

AVIATION INSURANCE. By R.D. MARGO. [London: Butterworths. 1980. 249 pp. (excluding appendix). £40.00]

AVIATION insurance is commonly thought to concern merely the insurance of planes and airborne cargo. It is that and much more for, as Margo points out, it involves the insurance of risks associated with the manufacture, ownership, operations and maintenance of aircraft and the operation of aviation facilities on the surface.

Margo's 'Aviation Insurance' is easy to read. It is a work intended not only for practitioners and students (if they are that specialised at such an early stage of their lives!) but also at insurers, brokers, adjusters, surveyors and everyone in the aviation insurance market where, in truth, insurance is not just a matter of prudence but an absolute economic necessity. The book attempts to examine all forms of aviation insurance, the pragmatic applications thereof and the workings of the aviation insurance market.

The work is primarily concerned with English law but reference is made to the decisions of courts in other jurisdictions and, in particular, to American decisions. The reader is given a quick look at the history of aviation insurance, the workings of the London aviation market and underwriting practice before the law is unfolded in later chapters. As far as principles of law are concerned, this book has to be read in conjunction with one of the leading works on general principles of insurance law and the author makes rather extensive references to such texts in his book.

There is a fairly lengthy appendix which contains useful information. Various standard form policies from Lloyd's are included and so is a proposal form. The reader is also shown a variety of clauses which either exclude liability or provide additional coverage.

As aviation insurance is a growing subject, any informative book on the subject can only be welcomed. In this context, many will find Margo's work a useful addition to their library.

TAN LEE MENG