchable. This was an airline that Texans were proud of - Braniff International Airways, The Texan Giant.

The book is divided into 4 parts:

- 1) The history of Braniff International Airways, 1928 to 1982.
- 2)Over 60 color photos of every airliner used by Braniff International from 1948 to 1982.
- 3)Images of Braniff's timetables, from 1931 to 1982.
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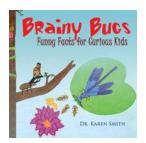
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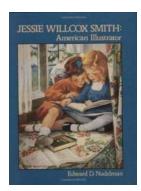
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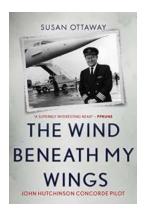
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