



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, MAY 9, 1977

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SITE FORMATION FOR SHA TIN HOSPITAL TO BEGIN SHORTLY
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN SITE FORMATION AT SHA TIN ON JUNE 1 FOR A MAJOR REGIONAL TEACHING HOSPITAL AND POLYCLINIC TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW TOWN AND THE EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SITE FORMATION CONTRACT, WORTH \$16.3 MILLION, WAS FORMALLY SIGNED IN THE PWD'S SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE TODAY WITH THE SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR, GAMMON (HONG KONG) LTD.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, MR. GEORGE CHIEN, SAID TODAY THAT WORK WOULD BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN MID-1979.

+THE WORK WILL INVOLVE RECLAIMING SOME 24.5 HECTARES ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF TIDE COVE FOR THE MODERN MEDICAL CENTRE,+ HE SAID.

MR. CHIEN ADDED THAT OVER A MILLION CUBIC METRES OF FILL MATERIALS WOULD BE NEEDED FOR THE RECLAMATION PROGRAMME.

THE TARGET DATE FOR THE COMMISSIONING OF THE 1,200 BED HOSPITAL IS 1982.

MR. CHIEN SAID THAT THE NEW HOSPITAL WOULD PROVIDE MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES AND ALL THE APPROPRIATE GENERAL AND SPECIALIST FACILITIES FOR THE PEOPLE OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND THE EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

IT WAS ALSO PLANNED THAT THE HOSPITAL PROVIDE CLINICAL TEACHING FACILITIES FOR THE STUDENTS OF THE PROPOSED MEDICAL SCHOOL AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

+AS PROPOSED IN THE MEDICAL WHITE PAPER,+ MR. CHIEN SAID, +THE HOSPITAL WILL HAVE ABOUT 750 ACUTE GENERAL BEDS, 250 FOR PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS, 100 FOR THE TREATMENT OF GERIATRICS AND 100 MATERNITY BEDS.+

IN ADDITION TO THE FULL RANGE OF GENERAL CLINIC TREATMENT, THE NEW POLYCLINIC WILL OFFER OUT-PATIENT SPECIALIST SERVICES AND TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS BEFORE AND AFTER ANY HOSPITALIZATION.

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SIGNING OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR ABERDEEN TUNNEL
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THE MAIN CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL WILL BE SIGNED TOMORROW (TUESDAY) MORNING IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

MR. GORDON SAPSTEAD, P.W.D.'S PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY ENGINEER, WILL SIGN THE CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND GIVE DETAILS OF THE PROJECT.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY. IT WILL BE HELD AT 11 A.M. IN THE P.W.D. CONFERENCE ROOM, 21ST FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD. TELEVISION AND RADIO CREWS ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE AMPLE TIME TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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SENIOR OFFICIAL TO REPRESENT HK
IN LONDON AIR SERVICES TALKS
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MR. DAVID T.K. WONG, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON TONIGHT TO REPRESENT HONG KONG INTERESTS AT THE SIXTH ROUND OF THE AIR SERVICES NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

MR. NORMAN LATHAM, CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, WHO LEFT ON SATURDAY, WILL ALSO BE ON THE HONG KONG TEAM.

WHILE IN LONDON, MR. WONG WILL ALSO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE U.K. CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY ON PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING AIRLINE TARIFF FILINGS AFFECTING HONG KONG.

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APRIL - SUNNIER, DRIER AND MUCH WARMER THAN USUAL

THE MONTH OF APRIL WAS SUNNIER, DRIER AND MUCH WARMER THAN USUAL, ACCORDING TO THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

THE MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 24.2 DEGREES CELSIUS, THE MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 27.4 DEGREES AND THE MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 22.2 DEGREES WERE ALL THE HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR THE MONTH WHILE THE MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF 80 PER CENT WAS THE FIFTH LOWEST ON RECORD IN ANY APRIL.

THE DRY CONDITIONS WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR CONTINUED TO PREVAIL LAST MONTH. DURING THESE SIX MONTHS, THE TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AMOUNTED TO ONLY 75.9 MM.

THIS REPRESENTED 21 PER CENT OF THE AVERAGE RAINFALL AND RANKED THE SECOND LOWEST FOR THE SAME PERIOD SINCE 1884.

AS A RESULT OF THE DROUGHT, FARMERS, FLOWER GROWERS AND FISH BREEDERS SUFFERED LOSSES. LARGE STRETCHES OF FARM IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING LANTAU ISLAND, WERE ABANDONED DUE TO THE LACK OF IRRIGATION WATER.

IN SPITE OF THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNINGS ISSUED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE MONTH, THERE WERE STILL NUMEROUS HILL FIRES, RESULTING IN EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO AREAS OF VEGETATION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

APART FROM SOME CLOUDY PERIODS, CONDITIONS DURING THE FIRST EIGHT DAYS OF THE MONTH WERE GENERALLY FINE, SUNNY AND MILD. THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 17.6 DEGREES CELSIUS RECORDED ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 1 WAS THE LOWEST OF THE MONTH.

THE WEATHER FROM APRIL 9 TO 21 WAS MAINLY CLOUDY WITH LESS THAN NORMAL SUNSHINE DUE TO THE INFLUENCE OF A HUMID AIRSTREAM FROM THE EAST OF HONG KONG. PATCHES OF FOG WERE REPORTED IN THE HARBOUR APPROACHES ON THE MORNINGS FROM APRIL 13 TO 16 AND THE LOWEST VISIBILITY RECORDED AT WAGLAN ISLAND WAS 200 METRES.

THE MONTH'S MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 31.8 DEGREES CELSIUS, RECORDED IN THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 25, WAS THE THIRD HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR APRIL.

NEARLY ALL THE MONTH'S RAINFALL FELL ON THE LAST THREE DAYS. ALTHOUGH THE RAIN HAD RELATIVELY LITTLE EFFECT ON THE WATER STORAGE SITUATION, THE FARMERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WERE RELIEVED WHEN SPRING FARMING AND TRANSPLANTING OF CROPS BECAME POSSIBLE.

DURING THE MONTH, THERE WERE NO AIRCRAFT DIVERSIONS FROM KAI TAK AIRPORT DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITION AND NO STRONG MONSOON WARNINGS WERE ISSUED.

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+MEET THE MEDIA+ SESSION

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE NEW DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. W.D.A. TUCKER, WILL ATTEND A ROUTINE +MEET THE MEDIA+ SESSION AT 3 P.M. ON THURSDAY (MAY 12).

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE MEETING, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE G.I.S. THEATRE ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

TELEVISION CREWS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THAT THEY HAVE AMPLE TIME TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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FOUNDATION-STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF THE HOME FOR THE AGED

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FOUNDATION-STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF THE HOME FOR THE AGED OF THE LOK SIN TONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, KOWLOON, AT NOON TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE HOME, WHEN COMPLETED IN 15 MONTHS' TIME, WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR 232 OLD PEOPLE.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE CEREMONY. THE HOME FOR THE AGED IS SITUATED AT WAN TAU STREET, TAI PO.

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TOPLEY OPENS H.K. INVITATIONAL HARDCOURT TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS
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+IT IS THE AMATEUR GAME WHICH DEVELOPS THE STARS OF TOMORROW AND WE MUST NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF MOUNTING SUFFICIENT AMATEUR TOURNAMENTS TO FOSTER A CONTINUING INTEREST IN TENNIS,+ THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY SAID THIS AFTERNOON WHEN HE OPENED THE HONG KONG INVITATIONAL HARDCOURT TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS AT VICTORIA PARK.

MR. TOPLEY WELCOMED TO HONG KONG PLAYERS FROM SIX ASIAN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES COMPETING IN THE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

HE SAID: +OVER THE YEARS HONG KONG HAS SEEN OVERSEAS AMATEUR PARTICIPANTS PLAY IN THE HONG KONG OPEN HARDCOURT CHAMPIONSHIPS AND IN ASIAN TOURNAMENTS HOSTED BY HONG KONG, BUT THIS YEAR THE HONG KONG LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION DECIDED TO MOUNT AN INVITATIONAL HARDCOURT CHAMPIONSHIP AND ENCOURAGED AS MANY COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE IN THIS REGION TO COMPETE.+

THE RESPONSE WAS VERY PLEASING AND HE WAS SURE THAT SOME VERY FINE TENNIS WOULD BE SEEN IN THESE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

MR. TOPLEY THANKED THE ASSOCIATION AND THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR ORGANISING AND SPONSORING THE TOURNAMENT.

HE CONGRATULATED THE ORGANISERS, SPONSORS AND PLAYERS.

THE DIRECTOR SAID RECENTLY LOCAL PLAYERS OF BASKETBALL, VOLLEYBALL AND BADMINTON HAD ~~BENEFITED~~ MUCH FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF PARTICIPATING AGAINST PLAYERS WHOSE SKILL AND DEDICATION HAD MADE THEM LEADING PLAYERS NOT ONLY IN ASIA BUT IN SOME CASE IN THE WORLD.

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WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KWUN TONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO ENABLE THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE PREMISES AFFECTED ARE THOSE IN CHA KWO LING ROAD AND YAU TONG ROAD, INCLUDING BLOCK NOS. 1 TO 9, YAU TONG ESTATE.

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