



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1975

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FAMILY PLANNING : NEXT DECADE CRUCIAL,
SAYS LADY MACLEHOSE
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THE NEXT TEN YEARS WILL BE A CRUCIAL PERIOD FOR FAMILY PLANNING IN HONG KONG AS THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN THE MOST FERTILE AGE GROUP IS EXPECTED TO NEARLY DOUBLE, LADY MACLEHOSE WARNED TODAY.

+THE IMPLICATIONS, AND THE DANGERS, ARE OBVIOUS,+ SHE SAID.

+SO IS THE CHALLENGE TO THE FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE. THEY MUST BE SO ARRANGED THAT NO WOMAN IS DETERRED BY INCONVENIENCE, EMBARRASSMENT OR COST.+

THIS, SHE SAID, WAS A TASK FOR CONTINUED CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS BY THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION AND THE GOVERNMENT.

LADY MACLEHOSE WAS ADDRESSING A CEREMONY IN THE CITY HALL MARKING THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION.

SHE NOTED THAT MUCH HEADWAY HAD BEEN MADE IN RECENT YEARS IN FAMILY PLANNING, AND THESE SUCCESSES WERE TIMELY, SHE SAID.

MORE WOMEN WERE VISITING FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS, AND AVAILABLE EVIDENCE SUGGESTED THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF FAMILIES PRACTISED FAMILY PLANNING WITHOUT ATTENDING CLINICS OF ANY KIND.

AT PRESENT, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OPERATE 65 BIRTH CONTROL CLINICS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

IN RETROSPECT, LADY MACLEHOSE SAID THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS HAD SEEN GREAT CHANGES. IN 1961 THE CRUDE BIRTH RATE WAS 35 PER THOUSAND, BUT SINCE 1971 THERE HAD BEEN A STRIKING TREND TOWARDS SMALLER FAMILIES, AND THE RATE SINCE 1971 HAD REMAINED BELOW 20 PER THOUSAND.

THESE CHANGES HAD BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY A GREATER READINESS TO PRACTISE FAMILY PLANNING, AND REFLECTED THE WIDER RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT NOW AVAILABLE FOR WOMEN, AND THE RISE IN EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS. MORE WOMEN ALSO MARRIED LATER.

LADY MACLEHOSE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION FOR ITS MAJOR CONTRIBUTION DURING THE PAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, AND LOOKED FORWARD TO A CONTINUED AND VERY EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP IN FAMILY PLANNING WORK BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ASSOCIATION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF LADY MACLEHOSE'S SPEECH ARE BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

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SPEED LIMIT FOR HEAVY VEHICLES
RAISED TO 40MPH
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REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN AMENDED TO ALLOW GOODS VEHICLES EXCEEDING TWO TONS AND OMNIBUSES TO TRAVEL UP TO 40 MILES PER HOUR.

MANY OF THESE VEHICLES ALREADY TRAVEL IN EXCESS OF 30 MPH AND THE ROAD TRAFFIC (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1975, GAZETTED TODAY, RAISES THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED SPEED LIMIT FOR THESE VEHICLES FROM 30 MPH TO 40 MPH.

THE NEW SPEED LIMIT IS NOT EXPECTED TO HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE INCIDENCE OR SERIOUSNESS OF ACCIDENTS AS INVESTIGATIONS OF ACCIDENTS IN HONG KONG INVOLVING HEAVY VEHICLES RARELY INDICATE THAT EXCESSIVE SPEED IS A CONTRIBUTORY FACTOR, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

HE POINTED OUT THAT HEAVY VEHICLES TODAY ARE DESIGNED TO TRAVEL SAFELY AT MUCH HIGHER SPEEDS THAN 30 MPH WHICH WAS THE SPEED LIMIT INTRODUCED FOR GOODS VEHICLES AND OMNIBUSES 63 YEARS AGO.

SINCE 1912, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THERE HAVE BEEN VERY GREAT IMPROVEMENTS MADE IN HEAVY VEHICLE DESIGN, PARTICULARLY IN THEIR TYRES, SUSPENSIONS, BRAKES AND STEERING.

THE NEW SPEED LIMIT IS NOT EXPECTED TO RESULT IN GOODS VEHICLES AND OMNIBUSES TRAVELLING MUCH FASTER THAN THEY USED TO DO AS POLICE EXPERIENCE HERE SUGGESTS THAT IT IS COMPARATIVELY RARE FOR THEM TO EXCEED 40 MPH, HE SAID.

EXPERIENCE ABROAD, HE ADDED, HAS SHOWN THAT THE RAISING OF SPEED LIMITS ON INDIVIDUAL CLASSES OF VEHICLES DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY RESULT IN AVERAGE VEHICLE SPEEDS INCREASING BY THE SAME AMOUNT.

+THE NEW SPEED LIMIT, THEREFORE PERMIT THE CONCENTRATION OF POLICE AND RADAR SPEED METERS ON THE RESTRICTED URBAN ROADS WHERE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL DRIVERS SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM EXCEEDING THE LIMIT, AND ON STRETCHES OF UNRESTRICTED ROADS WHERE GOODS VEHICLES ARE LIKELY TO EXCEED THE NEW SPEED LIMIT AND WHERE IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS FOR THEM TO DO SO,+ HE SAID.

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FUTURE ROLE OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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PRIVATE SCHOOLS WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN THE FUTURE, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE 16TH ANNUAL SPEECH DAY OF THE KIANGSU-CHEKIANG COLLEGE, MR. TOPLEY SAID THAT A NUMBER OF THE JUNIOR SECONDARY PLACES REQUIRED TO PROVIDE FOR THE 12-14 AGE GROUP WOULD BE IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND THIS WOULD BE SO FOR SOME TIME.

+SECONDLY, PRIVATE SCHOOLS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE A VERY USEFUL PUBLIC SERVICE BY PROVIDING ADDITIONAL SENIOR SECONDARY PLACES FOR FORM 3 LEAVERS WHO CANNOT BE CATERED FOR BY THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

+THIRDLY, IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE PARENTS WHO PREFER TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS,+ HE ADDED.

GIVING AN EXAMPLE, MR. TOPLEY POINTED OUT THAT OF THE SOME 680,000 PUPILS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS LAST YEAR, ABOUT ONE-SIXTH WERE IN FACT STUDYING IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SUFFICIENT FREE PLACES IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR EVERY CHILD WHO WISHED TO GO THERE.

IT WAS UNFORTUNATE, HE SAID, THAT THE RECESSION HAD PREVENTED HONG KONG FROM MOVING AS FAST AS HAD BEEN HOPED IN BUILDING NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL PLACES.

THE DIRECTOR PRAISED THE KIANGSU-CHEKIANG COLLEGE FOR THE EMPHASIS IT PLACED ON PERSONALITY AND CHARACTER TRAINING.

HE ALSO NOTED WITH GREAT INTEREST THAT THE COLLEGE WAS ONE OF THE VERY FEW SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG WHERE CHINESE SUBJECTS WERE TAUGHT THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF MANDARIN.

+IN MY VIEW, THIS PARTICULAR CHARACTERISTIC OF THE COLLEGE IS WELL WORTH PRESERVING,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

CERTIFICATES WERE DISTRIBUTED BY MRS. TOPLEY TO GRADUATES OF THE COLLEGE.

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CONTROLLED TIPPING AT GIN DRINKERS BAY

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS CALLING FOR TENDERS FOR A CONTRACT TO CONTINUE THE WORK ON THE CONTROLLED TIP PROJECT AT GIN DRINKERS BAY WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE TURNED INTO A RECREATIONAL GROUND.

THE PRESENT CONTRACT IS DUE TO EXPIRE TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR. THE NEW CONTRACT CONSISTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF ALL NECESSARY ACCESS ROADS, DRAINAGE AND PROTECTIVE WORKS REQUIRED FOR THE SYSTEMATIC DISPOSAL OF REFUSE DELIVERED TO THE TIP.

CONTROLLED TIPPING, WHICH BASICALLY IS THE DISPOSAL OF REFUSE IN COMPACT LAYERS IN THE GROUND, WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN JUNE 1973.

EACH LAYER IS COVERED WITH INERT MATERIAL AS TIPPING PROCEEDS AND THE FACES SEALED OFF AT THE END OF THE DAY'S WORK IN ORDER TO CONTAIN BAD SMELLS, CONTROL VERMIN AND TO ELIMINATE HEALTH AND FIRE HAZARDS.

WHEN THE GIN DRINKERS BAY TIP IS CLOSED, IT WILL FORM SOME 14 HECTARES OF NEW LAND FOR RECREATIONAL USE.

THE NEW CONTRACT IS EXPECTED TO COME INTO EFFECT IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR AND WILL RUN FOR ABOUT 16 MONTHS.

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NEW CDO APPOINTED

THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. E.P. HO, ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. WILLIAM YAP CHOI-CHIN AS CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (SOUTHERN) WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 29, 1975.

MR. YAP, A GRADUATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, HAS HAD SIX YEARS' SERVICE IN THE GOVERNMENT. BEFORE HE WAS APPOINTED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT IN JUNE, 1973, HE HAD SERVED FOR SOMETIME IN THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AS AN ASSISTANT TRADE OFFICER AND IN THE FORMER SECRETARIAT FOR HOME AFFAIRS, COLONIAL SECRETARIAT AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AS AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER II.

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS
IN CHAI WAN
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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TODAY THAT SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON IN CHAI WAN ON HONG KONG ISLAND IN CONNECTION WITH A PROCESSION ORGANISED AS PART OF THE +KEEP CHAI WAN DRUG FREE+ CAMPAIGN.

FROM 3.45 P.M. TO 5.30 P.M., WAN TSUI ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY ANTI-CLOCKWISE, HONG MAN STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC, AND LEE CHUNG STREET WILL BECOME ONE-WAY FROM HONG MAN STREET TO NING FO STREET.

DURING THIS PERIOD, SEVERAL CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY ROUTES WILL BE TEMPORARILY AFFECTED. ROUTE NOS. 8A, 8B AND 80 WILL TERMINATE AT THE BUS TERMINUS NEAR THE JUNCTION OF CHAI WAN ROAD AND WAN TSUI ROAD, INSTEAD OF AT SAN HA STREET. THESE ROUTES WILL OMIT WAN TSUI ROAD ON JOURNEYS FROM CHAI WAN.

ROUTE NO. 22 MAY BE SUBJECT TO DELAY ON THE 5.10 P.M. JOURNEY FROM CHAI WAN, AND ON THE 5.30 P.M. JOURNEY FROM CAPE COLLINSON.

PARKING SPACES IN WAN WA STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN NOON AND 5.30 P.M.

MEANWHILE, A SECTION OF CAROLINE HILL ROAD IN WAN CHAI WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICLES USED BY LEARNER DRIVERS UNDERGOING DRIVING LESSONS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION.

FROM 10 A.M. ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 6), THESE VEHICLES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE SECTION OF CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD AND COTTON PATH.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO INDICATE THE PROHIBITION.

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TENANCY INQUIRY BUREAU MOVES TO NEW PREMISES
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THE TENANCY INQUIRY BUREAU (HONG KONG OFFICE) HAS MOVED TO THE 17TH FLOOR OF NEW MERCURY HOUSE.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION SAID THIS WAS THE FINAL STEP IN BRINGING TOGETHER UNDER ONE ROOF ALL SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT DEALING WITH TENANCY MATTERS. THE COMBINED SECTION WHICH NOW INCLUDES THE TWO OFFICES OF THE FORMER TENANCY INQUIRY BUREAU IS KNOWN AS THE RENT CONTROL DIVISION.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SEEKING ADVICE ON TENANCY MATTERS ARE INVITED TO TELEPHONE 5-281424 EXT. 235.

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FIRING PRACTICE AT HA TSUEN RANGE

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THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES WILL CONDUCT FIRING PRACTICE AT HA TSUEN (CASTLE PEAK) RANGE BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 6 P.M. ON OCTOBER 8-9, AND ON OCTOBER 21-23, IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

FIRING PRACTICE WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 5 P.M. ON OCTOBER 24.

THE FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN OR OVER AREA 'D' OF HA TSUEN RANGE.

MASTERS OF VESSELS AND PILOTS OF AIRCRAFT EXEMPT FROM THE DEFENCES (FIRING AREAS) ORDINANCE ARE ASKED TO ASSIST IN THE CARRYING OUT OF FIRING PRACTICE BY HASTENING THROUGH THE FIRING AREA OR, IN THE CASE OF VESSELS, BY CONSENTING TO BE TOWED OUT OF THE AREA, IF NECESSARY, BY VESSELS' ACTING UNDER ORDERS OF THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

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GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS
FOR JULY

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1975 SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$107 MILLION COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$106 MILLION IN JULY LAST YEAR.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF \$331 MILLION FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$388 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE MONTH AT \$393 MILLION WAS \$5 MILLION LESS THAN IN JULY 1974. EXPENDITURE WAS \$500 MILLION, \$4 MILLION LESS THAN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

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TAI PO ROAD SECTION TO BE IMPROVED
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PLANS ARE IN HAND TO IMPROVE AND REALIGN TAI PO ROAD NEAR HO TUNG LAU IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO CATER FOR THE INCREASED TRAFFIC WHICH WILL BE GENERATED BY THE RACE-COURSE.

THE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME ALSO INCLUDES A BRIDGE OVER THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY NEAR HO TUNG LAU TO REPLACE THE EXISTING LEVEL CROSSINGS.

THE NEW ROAD ALIGNMENT FORMS PART OF THE MAJOR HIGHWAY NETWORK FOR SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND WILL ALSO BENEFIT THROUGH TRAFFIC TO AND FROM AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES TO THE NORTH OF SHA TIN, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID.

A FEATURE OF THE IMPROVEMENT IS THE LARGE DEGREE OF SEGREGATION OF VEHICLES AND PEDESTRIANS WHICH IS ACHIEVED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF SUBWAYS AND FOOTBRIDGES.

PROVISION IS ALSO INCLUDED FOR THE FIRST SECTIONS OF A CYCLE TRACK NETWORK FOR SHA TIN NEW TOWN, HE SAID.

THE INTERESTS OF EXISTING VILLAGERS AND ACCESS TO EXISTING PROPERTIES IN THE AREA NEAR HO TUNG LAU HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE DESIGN OF THE PROJECT. AN UNDERPASS BELOW THE K.C.R. TRACK IS INCLUDED IN THE SCHEME TO SERVE VILLAGERS LIVING ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE RAILWAY.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THIS PROJECT MAY INSPECT THE PLANS AT THE CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG, OR AT THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS, NORTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY BUILDING, TAI PO ROAD, KOWLOON OR AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, SHA TIN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2 TUNG LO WAN HILL, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON WHO HAS OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED UNDERTAKING MUST SEND HIS OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO REACH HIS OFFICE NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 3, 1975.

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AWARDS FOR TOP LANTERN DESIGN

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TWENTY SCHOOLS WILL RECEIVE CERTIFICATES OF MERIT FOR OUTSTANDING LANTERN DESIGN IN A RECENT COMPETITION ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 6) AFTERNOON.

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT AND BOOK COUPONS WORTH \$100 EACH WILL BE AWARDED TO INDIVIDUAL WINNERS OF 40 BEST ENTRIES FOR DIVISIONS +A+ AND +B+.

EIGHTY-TWO SCHOOLS SENT IN 1,063 ENTRIES FOR BOTH DIVISIONS - DIVISION +A+ FOR CHILDREN IN THE 13 TO 20 AGE GROUP AND DIVISION +B+ FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12.

ACCORDING TO THE ORGANISERS, THE ENTRIES SUBMITTED WERE OF EXTREMELY HIGH STANDARD AND ACHIEVED THE AIM OF PRESERVING AND PROMOTING CHINESE CULTURE.

THE JUDGES SAID THE CRAFT WORK OF THE WINNING LANTERNS WAS EXCELLENT AND THE STANDARD OF WORK WAS 'VERY GOOD, COLOURFULL AND FULL OF IMAGINATION'.

THE WINNING LANTERNS ARE NOW ON DISPLAY IN THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE PRESENTATION OF PRIZES TO THE WINNERS WILL TAKE PLACE IN HOTEL PLAZA AT 3 P.M. ON OCTOBER 6 (MONDAY).

THE PRIZES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY MR. JOHN WINFIELD, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. K.T. CHAN, CHAIRMAN OF HOTEL PLAZA, AND MR. WILLIAM CHENG, PRINCIPAL OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE EVENT COVERED.

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