

**April 27, 1976** - Don McDermott and I are on a routine flight from STX to STT in a Mallard. I am flying, and Don is making the radio calls. As we approach STT, we see a black plume of smoke in the vicinity of the STT airport. Don makes the required call to STT tower to announce our landing in the harbor and inquiries about the smoke plume. The tower refuses to supply any details. Don takes control of the aircraft and proceeds direct to the source of the smoke. We look down to see an American Airlines 727 in flames off the airport. We are looking at the aftermath of AA flight 625, which overran the runway and struck a gas station. This accident spawned the birth of American Inter-Island and changed the history of STT airport.



**Capt. Don McDermott, Capt. Charles F. Blair and Co-Capt. Steve Bell**



**Antillies Air Boats – Mallard G-73**