



BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT BUGLE

News from our Airport at Biggin Hill - established 2005




CLUB AND AIRPORT NEWS

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT SOCIAL CLUB LTD

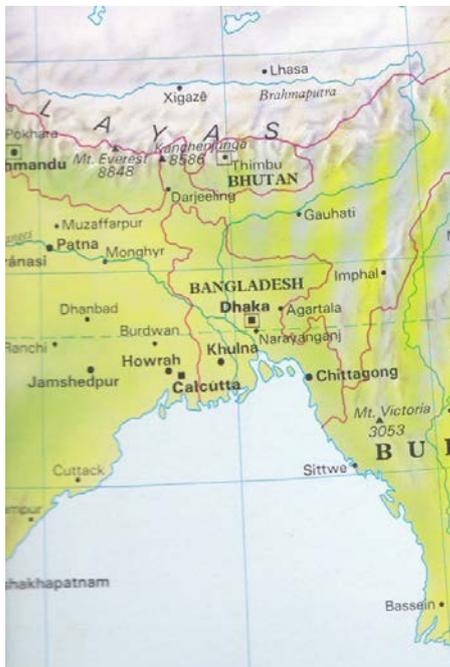
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CALCUTTA – RANGOON



This map shows relationship between the Himalayas, Calcutta and Rangoon in Burma.

It was 538nm - flight time 4 hrs flying down the coast of Burma.

On finals the Tower said we could land on the taxiway!!



RANGOON TOWER BURMA



We taxi to the tower apron and venture inside. The Controller came down and apologised for our landing instructions, he thought we were a helicopter..

Burma is a strange place, caution showing cameras. How much money as we could only use their currency and any left over coinage or whatever must be handed in. They were well organised in currency control. They supplied a large form for calculating finances.

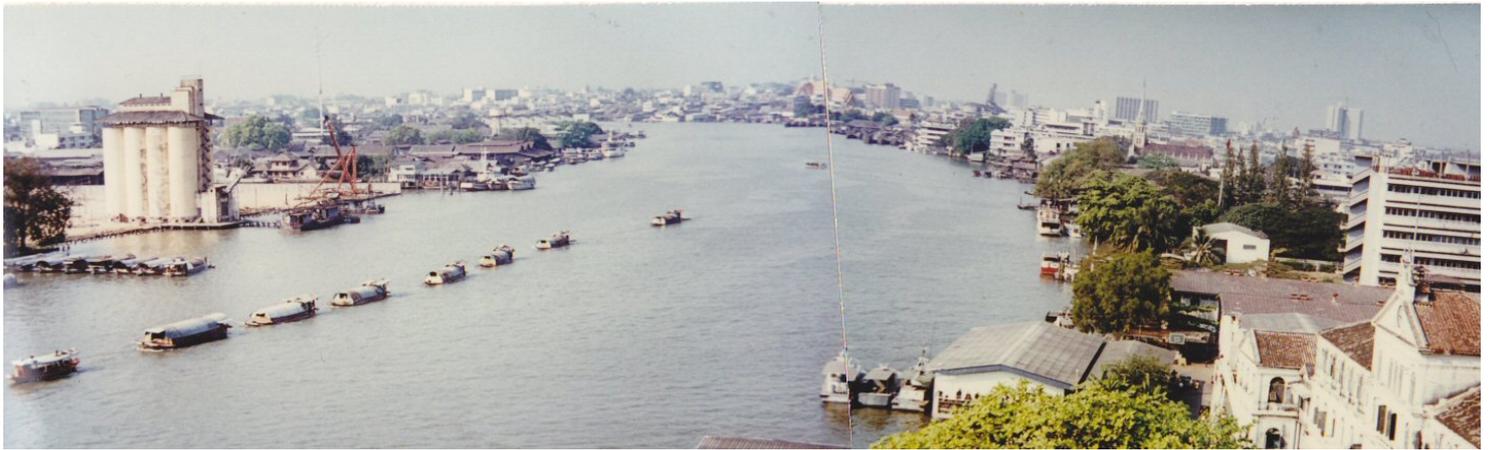
BANGKOK THAILAND



New terminal under construction.



Thai Dancer in our hotel restaurant.



CHAO PHRAYA RIVER

This was the view from our hotel, we would be here for two days as we had another sales appointment. But first we have a visit to 'Happy Happy' paid for by Aerospatiale, all we had to do was bring back a genuine invoice to be presented to the accounts for re-imbusement. A wonderful afternoon, amazing! This place was featured in Penthouse magazine soon after we returned to Europe.

DOWNTOWN PENANG



We are in the Oberi hotel, this street is like a long bar just above the equator.

SINGAPORE (SELETAR)



Very civilized and friendly airfield at Singapore.

PATTAYA ROAD BANGKOK

In the evening we were taken to a very exquisite Thai Restaurant with large round tables with a revolving central waiter, and the food kept coming. There was a large stage in the in the internal distance with a large band, unbelievable place.

BANGKOK – PENANG



The Malaysian coast is quite colourful on the way to Penang. They are re-building their runway so we land on the perimeter at our discretion. The RAAF is based across the water at Butterworth. There is a road bridge across the water from Penang nowadays.



Today we are heading down to Seletar (Singapore) 304 nm from Penang. A very busy airport on a small island which is 4.22nm across the water

SHANGRILA HOTEL



This hotel had 4 lifts x 4 Sq.m carpets which were changed at midnight with the day shown e.g. TUESDAY.

They must have had a team of people at basement level with the next day carpets ready to call the lift down as near to midnight as was possible holding the lift.

NUSA DUA BEACH HOTEL

The setting for this exotic hotel appeared to be within the ruins or remains of an Indonesian Palace or religious site at Bali Indonesia.

The rooms were situated under a large roof and there were basically no walls because of the heat.

The rooms were like little boxes situated under the massive roof being protected within their walls from the wind and rain, fantastic!

The swimming pool had a swim to bar surrounded by water.



Swim to bar in the pool.



The entrance area, no walls, no doors at Nusa Dua, only the rooms had doors and a ceiling cover only, quite unique.

THE ORIGINAL KUTA BEACH



Kuta Beach Road was a long beach front in these far off days with bars

every few yards, as well beach vendors selling everything from hot food to souvenirs even his sister for a price.

The changes since my earliest visits 40 years ago are incredible.

A whole new world, all together!

The days of the big holiday planes have spoiled these once secretive undisturbed / unknown with exchange rates of 10:1+ was incredible, when it came to your round with your millionaire bounty you become the central figure.

BALI TO DARWIN 900 NM



Today we had a good crossing to Darwin and after refueling we got a dago taxi to a Motel with a large swimming pool and a few schooners of Ozzie beer.

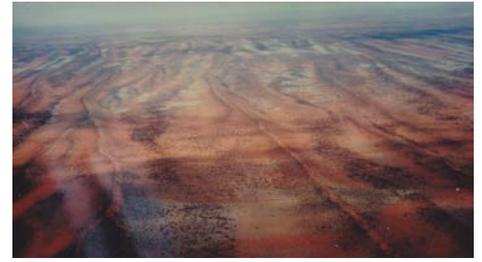
Further, South Australia was in the grip of some heavy rain and severe flooding, so we are not sure of our route. Initially we will head off to Alice Springs, which is above the flood plains which flood quite deep.

LEAVING ALICE SPRINGS

We southerly toward Bankstown which has good weather as we cross Lake Eyre a large Salt Lake which is a National Park area



Lake Eyre is 9.500 Square Kilometres Elevation 9 Metres above mean sea level - Salt layer is 1 5 metres in depth It is deemed a National Park, where you can't wander at will, even the abo's don't venture!



THE SIMPSON DESERT AUS.

The picture above doesn't show the fascinating reflective colours of this vast dry desert that is the main reason for the many little prism's within the sand particles which are polished by the wind.

BROKEN HILL AIRPORT



We have managed to avoid any flooded areas with our next stop in view, with their new runway being constructed.

We had previously called for landing instructions which they said call on finals, to which we agreed.

Unfortunately when we went into the Service Unit, the man inside was a bit grumpy, saying we had landed on the wrong runway, and did we have any x-country experience. I replied 10,000 miles, is that enough, anyway couldn't you see us out the window to which he said, *Look no windows*

– *We were inside a tin shed !!*

The pioneering days of the time.



KEITH WOODWARD NSW



The new SOCATA Commissionair for the Rallye aircraft produced in Southern France, in their factory at the foot of the Haute Pyrenees.

Tarbes to Sydney, or 20,000 km is the kind of distance one associates with a B - 747 but, is a long journey indeed for a single-engine Rallye light plane. Yet this flight was made recently by a Rallye 235 in a little under three weeks, 99 flight and 17 stop overs.

Piloted by Socata's Francois Montel and John Bryan of Air Touring Services. UK. The plane was scheduled for delivery to a new Socata agent in Sydney, Mr Keith Woodward, at Bathurst. No technical hitches were encountered and once again the Rallye showed what a dependable aircraft and how easy to fly it is. Demonstrations were held at each of the 17 stopovers, notably at Delhi and Singapore.

MONTEL'S ARRIVAL IN OZ



JB & MONTEL at the end of a fantastic journey half around the world at Woodward Aviation.

A VIEW ACROSS BATHURST



from the Club House. This airfield had 3 parallel runways which coped very well during busy periods.

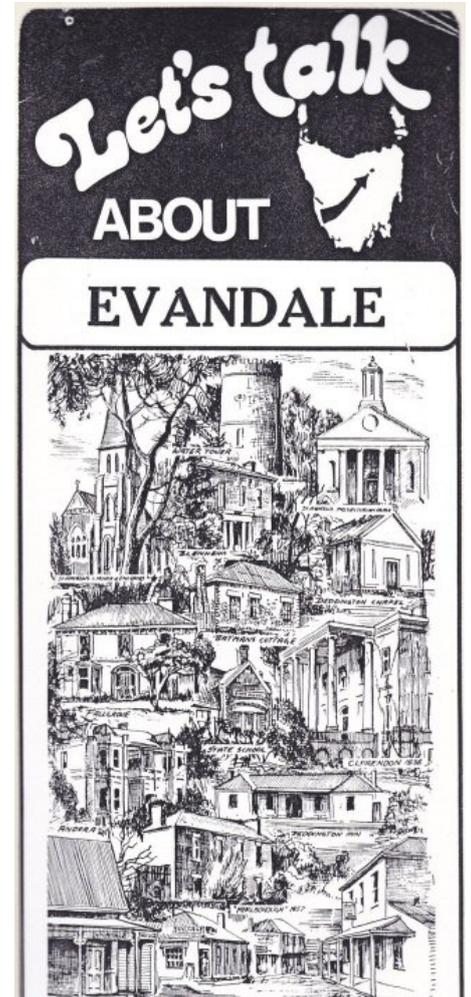
One for landings, one for take-off and one for circuit training, simple!

I left Australia in 1955 and this was my first return 22 years later sponsored by Socata.



1ST RETURN TO EVANDALE

I was not surprised to find my father had his usual supply of fire wood (about six ton) because most people only had wood burning stoves, therefore a good supply of fuel was a necessary requirement.



Very little has changed here also!! It has become historic and it is middle of summer, for Xmas!

