Trip to Finland has started: Caravelle III SE-DAF has been moved to the dismantling site in Arlanda

On Wednesday May 25th, 2022, the Caravelle III, which will be transported from Arlanda airport in Stockholm to Turku in Finland, was towed from its long-term parking area to the site where it will be dismantled for transportation. In spite of the long parking period the towing succeeded, and everything went smoothly. The dismantling work will begin early June and the aircraft parts will be transported to Finland in August.

Based on the agreement signed in 2021 by Aviation Museum Society Finland and Swedish National Maritime and Transport Museums (SMTM), the former Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) Sud Aviation SE 210 Caravelle III SE-DAF "Sven Viking" was transferred into the possession of Aviation Museum Society Finland when the representatives of the society had inspected and approved the aircraft. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic this could not be arranged before April 19th, 2022.

As agreed, SMTM had the aircraft moved into the area where it will be dismantled for transportation. This is a fenced site in the landside area of the airport which is reserved for scrapping aircraft. Most likely there won't be other activities on the site when the Caravelle is being dismantled.

The dismantling work of the SE-DAF will begin on June 7th, 2022. The work will be done mainly by Aviation Museum Society volunteers from Finland. The dismantling team consists of about 15 volunteers, mainly from Finland, but some from Sweden as well. First the tailplane and the fin will be taken down and then the fuse-lage will be disassembled from the wings. The first dismantling phase will take two weeks. Based on the results achieved in that phase, the activities for the rest of the summer can be planned and scheduled. The aim is to transport the aircraft to Finland in late August.

The aircraft will be placed on display at a central location at Turku airport for visitors to see. During the modification works of the airport area a stand will be built for the aircraft near the airport terminal. This will be the long-term location for the Caravelle. A detailed restoration plan and schedule will be made later.

Finnair Oyj has given the permission for painting the SE-DAF into the painting scheme used by the airline in the early years of the jet age in the 1960s. Aero Oy, the predecessor of Finnair, had Caravelle IIIs in its fleet during 1960-1964 and later Super Caravelles, its improved versions, until 1983. It is unlikely that an old commercial jet aircraft with a background in Finland could be brought to Finland with reasonable costs.

Dismantling the Caravelle for transportation, bringing it to Finland, restoring it and placing it on display is a great effort for Aviation Museum Society Finland. Money is needed, naturally, and the Caravelle team hopes to find sponsors and a fund-raising campaign has been established.

Further information:

About the project in English: What? | Caravelle-projekti

Photographs: www.caravelle-projekti/media

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