



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, April 17, 1973

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MORE LIFE-GUARDS ON BEACHES AND POOLS

Clean Beaches Campaign To Be Launched Next Month

The Urban Services Department is implementing a series of improvements to make the beaches and public swimming pools in Hong Kong cleaner and safer for swimmers this summer.

There will be more life-guards on the 37 beaches and six public swimming pools throughout Hong Kong.

There are at present 333 full-time life-guards, 79 more than last year and 143 more than of 1971.

Twelve vacancies are expected to be filled in May, a spokesman for the Department said.

The Hong Kong Life Guard Club are helping out by providing men from the ranks of its 2,000 fully qualified members to work part-time at public swimming pools and major beaches.

They will augment the Department's life-guard service on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays from mid-June to early September.

The Department will also seek assistance from fully qualified members of the Auxiliary Medical Services to work part-time from mid-July to early September.

To keep the beaches in Hong Kong cleaner and more enjoyable this year, the Department has increased the number of litter bins and has ordered a beach-cleaner which will be delivered next month.

/The beach-cleaner

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The beach-cleaner is able to clean one acre of sand beach in an hour. More may be bought in the future if the results prove satisfactory and labour-saving.

The U.S.D. is also using mechanised methods to remove rubbish from beaches.

A transporter capable of carrying 1,000 pounds of rubbish is now being used on the main Island beaches.

Two more will be delivered next month to expand the cleansing services.

It is intended to run a "Keep Your Beaches Clean" campaign next month to remind the public that keeping Hong Kong clean includes keeping the beaches clean.

The campaign will be launched on May 13 at Repulse Bay with a "Sunday Spectacular".

A song-and-dance show will be staged by professional artistes, many of whom have appeared on television. HK-TVB will provide its band and dancers for the occasion.

The spokesman reminded swimmers that plainclothes litter wardens will patrol the beaches during the summer and will issue summonses to "Lap Sap Chung" caught in the act.

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HOUSING SURVEY STARTS TOMORROW

The 1973 Housing Survey conducted by the Census and Statistics Department will start tomorrow and will continue until the 29th of this month.

A number of living quarters covering all types of domestic accommodation in Hong Kong have been systematically chosen for the survey.

One hundred student enumerators from the Colleges of Education have been chosen and fully briefed for this task.

The families in the living quarters selected for the survey will receive a call from an enumerator. They will be able to be identified by official identity cards issued by the Census and Statics Department, carrying their personal photographs.

A spokesman for the Census and Statistics Department asked all householders visited to cooperate with the enumerators in order to make this survey a success.

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ESTATE DUTY ENQUIRY SERVICE IN KOWLOON

The Inland Revenue Department has arranged for an Estate Duty Office representative to answer enquiries concerning estate duty matters at its Kowloon Office.

This service aims at helping members of the public on estate duty matters, especially for those who are unable to afford legal assistance.

Letters and documents addressed to the Estate Duty Office in Hong Kong may be lodged there. However, no arrangements have been made for attestation of affidavits or for payment of estate duty.

Questions concerning affidavits or accounts already submitted and under examination should continue to be taken up by the Estate Duty Office in Hong Kong.

The Kowloon Office is on the first floor, rear portion, of the old Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Building at No. 664, Nathan Road, Mong Kok.

It will be open to the public on weekdays (excluding Saturdays and public holidays) from 8.45 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. (Tel. No. 3-886182).

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POOR RESPONSE TO ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN

Only 555 Doses Administered During First Week

During the first week of the 1973 anti-measles campaign, 555 doses of the vaccine were administered, according to figures released today by the Medical and Health Department.

The campaign began on April 2 and will continue until May 31.

Of the total, 115 children were immunised on the Island, 326 in Kowloon, and 114 in the New Territories.

"The results are poor," a spokesman for the Medical and Health Department said.

He recalled that 25 fixed centres had been set up in resettlement estates, health offices, government clinics and hospitals, in addition to the 34 maternal and child health centres offering measles vaccine for use by children between six months and five years.

The spokesman said in the New Territories, in addition to fixed centres in the town areas, mobile teams were visiting villages, and the department's two floating dispensaries were carrying the vaccine to outlying islands.

He reminded parents that although Hong Kong has not had a measles epidemic since the last one in 1966 and 1967, when a total of 1,045 children died, there was "no room for complacency."

"Measles immunisation by vaccine was introduced in Hong Kong in 1968, and soon resulted in the reduction of the incidence of the disease, and the near elimination of deaths," the spokesman said.

"If there is no increase in the immunisation rate as a result of this year's campaign, further epidemics of measles in Hong Kong can be expected."

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NO MAIL DELIVERY ON GOOD FRIDAY

Six Out-Patient Clinics Open During Easter Holidays

A series of special arrangements concerning public facilities and services has been made for the Easter holidays.

The Post Office today announced that on Good Friday (April 20) there will be no delivery of mail, and all post offices will be closed.

However, there will be one postal delivery on Saturday and Easter Monday. Thirty-one post offices, including the General Post Office and the Kowloon Central Post Office, will operate between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on these two days to provide postal services.

Six out-patient clinics will remain open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. over the holiday period. They are: the Violet Peel Polyclinic and the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club Clinic, Shau Kei Wan on Hong Kong Island; the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club Clinics in Kwun Tong and Yau Ma Tei, and the Robert Black Health Centre in Kowloon; and the Lady Trench Polyclinic in Tsuen Wan.

All other Government out-patient and evening clinics will be closed during the period.

The Low Block of the City Hall, the City Hall Restaurant and the Gavotte Restaurant, and the Memorial Garden will remain open as usual during the whole Easter holiday period.

The High Block of the City Hall, the City Museum and Art Gallery and all Urban Council Public Libraries will be closed on Good Friday.

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The City Museum and Art Gallery will be open on the other days of the Easter holiday period from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and the Lei Cheng Uk Museum from 12 noon to 7 p.m.

The City Hall Library and the branch libraries at Ping Shek, Waterloo Road and Yau Ma Tei will be open on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. But they will be closed on Monday.

The branch library at Aberdeen/Pokfulam will be open on Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The Kowloon Park Students' Study Room will be closed on Good Friday, but will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. on the remaining days of the holiday period.

The Port Control Office, the Entry and Clearance Office and the Marine Licensing Office of the Marine Department will be open on Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 9 to 11 a.m.

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D.P.W. TO MEET THE MEDIA

Note to Editors: Another "meet the media" session will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at 12 noon in the G.I.S. theatre, Beaconsfield House, 5th floor.

Attending the meeting will be the Director of Public Works, Mr. J.J. Robson.

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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Release Time: 7.00 p.m.