



Royal Aeronautical Society - Munich Branch

Chris Pocock
Aerospace Journalist, Author and Historian

Dragon Lady - The History of the U-2 Spyplane

Tuesday 21st April, 2026 18:00

The Lockheed U-2 is a strategic reconnaissance aircraft, which played a crucial role during the tense years of the Cold War. It came to fame when pilot Francis Gary Powers was shot down over the Soviet Union in 1960. However the aircraft has been frequently updated, is still operated by the United States, and over more than 70 years it has seen action in most conflicts around the world, providing vital intelligence information to the US and its allies. Built by the famous Lockheed 'Skunk Works' under the direction of Clarence L. "Kelly" Johnson, the U-2 was, and is, truly the most successful intelligence-gathering aircraft ever produced



Chris Pocock is a renowned British Aviation writer and is considered the expert historian on the U-2 program. His interest in the U-2 started in the early 1970s with a visit to Davis-Monthan AFB, which was then the home of the U.S. Air Force U-2 wing. He continued to follow current U-2 operations and probe any source into the history of this remarkable aircraft. His efforts helped ensure that an original U-2C model aircraft and an incredible B-camera were preserved and transferred to the Imperial War Museum, Duxford, UK. He is the only foreign civilian to have flown in the U-2. The CIA Historian describes him as "today's foremost authority on the U-2, its development, and deployment."

Please register in advance here, for in person or online attendance:
<https://forms.office.com/e/S3RxAWCWKw>

Lecture in English Language

Venue – Oberpfaffenhofen
TUM / HM Flight Test Centre,
Lise-Meitner-Straße 507

82205 Gauting

The lecture will also be streamed online