

# Press Release



Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin

→ Press and  
Public Relations

Ulrike Andres  
Tel +49 30-902 54-224  
Fax +49 30-902 54-175  
e-mail andres@dtmb.de

27. April 2005

## From Ballooning to the Berlin Airlift Facts and Numbers

### Exhibits

The exhibition contains more than 40 large-scale items exhibited on two floors of approximately 3,000 square metres each. Engine-powered planes and gliders, projectiles, copies of historic gliders and numerous other items illustrate the most important developments in German aviation since the first balloon ascents more than 200 years ago. Around 600 smaller-sized items, including posters, logbooks, pilot's licences and trophies set the scene for the large-scale exhibits.

### Special Exhibits

- **The only surviving aircraft of its type:** The Arado Ar 79 sports plane, built in 1941, is the only surviving aircraft of its kind in the world and has been restored to air-worthiness for the purposes of this exhibition.
- **The aircraft with the largest wing span:** The legendary Ju 52, built in 1941 and also known as the "Tante Ju" (Aunt Ju), has a wing span of 29.25 metres. Due to its large size, the fuselage had to be installed in the museum's new building during the construction phase. As with all the large-scale exhibits, its wings were only attached once it was inside the exhibition building.
- **The oldest airplane:** The Jeannin Stahltaube (Steel Dove), built in 1914, is the oldest aircraft in the exhibition. The aircraft became part of the Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin collection as the result of a German/Polish joint restoration effort.
- **The heaviest aircraft:** At 6.062 kg, the North American F-86 "Sabre" is the heaviest aircraft in the exhibition. Suspending the aircraft in the exhibition building presented a particular challenge for exhibition staff. Two extra steel brackets had to be fitted below the ceiling of the 4th floor for this purpose.
- **The aircraft in the most unusual position:** An awkward suspension process has enabled the 1939 Bücker Bü 131 to be installed in upright position between the 3rd and 4th floors in the central stairway of the museum's new building.
- **The most unusual design:** The Horten Ho II L flying wing, built in 1937, is a masterpiece of aircraft design. It consists only of wings, in an attempt to minimize air resistance.
- **The best-known aircraft:** The Douglas C-47 "Skytrain" or "Raisin bomber", which was built in 1945 and hangs on the front of the new building, has become the emblem of the Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin over the years.

### Media stations

Detailed information about more than 20 of the aircraft can be called up on media stations, which are the digital archives of the exhibition. Photos, documents, historic film recordings and newspaper interviews illustrate the uses and workings of all the aircraft and relate the stories of the items contained in the exhibition. The "Man and War" media station tells the life stories of six former members of the German Luftwaffe.

### Film stations

Around 20 films, which were mainly put together using historic film material, provide additional information about the various subject areas covered in the exhibition. These show how the exhibits were used on day-to-day basis.

### Listening stations

One listening station contains eye-witness accounts and literary texts about personal experiences during the night time bombing raids in World War II. Another station provides visitors with an impression of life at Tempelhof Airport/Berlin from the 1930s to the 1960s.