



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
MAJOR REFORM WILL BRING ABOUT MUCH IMPROVED HOSPITAL SERVICE	1
SCHOLARSHIPS TO YOUNG MUSICIANS AND DANCERS	2
A MAN WITH A MISSION IN THE SKY	2
APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR NEW JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS	4
AFD'S WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET IN WESTERN	5
FIGHT CRIME FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT IN MONG KOK	6

MAJOR REFORM WILL BRING ABOUT MUCH IMPROVED HOSPITAL SERVICE

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THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT HONG KONG IS ABOUT TO EMBARK ON A MAJOR REFORM OF THE ENTIRE HOSPITAL SERVICE WHICH WILL BRING ABOUT A MUCH IMPROVED AND COST EFFECTIVE SERVICE FOR ITS PEOPLE.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 17TH CONGRESS OF THE CONFEDERATION OF MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS IN ASIA AND OCEANIA, SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG WAS CENTRALISING AND REFORMING THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS UNDER AN INDEPENDENT HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

"SUCH MAJOR CHANGES ARE NEVER EASY BUT WE ARE MOST ENCOURAGED BY PROGRESS SO FAR AND ALREADY IN THE FIRST FEW WEEKS 44 PER CENT OF THE 33,000 STAFF INVOLVED HAVE ELECTED TO TRANSFER TO THE TERMS OFFERED BY THE NEW HOSPITAL AUTHORITY," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO CONTINUE TO BUILD TO MEET THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR TREATMENT CLOSE TO WHERE THEY LIVE.

"THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL, A TEACHING HOSPITAL IN THE NEW TOWN OF SHA TIN, WAS OPENED IN 1984 AND TWO MAJOR NEW HOSPITALS WILL OPEN IN TWO YEARS.

"THE NEWEST HOSPITAL AT TUEN MUN WAS COMMISSIONED IN MARCH LAST YEAR. AND THE PAMELA YOUDE HOSPITAL AT THE EASTERN END OF HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE OPENED IN MID-1993," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT HONG KONG HAD MADE TREMENDOUS IMPROVEMENTS IN ITS MEDICAL CARE OVER THE PAST FEW DECADES, SIR DAVID SAID HERE THE LIFE EXPECTANCY WAS AMONG THE HIGHEST AND THE INFANT MORTALITY AMONG THE LOWEST IN THE WORLD.

AND, MANY CHILDHOOD COMMUNICABLE DISEASES SUCH AS DIPHTHERIA AND POLIOMYELITIS, COMMON IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, HAD BEEN COMPLETELY ERADICATED HERE, HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID PRAISED THE HONG KONG MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOR HOSTING THE CONGRESS WHICH PROVIDED AN IDEAL FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES IN THE MEDICAL FIELD.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1991

- 2 -

SCHOLARSHIPS TO YOUNG MUSICIANS AND DANCERS
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SIX TALENTED YOUNG MUSICIANS AND DANCERS WHO ACQUIRED SCHOLARSHIPS SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND HAVE RECENTLY FLOWN TO THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND BRITAIN TO FURTHER THEIR TRAINING IN MUSIC AND DANCE.

THE SIX PROTEGES ARE MISSES WONG KAR-YEE, YIP CHING AND KONG WAN-YI AND MESSRS CHAN NGAT-CHAU, MA CONG AND YONG HON-YUEN.

THEY WERE SELECTED FROM AMONG 36 CANDIDATES WHO HAD APPLIED FOR THE OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED BY THE MUSIC FUND FOR 1991-92 AFTER AN AUDITION TEST HELD EARLIER THIS YEAR.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP IS TO ENABLE EXCEPTIONALLY TALENTED YOUNG PEOPLE TO RECEIVE TRAINING IN POST DIPLOMA STUDIES AT FOREIGN INSTITUTES.

MISSES WONG KAR-YEE, YIP CHING AND MESSRS CHAN NGAT-CHAU AND MA CONG ARE NOW PURSUING THEIR MUSIC TRAINING COURSES IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA RESPECTIVELY WHILE MISS KONG WAN-YI AND MR YONG HON-YUEN ARE ATTENDING MODERN DANCE COURSES IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ESTABLISHED IN 1980 WITH A DONATION OF \$10 MILLION FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND IS A NON-STATUTORY TRUST FUND FOUNDED FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MUSIC, DANCE AND RELATED ACTIVITIES IN THE TERRITORY BY WAY OF GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS.

THE FUND IS ADMINISTERED BY A BOARD OF TRUSTEES. THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS IS NOW THE CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE OF THE FUND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFE KEEPING OF THE FUND'S ASSETS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE.

SINCE 1980, THE MUSIC FUND HAS AWARDED 52 MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS AND 18 DANCE SCHOLARSHIPS TO ENABLE 32 YOUNG MUSICIANS AND 13 DANCERS TO FURTHER THEIR TRAINING OVERSEAS.

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A MAN WITH A MISSION IN THE SKY
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CERI HARRIS IS NO STRANGER TO FLYING AN AIRCRAFT. WHAT STRIKES HIM EACH TIME HE WORKS IN THE SKY IS THE SPECIFIC KIND OF MISSION THE FLIGHT IS TASKED TO FULFIL.

THE 49-YEAR-OLD SENIOR PILOT OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE (RHKAAF) DOES NOT SEE HIS DUTY AS MERELY MASTERING A BEECH SUPER KING AIR FIXED WING AIRCRAFT OR A BRITTEN-NORMAN ISLANDER.

FOR HIM, FLYING IS A MEANS TO AN END. SINCE HE JOINED RHKAAF NINE YEARS AGO, HE HAS EXPERIENCED A REAL SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT THE MULTIFARIOUS JOB BRINGS TO HIM.

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"I HAVE BEEN FLYING ROUND THE WORLD SINCE 1965 WHEN I JOINED THE ROYAL AIR FORCE. THEN I CAME TO HONG KONG. AS I LOOK BACK, I HAVE NO REGRET AT ALL FOR MAKING THIS DECISION," MR HARRIS SAID.

TALKING ABOUT THE VARIETY OF HIS JOB, HE SAID IT TOUCHES ON MANY ASPECTS OF HUMAN LIFE, FROM TOWN PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY RESCUE WORK.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, HE AND FOUR OTHER PILOTS REGULARLY CARRY OUT AERIAL SURVEYS TO PROVIDE REFERENCE DATA TO HELP GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS MAKE THEIR DECISIONS.

"WE TAKE THREE-DIMENSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF LAND BOUNDARIES, DIFFERENT LANDSCAPES, ROADS AND BUILDINGS FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN, WEATHER FORECAST AND PLANNING OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECT," MR HARRIS SAID.

INFRARED PHOTOGRAPHS ARE ALSO TAKEN TO HELP DETERMINE THE LEVEL OF POLLUTION ON LAND AND ALONG COASTAL WATER, AS WELL AS FOR GEOLOGICAL AND FORESTRY STUDIES.

ANOTHER PURPOSE OF THE SURVEYS IS THE PRODUCTION OF THE POPULAR GUIDE BOOK, "HONG KONG GUIDE - STREETS AND PLACES", AND OTHER TOURIST GUIDES.

DESCRIBING THE SURVEY FLIGHT AS AN EXTREMELY TIRING JOB, HE SAID: "I CANNOT AFFORD TO RELAX FOR A MOMENT SO AS TO FLY EXACTLY ON THE SURVEY LINE. THIS MUST BE SO TO ENABLE THE LAND SURVEYOR TO TAKE 100 PER CENT ACCURATE MEASUREMENTS.

"I SOMETIMES FEEL EXHAUSTED AFTER THREE TO FIVE HOURS OF INTENSIVE CONCENTRATION ON THE FLIGHT, BUT ALL MY EFFORTS ARE WORTHWHILE IF IT IS A JOB WELL DONE," HE SAID.

WHILE THE AERIAL SURVEY CAN ONLY BE DONE IN A CLEAR BLUE SKY, THE PILOT CAN BE PUT TO TEST IN A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT KIND OF WEATHER.

AS HONG KONG IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CO-ORDINATION OF ALL MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS WITHIN 400,000 SQUARE MILES OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, RHKAAF HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS AREA.

IN AN EMERGENCY RESCUE OPERATION, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE WEATHER IS BAD, THE PILOTS MAY HAVE TO BATTLE AGAINST STRONG WINDS AND MAKE DO WITH LOW VISIBILITY TO SAVE LIVES.

THIS WAS SO IN THE OPERATION TO RESCUE CREWMEN FROM AN OIL BARGE WHICH SANK IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA LAST AUGUST.

"THAT IS THE LARGEST SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATION EVER MOUNTED IN HONG KONG. THE VERY BAD WEATHER MADE OUR WORK EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT.

"IT CAN BE QUITE DANGEROUS TO FLY IN SUCH WEATHER. BUT IN THE END WHEN WE SUCCESSFULLY RESCUED THE SURVIVORS, IT WAS HARD TO DESCRIBE THE SENSE OF SATISFACTION AND ACHIEVEMENT," HE SAID.

OTHER REGULAR TASKS OF THE PILOT INCLUDE OFFSHORE PATROLS TO DETECT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, AND A CARRIER SERVICE OFFERED TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FOR DIFFERENT DUTIES.

AS THE LONGEST SERVING PILOT AMONG HIS COLLEAGUES IN RHKAAF, MR HARRIS IS NOW PASSING ON HIS EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE TO 15 CADET PILOTS UNDER A TRAINING PROGRAMME STARTED A YEAR AGO.

IT IS HOPED THAT A TOTAL OF 30 CADET PILOTS WILL BE TRAINED TO STRENGTHEN THE FLYING CREW OF THE SQUADRON.

"IT IS IMPORTANT TO BRING IN NEW BLOOD TO THE FORCE TO PLACE IT IN A BETTER POSITION TO ADAPT TO HONG KONG'S CHANGING AND EXPANDING NEEDS," HE SAID.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR NEW JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS
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THE APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FOR JUVENILES BORN IN 1975 OR 1976 WHO ARE STILL HOLDING OLD-TYPE IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED BEFORE JULY 1, 1987 IS OCTOBER 19, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY).

PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN THIS AGE GROUP ARE REMINDED THAT THEY HAVE ONLY ONE MORE WEEK TO MAKE APPLICATIONS AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES.

THE OFFICE HOURS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE FROM 9 AM TO 6 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY, AND FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM ON SATURDAY.

"APPLICANTS MAY BOOK AN APPOINTMENT IN ADVANCE BY CALLING THE OFFICES OF THEIR CHOICE," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THEY MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE 24-HOUR RECORDED MESSAGE SERVICE BY DIALLING 824 0303 TO OBTAIN DETAILS OF THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ADULTS WHO HAVE MISSED THEIR SPECIFIED CARD RENEWAL PERIODS DUE TO ABSENCE FROM HONG KONG OR ANY OTHER REASONS SHOULD ALSO APPROACH ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

"THESE CASES WILL BE LOOKED INTO THOROUGHLY AND DEALT WITH ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERITS," HE SAID.

HE REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1991

- 5 -

AFD'S WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET IN WESTERN
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THE WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD), WHICH IS DUE TO COME INTO OPERATION SOON, IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE TERRITORY INTEGRATING FIVE DIFFERENT TRADES WITHIN A SINGLE MULTI-LEVEL COMPLEX.

THE MARKET IS DEVELOPED IN TWO PHASES. PHASE I INCLUDES A TWO-STOREY BUILDING PROVIDING TRADING FACILITIES FOR FRUIT, EGG AND FRESHWATER FISH WHILE PHASE II WILL PROVIDE STALL FACILITIES FOR THE WHOLESALE OF IMPORTED VEGETABLES AND POULTRY.

CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR PHASE I WAS COMPLETED IN AUGUST THIS YEAR WITH A BUILDING COST OF \$350 MILLION.

IT HAS A SITE AREA OF 4.2 HECTARES COMPRISING 254 MARKET STALLS, 191 LORRY PARKS AND 13 CONTAINER VEHICLE PARKS.

IN ADDITION, THE NEW MARKET HAS ALSO INCORPORATED SOME VERY MODERN AND EFFICIENT FACILITIES, INCLUDING AN OVERHEAD CONVEYOR SYSTEM FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING FISH WHICH IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

A PRESS TOUR WILL BE ORGANISED ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 14) AT 10.30 AM TO THE WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE WESTERN RECLAMATION ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO JOIN THE TOUR.

TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED AND WILL LEAVE AFD HEADQUARTERS, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON AT 9.30 AM ON MONDAY. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ON HONG KONG ISLAND CAN ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE LOWER BLOCK OF THE CITY HALL (OPPOSITE QUEEN'S PIER) AT 10 AM.

THOSE WHO WISH TO USE THEIR OWN TRANSPORT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE TEMPORARY WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET AT 10.30 AM.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1991

- 6 -

FIGHT CRIME FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT IN MONG KOK

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A MINIATURE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT TO DRIVE HOME THE ANTI-JUVENILE CRIME MESSAGE WILL BE HELD AT THE ANCHOR STREET PLAYGROUND IN TAI KOK TSUI TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AND ON OCTOBER 20.

IT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE URBAN COUNCIL WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

SIXTEEN LOCAL TEAMS WILL COMPETE IN MATCHES TO BE HELD ON THE TWO SUNDAYS.

A KICK-OFF CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 9 AM TOMORROW. THE OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE POLICE MONG KOK DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR JOHN HUI; AN URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR YIM KWOK-ON; ASSISTANT MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VINCENT FUNG; AND MONG KOK DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MRS TAM CHEUNG KIT-YING.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MONG KOK DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 9 AM TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT THE ANCHOR STREET PLAYGROUND, TAI KOK TSUI.

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