HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, August 30, 1973

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Thursday, August 30, 1973

SPECIAL LAUNCH TO COMBAT OIL POLLUTION

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A specially designed 70-foot launch will soon be added to the fleet of the Marine Department Oil Pollution Unit to meet emergencies related to large scale oil spillages and to enforce anti-pollution legislation more effectively.

"The prime function of the vessel will be the control of marine pollution, specifically oil, and in the event of a major oil spillage it will act as a command boat of the fleet of craft used to combat the emergency," a spokesman for the Marine Department said today.

"It will also be used for inspecting tankers and other vessels, oil companies' installations and ships' oil record books as well as conducting bunker inspections on ships and conducting oil pollution exercises particularly in respect of training of personnel and assessment of equipment," he added.

At present, the fleet comprises seven tug boats, seven lighters and three fast personnel carriers to transport men and equipment.

The new launch will be equipped with oil dispersant storage tanks, spraying equipment and agitating devices, oil containment booms, a high pumping capacity for dispersing emulsifiers and lifting equipment for use in conjunction with deploying and recovering oil containment booms.

The craft will be capable of a maximum speed of about 12 knots and will carry sufficient fuel to operate for about 100 hours at half speed.

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All propelling machinery and pumps will be controlled from the wheel house which will contain radar, echo (depth) sounder and radio (V.H.F.) equipment. Washing, messing and rest room facilities will be provided for half of the estimated 16 personnel on board during emergency operations.

Estimated to cost $1.5 million, the building work of the launch will be open to international tender.

At present the Oil Pollution Unit maintains 500 feet of oil booms to contain oil spillages and to protect such vital areas as typhoon shelters, beaches and waterfronts. A further 1,600 feet of lightweight oil booms can be obtained from local oil companies whenever necessary.

It also keeps a stock of 10,000 gallons of chemical dispersant, and another 2,000 gallons can be purchased immediately on demand plus a further 300 to 500 gallons daily.

In addition to these facilities, the Fire Services Department maintains three fire boats which are equipped to deal with oil spillages and fully manned on a 24-hour basis.

The Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Air Force helicopters are also available for reconnaisance purposes.

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NEW FACES IN NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION

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Two new District Officers have been appointed to fill posts in the New Territories Administration. They are Mr. Adolf Hsu and Mr. Clive Oxley who have been appointed District Officer, Islands and District Officer, Sai Kung, respectively.

Mr. Hsu, 35, takes over from Mr. Mayer Ng who is to leave soon for study course in the United Kingdom.

As District Officer, Islands, Mr. Hsu will be responsible for the general administration of the outlying districts, including Lantau, Cheung Chau, Peng Chau and Lamma.

Since joining the public service in 1958, he has worked in a number of government departments, including the former Resettlement Department, Urban Services and Colonial Secretariat.

He is married with two children, and has just returned from an extensive course in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Oxley, who is 37, was formerly City District Officer, Sham Shui Po and Mongkok, having previously worked in the headquarters of the Secretariat for Home Affairs and in the Colonial Secretariat. He will be taking over the administration of the Sai Kung district from Mr. Victor Yung.

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Note to Editors: Copies of photographs of Mr. Hsu and Mr. Oxley are boxed for collection.

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PARKING PROBLEM AT KAITAK

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Illegal parking in the airport area is posing a serious problem for the airport authority, particularly during weekends when the situation tends to get out of hand.

In some cases, motorists who can not find a space to park just abandon their cars in areas where they block the entrances and exits.

An appeal was made in June urging motorists not to take their cars to the airport during peak operating hours -- from midday to 6 p.m. -- on weekends. However, the appeal appears to have gone unheeded and police are forced to take more stringent measures against illegal parking in the vicinity of the airport.

During the past two months, more than 80 summonses were issued for illegal parking at the airport. In addition, several cars which caused serious obstruction were towed away.

In an effort to maintain the normal traffic flow extra policemen are deployed to the area during peak operating hours.

Motorists are once again urged not to take their cars to the airport on weekends in order to avoid unnecessary congestion. They should use public transport whenever possible.

Any vehicle found parked illegally in the area of the airport may be towed away.

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A government spokesman pointed out that the present open-air car park in front of the terminal building has space for only 350 cars and this is usually fully occupied everyday.

The situation becomes worse on weekends when some families drive their children to the airport for a day of outing or for lunch in the airport restaurant.

"This," the spokesman added, "has caused unnecessary inconvenience to the genuine users of the airport."

A new multi-storey car park, which can hold four times as many cars, has been included in the current expansion of the airport to cater for the present and future requirements.

However, the first 800 spaces will not be available for use until 1975.

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Note to Editors: Copies of a picture showing a long queue of cars waiting to enter the car park are boxed for collection.

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GCE RESULTS ARE OUT

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The University of London G.C.E. June 1973 'O' and 'A' level results are now available.

Students who entered as school candidates should contact their schools for the results while private candidates will be notified individually by post.

Private candidates who do not receive the information by Wednesday, (September 5) should contact the External Examinations Section, Examinations Division of the Education Department by telephone No. 3-686864 or 3-688704.

The University of London has expressed regrets that the publication of the 'A' level Chinese results has had to be delayed a little and grades in this subject are therefore omitted from the individual results notices. The pass grades will, however, be included on the final certificates to be issued during October.

Students who intend to repeat the same subjects in the coming A.E.B. November, or University of London January, G.C.E. examinations will be required to register during mid-September.

The dates and places for registration will be published on September 10 and 11 in all leading daily newspapers.

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HISTORICAL POT ON DISPLAY

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A rare Neolithic pot recently unearthed from Lamma Island will be put on display at the City Museum and Art Gallery for two months starting from Saturday (September 1).

The well-preserved pot, measuring 25 cm in height and 30 cm in diameter, is round-shaped and is covered with lozenge and net patterns.

It was accidentally discovered by workers in August last year while digging the foundation for a new house at Sha Po Tsuen, Yung Shu Wan.

The contractor later presented it to the City Museum and Art Gallery and a salvage excavation was immediately carried out at Sha Po Tsuen where some more small pieces of Neolithic pottery were unearthed.

A spokesman for the City Museum and Art Gallery said that pottery of this type was usually found along the south-east coast of China, and they had been in use over a long period from the Chou Dynasty to early Han.

Samples of the pottery unearthed and photographs showing the salvage excavation in progress will be put on display together with the pot to form a museum feature item.

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MEET THE MEDIA

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Note to Editors: A "Meet the Media" session will be held tomorrow (Friday) at 12 noon in the G.I.S. 35 mm theatre, 5th floor, Beaconsfield House.

Attending the meeting will be the Commissioner of Labour, Mr. I.R. Price, and Messrs. David Lin Huo-fu and Lao Mou-chi, both Assistant Commissioners.

You are invited to have the meeting covered. Television crews are advised to arrive early so that they will have ample time to set up their equipment.

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WATER CUT

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Water supply to a number of premises in Tsuen Wan will be interrupted for five hours starting at 1 a.m. on Saturday (September 1).

The temporary stoppage is to enable staff of the Waterworks Office to carry out a leakage test in the area.

The area affected is bounded by Texaco Road, Tai Wo Hau Road, Tai Wo Hau Estate block 1 and blocks 12-20, and Ashbury Methodist Cottage Area.

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OLD PEOPLE'S CLUB OPENING TOMORROW

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The official opening of the Ki Lin Centre, a club for the elderly living in the Wong Tai Sin district, will be held tomorrow (Friday) afternoon.

The ceremony will be attended by about 200 old people and more than 100 guests.

The opening will take the form of a ribbon-cutting ceremony by nine personalities and will be followed by a tea party.

Performing the ribbon-cutting will be Mr. Choi Kwok-ching, President of Ki Lin Centre; Mr. Choi Jun, Life Long President; Mr. Albert C. Wong, Wong Tai Sin City District Officer; Mr. Hui Yin-fat, Director, Hong Kong Council of Social Service; Mr. Yu Pun-chak, Divisional Superintendent, Wong Tai Sin; Lt. Col. A.S. Barr, R.A.O.C., Composite Ordnance Depot, British Forces (H.K.); Rev. Dr. Andrew Chiu, Hong Kong Lutheran Church Missouri Synod; Mr. George Li Kai-fun, President, Lions Club of Happy Valley; and Mr. Kwok Ka-chi, Senior Principal Social Welfare Officer, Social Welfare Department.

The Ki Lin Centre is a day club for old people. It is organised by the Wong Tai Sin Federation of Welfare Services for the Aged, a non-profit-making registered welfare body of 23 organisations in the district.

The Federation was formed on the initiation of the Wong Tai Sin Community Centre which also promotes its activities.

Explaining the functions of the club, Mrs. Henrietta Chen, the Warden of Wong Tai Sin Community Centre, said membership was open to any elderly person over 60 living in the Wong Tai Sin district.

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"It is a place where they can chat with friends over a cup of tea or spend their time just watching television. The staff and volunteers also help the members with many of their problems, providing advice and assistance where necessary."

Besides outdoor and indoor recreational activities, a social gathering for members is held every Sunday. The Centre was established in May this year and at the moment has 205 members. Volunteers either in groups or individually help to run the Centre.

The British Forces have donated a large amount of furniture including sofas, chairs and tables and the Lion Club of Happy Valley has donated $1,000 worth of electrical appliances such as fans and heaters.

Mrs. Chen said the formation of this club for elderly people has been a joint effort of many public-spirited organisations, groups and individuals. However, she would like to see more involvement by those in the Wong Tai Sin district to foster the spirit of community care for the aged.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to cover the opening ceremony of the Ki Lin Centre tomorrow, Friday. The ceremony will start at 5 p.m. The club is situated at 13, Muk Lun St., behind the Wong Tai Sin Divisional Police Station.

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PRESS VISIT TO SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR HANDICAPPED

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Note to Editors: Arrangements have been made by the chairman of the Government Lotteries Management Committee for members of the Press to visit the Hong Kong Sports Association for the Physically Handicapped on Saturday (September 1).

Reporters and photographers assigned to cover the visit should assemble at Queen's Pier, Hong Kong, not later than 10.20 a.m. Transport will be provided.

The association, which formerly operated as the Rehabilitation Division of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service , is located on the ground floor of block 25, Sau Mau Ping Estate, Kowloon.

Its objective is to foster sport and physical recreation for the handicapped as an important aspect of social life in helping with the rehabilitation and integration of the handicapped in the community.

Last year, the association received grants totalling more than $150,000 from the Lotteries Fund to meet recurrent costs and expenses in connection with the participation in the Heideburg Paralympic Games.

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LABOUR DISPUTE SETTLED

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Some 180 workers of the Nam Jam Factory Limited in Sham Shui Po today received a total of about $140,000 from the management as severance pay.

The dispute broke out on August 15 and officers of the Labour Relations Service of the Labour Department stepped in soon after direct negotiation between the management and workers reached a deadlock.

Five conciliation meetings were subsequently held at the San Po Kong office of the Labour Relations Service and agreement was finally reached on August 24.

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EXPORTS OF RESTRAINED COTTON TEXTILES TO U.K.

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The Director of Commerce and Industry today issued a notice to exporters on the subject of exports of restrained cotton textile items to the United Kingdom.

The notice concerns the implementation of an Export Authorisation Scheme on September 6 and 7 to dispose of unutilised cotton quotas carried over from 1972.

Trade associations and companies on the department's mailing list for Notice to Exporters, Series 1 (Britain) will receive copies of the notice shortly.

However, persons who wish to seek advance notice of the contents are invited to obtain copies from the department's receptionist counter on the ground floor of No. 46 Connaught Road Central, or to contact Mr. D.T.H. Lee, Assistant Trade Officer, at Tel. No. 5-430719, and Messrs. C.K. Wong and H.K. Kwok, Industry Assistants, at Tel. No. 5-446789.

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Release time: 7.30 p.m.