



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, July 16, 1973

CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Commission of Inquiry calling for more assistance from the public ..	1
First time for 56 years that no tropical cyclones over region in first half of the year	2
New immigration branch office opened in Kennedy Town	4
Warning to speed boat operators to keep clear of areas where people swimming	5
Outlines of High Island reservoir taking shape; press visit arranged	6
Civil Aid Services annual first aid competition	7
Report on future needs of elderly press conference	7
Draw for fourth government lottery	8

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 1 -

COMMISSION AGAIN APPEALS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE PUBLIC

The Commission of Inquiry headed by Sir Alastair Blair-Kerr, is still appealing for public assistance in its investigation into the effectiveness of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance and what changes, if necessary, should be made.

The Secretary to the Commission, Mr. L.A. Richardson, said today that anyone who feels he has facts or observations relevant to this second term of reference should contact the Commission.

People voluntarily offering evidence to the Commission will be given the option of being heard in open court with the public and press present, or in chambers in complete confidence.

When the Commission of Inquiry was announced on June 13, Sir Alastair was asked to submit his report on the second term to the Governor within three months.

The report on the first term of reference, which dealt with the circumstances in which a person being investigated for alleged corruption, was able to leave Hong Kong, was submitted last week.

The full terms of reference of the Commission of Inquiry are:

- (a) To report on the circumstances in which a person, whose prosecution under the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance was at an advanced stage of consideration, was able to leave Hong Kong.
- (b) In the light of experience of the working of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance, and having regard also to the need to preserve basic human rights under the law, to:
 - (i) report on the effectiveness of the Ordinance and to suggest amendments;
 - (ii) to suggest any other changes in current arrangements considered necessary.

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/2

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 2 -

NEW IMMIGRATION OFFICE OPENED

A new immigration branch office for people in Western District was opened today in Kennedy Town.

It is the ninth branch office of the Immigration Department and the third to be opened in the past 12 months.

At today's formal opening, the Director of Immigration, Mr. W.E. Collard, revealed that plans were already in hand to open similar offices in Shau Kei Wan, Sham Shui Po and Yuen Long. He hoped they would be in operation before the end of this year.

"In addition, the feasibility of opening an office at Aberdeen is now being examined, and we are also preparing a long-term programme to provide facilities, as the need arises, in other parts of Hong Kong, such as the new towns at Shatin and Tuen Mun," Mr. Collard said.

Mr. Chan Ling-fung, chairman of the Kennedy Town Kaifong Association, who performed the opening ceremony, said that from now on residents of Western District would find it much more convenient to transact immigration business than before.

The new branch office is located on the ground floor of Luen Gay Apartments at 9 Davis Street, Kennedy Town.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 3 -

WEATHER FOR JUNE

For the first time in 56 years tropical cyclones were completely absent over the South China Sea and western north Pacific during the first six months of the year.

The Royal Observatory in its monthly report on the weather said it was only the fourth time on record that this had occurred, the last being in 1917. The others were in 1889 and 1897.

A spokesman for the Observatory said that for the month of June the weather was "near normal" but it was slightly more humid. The monthly mean relative humidity of 87 per cent was the fourth highest on record for June.

At the beginning of the month, it was mainly fine and hot apart from a few brief showers. On June 2, a trough across central China moved southwards and caused periods of rain and occasional thunderstorms during the following three days.

The trough passed through Hong Kong on June 6 and prevailing winds changed from westerly to easterly. On June 7, the easterlies freshened and the minimum temperature of the month, 22.8°C was recorded in the early morning of June 8.

Unsettled weather persisted over Hong Kong for the following week when the trough remained almost stationary over the northern part of the South China Sea.

/On June 16,

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 4 -

On June 16, the trough moved northwards and weakened. Winds over Hong Kong turned to south or southwest. Shower activity decreased as the trough dissipated near the south China coast and a new one formed over central China.

The warm and humid air from the southwest gave rise to another hot spell and the maximum temperature of the month, 33.1°C was recorded on June 20.

On June 25, the trough over central China started to move south and reached the south China coast the next day. The weather in Hong Kong deteriorated and 128.9 mm of rainfall were recorded at the Royal Observatory on June 27.

However the trough soon retreated to the north and dissipated over south China on June 29. It was mainly fine on the last day of the month.

Six aircraft were diverted due to adverse weather conditions during the month.

Thunderstorms or heavy rain warnings were issued on 10 occasions during the month.

The month's figures and departures from normal were:-

Sunshine	138.9 hours; 21.0 hours below normal
Rainfall	373.7 mm ; 27.5 mm below normal
Cloudiness	80% ; 2% above normal
Relative Humidity	87% ; 3% above normal
Mean Maximum Temperature	30.0°C ; 0.2°C above normal
Mean Temperature	27.5°C ; 0.2°C above normal
Mean Minimum Temperature	25.7°C ; 0.3°C above normal
Mean Dew Point	25.0°C ; 0.8°C above normal
Total Evaporation	130.6 mm ; 28.8 mm below normal

Maximum Temperature of 33.1°C was recorded on June 20.

Minimum Temperature of 22.8°C was recorded on June 8.

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/5

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 5 -

WARNING TO SPEED BOAT OPERATORS

The Marine Department today warned operators of speed boats towing water skiers to keep well clear of mooring areas and anchorages where people might be swimming.

A notice issued by the department also calls on the operators not to moor or anchor near demarcated bathing areas at controlled beaches.

It points out that inconsiderate action on the part of a small craft operator which endangers the safety of other people may incur heavy penalties, and civil claims may be instituted when injury is caused.

Warning is also given that it is an offence to operate a speed boat and other pleasure craft without a local certificate of competence.

These may be obtained after separate examinations as a coxswain and engineer.

Pleasure craft are also required to be marked with an identification number after licensing by the Marine Department.

Details of these requirements are available from the department's information counter at 102, Connaught Road Central, or may be obtained by post on request.

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/6

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 6 -

VISIT TO HIGH ISLAND

Note to Editors:

Construction work on the High Island project, which began last December, has now reached a stage where the outlines of the new reservoir are beginning to take shape.

To get an on-the-spot progress report, you are invited to name a reporter and/or photographer to join a visit to the High Island works area arranged by the Public Works Department's Waterworks Office and the consultants for the scheme, Messrs. Binnie and Partners.

Transport will be available outside the reception area of Murray Building in Garden Road for departure at 8.30 a.m. on Friday, (July 20). The tour should be completed by about 11.30 a.m., allowing participants to be back in Hong Kong at about 12.30 p.m.

Could names please be given to the Duty Officer, News Division by noon on Wednesday (July 18) when the list will close.

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/7

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 7 -

C.A.S. ANNUAL FIRST AID COMPETITION

A presentation of prizes to the winning teams of the Civil Aid Services first aid competition will be held tomorrow (Tuesday) at the C.A.S. Headquarters theatre, Caroline Hill Road, Hong Kong.

The competition, which seeks to promote a high standard of practical knowledge in first aid among its volunteers, originated in 1953. The late C.Y. Kwan, who was then Deputy Commissioner of C.A.S., donated the cup.

Seven teams from Hong Kong Island and 12 from Kowloon took part in this year's competition.

Tomorrow, four teams, two from each side of the harbour, will compete in the final. The competition will begin at 7.35 p.m. and end at about 9.00 p.m. Two senior Auxiliary Medical Service officers will act as judges.

Mr. P.C. Woo, Commissioner of C.A.S., will present the C.Y. Kwan Cup to the champion team.

About 100 C.A.S. officers and members are expected to attend.

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REPORT ON FUTURE NEEDS OF ELDERLY

Note to Editors: The chairman of the working party on the future needs of the elderly, Mr. T.S. Heppell, Assistant Director (General) Social Welfare Department, will hold a press conference tomorrow (Tuesday) to announce details of the working party's report and its recommendations.

The press conference will be held in the 35 mm theatre of G.I.S. at 11.15 a.m. You are invited to cover the conference.

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/8

Monday, July 16, 1973

- 8 -

DRAW FOR FOURTH GOVERNMENT LOTTERY

Four personalities from Commercial Radio will take part in the draw for the fourth government lottery this year.

They are Miss Leung Siu-yung, Miss Yan Wai-yee, Miss Conita Chan Hoi-see and Miss Wan Fong-ling.

This was announced today by the Chairman of the Government Lotteries Management Committee, Mr. Kai-yin Chau, at a press conference held at the City Hall Restaurant.

Tickets for the current lottery are on sale now and the draw will take place in the City Hall Concert Hall on Saturday, August 4, at 10 a.m.

After the draw, there will be a half-hour entertainment programme given by the artistes of Commercial Radio and this will be followed by the public auction of special car numbers held by the Transport Department.

The proceeds from the sixth 'lucky number' auction in the series will again go to the Government Lotteries Fund.

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Release Time: 5.00 p.m.