



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1978

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR OPENS SPORTS CLUBHOUSE AT YUEN LONG .....	1
RENT OFFICER SCHEME .....	3
WEATHER SUMMARY FOR MARCH .....	4
20 STAFF MEMBERS OF SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT RETIRING .....	5

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1978

- 1 -

GOVERNOR OPENS \$4 MILLION YUEN LONG SPORTS CLUB  
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID TODAY THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES IS TO ENCOURAGE THROUGH PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-CONTAINED TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES, PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND MEETING ALL OTHER SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL NEEDS.

SIR MURRAY WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE \$4 MILLION YUEN LONG DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION CLUBHOUSE AT TAI YUK ROAD.

+YUEN LONG IS TYPICAL. WORK HAS STARTED ON THE SHUI PIN WAI ESTATE, WHICH WILL HOUSE 11,000 PEOPLE BY 1981.

+THE RUNNING TRACK AT THE STADIUM HAS ALREADY BEEN REPLACED AND THE YUEN LONG SWIMMING POOL WILL OPEN IN 1980.

+PLANS FOR ANOTHER PRIMARY SCHOOL, TWO SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND A MARKET ARE WELL ADVANCED= AN EXTENSIVE INDUSTRIAL AREA IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A FURTHER INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

SIR MURRAY ADDED THAT DEVELOPMENT ON THE SAME SCALE WAS ALSO UNDERWAY AT SHEUNG SHUI AND TAI PO.

SIR MURRAY EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF RESIDENTS BEING ASSOCIATED WITH THESE RAPID PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENTS BEING PUSHED FORWARD IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+TO THIS END THERE ARE NOW ADVISORY BOARDS IN EACH OF THE DISTRICTS, TO BRING TOGETHER AND BUILD ON THE COMBINED EXPERIENCE AND ENTHUSIASM OF LOCAL LEADERS, OLD AND NEW, REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

IN YUEN LONG, THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD HAS ALREADY VOTED A TOTAL OF \$415,000 FOR CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS PROJECTS IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR AND \$85,000 FOR MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING RENOVATION OF LOCAL PLAYGROUNDS.

SIR MURRAY SAID: +THE INDICATION THAT ABOUT DOUBLE THIS YEAR'S ALLOCATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO REALISE THE AMBITIONS OF THE BOARD IN THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR IS IN ITSELF A TRIBUTE TO THE HIGHLY DEVELOPED SENSE OF LOCAL INVOLVEMENT AND COMMITMENT THAT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF YUEN LONG.+

/THE GOVERNOR .....

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1978

- 2 -

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE NEW TERRITORIES HAD ENTERED A PERIOD OF DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE, POSING A CHALLENGE TO BOTH PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT. +I AM CONVINCED THAT THE RESIDENTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES THEMSELVES, BY THEIR COOPERATION, GOODWILL AND SOUND ADVICE, THEIR CAPACITY FOR INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE, WILL ENABLE THE CHALLENGE TO BE MET IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY -- THAT IS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND THEIR GOVERNMENT.+

SIR MURRAY, WHO FOUR YEARS AGO LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE CLUBHOUSE, TODAY UNVEILED A PLAQUE OF THE CLUBHOUSE TO OFFICIALLY OPEN IT.

SIR MURRAY POINTED OUT THAT THE CLUBHOUSE WAS THE FIRST FACILITY OF ITS KIND TO BE BUILT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND PRAISED LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS FOR REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT.

EARLIER, THE ASSOCIATION'S CHAIRMAN, MR. WONG CHUNG-CHUEN, IN WELCOMING SIR MURRAY, SAID THE OPENING OF THE CLUBHOUSE WOULD FURTHER HELP TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN YUEN LONG.

HE STRESSED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE FACILITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CARRY OUT THEIR SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

MR. WONG THANKED THE GOVERNMENT FOR HAVING ALLOCATED 7,000 SQUARE FEET OF LAND FOR THE CLUBHOUSE AND A GRANT OF \$500,000 TOWARDS ITS COSTS.

MR. WONG ALSO THANKED THE ASSOCIATION'S LATE PRESIDENT MR. CHIU LUT-SAU AND MRS. CHEUNG WONG SIU-CHING FOR THEIR DONATION OF \$500,000 EACH.

HE SAID THE CLUBHOUSE WAS BUILT WITH DONATIONS FROM COMMUNITY LEADERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

THE NEW SIX-STOREY CLUBHOUSE HAS A CONFERENCE ROOM, OFFICES AND A CANTEEN ON THE GROUND FLOOR. THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS HOUSE A BOWLING CENTRE AND THE THIRD FLOOR HAS TABLE TENNIS AND BILLIARD ROOMS.

THE FOURTH FLOOR HAS A GYMNASIUM AND BADMINTON COURTS, WHILE THE FIFTH FLOOR HOUSES THE DORMITORY FOR THE ASSOCIATION'S FOOTBALL TEAM.

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MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1978

- 3 -

### RENT OFFICER SCHEME

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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT TODAY INTRODUCED A RENT OFFICER SCHEME TO HELP MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH MATTERS RELATED TO LANDLORD AND TENANT LEGISLATION.

A NUMBER OF PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL OFFICERS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AS RENT OFFICERS IN A RE-ORGANISATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S RENT CONTROL DIVISION.

COMMENTING ON THE RENT OFFICER SCHEME, THE COMMISSIONER, MR. R.A. FRY, SAID THAT RENT OFFICERS ARE ABLE TO EXPLAIN THE PROVISIONS OF THE LEGISLATION TO THE PUBLIC AND WILL ASSIST THEM IN COMPLETING APPLICATION FORMS AND WITH PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE LEGISLATION.

RENT OFFICERS ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR MEASURING PRE-WAR BUILDINGS AFFECTED BY EXCLUSION ORDER PROCEEDINGS AND HELP TO ENSURE THAT TENANTS' RIGHTS TO COMPENSATION ARE PRESERVED. PRE-WAR BUILDINGS DECLARED DANGEROUS ARE ALSO MEASURED FOR SIMILAR PURPOSES AND RENT OFFICERS ARRANGE FOR THE OCCUPIERS TO RECEIVE ADVANCE PAYMENTS OF COMPENSATION.

MR. FRY EXPLAINED THAT RENT OFFICERS ARE NOT QUALIFIED TO GIVE LEGAL ADVICE, BUT WILL EXPLAIN PROCEDURES UNDER THE LEGISLATION AND WILL ASSIST WITH INDIVIDUAL PROBLEMS.

AN IMPORTANT FEATURE OF THE RENT OFFICER SCHEME IS THE EXTENSION OF THE SERVICE INTO CERTAIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AT FIXED TIMES EACH WEEK TO PROVIDE A PERSONAL SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS HAS ARRANGED FOR RENT OFFICERS TO ATTEND CITY DISTRICT OFFICES ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS: CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICES - TUESDAYS= SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE - WEDNESDAYS= EASTERN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE - THURSDAYS= WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE - FRIDAYS.

THIS SERVICE IS INTENDED TO MEET THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF THE AGED AND INFIRM AND WILL GENERALLY PROVIDE AN IMPROVED SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE FOR RENT OFFICERS TO ASSIST AT DISTRICT OFFICES AND TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHENEVER REQUIRED.

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MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1978

- 4 -

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR MARCH

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LAST MONTH (MARCH) WAS DAMP AND GLOOMY WITH ONLY 21.7 HOURS OF SUNSHINE -- THE LOWEST FIGURE EVER REGISTERED FOR MARCH SINCE RECORDS BEGAN 94 YEARS AGO.

ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY PUBLISHED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY, IT WAS ALSO THE FOGGIEST MARCH SINCE 1958.

WAGLAN ISLAND REPORTED FOGGY CONDITIONS ON 14 DAYS AND THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SIX, WHILE THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH FOG IN MARCH OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS HAS BEEN 5.9 AND 1.7 RESPECTIVELY.

THE MONTH WAS ALSO MUCH WETTER AND CLOUDIER THAN USUAL.

DURING MARCH THERE WERE 20 DAYS WITH MEASURABLE RAIN AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND THE TOTAL RAINFALL AMOUNTED TO 143.8 MM, NEARLY THREE TIMES THE NORMAL AMOUNT.

THE ACCUMULATED RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR IS 182.9 MM OR 60.2 MM ABOVE AVERAGE.

THE MEAN CLOUDINESS OF 95 PER CENT IS THE FOURTH HIGHEST AND THE MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF 90 PER CENT THE SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR MARCH.

BECAUSE OF THE WET AND HUMID CONDITIONS ONLY ONE FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS ISSUED.

DURING THE MONTH 46 AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS.

THE BEGINNING OF MARCH WAS MILD AND CLOUDY WITH FOG EXPERIENCED AT SEA ON MARCH 4 BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF A COLD FRONT LATER IN THAT AFTERNOON.

THE PASSAGE OF THE COLD FRONT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THUNDERSTORMS AND CONDITIONS BECAME RAINY AND SLIGHTLY COOLER.

HOWEVER, AS THE ANTICYCLONE OVER CHINA MOVED EASTWARD, A WARM AND HUMID AIRSTREAM BEGAN TO AFFECT HONG KONG AND CAUSED WIDESPREAD FOG FROM MARCH 7 UNTIL THE PASSAGE OF ANOTHER COLD FRONT TWO DAYS LATER.

THUNDERSTORMS WERE AGAIN REPORTED ON THE MORNINGS OF MARCH 9 AND 10 WITH WINDS FRESHENED RAPIDLY FROM THE EAST ON THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 12.

CONDITIONS WERE COOL BUT LESS HUMID FROM MARCH 10 TO 19 BUT REMAINED CLOUDY WITH RAIN AT TIMES.

MIST, WITH FOG AT SEA, WAS AGAIN EXPERIENCED ON MARCH 20 AND 21. HOWEVER, THIS CLEARED WITH THE ARRIVAL OF AN INTENSE COLD FRONT ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 21.

/TEMPERATURE .....

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1978

- 5 -

TEMPERATURE DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY AND ON THE EARLY MORNING OF MARCH 24 A MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 11.2 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED, THE LOWEST IN THE MONTH.

TEMPERATURE ROSE GRADUALLY AND CONDITIONS BECAME INCREASINGLY HUMID WITH WIDESPREAD FOG FROM MARCH 26 UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH.

DURING THIS PERIOD VISIBILITY DROPPED TO A VERY LOW LEVEL AND SEA AND AIR TRAFFIC WERE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED.

TWO SHIP COLLISIONS WERE REPORTED ON THE EVENINGS OF MARCH 27 AND 28 WITH MANY FERRIES DELAYED. MANY SCHEDULED FLIGHTS WERE ALSO DELAYED OR DIVERTED.

ON THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 31, TEMPERATURE ROSE TO A MAXIMUM OF 26.7 DEGREES CELSIUS WHICH WAS THE HIGHEST IN THE MONTH.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

#### RETIREMENT OF SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT STAFF

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TWENTY STAFF OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL SOON RETIRE AFTER SERVING AN AVERAGE OF 28 YEARS IN THE GOVERNMENT.

THEY INCLUDE ONE SENIOR FOREMAN, ONE CHARGEHAND AND 18 ARTISANS, WHOSE LENGTH OF SERVICES RANGE FROM 20 TO 44 YEARS.

TO MARK THEIR RETIREMENT, THE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES, MR. FREDERICK YOUNG, WILL PRESENT GIFTS TO THEM ON BEHALF OF HIS COLLEAGUES AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD IN THE CANTEEN OF THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS, TOP FLOOR, OIL STREET, NORTH POINT, AT 4 P.M. ON THURSDAY (APRIL 13).

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

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# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT

Monday, April 10, 1978

## GOVERNOR OPENS YUEN LONG DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION CLUBHOUSE

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The following is the full text of speech by the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, at the official opening of the Yuen Long District Sports Association Clubhouse, today :

It gives me great pleasure to return here today to open your Association's Clubhouse.

In many ways you, and your Association, are breaking new ground both for yourselves and for the New Territories - this is the largest project you have ever undertaken, and this is the first facility of its kind to be built in the New Territories. That such an achievement has been realized largely from within the resources of the Yuen Long community is remarkable. All those associated with this achievement deserve our congratulations.

Your Government's policy here, and in the rest of the New Territories, is to encourage through public expenditure and through private investment the development of self-contained towns and communities, providing employment, education and meeting all other social and recreation needs.

/Yuen Long .....

Yuen Long is typical. Work has started on the Shui Pin Wai estate, which will house 11,000 people by 1981; the running track at the stadium has already been replaced and the Yuen Long swimming pool will open in 1980; plans for another primary school, two secondary schools and a market are well advanced; an extensive industrial area is under construction and will be followed by a further Industrial Estate. Development on the same scale is also underway at Sheung Shui and Tai Po.

If these rapid physical development that are being pushed forward in the New Territories are to be acceptable to the residents, the residents must be associated with them. To this end there are now Advisory Boards in each of the Districts, to bring together and build on the combined experience and enthusiasm of local leaders, old and new, representative organisations and government officials. In Yuen Long, I am gratified to hear that the District Advisory Board has already voted a total of \$415,000 for cultural, recreational and sports projects in this financial year, and \$85,000 for minor environmental improvements including renovation of local playgrounds. The indication that about double this year's allocation will be required to realize the ambitions of the Board in the coming financial year is in itself a tribute to the highly developed sense of local involvement and commitment that is characteristic of Yuen Long.

The New Territories have entered a period of dramatic development and change. This poses a challenge to both people and government. I am convinced that the residents of the New Territories themselves, by their cooperation, goodwill and sound advice, their capacity for innovation and enterprise, will enable the challenge to be met in the best possible way - that is through partnership between people and their government.

It is with great pleasure, Ladies and Gentlemen, that I declare the Yuen Long District Sports Association Clubhouse open.