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COUNTRY PAPER 1

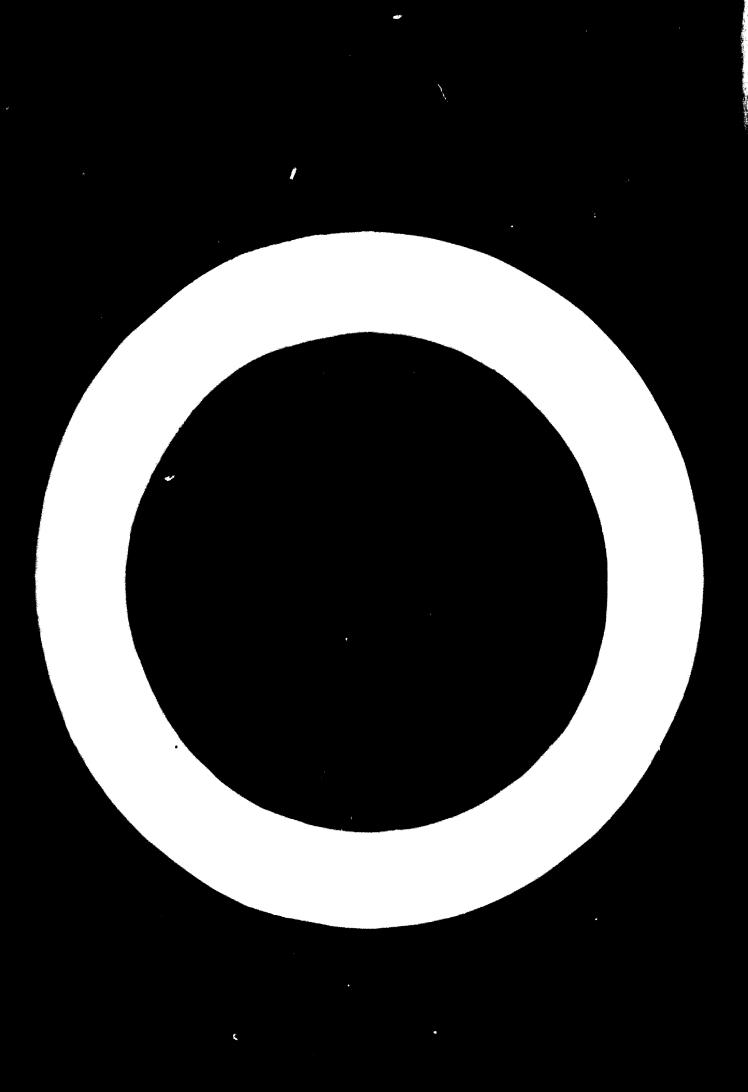
SINGAPORE

Yeo Soo-Meng Extension Officer Economic Development Board Singapore

Organised in co-operation with the Iranian Government

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Country Paper: SINGAPORE

Yeo Soo-Meng Extension Officer Economic Development Board

Singapore, strategically situated on the southern part of the Malay

Peninsula, covers an area of 225 square miles and has a population of approximately

two million. In 1960 the Government launched a vigorous programme of industrialisa
tion to reduce the rising unemployment rate. Within two years, with an average

rate of growth in the Gross Domestic Product of 9.4 per cent, the Republic har
doubled its industrial output and tripled its industrial employment.

There is no single organisation in Singapore dealing specifically with industrial information, but the following bodies can supply certain types of industrial data and information.

- 1. Light Industries Services;
- 2. Engineering Industries Development Organization;
- 3. Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research;

These three organizations perform market surveys, feasibility studies, quality control, and materials and product testing in their particular fields. Each one has a specialised library collection.

- 4. Singapore Economic Development Board:
- 5. Development Bank of Singapore;
- 6. Libraries. Among the libraries dealing with technical and industrial inquiries are:
  - (a) National Library. The collection of specialized technical literature and periodicals maintained is relatively small and limits the extent to which technical inquiries can be satisfied. The library is also responsible for the publication of the National Bibliography:
  - (b) Singapore Polytechnic Library. The periodicals held by the library cover pure science, technology, production engineering, civil

engineering, public health, engineering, industrial safety, etc.

Technical inquiries from industrial firms are dealt with by the

Reference Section. Compilation of bibliographies and literature

searches, mainly in English, are carried out. Regroductions from

the library holdings are provided on request;

- (c) Singapore University Library;
- (4) Manyang University Library.

### Conclusion

To keep page with its accelerating industrial development, Singapore must improve and expand its technical and industrial information facilities. Co-operation enough existing sources of technical and industrial information is good, but a properly organised system is required to permit closer co-ordination and more effective linkage. In renegnition of the importance of such a system, Singapore is already considering proposals for the establishment of a Scientific-Technical Information Centre, with a supporting Scientific-Technical Library, to handle the collection, processing and distribution of technical and industrial information in the Republic and to establish contact with related institutes abreed.

