



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Wednesday, December 27, 1972

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## PLANNING ON NEW AIRPORT CARGO COMPLEX NEARLY FINALISED

Expected To Be Ready In 1975

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Detailed planning work on the construction of the new air cargo complex at Kai Tak Airport has been progressing smoothly and is now nearing finalisation.

The Director of Civil Aviation said today that the consultants engaged by the Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Ltd. have already submitted their final report to the board and this is being studied.

The Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Ltd. is a consortium of public and private companies, with Government as a partner, which was formed in December 1971 to build and operate the new air cargo complex.

"If everything works out smoothly, the new terminal should be finished in 1975," the Director added.

Meanwhile, the total amount of air cargo handled at the airport annually continued to increase at a steady pace.

In the 1971-72 financial year, a total of 78,210 metric tons of air freight were carried in and out of Hong Kong, an increase of 15,946 metric tons or 25.6 per cent compared with the previous year.

The Director pointed out that this annual traffic of 78,210 metric tons had already exceeded the designed yearly capacity of 70,000 metric tons of the existing Cargo Terminal.

/To alleviate .....

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To alleviate congestion, an interim cargo handling and storage area was set up in June this year on a 440,000 sq. ft. piece of land between the northern boundary of the airport and Prince Edward Road to the east of the Airport Police Station.

"This temporary arrangement was made to permit airlines to accommodate the overflow until the new terminal is completed," he added.

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CHANGES AT MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dr. Craig Goes On Leave And Dr. Thong Takes Over

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Dr. J.K. Craig, Deputy Director of Medical and Health Services (Health), will leave his post on January 1, and his successor will be Dr. K.L. Thong, at present Deputy Director (Medical).

Dr. Thong will also succeed Dr. Craig as Vice Chairman of the Urban Council.

Dr. Craig will depart for the United Kingdom on January 4, and will be on holiday there for five months before returning to Hong Kong to take up a new post in the Medical and Health Department as Medical Administrator in charge of the commissioning and administration of the Princess Margaret Hospital in Lai Chi Kok.

Dr. Thong's present post as Deputy Director (Medical) will be assumed by Dr. H.S. Chan, at present Principal Medical and Health Officer.

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FISHERMEN BENEFIT FROM LOAN FUNDS

Financial Help To Develop New Techniques

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Financial assistance is made available by the Agriculture and Fisheries Department from five loan funds to help fishermen use and develop new fishing techniques.

During 1971-72, a total of 285 loans amounting to more than \$4.6 million were granted to 321 fishermen.

The five loan funds are: The Fisheries Development Loan Fund, The Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere (C.A.R.E.) Loan Fund, The World Refugee Year Loan Fund, The Fish Marketing Organisation Loan Fund and The F.M.O. Loan Fund (Colonial Development and Welfare Loan Fund Surplus).

The Fisheries Development Loan Fund aims at helping fishermen develop the off-shore fishing fleet. Since the establishment of this fund in 1959, 70 loans totalling \$9 million have been granted, and about \$6 million have been repaid. Three loans amounting to some \$720,000 were made during the last financial year.

The Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere (C.A.R.E.) Loan Fund was established to make short-term loans to shrimp fishermen for productive purposes. Since 1957, a total of 144 loans amounting to \$740,000 have been issued to 197 people and more than \$640,000 have been repaid.

/The World .....

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The World Refugee Year Loan Fund is available to fishermen's and farmers' co-operative societies. Since 1964, over \$1.3 million have been lent out to fishermen's co-operatives, and \$1.2 million have been repaid. During the last financial year, 18 loans were issued, totalling \$258,800.

The Fish Marketing Organisation Loan Fund, established in 1946, is a short-term loan for productive purposes. Since the inception of the Fund, 8,402 loans totalling \$37.3 million have been granted, and \$33 million repaid.

During 1971-72, 251 loans were made to 287 people.

The F.M.O. Loan Fund (Colonial Development and Welfare Loan Fund Surplus) was established with surpluses accrued from the Colonial Development and Welfare Mechanization Loan Scheme.

Seven loans amounting to \$76,000 were made to fishermen during the last financial year. Since 1967 a total of 36 loans amounting to \$236,000 have been made.

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WELFARE CENTRE FOR LAM TIN ESTATE

Second To Be Built

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Residents of the Lam Tin Resettlement Estate in Kwun Tong will soon have a new welfare centre to cater to their recreational and welfare needs.

A site at Kai Tin Road opposite Block 11 of the Estate has been earmarked for the construction of the centre.

The centre will be a six-storey building providing accommodation for voluntary agencies and youth clubs.

The ground floor will a welfare hall which can hold 200 to 300 people, while the upper floors will be used as offices as well as providing a reading library.

The roof area will be converted into a covered playground with swings, slides and roundabouts so that children can enjoy themselves in all weather.

There will also be an open car park providing eight parking spaces for the staff.

This is the second welfare centre to be built in the estate.

Construction work is expected to begin in mid-February, and will be completed by November next year.

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CAREERS EXHIBITION OPENING CEREMONY

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The Labour Department's Careers Exhibition begins in the City Hall Exhibition Hall on Friday (December 29).

The official opening will be performed at 2.30 p.m. by the General Manager of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, Mr. M.G.R. Sandberg, and a reception will follow for official guests and members of the press.

The exhibition is the first of its kind sponsored by the Hong Kong Government and will be the most comprehensive careers exhibition held in Hong Kong.

Thousands of students and young workers are expected to see the dozens of career possibilities displayed in the exhibition.

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Note to Editors: You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the opening ceremony.

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QUESTIONNAIRES COMPLETED FOR INDUSTRY CENSUS DESTROYED

Industrial Production Census To Be Conducted In 1974

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About 30,000 questionnaire forms completed by Hong Kong manufacturers last year for the 1971 Census of Manufacturing Establishments were destroyed at the Lai Chi Kok incinerator today (Wednesday).

The destruction of these forms was required under the Census Ordinance.

The Census of Manufacturing Establishments, carried out by the Census and Statistics Department in July and August last year, was the first of its kind undertaken in Hong Kong.

Information on such subjects as the number of people employed by an individual manufacturing establishment, the types of products manufactured, and the value of production was obtained by nearly 150 enumerators.

A report on the findings will be published in February or March next year, a spokesman for the Census and Statistics Department said.

He said information gathered in this Census would be used in an Industrial Production Census to be undertaken in 1974.

The spokesman added that consultations with manufacturing establishments for the 1974 Census had already started.

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Note to Editors: Copies of a photograph showing the questionnaire forms being destroyed at the incinerator are distributed separately in the G.I.S. press boxes.

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Release time: 6.30 p.m.