

INDIVIDUAL HISTORY

FOCKE ACHGELIS FA330 A-1 BACHSTELZE 8469M
MUSEUM ACCESSION NUMBER 75/AF/805

One of some 200 FA330's produced as U-boat autogyro airborne observation kites. These were built under contract by Weser Flugzeugbau at Hoyenkamp, Delmenhorst, Bremen from 1942 and used on Type IX U-boats.

This specimen is believed to be w/nr.100503; a note from the Fleet Air Arm Museum in 2013 reported that the rotor head from 10053 is fitted to their Yeovilton example (w/nr 100545); the RAFM rotor head werk number is obscured by paint, but seems to be ?0127?

- 1945 Acquired for evaluation. Possibly moved to the Airborne Forces Experimental Establishment at Beaulieu, Hants, who tested a number of these rotor kites between January 1948 and July 1949.
- 1961/3 One of three Fa330s (w/nrs 10032/502/503) stored in the Aero Club barn at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, Hants; all three are now preserved.
- Sep 67 Passed to RAF Museum store at RAF Henlow, Beds by Air Historical Branch, in incomplete condition by this date, with identity recorded as '60.0001.2', which is not its Werk Nummer.
- 13 Feb 76 Allotted RAF Maintenance serial 8469M.
- Nov 75
-Jun 76 Displayed at 'Wings of the Eagle' display of German Aviation material at RAFM, Hendon, suspended above the main entrance
- Stored at RAFM RC&RC Cardington, Beds
- To Aerospace Museum, RAF Cosford, Salop, by 1980, where it remains on display (Now Royal Air Force Museum Cosford). It is one of at least 15 known survivors of the type worldwide.

TEXT; ANDREW SIMPSON

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