



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1976

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ESTATE BLOCKS COMPLETED EARLY FOR FIRE VICTIMS

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE HAS COMPLETED THE FIRST TWO BLOCKS OF HING WAH ESTATE IN CHAI WAN SIX WEEKS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE UNDER A CRASH BUILDING PROGRAMME STARTED AFTER THE ALDRICH BAY FIRE EARLIER THIS MONTH.

THEY WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE FIRST FAMILIES WILL MOVE INTO THEIR NEW HOMES SHORTLY.

THE TWO COMPLETED BLOCKS CAN ACCOMMODATE SOME 3,300 PEOPLE IN 670 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS RANGING IN SIZE FROM 240 SQUARE FEET TO 380 SQUARE FEET.

ORIGINALLY, THE ESTATE WAS TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY APRIL THIS YEAR. BUT ON THE DAY FOLLOWING THE FIRE, PWD ARCHITECTS INSPECTED THE WORKS IN PROGRESS TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF A SPEEDED-UP PROGRAMME SO AS TO ACCELERATE THE REHOUSING OF SOME OF THE VICTIMS.

TWO BLOCKS -- BLOCK 3 AND 8 -- WERE SELECTED FOR EARLY COMPLETION. A COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY BUILDING PROGRAMME WAS THEN DRAWN UP, WHICH BEGAN IN EARNEST ON FEBRUARY 5.

THE ARCHITECTS AND THE CONTRACTOR ALLOWED THEMSELVES ONLY 16 DAYS AND NIGHTS TO COMPLETE THE BLOCKS AND, THEIR OPTIMISM PAID OFF.

+IT WAS A BIT OF A GAMBLE,+ ADMITS MR. JOSEPH LEI, CHIEF ARCHITECT.

+IN AN OPERATION LIKE THIS WHERE TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, THERE ARE BOUND TO BE UNEXPECTED DIFFICULTIES AND THERE WERE MOMENTS WHEN WE THOUGHT WE MIGHT NOT MEET THE DEADLINE WE HAD SET OURSELVES.

+IT WAS ANYTHING BUT EASY, BUT NOW SOME OF THE VICTIMS CAN LOOK FORWARD TO BEGINNING A NEW LIFE IN THE ESTATE MUCH SOONER.+

TODAY, WORKERS AT THE SITE WERE PUTTING FINAL TOUCHES TO THE FLATS AND CLEARING UP THE AREA.

ALL THE FLATS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES CONNECTED, LIFTS INSTALLED AND DRAINAGE PIPES LAID.

DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS, MORE THAN 300 WORKERS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED ON THE TWO BLOCKS, WITH ABOUT 100 WORKING AT NIGHT.

MEANWHILE, WORKS CONTINUE ON THE REMAINING FIVE BLOCKS OF THE \$53 MILLION ESTATE, WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE A TOTAL POPULATION OF ABOUT 22,700 PEOPLE.

WHEN FULLY COMPLETED IN APRIL, IT WILL HAVE TWO ESTATE SCHOOLS, A WELFARE HALL, MARKET, RESTAURANT AND LARGE AREAS OF OPEN SPACE WITH PLAYGROUNDS FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

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NEW BODY TO ADVISE GOVERNOR ON JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS  
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THE JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION ORDINANCE, WHICH WAS PASSED ON OCTOBER 23, 1975, WILL COME INTO OPERATION WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (FEBRUARY 20).

THE FUNCTION OF THE COMMISSION IS TO ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON APPOINTMENTS TO ALL JUDICIAL OFFICES. THE COMMISSION WILL ALSO ADVISE ON OTHER MATTERS AFFECTING JUDICIAL OFFICERS WHICH ARE REFERRED TO IT BY THE GOVERNOR.

THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION. THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION WILL BE THE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

IN ADDITION, HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED THE HON. SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES, C.B.E., E.D., J.P., MR. PATRICK S.S. YU, J.P., AND MR. RONALD W.H. WONG TO BE THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION. MR. J.R. OLIVER, J.P., REGISTRAR, SUPREME COURT HAS BEEN APPOINTED SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION.

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NEW COURTS TO BE SET UP  
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THE SUPREME COURT ORDINANCE 1975 WILL COME INTO OPERATION TOMORROW (FRIDAY). THIS ORDINANCE WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING SUPREME COURT ORDINANCE AND THE FULL COURT ORDINANCE.

BY THE SUPREME COURT ORDINANCE 1975 THERE WILL BE A SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE CONSISTING OF THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE AND THE COURT OF APPEAL.

THE COURT OF APPEAL WILL CONSIST OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND SUCH JUSTICES OF APPEAL AS THE GOVERNOR MAY APPOINT.

THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED THE HON. MR. JUSTICE HUGGINS AND THE HON. MR. JUSTICE PICKERING TO ACT AS THE FIRST JUSTICES OF APPEAL.

THE HIGH COURT WILL NOW CONSIST OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE REMAINING PUISNE JUDGES OF THE EXISTING SUPREME COURT.

THE NEW COURTS WILL SIT FOR THE FIRST TIME TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING.

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WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

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THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH IN THE SETTING OF A LANGUAGE LABORATORY SHOULD BE CONTEXTUALISED RATHER THAN MECHANICAL.

THIS IS THE MESSAGE MISS JANET MCALPIN, A LECTURER OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING INSTITUTE, LONDON, TRIES TO BRING ACROSS TO TEACHERS OF ENGLISH HERE.

MISS MCALPIN, WHO IS ON A LECTURE TOUR OF SOUTHEAST ASIA UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL, IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING TWO WORKSHOPS AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE.

MISS MCALPIN FEELS THAT LANGUAGE LABORATORY MATERIALS SHOULD BE PRODUCED IN SUCH A WAY THAT STUDENTS WOULD BE PRACTISING THE LANGUAGE IN A CONTEXT AND +NOT JUST PRACTISING SOUNDS AND WORDS.+

THIS PRINCIPLE ALSO APPLIES TO TEACHING ENGLISH IN THE CLASSROOM.

THE TWO WORKSHOPS, EACH LASTING A WEEK, BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 9 AND 16 RESPECTIVELY. EACH WORKSHOP HAS 17 PARTICIPANTS.

THE PARTICIPANTS ARE FROM SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITH LANGUAGE LABORATORY FACILITIES, THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ENGLISH INSPECTORATE AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE.

THROUGH PLENARY SESSIONS AND GROUP WORK, PARTICIPANTS LEARN ABOUT THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF GOOD DIALOGUES, DRILLS AND LISTENING COMPREHENSION EXERCISES AND RELATED VISUAL AIDS AND THEIR USES IN THE CLASSROOM AND THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY.

THE TWO WORKSHOPS WILL EACH WRITE AND RECORD A TAPED TEACHING UNIT AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THEIR COURSE.

+THE TAPES ARE TO BE TAKEN AS MODELS OF TWO APPROACHES TO MATERIALS CONSTRUCTION,+ MISS MCALPIN SAID. +THEY BOTH ATTEMPT TO EXEMPLIFY THE CONCEPT OF CONTEXTUALISATION IN PRESENTATION AND PRACTICE MATERIALS.+

SCHOOLS THAT MAY WANT TO OBTAIN THE TWO TAPES CAN SEND IN BLANK TAPES TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE FOR DUBBING. SERVICES ARE FREE.

THE CENTRE RUNS COURSES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR OF FIVE WEEKS' TO THREE MONTHS' DURATION ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING BASED ON THE CONTEXTUALISED APPROACH FOR BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS OF ENGLISH.

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NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS TO ISSUE  
CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN (FORM A)

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FIVE NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN AUTHORISED TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN (FORM A) FOR GOODS SHIPPED UNDER GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES TO CANADA, THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

CANADA IS THE THIRD COUNTRY, FOLLOWING JAPAN AND SWITZERLAND, TO ACCEPT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN (FORM A) ISSUED BY NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS.

THE FIVE ORGANISATIONS SO AUTHORISED ARE : THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE= FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES= INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE= CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE STAFF OF THE FIVE ORGANISATIONS HAD UNDERGONE TRAINING IN THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND WERE FULLY COMPETENT TO DEAL WITH FORM A APPLICATIONS.

HE ADDED THAT THE FIVE ORGANISATIONS WOULD APPLY THE SAME RULES AND PROCEDURES ADOPTED BY THE D C AND I AND THAT CLOSE CO-ORDINATION WOULD BE MAINTAINED THROUGH A +CERTIFICATION CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE+, WHICH COMPRISES SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE ORGANISATIONS AND THE DEPARTMENT.

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CHANGE IN KOWLOON DRIVING TEST CENTRES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS TO SWITCH ITS KOWLOON CENTRES FOR CAR AND MOTORCYCLE DRIVING TESTS FROM NEXT WEEK.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT FROM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, PRIVATE CAR TESTS IN KOWLOON WILL BE HELD AT THE CIVIL AID SERVICES HUNG HOM ZONE HEADQUARTERS AT LEE KUNG STREET, INSTEAD OF AT THE PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED PUI CHING ROAD DRIVING TEST CENTRE IN HO MAN TIN.

MOTORCYCLE TESTS SCHEDULED FOR THE CIVIL AID SERVICES KOWLOON TRAINING CENTRE IN ARGYLE STREET, KOWLOON, WILL BE HELD AT THE PUI CHING ROAD DRIVING TEST CENTRE IN HO MAN TIN FROM MONDAY.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED ALL CANDIDATES THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN THE DATE OR TIME OF THE APPOINTMENTS, ONLY IN THE VENUE.

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ANOTHER \$5,000 FOR ALDRICH BAY FIRE VICTIMS

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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. FREDERICK CLARK, RECEIVED A CHEQUE FOR \$5,026 FROM REV. SEZ KOK-HON OF THE PO KOK GIRLS' VOCATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON, TO BE PAID INTO THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND IN AID OF THE ALDRICH BAY FIRE VICTIMS.

THE MONEY WAS RAISED IN A FUN FAIR ORGANISED BY THE PO KOK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LAST WEEK. MORE THAN 1,500 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE FAIR.

MEANWHILE, ALDRICH BAY FIRE VICTIMS WILL BE GIVEN \$110 EACH TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE SALESIAN SCHOOL AT 2 P.M.

THREE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND COMMITTEE, MR. CHEUNG WING-YIN, MR. NG CHAN-LAM AND MR. WONG PING-HON, WILL BE PRESENT AT THE SCHOOL TO WATCH THE OPERATION. THEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WHO IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT.

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE CASH DISTRIBUTION.

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