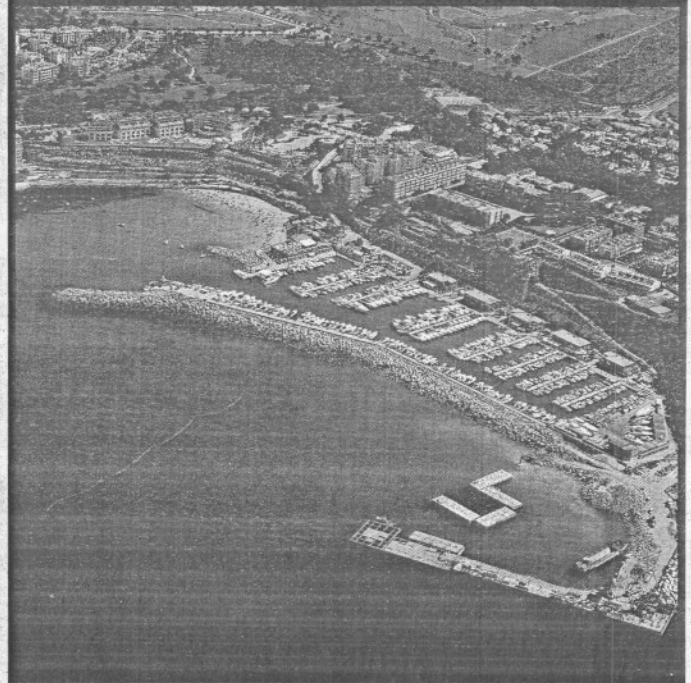


■ HOW port will look once work, right, has been finished.



By Humphrey Carter

PALMA

MAJORCA'S first designated mega yacht quay in Port Adriano is expected to be ready by next Spring and now work on the new inner quay and commercial area of the port, which has been designed by the prestigious French architect Philippe Starck, can get underway.

Port Adriano's new exterior quay, which will run parallel to the existing one, will offer 82 new moorings for yachts of between 20 and 60 metres in length.

Majorca's new mega yacht port taking shape

The expansion project will also make way for 479 new car parking spaces, the enlargement of the refit and repair yard and, as mentioned, Starck's 4,000 square metre commercial area which will boast restaurants, shops, a spa and

other services which could apparently include a new sailing school.

The Director of Port Adriano, Isabel Teruel, said yesterday that the project's construction is on schedule to be completed on time and that the new mega yacht

berths will be operational in time for the Spring.

She also said that Starck's design is going to inject a whole new lease of life into the port and transform the marina into a port which will be open and ex-

tremely active, including economically, all year round.

Teruel said that expanded port with its new service and facilities will not only benefit the residents of El Toro but nautical industry in general.

Majorca's nautical

sector has been crying out for new moorings for years, the island is saturated by demand during the summer and over recent years has been forced to watch luxury yachts go elsewhere.

But, with the addition of the new 82 mega yacht berths in Port Adriano, the summer waiting lists of skippers waiting or hunting for a berth should be significantly shortened. The port is also hoping to be able to cater for the rapidly increasing number of big yachts which the rich and famous are having built but a decreasing number of marinas, especially the older ones, are able to handle

FULL WHAT'S ON GUIDE: SEE PAGE 13

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

An evening of comedy at
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Anglican Church, Palma
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Tickets 10 € including drinks

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Futura union to meet today

UNION representatives for staff employed by grounded Palma-based airline Futura will be meeting today to discuss their next move following the central government's suspension of the company's license.

The Public Works Ministry said in a statement that the airline which had applied for bankruptcy, was unable

to meet its obligations as carrier but the Civil Aviation Authority said that if Futura manages to recuperate losses and guarantee operating conditions by the beginning of the new year, the ban may be lifted. All relevant documentation has been submitted but assessors have said that the airline will need to address a plan to compensate affected passengers.

Film made about Palma attempt to kill King of Spain

THE foiled 1995 assassination attempt on the life of Spain's King Juan Carlos in Majorca has been the inspiration for a television drama currently being filmed in Gandia (Valencia).

The makers, Antena 3 Films, are responsible for such Spanish TV hits as *Los Hombres de Paco* and *El Internado*. The two-episode mini-series on the assassination plot directed by Pablo Barrera is being developed "thriller" style with plenty of police action and disturbing back flashes leading up to the event. The drama fol-

lows how the attempt on the life of the king was thwarted and the real-life occurrence of the police following the terrorists to their hideout in Hendaya.

The historical aspect of the film shows that the Basque terrorist group ETA has never got so close to ending the life of the Spanish monarch as they had in 1995 when an ETA marksman had the king in his sights as the monarch stepped ashore at Porti Pi in Palma on three occasions. The plot finally failed due to the terrorists not planning their escape well enough.