



## F-27 PARTS PROGRAM ORGANIZED

Messrs. Howard Cartwright, Superintendent of Maintenance, W. W. Barber, Purchasing Agent and H. L. Vogler, Supervisor of Stores, recently attended a two week Support Conference at the Fairchild Aircraft plant in Hagerstown, Md. Representatives for 34 vendors involved in supplying parts and components for the F-27 aircraft attended the meeting together with the purchasers of the F-27.

During the conference, vendor sales policies and warranty procedures were reviewed in an effort to eliminate many of the problems that arise upon the purchase of a new aircraft. Following the conference, Piedmont finalized their plans for preliminary provisioning of spare parts for the F-27.

## NORWEGIAN FLIER ATTENDS F-27 ENGINE CLASS



Nils Ringdal, chief flight instructor for Braathens Airlines in Oslo, Norway, has

completed his three week Dart Engine course in Winston-Salem under the tutelage of John Rehder, Director of Training.

Braathens Airlines is the Local Service Airline of Norway and they have three Fairchild F-27s on order for its routes throughout the Scandinavian countries. Deliveries are scheduled for late 1958.

Mr. Ringdal plans to organize and conduct similar classes for the Braathens Airlines personnel upon his return and was very enthusiastic in his praise of the training that Piedmont Airlines is making available to its personnel and purchasers of the F-27.

Mr. Ringdal commented on an unexpected reunion which occurred in the Dart class when he saw Henry Wilson, a Piedmont Airlines mechanic stationed in Wilmington. Nils relates that the first meeting happened in England in 1942. He was then a flight

officer for the Royal Norwegian Air Force attached to the RAF as a Spitfire fighter pilot. They were to provide an escort for a daylight bombing raid by American B-17s and Wilson was a crewman on one of the B-17s. It took 15 years, 3000 miles of travel and a rare scheduling coincidence to reunite the two.

## DEKAY TAKES ASSIGNMENT AT FAIRCHILD

R.H. "Bob" DeKay, Station Chief Mechanic in Wilmington has been assigned as resident Inspector for the F-27 at the Fairchild plant in Hagerstown, Maryland.

He will remain in Hagerstown until the first F-27 is delivered and will be responsible for routine inspections approving changes or corrections to specifications and maintaining liaison between Piedmont and Fairchild.

Resident inspection work is nothing new to Bob. Before joining Piedmont in 1947 he was the Assistant Superintendent of Maintenance of Santa Fe Skyways, an air freight operation owned by the Santa Fe Railroad. They operated DC-3 and DC-4 equipment over trans-continental routes. It was during this time that he spent about a year at the Douglas plant as a resident inspector for Santa Fe Skyways.

## WILLARD GIVEN

### HONORARY CAPTAINCY

D. R. "Red" Willard, Superintendent of Engine Overhaul for Piedmont Aviation in Winston-Salem can now be called Captain Willard since receiving an unusual and distinctive honorary award from Capital Airlines.

The December issue of the Piedmonitor carried an article about the model Viscount. It took more than 1000 hours to build and Red says that he wouldn't sell it for \$2000.

Jim Mummah, Capital's District Sales Representative in Winston-Salem heard about the model and supplied his company officials with a picture and all of the details. They were impressed with the model and along with Vickers Armstrong, Ltd., manufacturers of the aircraft, and the Rolls-Royce engine manufacturers, decided to award the honorary Captaincy to him. The presentation was made at a luncheon ceremony where Red was presented a certificate designating him an honorary Capital Airlines captain.

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