



TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JACK THOMPSON FROM CAPTAIN STAN ZIMMERMAN

In November 1965 I had the pleasure of flying co-pilot for Jack Thompson. We had been experiencing unusually strong winds during the month. One day by accident, we were within 2 minutes of the official LAX-DEN record. On 25 November 1965 it was my leg from LAX-DEN. Even though there was a chance at the record, Captain Jack said it was my leg. Go for it!! We were on Flight 14 in B 720 #206. I knew we had a chance so I called ATC before the flight and asked for extra help. They still would not allow an immediate right turn out of LAX over Santa Monica but worked out a cruise clearance from 33 to 37 thousand feet. The winds showed 220 K at 220 degrees that day over Catalina at altitude. Once we found the 220K tailwind we followed the same temperature level between 33 and 37 thousand. Captain Barnwell, head of the training department at that time was riding in the back. I asked him to pull the shades before the flight!! After we landed, the tower to tower time was 1 hour 16 minutes and 8 seconds. At that time there was no speed limit below 10 thousand feet. The real challenge was to not overshoot the airport!

What a great pleasure to have known and worked for Captain Jack.

Respectfully

Stan Zimmerman



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