



#### Overseas link-up

*A rendezvous for a coats-off project in the Far East. At dinner with S. C. Heward, Manager, Marconi (China), in Hong Kong are, round the table clockwise, Brian Guest, Brian Stuart (Branch Manager, Cable and Wireless), David Steadman, Arthur Wood (D.M. F.E. C. & W.), Chris Davidson, John Rippengal (Wireless Engineer C. & W.), Chris Leahy, Norman Wheatley (Dept. W.E. C. & W.), S. C. Heward, and K. K. Pang (bow tie), Mr. Heward's assistant*

## Radar chief retires

The man who led The Marconi Company firmly into the radar business at the end of the Second World War, Colonel E. N. Elford, has retired from the Company after twenty-seven years service.

Colonel Elford joined the Company as a trainee at the age of eighteen. In 1917 he joined the Regular Army and served in France and Belgium. Invalided out he returned to the radio industry and rejoined this Company as Assistant Foreign Manager in 1937. As a territorial, he was recalled to the Army in 1939, and was awarded the Territorial Decoration in 1942.

After the war, when Assistant Sales Manager, he secured business, in particular from the Argentine and Sweden, which ultimately led to the formation of the Marconi Radar Division, now the largest exporter of radar equipment in the country.

By 1948, when the British Government were about to initiate a programme to modernize the radar defences of the country, Marconi's were in an unique position to undertake the project.

Services Equipment Division was formed in July 1948 to manufacture war-time Government designs under licence, with Elford as Manager, and with a

staff of fourteen, which was expected to expand eventually to about twenty-four. However, the British defence radar re-equipment programme grew into a series of major contracts over the next few years, and the complete scheme eventually became one of the largest the Marconi Company has ever handled. Within about five years, the new division had a staff of over four hundred, and this was supported by the creation of Research and Development teams which have grown steadily over the years and now constitute the finest radar laboratories in Europe. Elford, as manager of the division, later to be re-named Radar Division, was largely responsible for the complete defence project, and in recognition of his services was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1958.

Since then, Radar Division has been responsible for much of the giant NATO defence radar system in Europe, and for many other military and civil installations throughout the world. Elford also played a considerable part in initiating Anglo-French co-operation in various defence schemes, both on industrial and on government levels.

In 1960, he retired from Radar Division, and was appointed to a new position as consultant to the Managing Director on matters of radar defence.