DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1976

GOVERNOR JOINS JPC MEMBERS TO CLEAN N.T. BEACH

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, JOINED SOME 40 MEMBERS OF THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL TO CLEAN THE BEACH AT CHEK KENG IN LONG HARBOUR AREA THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

IT WAS ONE OF 14 UNGAZETTED BEACHES CLEANED TODAY BY SOME 300 PUBLIC-SPIRITED YOUNGSTERS IN A CLEAN BEACH EXERCISE CARRIED OUT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

SIR MURRAY, WHO ARRIVED AT 3 P.M., BROUGHT WITH HIM A PIECE OF GOOD NEWS -- HE HAD TWO PACKETS OF CHOCOLATE FOR EACH JPC MEMBER.

AFTER A BRIEF TALK WITH WOMAN INSPECTOR, MRS. SHIRLEY CHOW, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE OPERATION, AND MR. HENRY LU, URBAN SERVICES OFFICER (TAI PO), THE GOVERNOR IMMEDIATELY GOT DOWN TO WORK.

TOGETHER WITH SOME OF THE JPC MEMBERS, HE PICKED UP TWO FULL BASKETS OF LITTER FROM THE BEACH IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND DISPOSED IT IN A FIRE.

AT THE END OF HIS 30-MINUTE VISIT, THE GOVERNOR TOLD THE JPC MEMBERS THAT IN SOME PLACES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES +YOU CAN'T EXPECT STAFF OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO CLEAN.+

+SO IT IS A GOOD THING FOR THE JPC TO TAKE THE LEAD,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR HOPED THAT JPC MEMBERS COULD TAKE PART IN A SIMILAR EXERCISE NEXT YEAR.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, JPC MEMBERS CLEANED TWO OTHER BEACHES -- TAN KA WAN IN LONG HARBOUR AREA AND LAI CHI CHONG IN TOLO CHANNEL.

MEANWHILE, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, VISITED LUK KENG IN SHA TAU KOK, TO JOIN ONE OF THE CLEAN YOUR CITY GROUPS IN CLEANING THE BEACH THERE.

ALTOGETHER EIGHT CYC GROUPS EACH COMPRISING ABOUT 10 OR MORE MEMBERS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR EIGHT BEACHES WHILE THE TAI PO VOLUNTEERS TACKLED THREE BEACHES IN THEIR AREA.

THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT PROVIDED ALL THE VOLUNTEERS ON THE SPOT WITH NECESSARY EQUIPMENT TO REMOVE THE LITTER AND STAFF OF THE USD (NEW TERRITORIES) WERE PRESENT TO ADVISE ON METHOD OF DISPOSING THE REFUSE.

NOTE TO EDITORS :

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE GOVERNOR AND JPC MEMBERS WORKING ON THE BEACH ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN G.I.S. PRESS ROOM, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, 7TH FLOOR.

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NEW ADDITION TO POLLUTION CONTROL FLEET

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HONG KONG WILL BE MUCH BETTER PREPARED TO COMBAT POLLUTION FROM OIL SPILLS IN THE HARBOUR WHEN A NEW ANTI-OIL POLLUTION LAUNCH JOINS THE FLEET OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH.

COSTING SOME $1.8 MILLION, THE 80-FOOT LAUNCH WAS BUILT LOCALLY AT THE CHEOY LEE SHIPYARD AND IS NOW UNDER-GOING SEA TRIALS. IT WILL BE DELIVERED SOME TIME NEXT WEEK. AFTER COMMISSIONING, IT WILL BE THE BIGGEST AND MOST SOPHISTICATED OF THE DEPARTMENT'S POLLUTION CONTROL VESSELS.

THE MARINE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT, MR. TONY MASON, SAID : +THE SPECIAL LAUNCH HAS STORAGE TANKS WHICH CAN HOLD A TOTAL OF 6,000 GALLONS OF DISPERSANTS. IT WILL THEREFORE BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT DISPERSING OPERATIONS FOR A WHOLE DAY WITHOUT RE-LOADING DISPERSANTS.

+IT CAN CARRY SUFFICIENT FUEL TO OPERATE FOR ABOUT 100 HOURS AT A STRETCH AT HALF ITS FULL SPEED OF 12 KNOTS.+

EQUIPPED WITH FIVE FIRE MONITORS, THE LAUNCH CAN, IF REQUIRED, BE USED TO ASSIST IN FIRE FIGHTING.

OTHER SPECIAL EQUIPMENT INSTALLED INCLUDES SPRAY BOOMS, AGITATING DEVICES, AND A POWERFUL PUMP FOR SPRAYING DISPERSANTS.

ALL PROPELLING MACHINERY AND THE FULLY AUTOMATIC PUMPING MACHINERY FOR SPRAYING DISPERSANTS ARE CONTROLLED FROM THE BRIDGE, WHERE THERE ARE ALSO RADAR, ECHO (DEPTH) SOUNDING AND V.H.F. RADIO EQUIPMENT.

THE CRAFT HAS A LARGE CLEAR AFTERDECK, WHERE THE CREW HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM TO WORK WHEN DEPLOYING AND RECOVERING BOOMS AND OTHER ANTI POLLUTION EQUIPMENT.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS LAUNCH WILL BE FOR USE AS A COMMAND BOAT WHEN THERE IS A MAJOR SPILL, CO-ORDINATING THE EFFORTS OF THE OTHER CRAFT IN CLEANING IT. SHE WILL ALSO DEAL WITH MINOR SPILLS THAT FREQUENTLY OCCUR AND WILL BE USED IN TRANSPORTING ANTI POLLUTION STAFF ON THEIR DAY TO DAY INSPECTIONS OF OIL TERMINALS, VESSELS THAT ARE TAKING ON BUNKERS AND TANKERS THAT ARE DISCHARGING TO SEE THAT THEY ARE COMPLYING WITH ALL REGULATIONS. THE CRAFT WILL ALSO BE USED FOR TRAINING STAFF IN DEPLOYING ANTI POLLUTION EQUIPMENT.

AT PRESENT, THE POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT HAS ONE VESSEL EMPLOYED FULL TIME TO DEAL WITH OIL SPILLS, ALTHOUGH IN CASE OF NEED, 13 (SOON TO BE INCREASED TO 20) OTHER LAUNCHES FITTED WITH SPRAYING EQUIPMENT CAN BE MOBILISED AT ANY TIME.

+WHEN THE NEW LAUNCH COMES INTO OPERATION, WE WILL DEFINITELY BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO DEAL WITH A MAJOR SPILL.+ MR. MASON SAID.

NOTE TO EDITORS :

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE NEW LAUNCH ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN GIS PRESS ROOM, TOP FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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HONG KONG AT REGIONAL TALKS ON TRANSPORT

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HONG KONG WAS REPRESENTED AT A TWO-PART REGIONAL SEMINAR ON TRANSPORT HELD RECENTLY IN JAKARTA AND SINGAPORE.

THE SEMINAR WAS ORGANISED BY THE UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP) AND WAS ATTENDED BY 40 PARTICIPANTS FROM 12 SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES.

THE PARTICIPANTS WERE MAINLY TRAFFIC ENGINEERS AND TRANSPORT PLANNING OFFICERS AND THE SUBJECT OF THE SEMINAR WAS THEIR ROLE IN CITY ADMINISTRATION.

THERE WERE SPEAKERS FROM GERMANY, THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN, PHILIPPINES, AND THE HOST COUNTRIES INDONESIA AND SINGAPORE. OTHER COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT THE SEMINAR INCLUDED IRAN, INDIA, NEW ZEALAND, SRI LANKA, THAILAND, MALAYSIA, BANGLADESH AND PAKISTAN.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATE, TRANSPORT OFFICER MISS DOROTHY YUEN, RETURNED FROM SINGAPORE LAST WEEKEND. SHE DESCRIBED IT AS A SEMINAR-CUM-TRAINING COURSE ORGANISED ON THE LINES OF A +WORKSHOP+.

+ITS AIM WAS TO BUILD A FORUM TO DISCUSS THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF TOWN PLANNING, TRAFFIC PLANNING, TRAFFIC STEERING AND CONTROL,+ SHE SAID.

MISS YUEN SAID THAT THE EMPHASIS WAS NOT SO MUCH ON TOWN AND TRAFFIC PLANNING BUT RATHER ON THE INFLUENCES OF THE AUTHORITIES DEALING WITH EXISTING URBAN TRAFFIC SYSTEMS.

+BESIDES THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH WERE OPEN TO THE FLOOR,+ MISS YUEN SAID, +EACH DELEGATE PRESENTED A 'COUNTRY PAPER' DESCRIBING THE TRANSPORT SYSTEMS OF BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR, AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE TRANSPORT AUTHORITIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.+

ASKED WHAT WAS THE DELEGATES' REACTION TO HONG KONG'S TRANSPORT PAPER, MISS YUEN SAID, +ALL WERE IMPRESSED BY THE VARIETY OF TRANSPORT AVAILABLE TO OUR CITY OF 4.4 MILLION.+

HONG KONG'S METRO BECAME A BIG TALKING POINT AT THE DISCUSSIONS. +SINGAPORE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED,+ SHE SAID, +AS THEY ARE ACTIVELY STUDYING SUCH A SYSTEM.+

+ON IMMEDIATE TRANSPORT PROBLEMS, THE INDONESIAN AND MALAYSIAN DELEGATES WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN OUR MINIBUSES,+ MISS YUEN ADDED. +OTHER MEMBERS WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ROLE OF OUR TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH INCLUDES UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE SECTOR, AND ADVISES THE GOVERNMENT ON ALL MAJOR TRANSPORT POLICY MATTERS.+

/DURING THE .....

DURING THE TWO-PART SEMINAR WHICH LASTED FROM JANUARY 26 UNTIL FEBRUARY 12, MISS YUEN ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF SEEING WHAT SINGAPORE AND INDONESIA ARE DOING TO OVERCOME PROBLEMS OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

+OBVIOUSLY I WAS VERY INTERESTED IN SINGAPORE'S AREA LICENSING SCHEME WHICH LIMITS PRIVATE CARS GOING INTO THE CITY CENTRE DURING PEAK HOURS, AND ALSO THE 'REVERSIBLE' LANES WHICH LEAD INTO THE CITY IN THE MORNING RUSH-HOURS BUT IN THE EVENING ARE REVERSED SO AS TO LEAD THE TRAFFIC OUT OF THE CITY.+

THE MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS PUT FORWARD BY THE DELEGATES AT THE SEMINAR WERE THE SETTING UP OF AN INSTITUTE OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FOR THE ASIAN REGION, AND THE ORGANISATION OF TRAINING COURSES FOR TRAFFIC PERSONNEL.

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STREET DIVERSIONS IN YAUMATI AND MONGKOK

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A NUMBER OF STREETS IN YAUMATI AND MONGKOK WILL BE CLOSED AT THE WEST SIDE OF THEIR JUNCTIONS WITH SHANGHAI STREET TO RESTRICT VARIOUS TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS IN AND OUT OF SHANGHAI STREET AND OTHER ADJACENT STREETS IN PREPARATION FOR THE START OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE METRO STATIONS IN NATHAN ROAD.

THE STREETS ARE AS FOLLOWS : ARRAN STREET, BUTE STREET, FIFE STREET, NELSON STREET, SOY STREET, HAMILTON STREET, PITT STREET, SHEK LUNG STREET, MAN MING LANE, HI LUNG LANE AND WING SING LANE. THEY WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 A.M. ON FEBRUARY 25, 1976.

AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE STREET CLOSURES, ARRAN STREET BETWEEN CANTON ROAD AND RECLAMATION STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONEWAY EAST-BOUND.

THE STRAIGHT AHEAD MOVEMENT AND THE RIGHT TURN MOVEMENT FROM SHANGHAI STREET SOUTHBOUND ACROSS WATERLOO ROAD AND INTO WATERLOO ROAD WESTBOUND RESPECTIVELY, WILL BE PROHIBITED.

ALL TRAFFIC FROM THIS APPROACH WILL BE REQUIRED TO TURN LEFT INTO WATERLOO ROAD EASTBOUND.

MOTORISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THE RESTRICTIONS AT THE JUNCTION OF SHANGHAI STREET AND WATERLOO ROAD AND THEIR EFFECT ON THROUGH TRAFFIC USING SHANGHAI STREET.

MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE THE ALTERNATIVE SOUTHBOUND THROUGH ROUTE, NAMELY TONG MI ROAD AND FERRY STREET.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE ERECTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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