

## Rangsdorf – Chronology

1935

May: start of the construction of the land - and water airport land - and water airport and the Bücker aircraft construction. October: move of the Bücker aircraft construction GmbH from Berlin-Johannisthal to Rangsdorf. The airport is used generally by the factory generally by the factory and as an air station of the air force until 1945.

1936

30. July: official handing over of the Reich sporting airfield, the Reich school of motoring flight (RfM) and of the aero-club-house on the eve of the Olympic Games in Berlin. Rangsdorf is the aim of a German and international rally, of sporting pilots, and also venue of the „International aerobatics competition of the nations“.

1937

20. -27. Juni: Rangsdorf is the aim of the Germany Flight 1937 and of a rally for sporting pilots with their own plane.

1938

May: Rangsdorf is starting-place and aiming point of the Germany Flight 1938. On the 25.May there lands 369 planes on this airfield. Rangsdorf belongs to the aims of the glide competition since the end of June. On the 02.July German female sporting pilots start to a reliability test-flight to Wyk on the isle Föhr. In summer Prof. Focke shows his helicopter F 61 in Rangsdorf to the „Federation Aeronautique Internationale“ (FAI).

1939

Again Rangsdorf is starting-place and aiming point of competitions. Prominent people of this time, for example Elly Beinhorn, Heinz Rühmann and Ernst Udet, have stowed their planes in Rangsdorf. In the summer the aerobatic unit of the air force practices here for an airman-meeting in Brüssel. After the outbreak of war Rangsdorf becomes temporary the commercial airport of Berlin instead of Tempelhof (04.10.39 - 06.03.40).

1940

In January for the first time an Aeroflot-plane from Moscow lands in Rangsdorf, besides Lufthansa-planes leave for Moscow. On the present air station Rangsdorf there are the courier squadron 110 of the supreme command of the army (OKH), weather planes, transport airplanes, an air force commando, a special squadron and other units. Temporary the general staff of the battle pilots is stationed here since end of the year 1943. 1945 Rangsdorf becomes the operations airport of battle squadrons with Junkers Ju 87 and Focke-Wulfs 190.

1944

February: formation of the battle squadron (KG 200), to which is added the special squadron of the major Gartenfeld in Rangsdorf.

20. July: colonel Stauffenberg starts from Rangsdorf to the attempt on Hitler and lands again in Rangsdorf after it.

1945

The last German forces leave Rangsdorf on the 21. April. The village, the airfield and the Bücker Company were taken without fighting on 22. April by the Soviet army. From the airfield in Rangsdorf now start the tactical aircrafts of the Soviet air force, so Iljuschin I12, Jakowlew Jak 3, Lawotschkin La 5 and La 7. From 1945 until the end of 1946 the new pilots were trained with Polikarpow Po 2 and Jakowlew Ut 2.

1946

The former Bücker Company becomes location of the 825. plane repair factory founded on the 5. August in Rangsdorf. There were repaired cells and piston engines type M 11 D, later steel engines and helicopter type Mill Mi 2, Mi 4 and Mi 8 (the latter since 1994). On the former air station is stationed a signal corps of the Soviet 16. air force from 1956 since 1994.

1994

The repairing unit of the GUS-air force withdraws from the Bücker Company and the signal corps moves off the airfield. The historical buildings of the Bücker Company, the aero-club-house and the airfield were listed after the withdrawal of the army. Owner of the whole area becomes the Federal Republic of Germany. The aero-club-house was rehabilitated as a part of a private grammar school (Seeschule), also the Bücker-buildings in the Walther-Rathenau-street. The rest of the area is now property of the country Brandenburg and so far without use.

2000

On the 23. April, organized by the development association Bücker museum, two Bü 131, new built in Poland, land for the first time since 1945 on the listed historical airfield and many people in Rangsdorf followed the event with great interest.

The intention of the Polish company „Historical Aircraft Service“, to produce Bücker-planes again in the listed halls, fails because of the resistance of the local government.

2001

On the 5. March the rehabilitated former worker flats were official handed over. On the 31. March the Bücker-aviation-museum on the lake of Rangsdorf is opened. Sponsor is the development association Bücker-museum e.V.

On the open day in the Bücker aircraft construction there come more than 1000 interested visitors. There start and land two biplanes, among them a Bü 131 „Jungmann“.

2004

On the 20. July, the 60. anniversary of the attempt on Hitler, there is unveiled a memorial on the aero-club-house (Seeschule).

Visit of a former interpreter of the Bücker Company, Mister Kostinsky, to the location of the hard labour camp.

2005

Once more the development association Bücker-museum succeeded in organizing an international sporting pilots meeting on the 20. and 21. August on the historical airfield in Rangsdorf. The meeting develops into a funfair with up to 6000 visitors.

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