ABSTRACT

The subject-matter of this dissertation paper is the description and analysis of the topic of the post-war fate of certain Czechoslovak pilots in Great Britain in the post-war years. In the introduction to this paper, I outline the atmosphere at the time and the process of integration of western pilots in Czechoslovakia after liberation. The paper at the same time addresses the efforts of the British wives of these pilots to assimilate into Czechoslovak society.

The changes in the political circumstances, especially, compelled the RAF pilots to start considering leaving Czechoslovakia again. After February 1948, the persecution of the RAF officers was already evident. Political purges in the armed forces compelled them to leave Czechoslovakia again.

The paper typologises the exodus of the RAF pilots abroad into subgroups and for each of these subgroups, it demonstrates the various and clearly very similar fates of the pilots, which are linked by departure to Great Britain, where they served in the RAF during the war. The typology of the exodus differentiates those pilots who remained in Great Britain and did not return to Czechoslovakia after the war and those that left legally and those that left the country illegally and emigrated. To clarify the problems of hijack of aircraft, the form of back reflection contained in contemporary German, French and English periodicals.

The next part of the dissertation paper discusses the employment of the Czechoslovak pilots in Great Britain. The main task of this chapter was to capture the procedure for reintegration into the RAF. This chapter contains information from the Personnel and Management Agency in Cranwell, which, to date, remains a secret.

This institution systematically collects information about RAF pilots and subsequently gives it to the National Archive.