



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY  
ARCHIVES AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

## Pan Am Flight 103/Lockerbie Air Disaster Archives at Syracuse University Collection Policy

### Scope:

The Pan Am Flight 103/Lockerbie Air Disaster Archives at Syracuse University (the Archives) is open to collections relating to all 270 victims of the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland on December 21, 1988.

The Archives also collects materials relating to the aftermath of the bombing. This may include materials from investigators, legislators, lawyers, authors, reporters, producers, directors, composers, artists, government bodies, institutions or organizations, and families and friends of victims.

### Policy:

The Syracuse University Archives established this archives in 1990 to:

- bring together in one place materials generated regarding the disaster and make those materials available for research, and
- provide a place to personalize our students whose lives were lost; where their families can donate materials by or about them to let the world know in some way what has been lost by their deaths.

In 2006 the scope of the Archives was expanded to include all 270 victims.

Materials donated to and kept by the archives must have enduring or historical value. Records of enduring value are those that document the history of Pan Am Flight 103; the operations, activities and procedures of various groups and organizations; the lives of the 270 victims and their families and friends as they relate to Pan Am 103; and the tireless efforts of the individuals who have been involved in the aftermath of the bombing.

Records may be in any physical format including but not limited to paper, microforms, photographs, drawings, maps, and electronic records such as, e-mail, voicemail, CDs and DVDs, videotapes and audio tapes, computer tapes and discs, and other electronic documents.

Categories of materials with enduring value include, but are not limited to:

### Records as a memorial to the victims - A Legacy

- tributes, memorial services, scholarships
- news clippings and news footage
- condolence letters / sympathy cards
- death certificate / personal effects
- correspondence / postcards
- photographs
- audio / video tapes
- writings / poetry / artwork
- scrapbooks
- awards and recognitions
- personal items

**Records documenting what the families have accomplished**

- correspondence
- film footage
- trial information
- committee work
- clippings, news articles
- writings, articles, letters to editor, opinion pieces
- reports

**Records documenting victims' groups such as VPAF103**

- articles of incorporation, charters
- constitutions and by-laws
- meeting information such as announcements, meeting minutes and agendas
- newsletters and other publications
- clippings
- correspondence
- photographs
- reports (annual, committee, etc.)
- audio and video recordings
- membership lists and directories
- financial statements, budgets and treasurer's reports
- brochures and pamphlets
- press releases
- speeches
- subject files
- memorabilia

**Records relating to the aftermath of the bombing**

- legislation
- government reports
- court rulings and judicial opinions
- books
- musical compositions
- poetry
- theatrical productions
- dissertations and thesis
- hoaxes and conspiracies (*wantonly inaccurate materials or blatantly false information are not collected*)

Finding aids will be created for all processed collections and will make clear the collection's place in the story of Pan Am Flight 103. This will include the role of the individual who created or donated the materials and their relationship to the bombing.

There is no required cash gift associated with the donation of materials, but conserving and indexing collections, rehousing them in acid-free folders and boxes, storing them in an environmentally controlled facility, and providing worldwide access via the web are costly tasks. Support from individuals and organizations who donate records is always appreciated.