







Verein Deutscher Ingenieure Hamburger Bezirksverein e.V. Arbeitskreis Luft- und Raumfahrt

Invitation to an RAeS lecture in cooperation with the DGLR and VDI

The History of Aircraft Accident Investigation

in the UK

Peter Coombs C.Eng., M.R.Ae.S Senior Inspector of Accidents, AAIB

Lecture followed by discussion

Entry free!
No registration required!

Forward ADF aerial 'window'

Picture showing the recovered parts of

Picture showing the recovered parts of the wreckage of the Comet 1 G-ALYP. From the official report.

Date: Thursday, 7th November 2013, 18:00

Location: HAW Hamburg

Berliner Tor 5, (Neubau), Hörsaal 01.12



Lecture in English

The lecture will trace the story of aircraft accident investigation in the UK from the setting up of the Public Safety and Accidents Investigation Committee of the Royal Aero Club in 1912 to the present day. It will cover the appointment of a former member of the Club committee as the first Inspector of Accidents of the RFC in 1915 and the official setting up of the first civil Accidents Investigation Branch of the Air Ministry in 1919. The known activities of the Branch during the inter-war years and the process of Public 'Court' enquiries will be described. The return to a largely military organisation through the Second World War followed by the role of the Chief Inspector of Accidents in drafting the international protocols for Investigation of Accidents on International Civil flights which were adopted as Annex 13 of the ICAO convention in 1951, will also be described.

After completing his studies as Student Apprentice with the Filton (Bristol) division of the British Aircraft Corporation, Peter Coombs was appointed as a design engineer on the Concorde SST Project. Following a period at the College of Aeronautics at Cranfield, he graduated with a Master of Science degree in Aircraft Design in 1971. He was appointed as an Inspector of accidents in 1972 and has participated in investigation of civil aircraft accidents and supported boards of enquiry into military accidents world-wide for forty years. Over this period he has carried out field investigations on more than 200 accidents and lesser investigations on a further series of more than 150 accidents not involving full deployments.

He has held a pilot's licence for 41 years with IMC and multi-engined aircraft ratings as well as being a flying instructor and holding a helicopter pilot's licence.

RAeS Richard Sanderson
VDI Hannes Erben
DGLR Eric Heslop

DGLR / HAW Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dieter Scholz

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