



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1976

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MILITARY HOSPITAL FOR CIVILIAN USE
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MEDICAL FACILITIES AT THE BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE FIRST TIME FOR CIVILIAN USE FROM NEXT MONDAY, MARCH 15.

THIS FOLLOWS AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BRITISH MILITARY AUTHORITY ON A SCHEME UNDER WHICH GOVERNMENT DOCTORS COULD REFER PATIENTS TO THE BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT.

UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, THE MILITARY AUTHORITY IS TO SET ASIDE 62 BEDS FOR PATIENTS REFERRED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT; THE COST TO THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE ELEVEN POUNDS STERLING PER BED PER DAY. THE SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO COST THE GOVERNMENT SOME HK\$2 MILLION A YEAR ON THE BASIS OF 75 PER CENT OCCUPANCY OF THE 62 BEDS.

THE BEDS BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE OF THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED CUTS IN THE GARRISON. THE AGREEMENT ENABLES THE 200-BED BMH TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE FULL FACILITIES FOR WHICH IT WAS DESIGNED AT AN ECONOMICAL COST, AT THE SAME TIME MAKING A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S HEALTH SERVICE.

NO SPECIFIC BEDS ARE TO BE ALLOTTED FOR CIVILIAN PATIENTS, WHO WILL BE FITTED INTO WARDS ACCORDING TO MEDICAL NEEDS: ALL PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL WILL BE TREATED BY SERVICE MEDICAL OFFICERS. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NO DIFFERENT CLASSES OF WARDS IN THE BMH, IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO USE THE 62 BEDS AS 1ST AND 2ND CLASS BEDS.

AS PART OF THE DEAL, THE HOSPITAL'S LABORATORY ACCOMMODATION WILL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR USE BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT. THE EXISTING CLINICAL PATHOLOGY UNIT AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL IS CRAMPED AND EXTRA SPACE IS NEEDED TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE UNIT.

THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES PLANS TO USE THE ACCOMMODATION AT THE BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL TO ESTABLISH A BIOCHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT BY TRANSFERRING PART OF THE EQUIPMENT AND STAFF OF THE BIOCHEMISTRY UNIT AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL.

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FIVE MORE H.K. PRODUCTS GET DUTY-FREE ENTRY INTO U.S.
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FIVE MORE HONG KONG PRODUCTS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE LIST OF LOCALLY-MADE GOODS WHICH QUALIFY FOR DUTY-FREE ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THAT COUNTRY'S GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES.

THESE ARE:

- * MARCASITES, CUT BUT NOT SET AND SUITABLE FOR USE IN THE MANUFACTURE OF JEWELRY-
- * THUMB TACKS, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED-
- * COPPER CHAINS AND PARTS THEREOF, OF BASE METAL, NOT COATED OR PLATED WITH PRECIOUS METAL-
- * ARTICLES OF BASE METAL, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED, COATED OR PLATED WITH PLATINUM-
- * TOOTH BRUSHES

A COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THESE PRODUCTS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE LIST BECAUSE THEIR 1974 EXPORT LEVELS WERE OVER THE LIMITS WHICH QUALIFY THEM FOR DUTY-FREE STATUS.

THE TSUSA (TARIFF SCHEDULE U.S. ANOTATED) NUMBERS OF THE FIVE PRODUCTS CONCERNED ARE: 520.37= 646.06= 652.36= 656.20= 750.40.

DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN D C AND I CIRCULAR NO. 3/76 WHICH THE DEPARTMENT SENT OUT YESTERDAY (MARCH 11, 1976.)

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE ACCEPTING, WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, APPLICATIONS FOR FORMS A IN RESPECT OF THE FIVE PRODUCTS.

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SHA TIN LAND SALE: TENDER DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE

COPIES OF A TENDER DOCUMENT OUTLINING THE CONDITIONS OF SALE OF AN AREA OF SEABED TOTALLING 20 ACRES TO BE RECLAIMED FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN ARE NOW AVAILABLE.

THEY CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION OR THE DISTRICT OFFICE, SHA TIN AT \$50 A COPY.

THE DOCUMENT INCLUDES A TECHNICAL SCHEDULE AND DRAWINGS.

THE SITE IS AT YUEN CHAU KOK, A WELL-KNOWN LANDMARK IN SHA TIN COVE. KEEN INTEREST IS EXPECTED TO BE SHOWN IN IT, A NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY, DESPITE A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$65 MILLION TO BE FULFILLED BY THE END OF DECEMBER, 1982 AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR A CHEQUE FOR \$10 MILLION TO ACCOMPANY EACH TENDER.

THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER WILL BE ABLE TO PAY FOR THE LOT IN FULL ON DEMAND OR BY NINE ANNUAL INSTALMENTS, INCLUDING INTEREST AT TEN PER CENT PER ANNUM.

HE WILL BE REQUIRED TO RECLAIM ABOUT 20 ACRES WITHIN 30 MONTHS, HANDING BACK NINE ACRES TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR BUILDING ROADS AND PROVIDING OPEN SPACES. HE WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO BUILD ROADS, SEWERS, A SEAWALL AND DRAINS.

TENDERS ARE TO BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE MAIN WING OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND THE CLOSING DATE IS MAY 7.

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5TH WARMEST FEBRUARY ON RECORD

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LAST MONTH WAS THE FIFTH WARMEST FEBRUARY SINCE RECORDS BEGAN IN 1884, ACCORDING TO THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

LIKE JANUARY, FEBRUARY HAD MEAN TEMPERATURES ABOVE NORMAL AND THE WARM AND SUNNY WEATHER OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH CONTINUED UNTIL THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH WHEN A COLD FRONT PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG.

THE MEAN TEMPERATURE WAS 17.6 DEGREES CELSIUS AND THE MEAN MAXIMUM WAS 20.7 DEGREES. TAKEN TOGETHER, THE MEAN TEMPERATURE FOR THE TWO MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY WAS 1.3 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL.

HOWEVER BECAUSE OF THE EXTREMELY COLD SPELL IN MID-DECEMBER, THE MEAN TEMPERATURE FOR THE THREE WINTER MONTHS WAS 15.9 DEGREES CELSIUS, WHICH IS VERY CLOSE TO THE NORMAL OF 16 DEGREES CELSIUS.

AGAIN LIKE JANUARY, FEBRUARY WAS MUCH DRIER THAN USUAL AND FIRE DANGER WARNINGS WERE IN FORCE FOR 22 DAYS.

THE STRONG MONSOON SIGNAL WAS HOISTED FIVE TIMES AND THIS IS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF OCCASIONS IN ANY FEBRUARY SINCE 1957.

WIDESPREAD FOG WAS REPORTED OVER HONG KONG AND ALONG THE SOUTH CHINA COAST BETWEEN FEBRUARY 14 AND 18. DURING THIS PERIOD, VISIBILITY WAS REDUCED TO 100 METRES AT WAGLAN ISLAND AND 150 METRES AT CHEUNG CHAU. ONE SHIP WENT AGROUND AT LEI YUE MUN CHANNEL AND FOUR OTHER SHIPS WERE INVOLVED IN COLLISIONS.

AN UNUSUAL PHENOMENON OCCURRED DURING THE MONTH. +YELLOW RAIN+ WAS REPORTED OVER HONG KONG ON FEBRUARY 25 AND 26. THIS WAS PROBABLY DUE TO THE POLLEN FROM PINE TREES WASHED DOWN BY THE RAIN.

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TECHNICAL COURSES TO SUIT INDUSTRY'S NEEDS
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IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION SYSTEM PROVIDES COURSES SUITED TO MEET THE CURRENT NEEDS OF INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE, MR. JOHN MARDEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WHELOCK MARDEN AND CO. LTD., SAID TODAY.

THE SYSTEM, HE SAID, MUST ALSO BE ABLE TO +KEEP ABREAST OF THE RAPIDLY CHANGING TECHNIQUES REQUIRED FOR NEW PRODUCTS IN ORDER TO ENABLE HONG KONG TO KEEP ITS LEAD IN THE HIGHLY COMPETITIVE BUSINESS WORLD.+

MR. MARDEN WAS ADDRESSING THE GATHERING AT THE FIRST SPEECH DAY OF THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE IN THE THEATRE OF THE CITY HALL.

+WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AT ALL LEVELS, WHICH IS ONLY JUST GETTING INTO ITS STRIDE IN HONG KONG, THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT THERE IS AN ON-GOING AND CONTINUING NEED FOR A TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW CONSTRUCTING A NEW INDUSTRIAL ESTATE NEAR TAI PO FOR THE PURPOSE OF ATTRACTING ENGINEERING BASED INDUSTRIES TO HONG KONG.

MR. MARDEN SAID : +THESE ARE THE FACTORIES THAT YOU AT THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE WILL BE TRAINING THE WORKERS FOR AT ALL LEVELS, WHO WILL HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM ALL THE VARIOUS SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION SYSTEM.+

THE COLLEGE, ESTABLISHED IN 1974, IS OPERATING IN TEMPORARY PREMISES IN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST. IT WILL TAKE OVER THE BUILDINGS OF THE VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL WHEN THE SCHOOL IS REHOUSED.

MR. MARDEN SAID THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE WOULD THEN HAVE MUCH BETTER AND ENLARGED FACILITIES FOR THE IMPORTANT WORK OF TRAINING TECHNICAL TEACHERS.

HE CONGRATULATED THE 165 GRADUATES, WHO LEFT THE COLLEGE TO TAKE UP THEIR CAREERS LAST JUNE.

MR. MARDEN POINTED OUT THAT OVER 300 NEW TECHNICAL TEACHERS WOULD BE NEEDED BY 1978.

IN HIS OPENING REMARKS, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL), MR. ANDREW KINGWELL, SAID : +THE QUALITY OF THE GRADUATES OF THIS COLLEGE WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE SKILL OF OUR FUTURE TECHNICIANS AND CRAFTSMEN.

/+SKILLED

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+SKILLED CRAFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS PRODUCE HIGH QUALITY GOODS. IT IS UPON THE QUALITY OF OUR MERCHANDISE THAT THE FUTURE PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG WILL PROGRESS.+

MR. KINGWELL STRESSED THAT THE MAIN THRUST FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION WAS TAKING PLACE IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

HE SAID THAT A TEN-YEAR TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME, WHICH WAS BEING PROPOSED, WOULD MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADEQUATE FACILITIES FOR TECHNICAL TEACHERS.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR SAID THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE MUST BE SOMETHING MORE THAN A PLACE WHERE NEW TEACHERS WERE PROCESSED. IT SHOULD ALSO BE A TECHNICAL TEACHERS' CENTRE -- A PLACE OF INSPIRATION, INNOVATION AND INTEGRATION, FOR ALL SERVING AND ASPIRING TECHNICAL TEACHERS.

MR. KINGWELL EMPHASISED THE NEED FOR A PERMANENT HOME FOR THE COLLEGE SINCE IT WAS ALREADY OUTGROWING ITS PRESENT TEMPORARY PREMISES.

IN HIS REPORT, THE PRINCIPAL OF THE COLLEGE, MR. PETER SMITH, SAID : +THE COLLEGE EXISTS TO TRAIN TEACHERS OF TECHNICAL SUBJECTS AND TO TRAIN INSTRUCTORS FOR INDUSTRY.+

HE SAID THE COLLEGE ASSISTED THE POLYTECHNIC TO MOUNT ITS FIRST STAFF TRAINING COURSE LAST AUGUST.

THE COLLEGE ALSO RAN AN IN-PLANT COURSE FOR THE INSTRUCTORS OF THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY.

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FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE ON CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 10 DAYS IN THE SECOND HALF OF THIS MONTH.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

MARCH 16 (TUESDAY)
MARCH 17 (WEDNESDAY) 9.00 A.M. - 4 P.M. AND 8.00 P.M. - 10 P.M.
MARCH 18 (THURSDAY)

MARCH 22 (MONDAY)
MARCH 23 (TUESDAY)
MARCH 24 (WEDNESDAY) 8.00 A.M. - 5 P.M.
MARCH 25 (THURSDAY)
MARCH 26 (FRIDAY)

MARCH 29 (MONDAY) 8.00 A.M. - 4 P.M.
MARCH 30 (TUESDAY)

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GOVERNOR TO RETURN TO U.K. FOR CONSULTATIONS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL RETURN TO U.K. ON 27TH MARCH FOR ROUTINE CONSULTATIONS WITH MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS. WHILST SIR MURRAY IS IN LONDON HE WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF BRIEFING THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS PRIOR TO HIS VISIT TO HONG KONG IN MAY.

THE GOVERNOR WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON 4TH APRIL.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Friday, March 12, 1976

HAMMER HILL ROAD ESTATE
BUILDING WORK TO START IN MAY

Building work on the Hammer Hill Road Estate, which will eventually provide homes for 10,000 people, is to start in May.

The Housing Authority is today (Friday) inviting tenders for the building of three domestic blocks and a commercial complex.

Piling work on these structures have already been completed. Two of the domestic blocks will be of 20 storeys and the other of seven storeys while the commercial complex will be three storeys high.

There will be about 1,580 flats of the current Housing Authority type, each with its own private balcony, kitchen and toilet with shower. Flat sizes will range from 171 square feet to 356 square feet.

The estate will have a number of shops, market stalls and workshops, a kindergarten with six classrooms and a 24-classroom primary school.

There will be car parks and an estate garage for over 200 vehicles as well as ample open space, totalling 1.5 acres, for recreational purposes.

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REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ANNOUNCED

The Hong Kong Housing Authority is to begin redevelopment of overcrowded housing estates in the Chai Wan district this year.

This was announced today by Mr. Brook Bernacchi, a member of the Housing Authority, at the official opening of a public exhibition "The Changing Face of Chai Wan", at the district's community centre.

Mr. Bernacchi said: "The Housing Authority proposes this year to commence the redevelopment of the Chai Wan (West) Estate as part of its comprehensive long-term programme for the modernisation of all Mark I and Mark II estates in Hong Kong. Details of this particular scheme will be announced shortly by the Housing Department."

Mr. Bernacchi also said: "As a reflection of the growth of Chai Wan it is worth noting that between 1966 and 1976 the population of the district increased from 68,000 to 104,000 persons and that nearly 80 per cent of the population now lives in public housing.

"It must be admitted that the first public housing in the form of cottage areas and six storey Mark I & II resettlement blocks is, by modern standards, now most unsatisfactory. It must also be acknowledged that overcrowding is a problem of significant proportions.

"It must be recognised that step by step there has been a progression towards the creation of a better environment in Chai Wan brought about by the concerted efforts of the Housing Authority, the Urban Council, various Government departments, local community associations, welfare agencies and private developers. Symbolic of this progress is the recently completed Hing Wah estate which is now being occupied by families for whom

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the hope of decent accommodation has been a long-cherished ambition. Such families came from squalid squatter areas, tenement buildings, overcrowded public housing estates, licensed areas, old resettlement blocks and the like," he said.

The exhibition has been organised by the Housing Department and the City District Office (Eastern), and includes sections on the present Chai Wan, Chai Wan in the future, work of the Social Welfare Department, Medical and Health Department, Police, Fire Services and the Housing Department's redevelopment programme in Hong Kong.

A special feature of the exhibition is a life-size "mock-up" model of a typical seven-person flat in the recently completed Hing Wah Estate (Stage II), which now towers over the old Chai Wan. The model is fully furnished and gives prospective tenants an idea of living conditions at Hing Wah (Stage II).

Also at the exhibition are video-tape film shows of various problems in Hong Kong, including housing, social welfare, crime and pollution

For lighter entertainment during the 4½ - day exhibition there will be a junior police call variety show, a karate demonstration, the Cape Collinson Band and several other displays.

At the opening ceremony Mr. Bernard Williams, Deputy Director (Operations), Hong Kong Housing Department, presented prizes to the winners of a school-children's painting competition which has been run in conjunction with the exhibition.