

SOUTH CAICOS PROGRESS REPORT No.1

1st JANUARY 1969



SOUTH CAICOS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

The extensive improvements to the airport are still in progress but the paving of the 6,000 x 100 ft runway has been completed. The additional parking areas and refuelling areas should be in use by February. A new terminal and communication centre is under construction, also large water tanks to collect the water off the paved areas.

ESSO will be expanding their bulk depot facilities and we hope to have considerable extra storage space for AVGAS and AVTUR by April. We still honour ESSO International Aviation Carnets and Domestic Credit Cards, and also the Shell International Carnet. We stock both Shell and ESSO Aviation lubricants.

Airport Lighting: The new medium intensity lighting has arrived and should be in operation shortly. Emergency flares (smudge pots) are still lit every night in case you should need them. Buzz the town with your lights on (if you cannot raise us on UNICOM 122.8 from 0700-1900 EST) and if possible do not attempt to land until we have checked the field for livestock.

Fencing: The fencing project is almost completed but until complete we still have donkeys and cows grazing near the runway. Check the runway carefully before landing or taking off - particularly at night.

Terminal: The much frequented 'shack' will only be replaced when the new terminal is completed. We do carry a wider variety of hot and cold snacks and sandwiches, more local straw-work and Haitian carvings, a selection of Kodak films, duty free liquor and cigarettes.

Staff: Greg Gillette, formerly of the Grand Turk tower, an FAA controller and now a licensed DC4 pilot has taken over technical operations of the airport. Dot Julich (a '99er) spends most of her time here with us between Air Races - and pays particular attention to the requirements of guests and visitors both at the airport and at The Admiral's Arms. If you want transportation, boats, fishing or skin-diving equipment or any local information - ask Dotty !

THE ADMIRAL'S ARMS:

The construction work which entertained our guests last year has now been completed. The new swimming pool, patio dance floor and the new rooms are all in operation. All the 'thin walls' have gone and we think that we can cater comfortably for 40 persons. With 18 bathrooms (14 with Hot water) - you almost forget the old times ! We keep to our promise of always trying to keep everyone who wants a meal or a bed satisfied - so far we have never failed ! At Christmas we had 63 guests for dinner - so you can see that we are flexible. We also keep ten beds unreserved, even during the season, and allocate them each day on a "first here, first in" system for those pilots who cannot keep to their flight plan. My parents (Anne and Bill to you) have decided to spend the English winters here with me and help look after you. Mohher is doing great things in the kitchen and Dad, when he is not running people around the island as a guide, is looking after our new wine and liquor cellar. We are rather proud of our selection of wines which have been specially selected for us in this climate by Justerini and Brooks (J & B), the London wine merchants. Our traditional (6 years now) family style meals and dinners and the very relaxed and informal atmosphere is still here - and we always like to see 'the regulars' back. Unfortunately with the cost of the pool, the new sailing skiffs and the glass bottom boats we have had to increase our rates to \$35.00 per couple (\$20.00 single) inclusive of breakfast and dinner. We offer a 10% discount to all current members of the AOPA and their immediate families - (Ouch ! Stop twisting my arm, Max !) We also have the Ferry Pilots Special.

GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS:

The survey and earthworks for our new Sail Rock hotel and Belle Sound Settlement are well in hand under the care of our new company surveyor David Barrett. Those who like to see heavy equipment working will find McAlpine's \$250,000 of equipment fascinating. Our new electrical utility is supplying the township and is being expanded further in the next few months. Incidentally my partners have also agreed to sell some of our property to those who want to develop their own part of South Caicos. Just drop me a line if you are interested and I will let you know what is available.

I do hope you have enjoyed this first report on the 'Outest of the Out Islands' and look forward to seeing you here shortly,

Sincerely,

*Liam*

Liam Maguire, The Caicos Company Ltd.,  
South Caicos, Turks & Caicos, West Indies.



