



Under the Peace Treaties concluded on 10 February 1947 in Paris, Hungary, which by that time had come under the influence of the Soviet Union, regained its national sovereignty. The country was allowed to maintain, in addition to ground forces, also air forces with a personnel strength of 5,000 men and 90 aircraft (out of them, 70 combat aircraft). On 1 April 1948, the Aviation Branch of the Ministry of Defense started to work, and on 15 July 1949 the Air Force Command was set up.

Based on the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance concluded with the Soviet Union on 18 February 1948 and the Hungarian-Soviet military agreement, the Hungarian Air Force got aircraft of Soviet production. Among them were the types Yak-9 "Vércse", Il-10 "Párduc", Li-2 "Teve", Yak-11 "Ölyv" and Yak-18 "Fűrj". The first MiG-15SAS aircraft equipped with jet engines entered service in 1951. In 1952, the personnel strength of the Hungarian Air Force already amounted to about 20,000 men.

- 1 Soviet heavy machine gun 1938 M (12.7 mm) in an anti-aircraft position at the Buda side of the Margaret Bridge in spring 1945.
(Source: Fortepan)
- 2 Pushing a training aircraft Bücker Bü-131, which survived the war.
(Source: Fortepan)
- 3 Aircraft Yakovlev Yak-9P »Vércse« of the Hungarian People's Army.
- 4 Ground attack aircraft Ilyushin Il-10 »Párduc« of the Hungarian People's Army.
- 5 Transport aircrafts Li-2 »Teve« lined up.
- 6 MiG-15 jet fighters of the Hungarian Air Force entered service in 1951 and were gradually replaced in the mid-1960s

The History of the Hungarian Air Force from 1945 to 1955



Even in the face of the defeat Hitler took personally control of the German aviation industry in spring 1945. When the German Reich declared the total and unconditional capitulation on 8 May 1945 hardly anything of this industry was left over. In their sphere of influence the Soviets dismantled and transferred undestroyed production facilities to the USSR as war reparations. Still existing production units in the Western zones were placed under the Allied Military Administration. Many German specialists entered the service of the victorious powers.

Like the Treaty of Versailles after the First World War now the Potsdam agreement of August 1945 initially prohibited all German activities in the field of aviation. A few years later the three Western zones and the Eastern zone of occupation went separate ways. With the proclamation of the German "Basic Law" on 23 May 1949 the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) was formed through the merger of the three Western occupation zones (»Trizone«), which acquired far reaching national sovereignty with the entry into force of the Paris treaty in 1955. On 7 October 1949 the Soviet occupation zone became the German Democratic Republic.

On 9 May 1955 the FRG joined the Western Defense Alliance NATO (»North Atlantic Treaty Organization«), which had been founded in 1949. Five days later, on 14 May 1955, the Soviet Union concluded the »Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance« with seven states in its sphere of influence in the Polish Capital Warsaw. The GDR was among the founding members of the Alliance, known in the West as »Warsaw Pact«. During the following 35 years the »Iron Curtain« divided the different political and social systems.

- 1 Potsdam Conference, group photo
The three victorious powers met from 17 July to 2 August 1945 in Cecilienhof Palace. They were represented by Clement R. Attlee, Harry S. Truman, and Josef Stalin (from left to right: seated). The result was the Potsdam Agreement, which defined the foundations for the building of a peaceful democratic German state and the policy of the victorious powers with respect to Germany. Standing behind the heads of state are Admiral J.D. Loahy, E. Bevin, J.W. Byrnes and W.M. Molotow (from left to right)
Federal Archive, photo 183-R86965
- 2 Map of Germany 1945 with the occupation zones of the victorious powers
Bundeswehr Museum of Military History – Berlin-Gatow Airfield
- 3 Building of the Berlin Wall at the Brandenburg Gate, summer 1961
Federal Archive, B 145 photo-P061246

Collapse and political restart