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Club-A-Rama Week 26:

FRIENDSHIP AIRPORT

December 1963

Baltimore, Maryland



This week MOLDVILLE reissues yet another extremely rare souvenir mold from half a century ago - the **FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** in Baltimore, Maryland! The Friendship International Airport replaced the Dundalk Airport in Eastern Baltimore City. When Friendship Airport opened in 1950, it was said to have cost \$15M, to be four times larger than New York's La Guardia Airport, and to be five times larger than Washington, DC's National Airport.



FRIENDSHIP . . .

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

*planned to serve
TODAY and TOMORROW,
and through the years!*

Yes, through the farsightedness of its planners, the competence of its builders, and the efficiency of its management, Friendship International Airport stands ready to serve Maryland's present and future air transportation needs.

Some 3,300 acres of obstruction-free land—located between the rapidly expanding population centers of Baltimore and Washington . . . a modern and functional terminal building whose cargo and passenger facilities have no limit to their expansion . . . and super-compacted jet runways—ready today for the aircraft of tomorrow . . . all add up to a long and active life for Maryland's most convenient airport.

**DIRECT SERVICE TO 75 CITIES AND CONNECTING
FLIGHTS TO THE WORLD**

FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, BALTIMORE 40, MD.

Friendship Airport, in Anne Arundel County, just south of Baltimore City, got its name from the Friendship Methodist Church that had stood on the site. The early days were not good for the airport as traffic was not quite what officials had expected. But with the advent of jet planes such as the DC8, the 707, and the 727, Friendship Airport's success grew.





By 1963, Friendship International Airport boasted of a 9,450' runway, which could handle any jet at the time. For years the airport was owned and operated by the City of Baltimore, with 145 municipal employees and 1,400 employees. In 1963 there were 150 daily flights, 11 airlines and 19 gates available.



This postcard of Friendship International Airport is from 1966. Remember the days when you waited outside your plane? Me either!





The entire building depicted in the 1963 souvenir from Mold-A-Rama contained three piers and three levels. It was torn down in 1973, and replaced by the renamed Baltimore-Washington International Airport, which was built over the same site. Nothing remains today of the original Friendship Airport building.

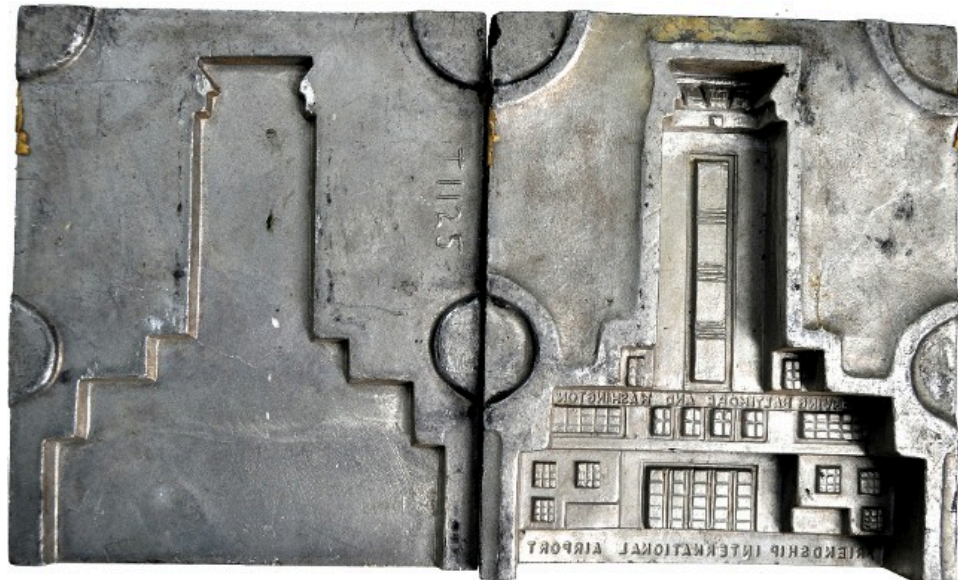
In 2005 it was renamed again to "Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport."



Friendship International Airport was used as a backdrop in the Academy Award Winning 1964 James Bond film "*Goldfinger*", and thus this week's 'mood' video:



I was having trouble getting a good picture of the engravings across the top and bottom of the **FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** souvenir with my iPhone, so I ran one in green where I think the engraving shows up better for the photo op. At the top of the main building it says: "SERVING BALTIMORE AND WASHINGTON" and across the bottom it says "FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT."



The **FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** moldset is solidly dated to December 1963, as it is numbered immediately following the LYNDON JOHNSON presidential bust moldset - which was apparently rushed into production following JFK's assassination in anticipation of its use at the start of the the 1964 New York World's Fair (see the discussion in Week 24 about the LINCOLN BUST.)

Disclaimers: The color and/or exact condition of the MOLD you get in the CLUB-A-RAMA may or may not be as shown. Not for children under 3.

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If YOU would like to own this very moldset (and perhaps even include a fully operating MOLDVILLE machine to go with it) so you can reissue your own souvenirs from 50 years ago, please email MoldvilleMachine@gmail.com TODAY - before someone else beats you to it!

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