

Eastern Express

June 9, 1984

## Airbus data sent to London

Tad Stoner

The flight recorder from the Dragonair Airbus A320 that made an emergency landing at Kai Tak airport on Monday, was removed and sent to London for examination yesterday.

Experts said that preliminary findings in the Civil Aviation Department investigation of the incident could begin to emerge this afternoon.

A team of three Airbus Industrie technical specialists arrived yesterday to assist with the department's inquiry.

Eight people were injured in the incident when a Dragonair flight from Nanjing was forced to make an emergency landing when its wingflaps failed.

The Airbus specialists have been joined by an official from the Accident Investigation Bureau of the French government, one of the senior investors in the aircraft manufac-

turer. Sean Lee, an Airbus Industrie spokesman, said no conclusions about the mishap would be reached "overnight".

Yesterday afternoon, three Airbus specialists examined the aircraft at Kai Tak.

Jacqui Donaldson, a spokeswoman for Dragonair, said the airline's parent company, Cathay Pacific, had joined the briefings, and that airline executives expected the A320, one of seven in Dragonair's nine-plane fleet, to be grounded for three days.

She said the team, "will remain until they are no longer required and everyone is satisfied".

Dragonair, founded in 1985, has a spotless safety record.

It operates seven A320s and two Lockheed Tristars.

The A320, which was developed in 1988, has been involved in four serious accidents though the aircraft appears to have been blameless in each case.