



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1976

GOVERNMENT SERVICES GROW IN TSUEN WAN * * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPOINTED TWO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE FIRST TWO CITY DISTRICT-STYLE OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE OFFICES ARE BEING SET UP IN TSUEN WAN -- ONE TO SERVE THE 150,000 PEOPLE LIVING AROUND THE TOWN CENTRE AND TSING YI ISLAND, AND THE OTHER TO CATER FOR THE NEEDS OF THE 350,000 PEOPLE IN THE KWAI CHUNG AREA.

MISS ALICE SIU WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE KWAI CHUNG BRANCH, PLANNED FOR THE HUTCHISON ESTATE BUILDING IN LEI MUK ROAD, WHILE MR. BENJAMIN TANG WILL OPERATE OUT OF THE HOI PA STREET BRANCH OFFICE OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, MR. JAMES HAYES, ANNOUNCING THE APPOINTMENTS TODAY, SAID THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW TOWN DISTRICT OFFICES MARKED AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD IN THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY BUILDING WORK IN TSUEN WAN.

+THE DISTRICT OFFICE, OF COURSE, HAS ALWAYS CARRIED OUT THESE FUNCTIONS IN THE PAST, BUT WITH THE ADDITION OF NEW STAFF, WE WILL NOW BE ABLE TO GET OUT INTO THE TOWN WITH A MORE EFFECTIVE SERVICE.

+THESE TWO BRANCH OFFICES WILL FUNCTION VERY MUCH ALONG THE SAME LINES AS THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICES OPERATED BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND KOWLOON,+ MR. HAYES SAID.

+AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, WHICH IS THE LAND AUTHORITY, THEY WILL HAVE THE ADDED ADVANTAGE OF BEING ABLE TO CO-ORDINATE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS,+ HE ADDED.

+UNDER EACH ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, AS THEY ARE CALLED, WILL BE A NUMBER OF LIAISON OFFICERS, AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND THE FULL BACK-UP RANGE OF SECRETARIAL, CLERICAL, TYPING AND MESSENGER STAFF.

+AT KWAI CHUNG, WHICH HAS THE LARGEST SHARE OF THE POPULATION, THERE WILL BE SIX LIAISON OFFICERS, WHILE THERE WILL BE FOUR AT THE TSUEN WAN BRANCH, INCLUDING ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GROWING AREA OF TSING YI.

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+THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICERS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO ONE OF MY DEPUTIES, MR. HAROLD KWOK, WHO IS IN DAY-TO-DAY CHARGE OF MATTERS RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.+

MR. HAYES SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY-BUILDING ROLE BEING PLAYED BY HIS OFFICE HAD BECOME IMPERATIVE WITH THE RAPID GROWTH OF TSUEN WAN.

+WE ALREADY HAVE 500,000 PEOPLE IN THE TOWN AND WITH A PROJECTED POPULATION TARGET OF ONE MILLION IN LESS THAN 10 YEARS FROM NOW, THERE IS AN ACCELERATING INFLUX OF NEWCOMERS FROM THE URBAN AREAS OF KOWLOON AND HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

+THE ROLE OF THE NEW BRANCH OFFICES WILL BE TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS AT GRASS ROOTS LEVEL BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE.

+WITH SO MANY NEWCOMERS TO THE TOWN, WE MUST FILL ANY COMMUNICATION GAPS AND HELP THEM ADAPT TO THEIR NEW ENVIRONMENT.+

MR. HAYES ADDED THAT THE HOI PA STREET OFFICE WOULD BE OPENED EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR, WHILE THE KWAI CHUNG OFFICE WOULD START OPERATIONS TWO OR THREE MONTHS LATER.

+MEANWHILE, MISS SIU AND MR. TANG HAVE ALREADY STARTED WORKING IN THEIR NEW ROLES OUT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE HEADQUARTERS IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD,+ HE ADDED.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHAM SHUI PO
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A NUMBER OF TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN SHAM SHUI PO NEXT TUESDAY (DECEMBER 28) IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS LAI CHI KOK ROAD NEAR PEI HO STREET.

STARTING FROM 10 A.M. ON THAT DAY, THE SECTION OF PEI HO STREET BETWEEN TAI NAM STREET AND LAI CHI KOK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FOR A PERIOD OF ABOUT SIX MONTHS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECTION OF PEI HO STREET BETWEEN LAI CHI KOK ROAD AND YEE KUK STREET WILL BE A BUS ONLY LANE OPEN ONLY TO FRANCHISED BUSES.

IN ADDITION, THE SECTION OF NAM CHEONG STREET BETWEEN YEE KUK STREET AND LAI CHI KOK ROAD WILL BE AN URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES FROM 7 A.M. TO 10 A.M. AND FROM 4 P.M. TO 7 P.M. DAILY.

APPROPRIATE SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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SOPHISTICATED ACOUSTIC EQUIPMENT
INSTALLED ON RESEARCH VESSEL

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAS SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT SCIENTIFIC TESTS WITH AN ADVANCED FISH FINDING ACOUSTIC EQUIPMENT RECENTLY INSTALLED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S RESEARCH VESSEL CAPE ST. MARY.

IT IS HOPED THAT THIS SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT WILL HELP THE DEPARTMENT TO LOCATE UNTAPPED MARINE RESOURCES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND THUS OPEN UP NEW HORIZONS FOR THE LOCAL FISHING INDUSTRY.

THE EQUIPMENT, ON PERMANENT LOAN FROM THE SOUTH CHINA SEA FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AND CO-ORDINATING PROGRAMME BASED IN THE PHILIPPINES AND SPONSORED BY THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, HAD BEEN TESTED FOR MORE THAN ONE MONTH.

INITIAL RESULTS SHOWED THE EQUIPMENT TO BE ACCURATE, EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT IN PROVIDING DATA RELATING TO LOCATION AND QUANTITY BOTH OF THE INDIVIDUAL FISH AND OF FISH SCHOOLS.

A DEPARTMENT RESEARCH OFFICER, DR. CHRISTOPHER LEE, SAID VARIOUS CALIBRATION EXPERIMENTS HAD BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED A FEW WEEKS AGO. +THESE EXPERIMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE FUTURE INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS OBTAINED WITH THE NEW EQUIPMENT,+ HE SAID.

THE EQUIPMENT INSTALLED ON THE VESSEL, HE POINTED OUT, CONSISTED OF A HULL-MOUNTED TRANSDUCER, A TRANSCEIVER, AN ECHO SOUNDER RECORDER, AN INTEGRATOR, AN OSCILLOSCOPE, AND A SET OF CALIBRATION INSTRUMENTS.

+ALL THESE HAVE VARIOUS ROLES, BUT ARE INTER-RELATED IN THE SENSE THAT THEY ALLOW ACOUSTIC INFORMATION FROM THE WATER COLUMN TO BE PROCESSED, STUDIED AND RECORDED IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE MANNER,+ DR. LEE ADDED.

+THE INTEGRATOR IS THE MOST POWERFUL PIECE OF EQUIPMENT IN THAT IT ENABLES A RESEARCHER TO ASSESS THE RELATIVE QUANTITY OF FISH OBSERVED ON THE ECHOGRAM RECORDS.

+IT MUST ALSO BE STRESSED THAT AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THIS KIND OF MARINE RESOURCES RESEARCH IS THAT THE PERSON USING THE EQUIPMENT IN THESE EXPLORATIONS MUST BE EXPERIENCED AND MUST KNOW THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FISH FAUNA AROUND HONG KONG AND THE DIVERSITY OF ITS SPECIES.+

HE SAID THAT THE EQUIPMENT CONTAINED SOME ADVANCED CIRCUITRY TO ENABLE THE RESEARCHER TO MAKE QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENTS OF AN INDIVIDUAL FISH DOWN TO A DEPTH OF 230 METRES AND OF A FISH SCHOOL DOWN TO 500 METRES DEPTH.

IN OUR CALIBRATION TRIALS, WE USED THREE SPECIES OF FISH OF VARIOUS SIZES AND QUANTITIES.

FROM THE RESULTS OF THESE TRIALS WE WERE ABLE TO RELATE THE INTEGRATOR'S READINGS TO THE ACTUAL QUANTITY OF FISH LOCATED ACROSS THE PATH OF THE SUPERSONIC BEAM.

THE RESEARCH OFFICER SAID THE EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE VERY HELPFUL BECAUSE IT WOULD ENABLE RESEARCHERS TO ACCURATELY PREDICT AND MAP OUT AREAS WHERE DIFFERENT FISH SPECIES WOULD BE FOUND AND ALSO THEIR APPROXIMATE QUANTITY IN TERMS OF TONS PER SQUARE NAUTICAL MILE.

DR. WILLIAM CHAN, HEAD OF FISHERIES RESEARCH DIVISION, SAID THE EQUIPMENT HAD NOT YET BEEN USED IN LARGE-SCALE SURVEYS IN OFFSHORE AREAS AS THE PRESENT WEATHER CONDITION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA WAS ROUGH.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT, PELAGIC SURVEYS USING THE EQUIPMENT WOULD BEGIN IN EARLY SPRING 1977.

+A TEAM OF RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL STAFF WILL BE DEPLOYED ON THIS WORK AND OUR INITIAL TARGET WILL BE ON PELAGIC (MID-WATER) FISHES,+ DR. CHAN DISCLOSED.

+THE REASON WHY WE PLAN TO CARRY OUT SUCH A RESEARCH IS TWOFOLD. FIRST, WE HAVE TO ASCERTAIN THE KINDS OF FISH THAT ARE IN SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES IN THE EXPLORED AREA AND SECONDLY, WE WANT TO KNOW WHETHER SUCH FISH STOCKS CAN BE ECONOMICALLY UTILISED BY THE LOCAL INDUSTRY.

+IN THE UNTAPPED MID-WATER AREAS, WE FEEL THERE SHOULD BE CERTAIN QUANTITIES OF HAIRTAIL, BLACK POMFRET, VARIOUS GROUPS OF MACKERELS, SCADS, TUNAS, HERRING-LIKE FISHES AND OTHER GROUPS OF PERCOIDS (PERCH-LIKE FISHES).

+ALL, EXCEPT THE HAIRTAIL, BLACK POMFRET AND SPANISH MACKERELS, ARE AT PRESENT VALUED AT THE LOWER END OF THE MARKET COMPARED WITH POPULAR DEMERSAL (BOTTOM DWELLING) FISHES. IT IS ONE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S AIMS TO PROMOTE THE FULLEST UTILISATION OF THE LESS POPULAR FISH SPECIES.+

DR. CHAN ALSO SAID THE LOCAL INDUSTRY HAD BEEN FISHING FOR DEMERSAL FISH ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF FOR YEARS AND A POINT HAD BEEN REACHED THAT NO FURTHER INCREASE IN THE LEVEL OF EXPLOITATION SHOULD BE DONE ON THE KNOWN FISHING GROUNDS.

ALTHOUGH MID-WATER FISHES ARE ALSO BEING CAUGHT FROM THE SHALLOW PART OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, HE CONTINUED, THEY CONTRIBUTED ONLY ABOUT 15 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL LANDINGS.

+THE EXPANSION OF OUR PELAGIC FISHERY IN THE FUTURE IS ONE SOLUTION TO OUR INCREASING DEMANDS FOR FOOD FISH. ITS SUCCESS WILL HINGE ON OUR ABILITY TO LOCATE AND QUANTIFY NEW RESOURCES FOR COMMERCIAL UTILISATION,+ DR. CHAN SAID.

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STREET CHANGES UNDER URBAN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO CARRY OUT A NUMBER OF STREET CHANGES IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT AS PART OF THE URBAN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME FOR THE DISTRICT.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES REPRESENT THE THIRD AND LAST PHASE OF THE STREETS ALTERATION UNDERTAKING TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE URBAN RENEWAL DISTRICT PILOT SCHEME AREA.

THE AREA INVOLVED LIES WITHIN THE APPROVED URBAN RENEWAL DISTRICT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AND IS BOUNDED BY SHING WONG STREET ON THE EAST, PART OF HOLLYWOOD ROAD ON THE SOUTH, LADDER STREET ON THE WEST AND QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND PARTS OF GOUGH STREET ON THE NORTH.

THE LAYOUT PLAN FOR THIS PORTION OF THE PILOT SCHEME AREA HAS NOW BEEN ADOPTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

MR. T.J. MILLS, CHIEF ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE P.W.D.'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT DIVISION, SAID TODAY IT WAS PROPOSED THAT PART OF HOLLYWOOD ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH LADDER STREET AND NO. 82 HOLLYWOOD ROAD BE WIDENED AND RE-ALIGNED TO EASE FUTURE ANTICIPATED TRAFFIC FLOW.

THE PLAN ALSO MADE PROVISION FOR A BUS BAY AT QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN NOS. 244A TO 272 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

+IN ADDITION THE PLAN ENVISAGES THE CLOSURE OF PARTS OF A NUMBER OF EXISTING STREETS WITHIN THIS AREA TO MAKE AVAILABLE SITES FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AND OPEN PLAYGROUNDS,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS INTENDED THAT CERTAIN PARTS OF EXISTING STREETS WILL BE DESIGNATED AS PEDESTRIAN PRECINCTS AND NO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC WILL BE ALLOWED INTO THEM,+ HE ADDED.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSALS MAY SUBMIT OBJECTIONS TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS NO LATER THAN JANUARY 24, 1977.

COPIES OF THE LAYOUT PLAN CAN BE SEEN IN THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) OR AT THE P.W.D.'S CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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