



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1976

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NEW CHAIRMAN FOR
DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD
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THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED THE HON. ALEX WU TO BE THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD FOR TWO YEARS AS FROM JANUARY 1, 1977.

MR. WU SUCCEEDS MR. PETER P.K. NG, WHO HAS BEEN CHAIRMAN SINCE 1974. BOTH OF THEM HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE SCHEME FOR MANY YEARS, AND MR. WU HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE AWARD COMMITTEE BETWEEN 1965 AND 1975.

THE SCHEME WAS INITIATED BY THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH IN 1956 AS A MEANS BY WHICH YOUNG PEOPLE CAN TEST THEIR ABILITY AND SHOW THEIR SKILL IN VARIOUS DIRECTIONS.

IT ENCOURAGES YOUNG PEOPLE TO ACQUIRE MORE KNOWLEDGE, TO DEVELOP THEIR CONFIDENCE AND PERSISTENCE, TO MAKE GOOD USE OF LEISURE TIME AND TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

THE SCHEME FOR BOYS WAS INTRODUCED TO HONG KONG IN MARCH 1961 AND THAT FOR GIRLS IN AUGUST 1963. FIVE YEARS LATER, THE TWO WERE MERGED TO FORM A JOINT SCHEME.

IN HONG KONG, AN AWARD COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR ADMINISTERS THE SCHEME AND IS CONCERNED BASICALLY WITH POLICY-MAKING, FINANCING AND STAFFING. IT ALSO LICENSES OPERATING AUTHORITIES OF WHICH THERE ARE 17, WITH OVER 16,000 PARTICIPANTS.

BESIDES THE CHAIRMAN, THERE ARE 12 MEMBERS ON THE COMMITTEE. THEY ARE : MR. MICHAEL S.H. CHAN, MR. H.C. MA, MRS. L.W. GORDON, MR. LI KWAN-HUNG, MR. EDMUND YAN-SHUN CHEUNG, MR. STEPHEN YOW MOK-SHING, MRS. J.B. GIBSON, MRS. D.B. LEITCH AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES, HONG KONG, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOUR AND THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

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GOVERNOR VISITS KOWLOON CITY

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THE IMPROVEMENT OF SECURITY IS A TOP PRIORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TOLD COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES OF KOWLOON CITY TODAY (TUESDAY).

DURING AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH 17 COMMUNITY LEADERS REPRESENTING A CROSS SECTION OF THE AREA'S RESIDENTS, SIR MURRAY SAID THAT THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME WAS A VERY SLOW MOVING BUSINESS, BUT THAT THERE WERE SIGNS THAT IT WAS GOING TO SUCCEED.

HE SAID THE IMPROVED DETECTION RATE AND THE INCREASED NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS INDICATED THAT THE WORK OF THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND THE POLICE WAS MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN HOUSING, EDUCATION AND THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WOULD ALSO BEAR VERY MUCH ON CRIME, HE ADDED.

BUT, HE POINTED OUT, +WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE HONG KONG IS AS SAFE AS IT SHOULD BE+.

OTHER TOPICS RAISED DURING THE 40-MINUTES DISCUSSION INCLUDED IMPROVED AID TO DISCHARGED PRISONERS, SOCIAL CAUSES OF CRIME, CORPORAL PUNISHMENT, DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION AND LABOUR REFORMS.

EARLIER, THE GOVERNOR SPENT ABOUT AN HOUR VISITING TWO MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS OF THE DISTRICT AND MEETING OFFICE BEARERS OF THEIR MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. GUS CHUI, AND THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (KOWLOON CITY), MR. ANGUS MIU, HE FIRST VISITED THE TUNG SHUN HING BUILDING IN CHEKIANG STREET WHICH WAS RECENTLY AWARDED THE FIRST PRIZE IN THE TO KWA WAN (SOUTH) AREA CLEAN BUILDINGS COMPETITION.

SIR MURRAY ALSO SHOWED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE NEWLY-INSTALLED ALARM SYSTEM WHICH HAS IMPROVED THE SECURITY OF THE BUILDING.

HE THEN VISITED THE HOME OF THE BUILDING'S MAC CHAIRMAN, MR. WONG HEUNG-WAH, AND DISCUSSED WITH HIM THE DAY-TO-DAY WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE GOVERNOR LATER PROCEEDED TO ROSE HOUSE IN MA TAU WAI ESTATE WHERE HE WAS MET BY CHAIRMEN AND OTHER OFFICE BEARERS OF THE ESTATE'S MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

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ACCOMPANIED BY MR. LEUNG KOOK-DIK, CHAIRMAN OF THE BLOCK A MAC AND MR. MA SHIU-TUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE BLOCK B MAC, HE VISITED THE DUTY POST OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SECURITY PATROL TEAM AND CHATTED WITH TEAM MEMBERS ABOUT THEIR OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES.

HE LATER VISITED THE HOME OF MR. CHAN HON-CHUEN, A MAC OFFICE BEARER, AND DISCUSSED THE ESTATE'S CRIME SITUATION WITH HIM AND THE TWO MAC CHAIRMEN.

DURING HIS TOUR OF THE ESTATE, SIR MURRAY ALSO STOPPED AND CHATTED FREQUENTLY WITH CHILDREN AND SHOPKEEPERS ABOUT THEIR DAILY LIFE.

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SEAT BELT REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE FROM JAN. 1

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THE ROAD TRAFFIC (CONSTRUCTION AND USE) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) REGULATIONS 1976, WHICH REQUIRE ALL PRIVATE CARS REGISTERED AFTER JULY 31 THIS YEAR TO BE FITTED WITH SEAT BELTS, WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 1).

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT ALTHOUGH THE FITTING OF SEAT BELTS FOR THE DRIVER AND THE FRONT SEAT PASSENGER WAS COMPULSORY, THE WEARING OF SUCH BELT WAS NOT.

HOWEVER, HE ENCOURAGED MOTORISTS TO WEAR SAFETY SEAT BELTS BECAUSE EXPERIENCE IN SOME COUNTRIES SHOWED THAT THE WEARING OF SEAT BELTS HAD RESULTED IN A NOTABLE REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF DEATHS AND INJURIES THROUGH ROAD ACCIDENTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE MOST FREQUENT AND SERIOUS INJURIES TO DRIVERS AND FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS IN PRIVATE CARS OCCUR WHEN, AS A RESULT OF RAPID DECELERATION AFTER A COLLISION, THEY ARE THROWN FORWARD ON TO THE STEERING WHEEL, DASH-BOARD OR WIND SCREEN.+

+A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF SUCH INJURIES WOULD BE AVOIDED OR RENDERED LESS SERIOUS IF DRIVERS AND FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS WORE SEAT BELTS,+ HE ADDED.

THE NEW REGULATIONS WILL NOT APPLY TO TAXIS, PUBLIC CARS, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AND GOODS VEHICLES.

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NOVEMBER BUILDING FIGURES

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PLANS FOR A CENTRE FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN AND FOR A HOME FOR AGED WOMEN WERE AMONG 60 BUILDING PLANS APPROVED LAST MONTH BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE.

ALSO APPROVED WERE PLANS FOR A SERIES OF HIGHRISE APARTMENT AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, FACTORIES AS WELL AS PLANS FOR 37 BLOCKS OF RESIDENCES AT STANLEY, A SWIMMING POOL AT REPULSE BAY AND A BUILDING FOR NAUTICAL STUDIES AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

OF THE 60 PLANS APPROVED DURING NOVEMBER, 25 WERE FOR PROJECTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 15 FOR KOWLOON AND 20 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BUILDING PLANS APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE DURING THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR NOW STANDS AT 668, COMPARED WITH 528 FOR THE WHOLE OF 1975.

THE DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING NOVEMBER AMOUNTED TO \$162 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$151 MILLION FOR NOVEMBER 1975.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF USABLE FLOOR AREA COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS 192,968 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 51,760 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC SPACE AND 141,208 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC SPACE.

FORTY-EIGHT COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION DURING THE MONTH, AND CONSENT WAS GIVEN FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 37 BUILDINGS.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE APPROVAL FOR WORK TO BEGIN ON 44 NEW BUILDING PROJECTS, INCLUDING A PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL AT TUEN MUN, A PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATE AT KWAI CHUNG, A TRAINING CENTRE AT KWAI CHUNG FOR THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY, AND AN OLD PEOPLE'S HOME AT KWAI CHUNG.

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INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTS ENGLISH EXAMS
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THE INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTS ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS FOR CANDIDATES WHOSE MOTHER TONGUE IS NOT ENGLISH WILL BE HELD IN MAY NEXT YEAR.

ENTRY FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, 11TH FLOOR, KOWLOON FROM NEXT MONDAY (JANUARY 3).

COMPLETED ENTRY FORM TOGETHER WITH PASSPORT OR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD AND TWO RECENT PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE APPLICANT (SIZE 2-1/2" X 2") MUST BE TAKEN IN PERSON TO THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 4 P.M. FROM JANUARY 3 TO JANUARY 7.

NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AND ALL FEES MUST BE PAID ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 11 AT THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION EITHER IN PERSON OR BY CROSSED CHEQUE PAYABLE TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SENT THROUGH THE POST.

CANDIDATES ARE REMINDED THAT THEY MUST MAKE THEMSELVES AVAILABLE FOR THE PART I (ORAL) TESTS AT A TIME TO BE SPECIFIED ON ANY DAY BETWEEN MAY 12 AND MAY 31.

DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATIONS AND THEIR FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS :-

GRADE	DATE OF EXAMINATION				FEES	
	PART II	PART III	PART IV	PART V	WHOLE EXAM.	REFERRED (FOR ONE OR TWO PARTS)
PRELIMINARY	MAY 19	MAY 19	-	-	\$80	\$50
GRADE I	MAY 19	MAY 19	MAY 19	-	\$105	\$65
GRADE II	MAY 19	MAY 19	MAY 19	-	\$130	\$80
INTERMEDIATE	MAY 13	MAY 16	-	-	\$160	\$95
FINAL	MAY 17	MAY 18	MAY 19	MAY 20	\$290	\$240

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DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THE BAD NEWS

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BAD NEWS IS THE THING TO LOOK FOR WHEN SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICERS READ THEIR NEWSPAPERS EVERY MORNING.

THEY DO SO NOT BECAUSE THEY LIKE READING ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S MISFORTUNES, BUT BECAUSE THEY WANT TO TRY, IF POSSIBLE, TO TAKE AWAY PART OF THE STING FROM THESE TRAGEDIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

+IN THESE DAYS OF FAST COMMUNICATIONS, THE NEWS MEDIA HAVE LONG BECOME OUR QUICKEST SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL CASES OF HUMAN TRAGEDY,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

+THE FAMILIES OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY ACCIDENTS OR OTHER MISFORTUNES ARE OFTEN TOO OVERCOME BY GRIEF TO THINK ABOUT THEIR FUTURE NEEDS, AND THIS IS WHY AN EARLY APPROACH BY STAFF OF OUR DEPARTMENT TO OFFER THEM ASSISTANCE IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE,+ HE SAID.

EVERY MORNING, DIVISION HEADS AND SUPERVISORS OF FAMILY SERVICE CENTRES AND FIELD UNITS OF THE DEPARTMENT SCAN THROUGH NEWSPAPERS TO LOOK FOR REPORTS OF ACCIDENTS, SUICIDES, OR CRIMES OF VIOLENCE, PARTICULARLY WHERE IT IS APPARENT THAT THESE INCIDENTS WILL BRING HARDSHIP TO INNOCENT VICTIMS.

ONCE THESE CASES ARE IDENTIFIED, CASE WORKERS ARE IMMEDIATELY SENT OUT TO CONTACT THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES TO FIND OUT THEIR NEEDS AND OFFER APPROPRIATE HELP.

+THE MOST COMMON KIND OF HELP IS THE ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE WHERE A FAMILY'S BREADWINNER, ESPECIALLY THE SOLE BREADWINNER, IS KILLED OR INCAPACITATED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+BURIAL GRANTS OF UP TO \$600 EACH CAN ALSO BE QUICKLY ARRANGED IF THE FAMILY IS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES,+ HE POINTED OUT.

IF THE PERSON IS KILLED OR INJURED WHILE TRYING TO UPHOLD THE LAW, FURTHER CASH GRANTS CAN BE ARRANGED UNDER THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION SCHEME.

WHERE A PERSON'S DEATH LEAVES BEHIND HOUSING PROBLEMS FOR HIS DEPENDENTS, FOR INSTANCE WHEN THE ACCOMMODATION WAS PROVIDED BY THE VICTIM'S EMPLOYER AND DEPENDING ON OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE FAMILY, CASE WORKERS CAN MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC HOUSING ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS.

/IN CASES

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IN CASES WHERE YOUNG ORPHANS ARE LEFT BEHIND, SWD WORKERS ALSO TAKE UP THE RESPONSIBILITY OF FINDING SUITABLE GUARDIANS OR OTHER HOMES. IF A MOTHER GOES TO HOSPITAL AND HER CHILDREN ARE LEFT WITH NO ONE TO CARE FOR, SOCIAL WORKERS WILL IMMEDIATELY SEE THAT THEY ARE LOOKED AFTER IN THE CHUK YUEN CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE.

SUICIDE ATTEMPTS OR WHERE A PERSON'S DEATH HAS PRODUCED EXTRAORDINARY GRIEF OR UNDUE PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS ON A FAMILY MEMBER, LONG-TERM COUNSELLING WORK BY PROFESSIONAL WORKERS IS ARRANGED TO TRY TO RESTORE MENTAL WELL-BEING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE INITIATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF IN GOING OUT TO FIND THE AFFECTED FAMILIES, RATHER THAN TO WAIT FOR THEM TO COME FORWARD, SAVED A LOT OF TIME BEFORE FINANCIAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE WOULD BE GIVEN.

+THIS, TOGETHER WITH A SHOW OF GENUINE CONCERN AND SYMPATHY, CAN GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS TIDING THEM OVER THESE TIMES OF DISTRESS,+ HE SAID.

+VICTIMS OF OTHER MAJOR DISASTERS SUCH AS FIRES, LANDSLIDES AND FLOODS ARE PROVIDED WITH ON-THE-SPOT ASSISTANCE BY OUR EMERGENCY RELIEF TEAMS,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT AN AVERAGE OF 100 CASES ARE INITIATED EVERY YEAR AS A RESULT OF FOLLOWING REPORTS IN THE NEWS MEDIA APART FROM CASES REFERRED TO THEM BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

+IN THIS CONNECTION, FAST, ACCURATE, AND IN-DEPTH REPORTS OF SUCH CASES IN THE MEDIA ARE INVALUABLE BOTH TO US AND TO THE FAMILIES CONCERNED,+ HE SAID.

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WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MONG KOK WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 30) TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, NULLAH ROAD, TUNG CHOI STREET AND ARGYLE STREET, INCLUDING SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET, FIFE STREET, MONG KOK ROAD, BUTE STREET AND MONG KOK MARKET.

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CROWN LAND SALES

A CHOICE SITE AT TSIM SHA TSUI EAST WAS TODAY SOLD FOR \$59 MILLION AT A PUBLIC AUCTION CONDUCTED BY THE P.W.D.'S CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE AT THE CITY HALL.

THE SITE OCCUPIES ABOUT 2,560 SQUARE METRES ON THE RECLAMATION BETWEEN TSIM SHA TSUI AND THE CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL APPROACHES AND IS INTENDED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE LOT WAS BOUGHT BY BO DOR CO. LTD. AT A REALISED PRICE OF \$23,046.88 PER SQ. METRE. THE LOT HAS A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$8.5 MILLION BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1980 AND A CROWN RENT OF \$1,000 PER ANNUM.

FIVE OTHER LOTS OFFERED FOR SALE FETCHED A TOTAL OF \$25.4 MILLION.

A 223.3-SQUARE METRE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF MAIDSTONE ROAD AND LOK SHAN ROAD IN KOWLOON WAS SOLD FOR \$2.7 MILLION TO YICK YAU TRADING CO. LTD. THE SITE IS FOR RESIDENTIAL AND NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

ANOTHER KOWLOON LOT AT WAN FUNG STREET WAS BOUGHT BY CHUEN FAI CO. LTD. FOR \$5.2 MILLION. THIS LOT, WHICH MEASURES NEARLY 365 SQ. METRES, IS TO BE DEVELOPED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

A 2,350-SQ. METRE LOT AT SZE SHAN STREET, SAM KA TSUEN, WENT TO YAT SUM LAND INVESTMENT CO. LTD. FOR \$9 MILLION. THE LOT IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES.

ANOTHER LOT FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES WAS BOUGHT BY LEN SHING REALTY LTD. FOR \$6.5 MILLION. THIS LOT IS LOCATED AT AH KUNG NGAM VILLAGE ROAD, HONG KONG, AND HAS AN AREA OF 1,240 SQ. METRES.

THE LAST LOT, LOCATED AT TAI TAM ROAD, HONG KONG, WAS BOUGHT BY ELTEE ENTERPRISES LTD. FOR \$2 MILLION. THE LOT MEASURES ABOUT 817 SQUARE METRES AND IS INTENDED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE AUCTION WAS CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT LAND AGENTS MR. K.B. ROLFE AND MR. D. WILKINSON OF THE P.W.D.

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