



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1977

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WORK TO BEGIN ON AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE

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WORK WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR SCHEME TO LINK AP LEI CHAU TO ABERDEEN, PAVING THE WAY FOR AN ERA OF RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL GROWTH ON THE FORMER FISHING ISLAND.

A \$32 MILLION CONTRACT WAS SIGNED AT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS THIS AFTERNOON FOR THE MAJOR WORKS IN THE SCHEME.

THE CONTRACT, AWARDED TO GAMMON (HK) LTD., IS FOR THE AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE AND ITS NORTHERN ROAD CONNECTIONS.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY ENGINEER, MR. S. BARDEN, SAID AT THE CONTRACT-SIGNING CEREMONY THAT TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTHERN APPROACH ROADS ON AP LEI CHAU ITSELF WOULD BE CALLED WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.

THE ENTIRE SCHEME, INCLUDING ALL ANCILLARY WORKS AND LAND ACQUISITION, IS ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT \$60 MILLION.

MR. BARDEN SAID: +IN THE NEXT THREE TO FIVE YEARS, THERE WILL BE CONSIDERABLE RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ON AP LEI CHAU, ALONG WITH THE NECESSARY SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, COMMUNITY AND WELFARE CENTRES, SCHOOLS AND MARKETS.+

THE 230-METRE LONG BRIDGE -- THE FIRST TO LINK HONG KONG WITH ONE OF ITS OFFSHORE ISLANDS -- WILL CARRY TWO TRAFFIC LANES, WITH A CAPACITY OF ABOUT 1,500 VEHICLES PER HOUR.

THERE WILL BE PROVISION FOR WIDENING THE BRIDGE IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY IN THE FUTURE.

THE BRIDGE WILL ALSO CARRY A WATER MAIN AND OTHER ESSENTIAL UTILITIES TO SERVE THE EXPECTED POPULATION GROWTH ON THE ISLAND, WHERE A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IS ALREADY BEING BUILT TO ACCOMMODATE 19,000 PEOPLE.

THE BRIDGE WILL ALSO MEAN THAT THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A QUICK SERVICE FROM THE MAINLAND.

MR. BARDEN SAID THE BRIDGE WOULD BE OF THE BALANCED CANTILEVER TYPE, AND WOULD SPAN THE ABERDEEN CHANNEL AT A POINT NEAR THE ABERDEEN POLICE STATION.

IT WOULD HAVE A CLEARANCE OF 16 METRES TO ENABLE BOATS TO PASS BENEATH IT.

HE SAID THE NORTHERN ROAD CONNECTIONS TO BE BUILT AS PART OF THE BRIDGE CONTRACT SIGNED TODAY WOULD BE NEAR THE ABERDEEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL, AND WOULD COMPRISE AN OVERPASS AT WONG CHUK HANG AND SEVERAL SLIP ROADS.

A FOOTBRIDGE WOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE OVERPASS TO ALLOW PEDESTRIANS TO CROSS SAFELY.

HE SAID WORK WOULD BEGIN IN A FEW MONTHS ON THE SOUTHERN APPROACH ROADS ON THE ISLAND ITSELF, BUT THEY WOULD BE TIMED FOR COMPLETION AT THE SAME TIME AS THE BRIDGE AND THE NORTHERN APPROACH ROADS, SO THAT THE WHOLE SCHEME COULD BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC BY MID-1979.

MR. BARDEN SAID THE AP LEI CHAU PROJECT FORMED PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO DEVELOP THE SOUTHERN PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND.

OTHER IMPORTANT PROJECTS INCLUDED AN INTERCHANGE FOR THE 1.9-KILOMETRE ABERDEEN TUNNEL, BEGINNING AT HAPPY VALLEY WHICH WILL EMERGE AT WONG CHUK HANG.

MR. BARDEN SAID: +BY MID-1980, WHEN BOTH THE AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE AND THE \$280 MILLION ABERDEEN TUNNEL ARE COMPLETED, THERE WILL BE A FAST AND DIRECT ROAD LINK FROM AP LEI CHAU TO THE NORTHERN PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND VIA THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL, AND THENCE THROUGH THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TO KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.+

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MORE PEOPLE ARE COMING TO HONG KONG
IN LARGER AIRCRAFT
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PASSENGER TRAFFIC AT KAI TAK FROM APRIL TO JUNE THIS YEAR SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 13.1 PER CENT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR DESPITE A DROP OF 2.5 PER CENT IN AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT TODAY, A TOTAL OF 1,198,389 PASSENGERS PASSED THROUGH THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN APRIL, MAY AND JUNE COMPARED WITH THE 1,059,587 ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURES DURING THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1976.

IN THE SAME QUARTER, THE DEPARTMENT RECORDED A TOTAL OF 12,071 INCOMING AND OUTGOING INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS WHILE THE FIGURE FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR STOOD AT 12,385.

THESE FIGURES, WHILE SHOWING THAT MORE VISITORS ARE COMING TO HONG KONG, ALSO REFLECT THE CONTINUING TREND OF INCREASED OPERATION OF WIDE-BODIED AIRCRAFT BY INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES.

AIR CARGO MOVEMENT, AFTER SLACKENING IN THE FIRST QUARTER, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF NEARLY 6 PER CENT. HOWEVER, THE INCREASED AIR CARGO, REACHING 39,095 METRIC TONS, STILL REFLECTED A DECLINE OF 0.05 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

MAIL CARRIED INTO AND OUT OF HONG KONG TOTALLED 1,474 METRIC TONS. THIS WAS AN INCREASE OF 18.7 PER CENT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR AND A RISE OF 4.6 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

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TWO-WEEK EXHIBITION OF TSUEN WAN OLD AND NEW OPENED
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THE RECENT ESTABLISHMENT OF TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICES PROVIDES MORE DIRECT OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE TO TELL GOVERNMENT WHAT THEY WANT AND GENERALLY TO ASSIST ITS EFFORTS.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY BY THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, MR. JAMES HAYES, WHEN HE JOINTLY OPENED THE +TODAY AND YESTERDAY IN TSUEN WAN+ EXHIBITION IN THE LAI CHI KOK AMUSEMENT PARK WITH MRS. JANE AKERS-JONES, WIFE OF THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE TWO-WEEK EXHIBITION, PRODUCED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, CONCERNS TWO THEMES - TSUEN WAN OLD AND NEW, SHOWING THE PUBLIC THE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH ARE CHANGING THE FACE OF TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN.

MR. HAYES SAID PEOPLE'S INTEREST IN TSUEN WAN WOULD IN TURN GENERATE MORE STEAM FOR THE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME AND THE MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH IT.

+MEANWHILE, THE WORK OF COMMUNITY BUILDING CONTINUES APACE. THIS CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT FIRST BRINGING GOVERNMENT OFFICERS INTO CLOSER TOUCH WITH LOCAL PEOPLE AND THEIR PROBLEMS,+ HE SAID.

+YOU WILL SEE FROM THE EXHIBITS AND CHARTS THAT THERE ARE NOW TWO TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICES IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG, EACH WITH ITS OWN LIAISON AND EXECUTIVE STAFF AND HEADED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

+THESE OFFICES ARE EQUIVALENT TO CITY DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE URBAN AREA AND PROVIDE COMPARABLE SERVICES TO THEIR LOCAL PUBLIC. WE HOPE THEY WILL BE WELL USED.+

MR. HAYES CONTINUED : +HOWEVER, SUCH OFFICES CANNOT OPERATE EFFECTIVELY WITHOUT PUBLIC INTEREST AND SUPPORT AND I AM HAPPY TO STATE THAT LOCAL PARTICIPATION IS, IN FACT, CONSIDERABLE.

+IT IS SPEAR-HEADED BY THE TSUEN WAN RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN 1976. THIS IMPORTANT BODY HAS A MAJORITY OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, 15 IN NUMBER, SELECTED FROM PUBLIC SPIRITED PERSONS MANY OF WHOM HAVE LONG SERVED THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.+

MR. HAYES POINTED OUT THAT THE NETWORK OF AREA COMMITTEES - THERE ARE AT PRESENT SIX AND THEIR NUMBER WILL BE EXPANDED - ALSO ASSISTS THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICERS WITH THEIR WORK, BRINGING FORWARD LOCAL PROBLEMS AND GIVING ADVICE AND HELP WHEN REQUESTED.

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ANOTHER LABOUR OFFICE TO SERVE KOWLOON AND NT
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THE APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS OPENED A SUB-OFFICE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S BRANCH OFFICE IN KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG.

THE SUB-OFFICE ON THE MEZZANINE FLOOR OF THE PARIS THEATRE BUILDING IS PART OF A LONG-TERM PLAN TO SET UP MORE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICES IN MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS AND WILL SERVE THE WHOLE OF THE KOWLOON PENINSULA AND THE NEW TERRITORIES UNTIL OTHER SUB-OFFICES ARE ESTABLISHED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THE FUNCTION OF THE APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION WAS TO ADMINISTER THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE AND TO ASSIST AND GUIDE EMPLOYERS AND APPRENTICES TO COMPLY WITH ITS PROVISIONS.

HE SAID THE AIM OF THE ORDINANCE WAS TO PROMOTE APPRENTICE TRAINING AND TO REGULATE THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS IN DESIGNATED TRADES.

+UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE, AN EMPLOYER SHOULD ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OF APPRENTICESHIP WITH ANY YOUNG PERSON BETWEEN THE AGE OF 14 AND 18 YEARS WHO IS ENGAGED IN A DESIGNATED TRADE. HOWEVER, AN EMPLOYER CAN APPLY TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR FOR EXEMPTION FROM THESE PROVISIONS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+ALL CONTRACTS OF APPRENTICESHIP FOR YOUNG PERSONS IN DESIGNATED TRADES SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION FOR REGISTRATION WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER EXECUTION.+ HE ADDED.

THERE ARE 23 DESIGNATED TRADES AT PRESENT.

A GUIDE ON THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE AND A LIST OF DESIGNATED TRADES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ANY OFFICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE NEW SUB-OFFICE ARE 3-219285 AND 3-213208.

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WARNING AGAINST BOGUS OFFICIALS
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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR MR. LIN HUO-FU, TODAY WARNED FACTORY PROPRIETORS TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST IMPOSTORS.

HE SAID THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED SEVERAL COMPLAINTS OF A MAN IMPERSONATING AN OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT, WHO THREATENED TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST PROPRIETORS UNLESS HE WAS PAID A SUM OF MONEY.

MR. LIN POINTED OUT THAT ALL LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAVE WITH THEM GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARDS AND WARRANTS WHICH CARRIED THE PHOTOGRAPH AND NAME OF THE HOLDER.

MR. LIN SAID: +MEMBERS OF THE INSPECTORATE HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES BY PRODUCING THEIR WARRANTS WHEN VISITING FACTORIES.+

+NO OFFICER OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN AUTHORISED TO ASK FOR MONEY FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER,+ HE EMPHASISED.

+IN ANY EVENT, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS NORMALLY DO NOT DEAL IN CASH ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS PAYMENT OF WHICH, IF ANY, ARE ALWAYS CHANNELLED THROUGH AN OFFICIAL COUNTER OR THE TREASURY.+

MR. LIN ADVISED FACTORY PROPRIETORS TO CHECK THE IDENTITY OF VISITORS CLAIMING TO BE OFFICERS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, AND IF IN DOUBT, TO REPORT THE MATTER IMMEDIATELY TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION.

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS OPEN TO LOCAL STUDENTS

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE AND THE INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTS WILL HOLD ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS IN DECEMBER FOR HONG KONG STUDENTS.

THE EXAMINATIONS TO BE HELD BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, BETWEEN DECEMBER 13 AND 15, ARE FOR THE FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH AND THE CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH.

SCHOOL CANDIDATES WHO INTEND TO SIT FOR ANY OF THE TWO EXAMINATIONS SHOULD REGISTER THEIR ENTRIES THROUGH THEIR SCHOOLS.

PRIVATE CANDIDATES CAN OBTAIN ENTRY FORMS FROM NEXT MONDAY (AUGUST 15) FROM THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, 11TH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

COMPLETED ENTRY FORMS FOR PRIVATE CANDIDATES, ALONG WITH THE PASSPORT OR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD AND TWO RECENT PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE APPLICANT, MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON TO THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION FROM AUGUST 15 TO 19. ALL FEES MUST BE PAID NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 22.

THE CHARGES FOR THE FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH AND CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS ARE \$115 AND \$145 RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THAT FOR AN OPTIONAL PAPER IS \$60.

MEANWHILE, THE EXAMINATIONS TO BE HELD BY THE INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTS FOR STUDENTS AT VARIOUS LEVELS WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN DECEMBER 5 AND 9. CANDIDATES MUST ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON ANY DAY BETWEEN NOVEMBER 28 AND DECEMBER 16 FOR THE PART 1 (ORAL) TESTS.

ENTRY FEES FOR THE EXAMINATIONS RANGE FROM \$80 TO \$160. ENTRY FORMS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FROM THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FROM NEXT MONDAY (AUGUST 15).

COMPLETED FORMS, WITH PROOF OF IDENTITY AND TWO RECENT PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE APPLICANT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON AT THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION ANY TIME BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 4 P.M. FROM AUGUST 15 TO 19.

NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AND THE EXAMINATION FEES MUST BE PAID ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 22 AT THE SAME OFFICE.

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