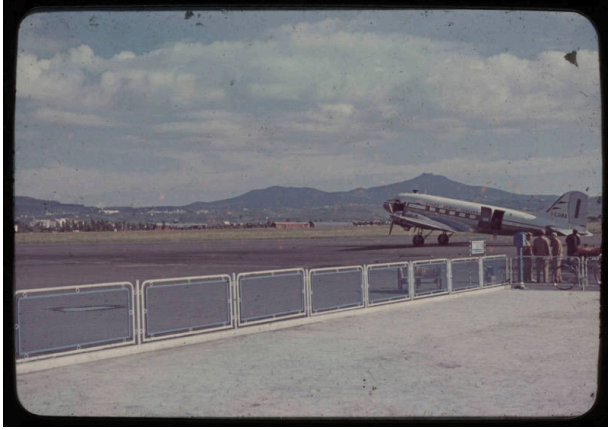


Basic Detail Report



ANMS1493[008]

Title

Airstrip and a small plane

Date

1956-1957

Medium

Cellulose acetate transparency, colour

Dimensions

Overall: 50 x 50 mm, Image: 23 x 34 mm

Name

Transparency

History

The SS Toscana was launched in Germany in 1923 as the SS Saarbrücken, and sold to the Italian government in 1935. The ship was used as a hospital ship during WWII and then sold to shipping company Lloyd Triestino in 1947 to be refit as a passenger liner. SS Toscana's route was typically from Trieste to Sydney, usually stopping at Venice, Port Said, Aden, Colombo, Fremantle and Melbourne. Trieste, a port city in Italy's northeast, was once the fourth-largest city in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After WWI, Italy annexed the city. During World War II, the city was occupied by Nazi Germany until Yugoslav forces took over in mid-1945. In 1947 Trieste was declared an independent city state by the UN, which would last until 1954. Emigration from Trieste occurred in large numbers between 1954-1961, with an estimated 10% of the population leaving. The vast majority immigrated to Australia, on board vessels like the SS Toscana, often driven to leave due to the turbulent economic and political climate. Some of this migration fell under the Assisted Passage Scheme, which was extended to include Italians in 1951.