

U DGR Papers relating to the air crash 1913-1974 **investigations of George William Gregory**

Biographical background:

George William Gregory began his career at Lloyd's of London in 1919 and was an insurance broker specialising in the drafting of aviation insurance schedules until 1940. He then became a deputy underwriter with a Lloyd's syndicate dealing in aviation insurance internationally. During the war he served with Fighter and Coastal Command Flight Operation in the Royal Air Force and returned to Lloyd's in 1945. In 1948 he became a member of the first Lloyd's Aviation Underwriters' Association Committee drafting and producing a 'standard' aviation insurance policy for Lloyds known as AV1.

In 1954 he was elected to the technical and clauses committee of the Underwriters' Association and for the next dozen years he helped to produce Lloyds's first 'standard specimen form' of liabilities policies for use in the United States, Canada and Switzerland. In 1959 he joined the leading Lloyds syndicate dealing with aviation insurance, E R H Hill, again as deputy underwriter. As with the previous syndicate he considered the acceptance and premium rating of aviation insurance risks. He also dealt with the major insurance claims made against his syndicate and this work, more than anything, has shaped the creation of the records in the Brynmor Jones Library.

Custodial History:

Presented by GW Gregory Esq. on 14 December 1979

Description:

DGR comprises three boxes of insurance schedules, accident reports and litigation papers (including photographs) as well as a few other miscellaneous papers collected during the career of George William Gregory as an insurance investigator.

The accident reports and litigation papers span the dates 1948-1974 and include reports on the 1948 loss of the 'Star Tiger' in the Azores; the 1948 crash of a United Airlines crash at Mount Carmel; the 1961 crash of a Sabena Boeing 707 in Brussels; the 1963 mid-air collision between a Middle East Airlines Viscount and a military C47 in Ankara; the 1964 crash of a Middle East Airlines Caravelle at Dahran in the Persian Gulf; the 1965 crash of 'the Flight of the Phoenix' (Twentieth-Century Fox-Tallamantz Aviation) at Buttercup Valley in California; the 1966 mid-air explosion of Aden Airways Dakota VR-WAN; the 1967 losses of a Nigerian Airways Dakota and Fokker Friendship; the 1967 crash of a Lake Central Airlines Convair 580 in Ohio; the 1967 crash of an Air Canada Douglas DC8F-54; the 1967 loss of a Hawker Siddeley 125 at Luton; the 1968 crash at the Farnborough Air Show of a Breguet 1150 Atlantic aircraft; the 1969 crash of an Avion Airways Douglas DC3 at New Orleans; the 1970 crash of a Swissair Coronado HB-ICD in Wurenlingen, Switzerland; the 1970 crash of ALM/ONA DC9 in the Virgin Islands and the 1971 collision at Sydney airport of a Canadian Pacific Douglas DC8 and a Trans-Australian Airlines Boeing 727.

Perhaps of particular interest amongst the air crash investigation papers are those relating to the destruction of several aircraft at Beirut in the Lebanon in 1968 in a raid by the Israeli Armed Forces and the 1970 report of the hijack of a Swissair DC8 in

Jordan. The collection also contains 261 photographs (circa 1930-1970) of aircraft and air crashes including many of those mentioned above.

In addition the collection contains various aviation regulations (for example, for pilot licence loss in the United States in the 1940s); specific agreements struck such as that between the British Overseas Airways Corporation and Borneo Company Limited for handling agency in 1955 and a letter of George Gregory from 1963 with enclosed technical reports of the Rolls Royce Limited Engine Division about the radioactive contamination of aircraft engines. Insurance schedules and policies cover the years 1913 to circa 1960s and include the United States war risk policies of the 1960s.

Arrangement:

U DGR/1-24	Accident reports and litigation, 1948-1974
U DGR/25	Aircraft photographs, circa 1930-1970
U DGR/26-30	Aviation insurance, circa 1913, 1969
U DGR/31-41	Miscellaneous, 1940-1972

Extent: 3 boxes (0.5 linear metres)

Access Conditions:

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

U DGR/1	'Star Tiger' (Azores - Bermuda), 30 January 1948 Ministry of Civil Aviation Report, with enclosures 1 volume	Sep 1948
U DGR/2	Mount Carmel, Pennsylvania, 17 June 1948 'Summary of original file in respect of United Airlines crash at Mt Carmel' (incomplete) concerning litigation with letter (22 Dec 1952), and autograph note by GW Gregory (18 Jan 1971) about aircraft products liability 1 bundle	Dec 1952- Jan 1971
U DGR/3	Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales, 12 March 1950 Ministry of Civil Aviation Report on the loss of Tudor V Aircraft G-AKBY 1 volume	1950
U DGR/4	Miami, Florida, 25 March 1953 Letter about litigation relating to Braniff Airways Douglas DC-7C crash 1 item	27 Mar 1964
U DGR/5	'Comet', Elba and Naples, 10 January & 8 April 1954 Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation Report into the losses of Comets G-ALYP and G-ALYY 1 item	1955

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U DGR/6	Berg, Brussels, Belgium, 15 February 1961 Belgian Ministry of Communications Report into the crash of a Sabena Boeing 707 1 item	21 Mar 1963
U DGR/7	Ska Edeby, Sweden, 6 August [1962] Copy of letter outlining a legal opinion from Beaumont & Son, Solicitors, London about claims for storm damage to air-craft of the Cessna Aircraft Co. and Solberg Cessna Flying A/B 1 item	9 Nov 1962
U DGR/8	Ankara, Turkey, 1 February 1963 Papers relating to litigation which resulted from the mid-air collision between a Middle-East Airlines Viscount and a Turkish Military Aircraft C-47 15 items	Feb 1963- Nov 1969
U DGR/9	Dahran, Persian Gulf, 17 April 1964 Papers relating to litigation which resulted from the loss of a Middle-East Airlines Caravelle 37 items	Oct 1964- May 1967
U DGR/10	Buttercup Valley, California, 8 July 1965 Papers relating to the loss of the 'Flight of the Phoenix' aircraft, Twentieth-Century Fox - Tallmantz Aviation 7 items	Oct 1971- Feb 1972
U DGR/11	Aden, 22 November 1966 Legal opinion of J.L. Brooks (Beaumont & Son) concerning the mid-air explosion of Aden Airways Dakota VR-WAN 1 item	23 Jul 1969
U DGR/12	Marseilles, Ohio, 5 March 1967 Papers relating to the litigation resulting from the loss of a Lake Central Airlines Convair 580 16 items	May 1967- Jun 1970
U DGR/13	Enugu, Nigeria, 5 - 23 April 1967 Legal opinion of J.L. B[rooks], Beaumont and Son, about the losses of a Nigerian Airways Dakota and Fokker Friendship 1 item	5 Feb 1969
U DGR/14	Ottawa, Canada, 20 May 1967 Canadian Department of Transport, Civil Aviation Branch, Aircraft Accident Investigation Division, Report into the crash of an Air Canada Douglas DC8F-54, with note (by GW Gregory?) 1 item	[1967]

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U DGR/15	<p>Luton, England, 23 December 1967</p> <p>a) Board of Trade Report into the loss of a Beecham Group Ltd. Hawker Siddeley 125 Series 3B (Autair International Airways Ltd)</p> <p>Related series of files (b-g) concerning litigation resulting from the accident:</p> <p>b) General correspondence about the purchase, insurance, operation and main-tenance of the aircraft. Numbered 1-184 with related notes by GW Gregory (?), 15 December 1966 - 11 March 1968</p> <p>c) Correspondence, writs, opinions, and notes connected with litigation (61), 23 December 1967 - January 1970</p> <p>d) Insurance documents and papers: (i) Insurance policies and schedules related to HS 125 which crashed (5), 1967; (ii) Specimen Aircraft Insurance Policies (3), [1968]; (iii) List: Key to signatures of representatives of insurance companies underwriting the loss, [1968]; (iv) Copy. Confidential report on the accident from A. Hunter, Principal Surveyor of the Air Safety and Survey Division, British Aviation Insurance Co. Ltd. (including photographs), 13 February 1968</p> <p>e) Legal papers (writs, order paper) (9), April 1968 - June 1970</p> <p>f) Proofs of evidence: GW Gregory (2), N.H.Hill, H.R.Aucock, E.O.Walklin, and J.W.Hoggard, [1970]</p> <p>g) Papers (correspondence, notes and lists) relating to the trial and settlement (11), 15 May - 6 October 1970</p> <p>1 bundle</p>	<p>Dec 1966- Oct 1970</p>
U DGR/16	<p>Gisenyi, Rwanda, 31 January 1968</p> <p>Copy of an account of a hearing and judgement, Court of Brussels, Belgium, relating to the loss of a Cessna Centurion 210</p> <p>1 item</p>	<p>15 Apr 1970</p>
U DGR/17	<p>Farnborough, England, 20 September 1968</p> <p>Papers relating to the crash of a Breguet 1150 Atlantic aircraft at the at the Air Show</p> <p>12 items</p>	<p>1968-1970</p>
U DGR/18	<p>Beirut, Lebanon, 28 December 1968</p> <p>Papers relating to the damage and destruction of several aircraft operated by various Arab airlines in a raid by Israeli Armed Forces on Beirut Airport, with papers relating to court cases following the Israeli raid (including House of Lords Appeal)</p> <p>39 items</p>	<p>1968-1974</p>

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U DGR/19	New Orleans, Louisiana, 20 March 1969 Papers relating to litigation and passenger claims resulting from the accident on landing to an Avion Airways Douglas DC3 37 items	Jun 1970- Jun 1971
U DGR/20	Wurenlingen, Switzerland, 21 February 1970 Report by Swiss Pool for Aviation Insurance on the crash of Swissair Coronado HB-ICD, with report: A summary of insurance matters presented by the Swiss Re-insurance Co. on behalf of the Swiss Pool for Aviation Insurance 2 items	Sep 1970
U DGR/21	St.Croix, Virgin Islands, 2 May 1970 Papers relating to passenger claims resulting from the loss of an ALM/ONA DC9 6 items	May-Sep 1971
U DGR/22	Jordan (Hijack), 6 September 1970 Papers relating to litigation resulting from the hijacking of a Swissair DC8 to Dawson Field 9 items	Aug 1971- Nov 1973
U DGR/23	Sydney, Australia, 29 January 1971 Papers relating to the collision between a Canadian Pacific Douglas DC8 taxiing and a Trans Australian Airlines Boeing 727 taking off 3 items	May 1971- Oct 1972
U DGR/24	Orly, France, 3 March 1974 Letters to interested parties from Beaumont & Son, acting for Turkish Airlines in the matter of compensation claims and travel arrangements for relatives, resulting from the accident to their Douglas DC-10, with specimen letter and telexes 6 items	Mar 1974
U DGR/25	Miscellaneous photographs of aircraft and aircraft accidents Including: the D23 Fokker (9), Comet 4 (4), Farnborough Air Show (12), Eastern Provincial Airlines of Gander, Newfoundland (24), the General Dynamics Convair Charger (7) 261 items	c.1930-1975
U DGR/26	Insurance policies Mostly Lloyd's, London 30 items	c.1913-1969

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U DGR/27	Policy schedules, conditions, forms, related items and correspondence 96 items	c.1938-1969
U DGR/28	Policies, regulations and papers Relating to the loss of a pilot's licence in the United Kingdom and the United States of America 8 items	c.1942-1969
U DGR/29	Portfolio on Aviation Insurance, United States Aviation Underwriters Containing general information, policies, contracts, schedules and specimen forms 25 items	c.1948
U DGR/30	Aircraft hull, liability, war risk and umbrella policies, United States of America 1 bundle	c.1960
U DGR/31	Penang Flying Club: Bye-laws regulating flying and flying routine 1 bundle	Dec 1940
U DGR/32	Special notice to aircraft and engine contractors from the Ministry of Supply about renumbering Form 838 to Form 6/38 (enclosed) and its use 1 item	14 Sep 1955
U DGR/33	Copy of an agreement between British Overseas Airways Corporation and the Borneo Co. Ltd Appointing the latter as BOAC's General and Ground Handling Agent, with subsequent revision 1 item	19 Dec 1955- 5 Sep 1962
U DGR/34	Legal papers Memoranda, letters, articles, opinions and cases 25 items	Jun 1958- Jun 1972
U DGR/35	Miscellaneous photographs of a factory producing wooden blocks for flooring(?), Helsinki, Finland Site, interior and workforce 15 items	1961
U DGR/36	Copy of Notice of proposed rule making, United States of America Civil Aeronautics Board, with explanatory statement and proposed rule, Part 208 With cutting from 'The Aeroplane and commercial aviation news' (18.10.1962) and notes by GW Gregory (3) 1 bundle	4 Sep 1962

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U DGR/37	Letter to GW Gregory, enclosing Technical Reports, Rolls - Royce Ltd Aero Engine Division About radioactive contamination of aircraft engines 3 items	Sep 1962- Mar 1963
U DGR/38	'Organised Flying Adjusters newsletter', Vol.III, No.4 1 item	Nov 1968
U DGR/39	Air Claims Ltd., underwriting surveys Including: a) on Ariana Afghan Airlines Co. Ltd., by Robert O. Barratt, Principal Surveyor, 28 February 1969 b) on Turk Hava Yollari by C.Rayner, Surveyor, 29 April 1970 1 bundle	Feb 1969- Apr 1970
U DGR/40	Typescript. Memorandum by GW Gregory and J.L.Brooks (Beaumont and Son) on the practice of the Aviation Insurance Market (Lloyd's and Companies) 2 items	[1970-1971]
U DGR/41	'Aviation insurance abbreviations', by GW Gregory (Copy) 1 item	15 Nov 1971