



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1979

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 SECOND WARMEST FEBRUARY SINCE 1884

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LAST (FEBRUARY) MONTH WAS THE SECOND WARMEST FEBRUARY SINCE 1884 --- THE MEAN TEMPERATURE AT 18.9 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS THREE DEGREES HIGHER THAN NORMAL.

THE WARMEST FEBRUARY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SAID TODAY (SATURDAY), WAS IN 1973 WHEN A MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 19.2 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE THREE WINTER MONTHS OF DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY TOGETHER WERE THE WARMEST ON RECORD WITH A MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 18.4 DEGREES CELSIUS COMPARED WITH A NORMAL OF 16.3 DEGREES.

THE EXCEPTIONALLY WARM WINTER WAS DUE TO THE WEAKNESS OF THE WINTER MONSOON WHICH DID NOT OFTEN BRING COLD AIR TO THE SOUTH CHINA COAST.

ALTHOUGH THERE WAS VERY LITTLE RAIN WHICH WAS 35.5 MM BELOW NORMAL, THE MONTH WAS LESS SUNNY THAN USUAL.

THE MONTH STARTED WITH A VERY COLD WEATHER. IN THE MORNING OF THE FIRST DAY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY RECORDED A MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 6.1 DEGREES --- THE LOWEST RECORDED THIS WINTER.

TEMPERATURES BEGAN TO RISE THE NEXT DAY AND CONDITIONS REMAINED QUITE MILD FROM FEBRUARY 8 TO 25, REACHING 26.5 DEGREES -- THE HIGHEST IN THE MONTH --- ON FEBRUARY 22 AFTERNOON.

FINE AND SUNNY WEATHER DEVELOPED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH BUT BECAME CLOUDY ON FEBRUARY 2 WITH PATCHES OF LIGHT RAIN DURING THE FOLLOWING THREE DAYS.

FROM FEBRUARY 6 CONDITIONS BECAME MAINLY FINE AND PERSISTED UNTIL THE NINTH. THE FOLLOWING FIVE DAYS WERE CLOUDY WITH RAIN ON FEBRUARY 13 AND 14 DURING THE PASSAGE OF A WEAK TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE.

A SMALL ANTICYCLONE DEVELOPED OVER SOUTHWEST CHINA LATE ON FEBRUARY 14 AND THE WEATHER WAS FINE AND SUNNY THE FOLLOWING FOUR DAYS. CLOUDY WEATHER RETURNED ON FEBRUARY 19 WHEN THE ANTICYCLONE MOVED AWAY.

CONDITIONS BECAME WARM AND HUMID WITH MIST AND FOG DEVELOPING ON THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 23. VISIBILITY AT CHEUNG CHAU WAS REDUCED TO ONLY 600 METRES AND AT WAGLAN ISLAND AND KAI TAK AIRPORT, IT WAS DOWN TO 1,400 METRES AND 4,000 METRES RESPECTIVELY.

THE WARM AND HUMID WEATHER ENDED ON THE ARRIVAL OF A COLD FRONT DURING THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 25 AND CONDITIONS CHANGED TO MUCH COOLER BUT REMAINED OVERCAST WITH RAIN FOR THE REST OF THE MONTH.

DURING THE MONTH, THERE WERE NO DIVERSION OF AIRCRAFT DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER NOR THUNDERSTORM OR HEAVY RAIN WARNINGS ISSUED.

THE STRONG MONSOON SIGNAL, HOISTED ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 30, WAS LOWERED AT 10 A.M. ON FEBRUARY 1.

FIRE DANGER WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON FIVE OCCASIONS DURING THE MONTH.

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REGISTRATION OF CLAIMS FOR SAN SHEK WAN FISHERMEN
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A SPECIAL GOVERNMENT TEAM WILL START WORK ON MONDAY TO REGISTER CLAIMS BY FISHERMEN AFFECTED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE JUNK BAY CONTROLLED TIP.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. COLIN BOSHER, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THE TEAM'S BRIEF WOULD BE TO ASSESS THE IMPACT ON FISHERMEN WHO REGULARLY FISH AT SAN SHEK WAN.

PREPARATORY SITE WORK IS TO START SOON ON THE TIP PROJECT, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEA WALL TO ENCLOSE PART OF THE SEA AT SAN SHEK WAN.

THE TEAM, COMPRISING STAFF FROM THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, WILL CARRY OUT REGISTRATION ON BOARD A MARINE DEPARTMENT LAUNCH ANCHORED NEAR THE HONG KONG OXYGEN CO. LTD. AT PAK SHIN KOK, HANG HAU, BETWEEN 10 A.M.-1 P.M. AND 2 P.M.-4 P.M. DAILY FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY AND MARCH 19 TO 23.

+FISHERMEN ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER IN PERSON AND BRING WITH THEM THEIR VESSEL'S MARINE DEPARTMENT LICENCES, IDENTITY CARDS, CREW BOOKS AND FISH MARKET RECEIPTS,+ MR. BOSHER SAID.

+THEY WILL BE ASKED TO SIGN A DECLARATION VERIFYING THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE PRESENCE OF A WITNESS.+

HE SAID VESSELS EXCEEDING 50 FEET IN LENGTH AS SHOWN IN THE LICENCE BOOK AND THOSE NOT LICENSED AS A FISHING BOAT BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 28, 1978, WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION.

AFTER THE FISHERMEN HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED AND THEIR VESSELS INSPECTED, THEY WILL BE INFORMED OF THE AMOUNT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE PAYABLE TO THEM.

MR. BOSHER SAID THAT IN ORDER TO DETERMINE HOW FAR THE FISHERMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THE SCHEME, A DETAILED SURVEY ON THE FISHING ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE IN THE AREA AND THE AMOUNT AND VALUE OF FISH CAUGHT HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

+AS A RESULT, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO STREAMLINE THE PROCEDURES FOR PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES AND TO IDENTIFY IMPOSTERS MUCH MORE EASILY,+ HE ADDED.

NOTICES ON THE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN POSTED AT THE FISHING PORTS AT HANG HAU, LEI YUE MUN, YAU TONG WAN, TIU KENG WAN, TIN HA WAN, CHIK SHA WAN, SHAU KEI WAN AND CHAI WAN.

NO FISHERMEN WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REGISTRATION AFTER MARCH 23 THIS YEAR.

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FIRE HAZARDS UNDER CLOSE WATCH
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MEMBERS OF THE RECENTLY-FORMED FIRE WATCH PATROLS ARE NOW ON LOOKOUT POST DUTY IN THE EVENING IN SQUATTER AND RURAL VILLAGES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

THE PATROLS ARE VOLUNTARY BODIES FORMED UNDER THE FIRE WATCH SCHEME IN THE CURRENT FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN. IN THE INITIAL STAGE, IT IS DIRECTED MAINLY AT SQUATTER AND RURAL VILLAGES TO ELIMINATE THE DANGER OF FIRE OUTBREAKS IN THESE AREAS.

IN GENERAL, THE PATROLS COMPRISE LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO PATROL THEIR OWN AREAS ESPECIALLY DURING DRY SEASONS TO MONITOR CLOSELY THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO ELIMINATE FIRE HAZARDS AND OBSTRUCTIONS TO PASSAGEWAYS.

IF NECESSARY, THE PATROLS WILL REFER CASES TO THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE. THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO HELP THE TEAMS TO ORGANISE FIRE DRILLS AND TO IMPART PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

IN THE EVENT OF FIRE, THE TEAMS WILL REPORT PROMPTLY TO THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT. THEY ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR ALERTING THE RESIDENTS AND ASSISTING IN EVACUATION.

WHERE VILLAGES COVER A LARGE AREA, THE SCHEME WILL OPERATE ON A DIVISIONAL SYSTEM UNDER THE CO-ORDINATION OF A CENTRAL LEADERSHIP. THE TEAM LEADERS ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR DRAWING UP DUTY ROSTERS, AND MORE IMPORTANT, TO WORK OUT EMERGENCY MEASURES SUCH AS PLANNING FIRE ESCAPE ROUTES, INSTALLING FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND ALARM SYSTEMS.

APART FROM THE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE GIVEN BY THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES, THE PATROLS ALSO RECEIVED KEEN SUPPORT FROM THE FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY COMMITTEE WHICH HELPED TO EQUIP THE TEAMS WITH GONGS, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND OTHER FIRE-FIGHTING APPARATUS.

IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR COMMITMENT, THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO ASSIGNED FIRE OFFICERS TO VISIT THE VILLAGES AND SQUATTER AREAS TO BRIEF THE RESIDENTS ON GENERAL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AND DEMONSTRATE THE PROPER USE OF FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.

+THE JOINT EFFORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PUBLIC ADDS A NEW DIMENSION TO OUR FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

+NOW THAT THE FIRE WATCH SCHEME HAS GOT OFF TO A GOOD START, WE HOPE IT WILL GRADUALLY BE EXTENDED TO OTHER AREAS AS WELL AS TO MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS. I BELIEVE EVENTUALLY THIS CONCERTED EFFORT WILL HELP TO CURB THE UNNECESSARY LOSS OF PROPERTY AND LIVES DUE TO FIRE.+

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OLD PEOPLE'S HOSTEL OPENED
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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SOCIAL WORK), MRS. EVELYN DOE TODAY (SATURDAY) OFFICIALLY OPENED A \$600,000 OLD PEOPLE'S HOSTEL IN TSUEN WAN THAT CONSIDERABLY INCREASES HONG KONG'S RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES FOR THE AGED.

THE HOSTEL, IN KWAI SHING ESTATE, HAS A CAPACITY FOR 149 AND IS THE FIRST TO BE RUN BY THE CHINESE RHENISH CHURCH HONG KONG SYNOD.

MRS. DOE SAID AT THE OPENING CEREMONY THAT WITH EXISTING OLD PEOPLE'S HOSTEL SPACES TOTALLING ABOUT 700, THE NEW HOSTEL PROJECT WAS PARTICULARLY WELCOME AS IT WILL BENEFIT MORE AGED PEOPLE.

+IT IS GRATIFYING TO LEARN THAT THE CHINESE RHENISH CHURCH PLANS TO OPEN A SECOND OLD PEOPLE'S HOSTEL IN SHA KOK ESTATE AS WELL AS ANOTHER CENTRE FOR THE AGED IN WO CHE ESTATE, BOTH IN SHA TIN,+ SHE SAID.

AT THE SAME TIME, SHE SAID, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING RECOMMENDING THE ALLOCATION OF PREMISES FOR THE RHENISH CHURCH TO OPERATE TWO MORE HOSTELS FOR THE AGED --- IN MUI WO ESTATE ON CHEUNG CHAU AND SHUI PIN WAI ESTATE IN YUEN LONG.

MRS. DOE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE RHENISH CHURCH FOR ITS OUTSTANDING WORK IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF WELFARE SERVICES.

APART FROM AN OLD PEOPLE'S CENTRE ALREADY IN OPERATION IN WONG CHUK HANG, SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE RHENISH CHURCH INCLUDE SCHOOLS, NURSERIES, CLINICS AND CHILDREN'S CLUBS.

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CROSS-COUNTRY RACES
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OVER 700 YOUTHS, STUDENTS AND WORKERS IN KWUN TONG AND SOUTHERN DISTRICTS WILL TAKE PART IN TWO SEPARATE CROSS-COUNTRY RACES TOMORROW (SUNDAY) MORNING.

THE RACES ARE ORGANISED BY THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICES IN THESE TWO DISTRICTS AND OTHER DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

BOTH RACES ARE GRADED INTO ADULTS, YOUTH AND WOMEN GROUPS.

THE RACE IN KWUN TONG WILL START AT 9 A.M. IN JUNK BAY ROAD (OPPOSITE THE KWUN TONG POLICE STATION), SAU MAU PING ROAD, HIP WO STREET, TSUI PING ROAD AND BACK TO THE STARTING POINT COVERING A DISTANCE OF ABOUT 5,300 METRES.

/THE RACE

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THE RACE IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT STARTS AT 10 A.M. AT PITCH NO. 1, ABERDEEN SPORTS GROUND, WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, OCEAN PARK ROAD, POLICE SCHOOL ROAD, NAM LONG SHAN ROAD AND BACK TO THE ABERDEEN SPORTS GROUND. THE JOURNEY IS ABOUT 4,000 METRES.

THE FIRST 10 OF EACH GROUP TO FINISH THE RACE WILL BE PRESENTED WITH MEDALS WHILE THE REST WILL RECEIVE SOUVENIRS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE TWO CROSS-COUNTRY RACES IN KWUN TONG, JUNK BAY ROAD (OPPOSITE KWUN TONG POLICE STATION) AT 9 A.M. ON SUNDAY AND AT ABERDEEN SPORTS GROUND AT 10 A.M. THE SAME DAY.

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**KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE TO CELEBRATE 15TH ANNIVERSARY

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE IS ORGANISING A CARNIVAL FOR 1,000 CHILDREN OF THE DISTRICT TOMORROW (SUNDAY) MORNING TO CELEBRATE ITS 15TH ANNIVERSARY.

THE DEPARTMENT'S REGIONAL OFFICER FOR EAST KOWLOON, MR. T.P. KHOO WILL BE AMONG THE GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE CELEBRATION.

THE HONOURABLE WONG LAM, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF THE ANNIVERSARY CUP BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, YOUTH DEBATE COMPETITION, CHILDREN STORY-TELLING COMPETITION AND FAMILY GAMES COMPETITION.

MR. WONG WILL ALSO CUT THE RIBBON TO MARK THE BEGINNING OF THE CARNIVAL WHICH INCLUDES MORE THAN 20 GAMES STALLS.

THE CARNIVAL, TO BE HELD IN THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE BASKETBALL COURT, IS ORGANISED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CENTRE MEMBER'S COUNCIL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT THE CENTRE IN 17 TSUI PING ROAD, KWUN TONG.

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FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON FIVE DAYS NEXT WEEK.

THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF PRACTICE.

THERE ARE A FEW CHANGES IN THE PRACTISING TIMES PUBLISHED LAST MONTH. THE NEW SCHEDULE IS:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
MARCH 12 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
MARCH 13 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
MARCH 14 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 11 P.M.
MARCH 15 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 10 P.M.
MARCH 16 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

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REMOVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SECTION
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THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SECTION OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE WILL MOVE FROM THE UN CHAU STREET GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO 11TH FLOOR, SUI SING BUILDING, 202-204 CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, KOWLOON ON FRIDAY, MARCH 16.

THE GENERAL OFFICE TELEPHONE WILL BE 3-786986.

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