



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1977

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KEEN RESPONSE FROM U.S. FIRMS TO HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT
PROMOTION MISSION

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THE FIRST OF A NUMBER OF UNITED STATES COMPANIES WILL BE COMING TO HONG KONG NEXT WEEK TO CARRY OUT FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF THE ADVANTAGES OF SETTING UP FACTORIES HERE.

FIVE MORE ARE EXPECTED IN APRIL AND MAY TO BE FOLLOWED LATER BY OTHERS.

THIS WAS REVEALED TODAY BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. ROY PORTER, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES WHERE HE HAD CONDUCTED AN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION MISSION.

MR. PORTER BELIEVES THAT THE THREE-WEEK MISSION WILL PROVE TO BE THE MOST SUCCESSFUL THAT HAS YET GONE FROM HONG KONG TO THE UNITED STATES.

HE SOUNDED A NOTE OF CAUTION, HOWEVER, IN SAYING THAT ALTHOUGH THE PROSPECTS LOOKED GOOD, +NO MISSION CAN BE SAID TO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL UNTIL NEW PRODUCTION LINES HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG. AND THAT CAN TAKE AS LONG AS TWO YEARS.+

THE MISSION VISITED LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO AND DALLAS, CALLING ON 24 COMPANIES IN THOSE CITIES. IT WAS PRECEDED BY A PILOT MISSION LED BY MR. PETER LO, PRINCIPAL TRADE OFFICER, WHO IS HEAD OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION BRANCH. MR. LO WAS ASSISTED BY MRS. JENNY WALLIS, ASSISTANT TRADE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE U.S. SECTION OF THE BRANCH.

MR. PORTER ATTRIBUTED THE SUCCESS OF THE MISSION TO A NUMBER OF FACTORS, THE CHIEF ONE BEING THE PROFESSIONAL APPROACH AND THE SHEER HARD WORK PUT INTO IT.

+MISSION OF THIS TYPE ARE NOW VERY COMMON, PARTICULARLY IN THE UNITED STATES,+ HE SAID. +THE MORE IMPORTANT COMPANIES ARE RECEIVING MANY APPROACHES AND ARE CONSEQUENTLY BECOMING WARY OF THEM. SO EVEN TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE TOP DECISION MAKERS YOU HAVE TO SHOW THAT YOU HAVE DONE YOUR HOMEWORK AND KNOW PRECISELY WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT.+

+THE PROFESSIONALISM OF THE HONG KONG APPROACH WAS COMMENTED UPON FAVOURABLY SEVERAL TIMES,+ SAID MR. PORTER, +BUT WE ARE NOT COMPLACENT ABOUT IT. ON EACH MISSION WE LEARN SOMETHING NEW AND HAVE TO USE THE EXPERIENCE TO IMPROVE ON OUR TECHNIQUES.+

/MR. PORTER

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MR. PORTER SAID THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE TO PUT A LOT OF HARD WORK INTO FOLLOWING UP THE INTEREST GENERATED BY THE MISSION AND PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO COMPANIES CARRYING OUT FEASIBILITY STUDIES REGARDING THE MANUFACTURE OF SUCH GOODS AS VEHICLE AIR-CONDITIONERS, OVENS, THERMOSTATIC CONTROLS, PRESSURE VESSELS, ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS, COFFEE PERCOLATORS, HAND TOOLS, ALUMINIUM EXTRUSION PRESSES AND WELDING EQUIPMENT.

+IF WE DON'T OBTAIN NEW INVESTMENT FROM THE MISSION I SHALL BE MOST SURPRISED,+ SAID MR. PORTER, +AND IT CERTAINLY WON'T BE FOR WANT OF TRYING.+

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EXHIBITION ON VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE
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AN EXHIBITION AIMED AT INTRODUCING THE CONCEPT OF VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL BE HELD AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE IN CAUSEWAY ROAD THIS SATURDAY (MARCH 26) BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 5 P.M.

THE EXHIBITION IS SO DESIGNED TO ENLIST STUDENTS' SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION IN VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THEIR LEISURE HOURS.

ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE FOR EASTERN DISTRICT AND THE ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE, THE EXHIBITION IS A JOINT EFFORT OF 13 YOUTH SERVICE GROUPS.

FEATURED IN THE EXHIBITION WILL BE CHARTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, CARTOONS, FILM AND SLIDE SHOWS. ITEMS ON DISPLAY WILL TOUCH ON SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN THE COMMUNITY, CONCEPT OF VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE, SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE AND THE ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE, AND THE WORK OF THE 13 YOUTH GROUPS.

MR. LAM KWOK-WAN, PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER=
MRS. LOUISE MOK, PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM PLANNING OFFICER=
MR. LAM WING-CHEUNG, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR EASTERN, AND MR. FREDERICK LEE, DIRECTOR OF ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 10 A.M.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE FUNCTION AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE THIS SATURDAY.

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BROADCAST OF JOBS FOR SEAMEN

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JOBS AVAILABLE IN DIFFERENT CATEGORIES THROUGH THE SEAMEN'S RECRUITING OFFICE OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ARE BROADCAST OVER THE CHINESE SERVICE OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SEAMEN'S RECRUITING OFFICE SAID TODAY THAT THE BROADCASTS WERE MADE SHORTLY AFTER 11 P.M. DAILY, EXCEPT SATURDAYS.

HE EMPHASISED, HOWEVER, THAT DUE TO THE LIMITED BROADCASTING TIME AVAILABLE NOT ALL THE VACANCIES COULD BE BROADCAST.

+ IN VIEW OF THIS, A TRIP TO THE SEAMEN'S RECRUITING OFFICE MAY BE ADVISABLE, + THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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EARLY APPLICATION FOR RE-ENTRY PERMITS URGED

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LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO WISH TO TRAVEL TO CHINA OR MACAU DURING THE CHING MING FESTIVAL OR THE EASTER HOLIDAYS ARE URGED TO MAKE THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR RE-ENTRY PERMITS NOW SO AS TO AVOID LAST-MINUTE RUSH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT EARLY APPLICATION WAS ADVISABLE AS LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WENT TO CHINA AND MACAU DURING THESE PERIODS EVERY YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT MORE AND MORE HONG KONG PEOPLE TENDED TO SPEND THEIR LONG HOLIDAYS OUTSIDE HONG KONG THESE DAYS.

HE SAID THAT DURING THE TEN-DAY PERIOD OF THE LAST CHINESE NEW YEAR (FEBRUARY 15 TO 24), A TOTAL OF 610,000 TRAVELLERS, INCLUDING TOURISTS, PASSED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTROL POINTS.

THIS REPRESENTED SOME SIX PER CENT OF LAST YEAR'S TOTAL TRAFFIC OF 10.6 MILLION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE HIGHEST FIGURE RECORDED IN A SINGLE DAY WAS 72,000 ON FEBRUARY 21, ABOUT THREE TIMES THE NORMAL DAILY FIGURE OF 25,000.

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SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT IN INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS SECTORS

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES= IMPORT/EXPORT, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES= BANKING AND INSURANCE ESTABLISHMENTS= AND OTHER SELECTED TRADES AND SERVICES.

THIS SURVEY REFERS TO THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR AND THE RESULTS WILL INDICATE EMPLOYMENT CHANGES SINCE DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

SURVEY CARDS HAVE BEEN MAILED TO ABOUT 45,000 ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE VARIOUS SECTORS COVERING ALL THE LARGE CONCERNS AND A RANDOM SAMPLE OF THE SMALLER ONES.

MANAGEMENTS OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS ARE ASKED TO FILL THE CARDS WITH THE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED AND EXISTING VACANCIES AT THE DATE INDICATED ON THE CARDS.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS HAS APPEALED TO MANAGEMENTS FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION AND TO RETURN THEM PROMPTLY TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE COMMISSIONER EMPHASISED THAT THE PROMPT RETURN OF SURVEY CARDS TO THE DEPARTMENT IS ESSENTIAL FOR EARLY RELEASE OF SURVEY RESULTS.

THE INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL BE USED SOLELY FOR COMPILING STATISTICAL TABLES.

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PASSING-OUT PARADE OF PRISON OFFICERS

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SEVENTY-EIGHT OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT OFFICERS OF THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT WILL BE PASSING OUT AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY THIS SATURDAY (MARCH 26).

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. D.W. MCDONALD WILL INSPECT THE PARADE WHICH BEGINS AT 11 A.M.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE CEREMONY.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF LAI CHI KOK ROAD

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THE SECTION OF LAI CHI KOK ROAD BETWEEN NAM CHEONG STREET AND YEN CHOW STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES FROM 11.55 P.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO 5.30 A.M. ON SATURDAY (MARCH 26).

THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE IS TO FACILITATE THE ERECTION OF MAIN BEAMS OF THE FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS LAI CHI KOK ROAD AT PEI HO STREET.

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED TO CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD THROUGH NAM CHEONG STREET AND YEN CHOW STREET.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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WATER CUT

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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KOWLOON CITY WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON SATURDAY (MARCH 26) TO ENABLE THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY BOUNDARY STREET, LA SALLE ROAD, NGA TSIN WAI ROAD, INVERNESS ROAD, DUMBARTON ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD, INCLUDING GRAMPAN ROAD, SAU CHUK YUEN ROAD AND COLLEGE ROAD.

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