



The pilot, Chester Karney, and co-pilot, Jack Bullington, are now in their 80's but still clearly remember the incident and provided extensive information about the location. Brooks Aviation and UAS conducted an expedition in 1998 to locate the plane. The survival camp was quickly found, but side scan sonar of the lake bed did not find the aircraft. Consultation with local guides led to another site in a river where the aircraft was found. During the thaw of 1948 the aircraft had traveled on the ice out of the lake, run rapids and finally came to rest at the bottom of a river 8 miles from its original site!

Noted admiralty lawyer David Horan, who had secured the salvage rights for the famed *Atocha* for Mel Fisher, was retained to secure the salvage rights to the B-17. The legal proceedings have gone on for five years. On May 18, 2004 the Provincial Court ruled that Brooks Aviation could proceed with salvage effort. There are many challenges presented by this recovery operation due to the remote location. Once raised the B-17 will make a 65 mile transit down river to the nearest location that it can be lifted from the water.

The story of this aircraft has been documented in the April 2000, "Flight Journal" magazine and a December 2001 episode of the Discovery Channel series "Flight Path".

The next chapter of the story is ready to begin...

## Join the Expedition!

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