

## **DEREK SPICE OBE (K36-40)**

He was born on 24 September 1925 and was connected with the airfreight industry for 27 years.

After a spell with the Royal Navy (Portsmouth Division) from 1943 to 1947 he joined Escombe McGrath Co as an Accounts Clerk. Over the following years he progressed within the company, becoming an Internal Auditor and then Assistant Company Secretary. In 1959 he became Company Secretary responsible for all administration in 8 offices and covering 450 staff.



In 1961 he left to become Managing Director of EMG Air Services, which was also a subsidiary of the P&O Group. During his time there he merged 5 P&O Group subsidiaries to form Pandair Freight Ltd. From 1974 to 1983 he was Executive Chairman of the Pandair Group.

From its inception in 1970 until its sale to a Dutch stevedoring organisation in 1983, Pandair became a major international concern with over 60 branches in 14 countries and some 1200 staff were employed worldwide.

Derek also took a keen interest in industry affairs. He was a member of the UK Institute of Freight Forwarders and served on the Council of the Institute as well as numerous committees.

His international commitment was to the Airfreight Institute of FIATA (Fédération Internationale des Associations de Transitaires et Assimilés or in English International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations) from 1971 to the early eighties. This Institute, based in Zurich, is the worldwide association of national associations for air forwarding and air cargo agents.



He was Chairman for 4 years and during that period a joint IATA/FIATA Cargo Agents Training Programme was set up, and implemented standard qualifications for the staff of licensed IATA Cargo Agents. Additionally an IATA/FIATA Contact Committee was established and provided the basis for a continuing dialogue with IATA.

He was awarded the OBE in the 1984 New Year Honours List and it was presented to him by the Queen, for "services to the airfreight industry".