

ARGYLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPDATE



THE RUNWAY begins to take shape in the 1st kilometer.



ANOTHER VIEW of this section of the runway in the 1st kilometer.



ENGINEERS PREPARING to test the compaction of the soil on the runway in the 1st kilometer.



A CLEAR VIEW of the Argyle project site from McConnie Yammie Hill to the back of the R.C. Church at Argyle.



DRILL MACHINE used to drill holes in preparation for blasting.



JOHNSON HILL being leveled in the 1st kilometer.



*Happy 30th Anniversary of Independence
To
The Government
and People of St. Vincent and the Grenadines
From
The International Airport Development Company*

The Argyle International Airport continues to take shape, as the government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines makes good on its promise to bring long awaited improved airport facilities and enhanced air access to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

One year and two months into the airport's construction, the hills are coming down, the valleys are being filled. Where previously there was no clear view from Mt. Pleasant to Argyle, the removal of Johnson Hill has now made that possible.

The 1st kilometre of the runway is currently at a stage where most persons can visit and identify the runway. In the 2nd kilometre, work proceeds apace with the clearing of the land and the demolition of vacant buildings, alongside the tremendous volume of cutting and filling ongoing within the 1st kilometre.

Meanwhile, the blasting of the rocks at Fort Hill continues, in an effort to speed up the leveling of the runway threshold at the Southern end. The schedule for blasting remains Tuesday to Thursday at 1.00pm. Over the last seven months of blasting activities about 244,750.00 cubic meters of rocks have been removed.

The two Motor Scrapers, recently purchased from Politti Holdings of Canada, add to the complement of equipment and are at present helping to speed up the work of removing the top soil in areas for the runway, apron, taxiways and terminal building and other landside facilities located within the 2nd kilometre of the airport site.

Meantime, work on developing the IADC's development in Carapan continues, as the IADC ensures that dislocated Argyle residents are satisfactorily relocated. Workers from the HLDC have resumed the construction of drains and roads. Currently work is ongoing on the major cross drain and persons have begun rebuilding in the area. The IADC has also assisted in constructing one low income house at Carapan for a former Argyle resident.

And, several Next of Kin of persons whose remains were removed from the Argyle Cemetery and reburied at a new cemetery at Peruvian Vale, have expressed satisfaction with the new final resting place of their loved ones.

Visiting the site last Tuesday, some relatives noted the layout of the cemetery and the beautiful headstones, which they said would alleviate the stress of locating exactly where their loved ones are buried, a problem which exist in many cemeteries where there are few headstones

Meanwhile, as we celebrate 30 years as an Independent nation, the construction of an international airport in this country, at this time could not be timelier. As we reflect on our independence we must ask ourselves: whether we are independent in every aspect of the word, or is it that mere independence from a colonial power is enough?

Why not take independence a little farther? What about our freedom to travel without harassment at some regional airports and dependency on a single airline? What happens when the cost of travel is beyond our reach, or when this single airline cannot operate, possibly due to circumstances out of its control and there is no alternative?

An international airport at Argyle offers freedom from this type of uncertainty and brings with it a number of other benefits such as: increased tourism, increased airlift for cargo, increased communication and employment to name a few. At this stage of our development we must look at independence from every angle, this is just one of them.

I take this opportunity to urge all Vincentians to support the Argyle International Airport, and let us liberate travel to and from St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Happy Independence to all!

"Developments continue at Argyle"



THE APRON, terminal building and runway areas being prepared in the 2nd kilometer.



INCREASED COMPLEMENT of Motor Scrapers helps to speed up the work in the 2nd kilometer.



WORKERS with the HLDC installing drains at Carapan.



ANOTHER HOUSE built at Carapan, the last of three areas being developed by the IADC.



NEXT OF KIN visiting the new burial ground at Peruvian Vale.



A very pleased Rosie Smart points out where her two relatives are reburied.