

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of CIVIL AVIATION CHAPLAINS



HISTORY and GOALS

On 17 December 1903, the first powered airplane was invented and flown as an instrument of trade and commerce, carrying mail first, then mail and passengers, flying less than 100 miles an hour (160 Km per hour). By 1943, the number of people travelling by air had grown beyond the industry's wildest dreams. This phenomenon was actually changing the society and lifestyle of the world . . . Larger aircraft, speed and distance brought about huge airports located far from the metropolitan cities, dictating needs within the airport terminal buildings. You may be interested in visiting a website which tells something of the story of the Wright Brothers at http://www.countdowntokittyhawk.com/first_flight.html

Travellers, while waiting for their flight or to change planes to continue their journey, as well as airport employees who have to work all hours and days, did not have a place or facility within the airport terminal that they might go to for prayer or meditation or counselling. The need for an airport ministry within the airport complex was first realised in 1944 by an Eastern Airlines employee, Ed Hogg.

1. A place that is always open, affirming the many faiths that mingle at a giant airport.
2. A place set apart for individual prayer and meditation.
3. A welcomed oasis of stillness and quiet in the rush and roar of an airport facility.
4. A chaplain available for those who face emotional crisis and need personal guidance and counselling.

The first known Airport Chapel was opened in 1951 at Boston's Logan International Airport under the direction of Cardinal Cushing.

Other chapels opened soon after and in 1961, Father Xavier de Meeus of Brussels met with Father Steux in France at Orly Airport. Father de Meeus thought it would be a good idea to get other airport chaplains

together and in 1967 ten priests met in Brussels and the International Association of Civil Aviation Chaplains, meeting annually since then. This Association is an ecumenical group of civil aviation chaplains whose work consists in the priestly, pastoral and prophetic ministering to and with people who work at and use airports/civil aviation. Its purpose is to nurture ecumenical and spiritual relationships in the world. This is to be accomplished through meetings at various locations, normally once each year. The laity is welcome to these meetings since they are the prime movers in starting most of the chapels.

Today there are some 121 known airport chaplaincies in more than 36 countries.

Edwin IACAC Atlanta U.S.A. (Happy) Hartsfield International Airport Hogg Historian Airport

NOTE:- Edwin Standford Hogg, who wrote this brief history and was also one of the founders of the chaplaincy at Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport, died on 21st March 1999.

We honour his memory.

In 1967 the Airport Chaplain at Brussels International Airport, the Revd. Father Xavier de Meeus, called a meeting of Airport Chaplains to discuss their unique ministry in Civil Aviation. From that small meeting has grown an organisation with members at over 130 airports and on every continent.

Each year they meet to share fellowship and insights which support their ministry

<u>No</u>	<u>YEA</u> <u>R</u>	<u>AIRPORT</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>
1	1967	Brussels	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
2	1968	Dublin	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
3	1969	New York JFK	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
4	1970	Paris Orly	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
5	1971	Rome	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
6	1972	London Heathrow	Rev Xavier de Meeus,

7	1973	Malta	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
8	1974	Vancouver	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
9	1975	Chicago	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
10	1976	Frankfurt	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
11	1977	Melbourne	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
12	1978	Montreal	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
13	1979	Paris	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
14	1980	Minneapolis/St Paul	Rev Xavier de Meeus,
15	1981	Hong Kong	Rev C T [Peter] Holloway
16	1982	Amsterdam	Rev C T [Peter] Holloway.
17	1983	Toronto	Rev C T [Peter] Holloway.
18	1984	Melbourne	Rev C T [Peter] Holloway.
	1985		Rev C T [Peter] Holloway
19	1986	London Gatwick	Revd John Jamnicky
20	1987	Montreal Dorval	Revd John Jamnicky
21	1988	Manila	Revd John Jamnicky
22	1989	Dublin	Revd John Jamnicky
23	1990	Atlanta	Revd John Jamnicky
24	1991	Christchurch	Revd John Jamnicky
25	1992	Brussels	Revd John Jamnicky
26	1993	Chicago O'Hare	Revd John Jamnicky
27	1994	London	Revd James Devine,
28	1995	Sydney	Revd James Devine
29	1996	Rio de Janeiro	Revd James Devine
30	1997	Stockholm	Revd James Devine
31	1998	New York	Revd James Devine
32	1999	Munich	Revd James Devine
33	2000	Johannesburg	Revd Walter Meier,
34	2001	Indianapolis	Revd Walter Meier,
35	2002	Paris	Revd Walter Meier,
36	2003	Melbourne	Revd Walter Meier,
37	2004	Seattle	Revd Canon Mike Vincer,
38	2005	Manchester	Revd Canon Mike Vincer