



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, January 5, 1974

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Release time: 2.30 p.m.

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UNCOVERED ELEVATED WALKWAYS OPEN SOON

Linking Blake Pier and Vehicular Ferry Pier

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Two uncovered elevated walkways, with a total length of 880 feet, will be opened for public use towards the end of this month as part of the Central elevated walkway system.

One of the walkways, measuring 800 feet, links the Vehicular Ferry Pier and the existing covered footbridge across Connaught Road Central near the new Post Office site.

The other one branches out from the middle of the new walkway, providing access to the Central Bus Terminus.

They will provide uninterrupted pedestrian traffic from Union House or the General Post Office to the northern side of Connaught Road Central, a spokesman for the Public Works Department explained.

"This means that, before long, people in that part of Central District wanting to go the Central Bus Terminus or the Vehicular Ferry Pier can reach their destinations without actually walking across the road," he said. "This should result in better traffic flow in Central."

Meanwhile, financial approval has been given to build further extension of the elevated walkway system.

After staged completion of this scheme a covered elevated walkway will run continuously along the northern side of Connaught Road Central from Gilman Street junction to link up with the existing footbridge west of the Connaught Centre.

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Additional crossings of Connaught Road Central will be provided near Gilman Street and Jubilee Street, and a further link will be made to the recently completed works across the Bus Terminus.

Work on these new footbridges is scheduled to commence in the middle of next year and is expected to take about 12 months to complete.

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Note to Editors: Copies of a sketch of the new uncovered elevated walkways will be distributed separately in the press boxes this afternoon.

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LORD MOUNTBATTEN TO VISIT CHINA

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A Government spokesman today confirmed a report that Lord Mountbatten is to pay a seven-day visit to China later this month.

The visit - a private one at the invitation of the Chinese Government - will be in his capacity as President of the International Council of the United World Colleges.

Lord Mountbatten will arrive in Hong Kong by air on January 24, staying overnight with the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose. He will be accompanied by his daughters and their husbands, Lord and Lady Brabourne and Mr. David and Lady Pamela Hicks.

Lady Pamela is a member of the International Council of the United World Colleges and Lord Brabourne is a governor of the United World College of the Atlantic at St. Donat's Castle.

On January 25, the party will travel by train to China, returning to Hong Kong on February 1. During their brief stopover in Hong Kong, Lord Mountbatten will meet the Hong Kong National Committee of the United World Colleges, together with their chairman, Sir Kenneth Ping-fan Fung.

He will also lunch with the Commander, British Forces, Lieut. General Sir Edwin Bramall, who at one time served on his staff.

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K.C.R. TO INSTALL MODERN SIGNALLING SYSTEM

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The Kowloon-Canton Railway is to install a modern electrical signalling system between Tai Po Kau and Lowu stations to replace the existing mechanically-operated system.

The new system will be complemented by two similar ones to be installed between Hung Hom and Sha Tin.

Financial approval has been given to the project which is estimated to cost about \$4 million.

Tenders will be invited shortly through the Crown Agents in Britain for the supply and installation of the equipment.

The new signalling system, called Central Traffic Control, is to be conveniently operated at a central switch-board which is connected to all signals along the railway line.

It employs colour light signals in place of semaphore signals presently used.

Commenting on the new signalling system, a spokesman for the Kowloon-Canton Railway said: "By co-ordinating the signals at the switch-board, train services will be better regulated and delay of trains will be reduced to a minimum."

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DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES ATTENDS MACAU CEREMONY

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The Director of Medical and Health Services, Dr. G.H. Choa, will attend a celebration in Macau tomorrow (Sunday) to mark the first centenary of the Portuguese province's Central Hospital.

He will be accompanied by Dr. K.L. Thong, Deputy Director of Medical and Health Services (Health).

Dr. Choa and Dr. Thong were invited to attend the function by Dr. Antonio Joaquim Paulino, Director of Macau's Health Services.

The Central Hospital bears the Portuguese name of Sao Januario. It has served the people of the province for 100 years.

Although constantly modernised it has remained on the same central site in all that time.

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