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AVIATION AND SPACE NEWS

** Development of MD-11 and MD-90 passenger airplane initiated.**

The U.S. McDonnell-Douglas company has officially decided to develop the MD-11 passenger airplane as the successor of the DC-10 currently in service. The MD-11 will have a 321 passenger capability. It has had commitments from one U.S. and two European airlines and is expected to be put into service in 1990.

In addition, the M-D company also plans to develop the 179-seat MD-90 passenger airplane. Such an airplane will be equipped with two CFM56-5 engines, or two V-2500 engines, each having a thrust of 13,000 kg. The maximum take-off weight of the MD-90 will be 76,200 kg, and its fuselage will be 7.62 m longer than that of the MD-82.

* The upgrade plan for extended-range TriStar passenger airplane.*

Lockheed and Rolls-Royce have proposed a plan for upgrading the conventional L-1011 passenger airplane currently used by the airlines into an extended-range transport. The proposed L-1011-250 will have an increase of 18% in weight, and 70% in range, compared to the conventional L-1011.
Modifications of the conventional L-1011 include: strengthening the structure of its landing-gears, fuselage and wings; replacing its 19,000 kg thrust RB-211-22B engine with the 22,680 kg thrust RB-211-524B4 engine; increasing its maximum take-off weight from 195,000 kg to 231,000 kg; and its fuel capacity from 72,300 kg to 96,900 kg. The modified L-1011-250 will have the same range as the existing L-1011-500 but will have a larger passenger capability. The budget for the L-1011 upgrade is 35 million Dollars. Six L-1011's of Delta Airlines will be modified first. It is expected that the FAA Type Certification will be obtained in May, 1987.

* "CAT" sets new record,

A new world record of absolute air speed for helicopters was set on Aug. 11, 1986 by a British Westland "CAT" helicopter at 400.82 km/hour. The previous world record was 368.4 km/hour, set by a Russian M-24. This new record breaks the 400 km/hour barrier for helicopter speed for the first time.

Rolls-Royce and Pratt-Whitney joint venture supersonic VTOL engine

The British R-R Company and the U.S. P-W Company have exchanged an intention memorandum for jointly developing the engine for the next generation V/STOL aircraft. The maiden flight of the supersonic, vertical/short-distance take-off/landing fighter is expected in the late 90's.
A Sudan civilian airplane crashed, no survivors.

On Aug. 16, 1986, a Sudan "Friendship" passenger airplane was attacked by a missile of the centras and crashed shortly after leaving an airport. All 57 passengers and 3 crew members on board died in that crash.

A Honduras Air Force C-130 crashed.

A Honduras Air Force C-130 crashed in a jungle area on Aug. 15, 1986, claiming all lives of the 49 soldiers and 5 civilians on board.

Solid Rocket Propellant Conference held in Jiujiang.

The Solid Rocket Propellant Conference, jointly sponsored by the Solid Propellant Committee of the China Astronautic Society and the Kinetics Committee of the China Aviation Society, was held Oct. 13-17 in Jiujiang City, Jiangxi Province. The two sponsors also had their committee member meetings and a rocket specialist meeting. In those meetings, their past work was reviewed, and future academic activities were proposed. The Conference was attended by some one hundred individuals from 35 research institutes, universities, factories and publishers. There were 85 papers presented, reporting progresses in the author's field during the past two years. The papers included theoretical as well as applied results; some had a certain level of originality, representing the current standing of solid rocket research in our country. During the conference, people spoke out freely, and thoroughly discussed and exchanged contents of the presented papers. They learned from each other and helped one
another make up deficiencies, exhibiting their willingness to contribute to the cause of solid rocketry for our country. This conference was supported and aided by the Association of Defense Industries of Jiangxi Province and the city of Jiujing. (Jiji)

* Recently, the Ground Service Team of the Beijing Administrative Bureau of CAAC has successfully replaced the engines for the B-767 airplane. This is the first time in this country for independently replacing engines for B-767. Shown in the figure below, mechanics are carefully calculating and adjusting torques.

The "China Aviation Photography Touring Exhibition", sponsored by the China Aviation Society, was exhibited during Sept. 6-20, 1986 at the Conference Hall of the Science Association of Jinlin Province. Leaders of the provincial Science Association, provincial Aviation Society, and the Second Aviation Technological School of the Chinese Air Force attended the opening ceremony. Mr. Dada Zhang, vice-
chairman of the Provincial Science Association, cut the ribbon for the
exhibition. A total of 266 photographs were exhibited, along with some
200 models and pieces of real equipment such as airplanes, engines,
flight simulators, aviation photography, weapons, special equipment
and aviation outfits. There were also tape recordings and on-board
visiting of airplanes available to visitors. A total of some 11
thousand people visited the exhibition.

* A memorable get-together — The first Aviation Summer Camp for the
Youths of Jilin Province.

In order to popularize aviation knowledge and stimulate
scientific interest in youths, the Aviation Society of Jilin Province
sponsored the first Aviation Summer Camp for Youths during Aug. 9-15,
1986. Some 100 honor students, outstanding student leaders and
leaders of the CCYL from high schools in Jilin Province attended this
activity. Beside the formally enrolled campers, some 60 campers of the
Summer Camp of the Changchun Machinery Plant of the Ministry of
Aviation and some 170 youths from the Second Aviation Technological
School of the Chinese Air Force also joined the activities. Campers
boarded airplanes to have a bird's-eye view of the City of Changchun;
watched special flight performance presentations, remote controlled
aircraft model flight presentations, simulated air battles, military
physical training and interior service demonstrations; visited a
variety of aircraft, some aviation plants, satellite ground stations;
attended talks given by battle-field heroes and lectures on aviation;
organized parties at beautiful scenic spots such as Clear-Moon Pond.
All in all, the campers opened-up their minds, gained some new knowledge of aviation, and the Summer Camp achieved a good social effect.

First Aviation Summer Camp for Youths held in Hubei Province

The Aviation Society of Hubei Province sponsored an Aviation Summer Camp for the youths of Hubei Province during July 17-23, 1986 in Xiangfan City. Attending were 125 outstanding youths from the Province. The 520th Plant of the Ministry of Aviation presented for the campers a hot-air balloon show, during which six campers were taken airborne in a balloon in three runs. Using ultra-light aircraft to spread herbicide and seeds was demonstrated at Jingmen City, where the campers also visited a hydroplane and boarded a China-made Y-5 airplane to have a bird's-eye view of the city in the rain. In Wuhan City they watched model aircraft flight demonstrations, visited a military airport, and toured the famous historical site, Huanghe Lou (Mansion of Yellow Crane). Lectures on the history of aviation, the MiG fighters, military transports, hydroplanes, balloons and blimps were given to the campers; some of those lectures used real objects for demonstrations. Prof. Jun Fang, senior researcher of the Chinese Academia; Mr. Guanghao Zhang, vice-chairman of the Science Association of Hubei Province; Mr. Huanzhi Wu, vice-president of the Civil Aviation Bureau of Hubei Province; and other scholars, experts, and some affiliates of the Chinese Ministry of Aviation and Chinese Air Force located in the Wuhan area visited and congratulated the Summer Camp, and presented awards to outstanding campers.
The International Defense Technology Exhibition opened on Nov. 4, 1986 at the China International Exhibition Center in Beijing. Mr. Aiping Zhang, Minister of Defense, attended the opening ceremony and cut the ribbon for the exhibition. Participating in this exhibition were 158 arsenals and government organizations from 12 counties in Asia, Europe, North America and Latin-America. Included in the exhibition were marine equipment, warship electronic technology, aviation and astronautical equipment, equipment and technology for the army, civilian air defense facilities, and military medical apparatus and technology. This exhibition is the largest of this kind ever held in China.
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