

Jan Dellaert's diary A strong vision

While the Second World War still rages and the Netherlands suffers under German occupation, Jan Dellaert is already looking to the future. Under his leadership, the old Schiphol grew into an international airport during the 1920s and 1930s. But the harbourmaster of Schiphol has a revolutionary vision of what the new Schiphol should become once peace finally returns.

On 30 April 1945, one week before the war ends, Dellaert records his first ideas in his diary. He draws a terminal building and a control tower. He marks where KLM's technical shed should be built. He also sketches a plan for a new runway system.

Dellaert's diary was preserved and given to Schiphol in 2025. Today, we can see how this aviation pioneer created the first sketches for Schiphol's reconstruction. A vision that remains strong more than 80 years later.

