



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1977

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PWD'S WATERWORKS ENGINEERS ATTEND DESALINATION CONGRESS IN TOKYO	1
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR OCTOBER	2
BIG DEMAND FOR GOLD COIN CABINETS	4
INFORMATION PAMPHLET FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY NT CLEARANCES	5
REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE IN SHA TAU KOK	6

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1977

- 1 -

PWD'S WATER ENGINEERS ATTEND DESALINATION CONGRESS
IN TOKYO

* * * * *

TWO SENIOR ENGINEERS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT LEFT FOR TOKYO TODAY (SUNDAY) TO REPRESENT HONG KONG AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON DESALINATION AND WATER RE-USE.

THEY ARE MR. WU YU-NGONG, CHIEF MECHANICAL ENGINEER (DESALTING), AND MR. PAU MAN-YUK, SENIOR MECHANICAL ENGINEER (DESALTING), OF THE P.W.D.'S WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.

THE CONGRESS, WHICH BEGINS TOMORROW, WILL LAST FOR SIX DAYS. IT IS SPONSORED JOINTLY BY THE INTERNATIONAL DESALINATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION (IDEA), OF WHICH HONG KONG IS A MEMBER, AND THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY OF JAPAN (MITI).

SOME 400 REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN, WEST GERMANY, CANADA AND A NUMBER OF MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING DURING WHICH THEY WILL EXCHANGE THEIR LATEST TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERIENCE ON DESALINATION. THEY WILL ALSO VISIT DESALTING PLANTS IN JAPAN.

MR. WU, WHO IS A DIRECTOR OF THE IDEA, WILL, TOGETHER WITH TWO JAPANESE ENGINEERS, JOINTLY CHAIR ONE OF THE SESSIONS.

AT THE END OF THE CONGRESS BOTH MR. WU AND MR. PAU WILL STAY ON FOR ANOTHER WEEK VISITING MORE DESALTING PLANTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OPERATING ON REVERSE OSMOSIS PROCESS.

THE BENEFIT OF THE REVERSE OSMOSIS PROCESS, IF PROVED TO BE APPLICABLE TO SEA WATER, IS THAT IT CONSUMES MUCH LESS ENERGY THAN A DISTILLATION PROCESS AND IS FAR MORE ACCEPTABLE ENVIRONMENTALLY, AS IT DOES NOT PRODUCE THE ATMOSPHERIC AND THERMAL POLLUTION ASSOCIATED WITH DISTILLATION PROCESS.

(IT IS RECALLED THAT THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. WILLIAM TUCKER, IN HIS SPEECH TO ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON RECENTLY, SAID THAT THE APPLICATION OF REVERSE OSMOSIS TO BRACKISH WATER ON A LARGE SCALE WAS WELL ESTABLISHED.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT AT THE PRESENT STATE OF TECHNOLOGY, THE DESALTING OF SEA WATER BY REVERSE OSMOSIS DID NOT COMPETE ECONOMICALLY WITH DISTILLATION PROCESSES.

BUT, MR. TUCKER ADDED, THE MANUFACTURERS WERE CONFIDENT THAT TECHNOLOGY WOULD IMPROVE WITHIN ABOUT THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, SO AS TO MAKE SUCH A PROCESS MORE ECONOMICALLY ATTRACTIVE THAN DISTILLATION.)

ON THEIR WAY HOME FROM THE CONGRESS, SOME 100 DELEGATES WILL VISIT HONG KONG.

DURING THEIR STAY HERE, THEY WILL VISIT THE LOK ON PAI DESALTING PLANT, THE BIGGEST PLANT OF ITS TYPE IN THE WORLD.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2

PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR OCTOBER

* * * * *

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR LAST MONTH (OCTOBER) WAS \$2,901 MILLION, IMPORTS WERE WORTH \$4,278 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS \$898 MILLION, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD FROM AUGUST TO OCTOBER (LATEST THREE MONTHS) SHOWED INCREASES BY VALUE OF 2.8 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 5.1 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 11.8 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1976.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1976, INCREASES BY VALUE WERE RECORDED AT \$331 MILLION OR 8.4 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND \$90 MILLION OR 11.1 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS. HOWEVER EXPORTS SHOWED A DECREASE OF \$23 MILLION OR 0.8 PER CENT.

THE SHORT-TERM CHANGES, LAST MONTH COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER, SHOWED INCREASES OF \$533 MILLION OR 14.2 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS, \$74 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS AND A DECREASE OF \$83 MILLION OR 2.8 PER CENT FOR EXPORTS.

THE FIGURES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 1976 TO OCTOBER 1977 COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 9.5 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 12.3 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 12.1 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

THE FOLLOWING ARE COMPARATIVE TRADE FIGURES:

LATEST 3 MONTHS	AUGUST-OCTOBER		INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	1977	1976		
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	9,200	8,949	+ 251	+ 2.8
IMPORTS	11,782	11,215	+ 567	+ 5.1
RE-EXPORTS	2,562	2,292	+ 270	+ 11.8
SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	OCTOBER		INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	1977	1976		
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	2,901	2,924	- 23	- 0.8
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(76.4%)	(78.3%)		
IMPORTS	4,278	3,947	+ 331	+ 8.4
RE-EXPORTS	898	808	+ 90	+ 11.1
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(23.6%)	(21.7%)		

/LAST MONTH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1977

- 3 -

<u>LAST MONTH</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1977</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 1977</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,901 (76.4%)	2,983 (78.4%)	- 83	- 2.8
IMPORTS	4,278	3,745	+ 533	+ 14.2
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	898 (23.6%)	824 (21.6%)	+ 74	+ 9.0
<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE</u>	<u>JAN. - OCT. 1977</u>	<u>JAN. - OCT. 1976</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	28,372 (78.0%)	26,746 (78.6%)	+1,626	+ 6.1
IMPORTS	39,460	35,525	+3,935	+ 11.1
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7,987 (22.0%)	7,299 (21.4%)	+ 688	+ 9.4
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1976 TO OCTOBER 1977</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1975 TO OCTOBER 1976</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	34,255	31,293	+2,962	+ 9.5
IMPORTS	47,228	42,063	+5,165	+ 12.3
RE-EXPORTS	9,616	8,581	+1,035	+ 12.1

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1977

- 4 -

BIG DEMAND FOR GOLD COIN CABINETS

* * * * *

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE HONG KONG GOLD COIN CABINET ON DISPLAY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE HAS BEEN SO GREAT THAT AN URGENT ORDER HAS HAD TO BE PLACED FOR MORE INQUIRY FORMS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, SAID TODAY: +THERE HAS SO MUCH INTEREST IN THE CABINET THAT THE CENTRE HAS RUN OUT OF PRINTED INQUIRY FORMS.+

HE ADDED: +WE HAVE PHOTOSTATED A LIMITED NUMBER OF FORMS WHILE A FRESH SUPPLY IS BEING PRINTED.+

THE SPOKESMAN DESCRIBED PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE CABINET AS SURPRISINGLY GOOD. HE SAID: +A FIRM PRICE FOR THE CABINET HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED AND WILL DEPEND ON MANUFACTURING COSTS AND THE NUMBER OF CABINETS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ORDER.+

THE CABINET, HOWEVER, IS EXPECTED TO COST BETWEEN \$300 AND \$400.

IT CONTAINS RECESSES FOR 14 GOLD COINS, THREE OF WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN ISSUED.

THE SERIES BEGAN WITH A COIN TO COMMEMORATE THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO HONG KONG IN MAY, 1975.

THE TWO OTHER COINS WERE ISSUED TO MARK THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON (1976) AND THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE (1977). GOLD COINS WILL BE ISSUED IN EACH OF THE NEXT 10 YEARS TO COMPLETE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR CYCLE.

THE 14 RECESSES HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO HOLD COINS IN SCREW TOP PLASTIC CAPSULES.

ALL GOLD COINS TO BE ISSUED IN FUTURE WILL BE PROVIDED IN CAPSULES.

EMPTY CAPSULES FOR FIRST THREE COINS ISSUED SO FAR WILL BE PROVIDED WITH EACH CABINET.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1977

- 5 -

INFORMATION PAMPHLET FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY NT CLEARANCES
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT HAS PRODUCED AN INFORMATION PAMPHLET IN CHINESE TO HELP PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CLEARANCES AS THE RESULT OF THE VAST DEVELOPMENTS NOW UNDERWAY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

SPEAKING ON THE +N.T. WEEKLY+ PROGRAMME ON RTHK'S CHINESE SERVICE TODAY, A NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID THE PAMPHLET COULD BE OBTAINED FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICES, TOWN OFFICES AND PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. IT WOULD ALSO BE SENT TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CLEARANCES.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THE SIMPLE, +PRE-CLEARANCE+ PAMPHLET WAS DESIGNED FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE ABOUT TO BE CLEARED OR AFFECTED BY LAND RESUMPTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+IT WILL HELP THEM TO UNDERSTAND THEIR SITUATION AND WHAT ASSISTANCE THEY CAN EXPECT AND OBTAIN FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WITH CLEARANCES,+ HE SAID.

+OFFICE ADDRESSES OF THESE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE LISTED AT THE END OF THE PAMPHLET AND STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENTS WILL BE PLEASED TO HELP SOLVE ANY PROBLEM OF THOSE AFFECTED.+

MR. GREGORY CHAN, SENIOR HOUSING MANAGER IN CHARGE OF CLEARANCES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND MR. PETER NG, DISTRICT OFFICER OF TUEN MUN, ALSO APPEARED ON THE RADIO PROGRAMME.

MR. CHAN SAID PEOPLE ARE BOUND TO BE AFFECTED OR INCONVENIENCED, IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, BY CLEARANCES.

+BUT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL ACCOMMODATE THEM IN EITHER PUBLIC HOUSING OR IN A TEMPORARY LICENSED AREA, DEPENDING ON THEIR ELIGIBILITY,+ HE ADDED.

+NEEDY FAMILIES MAY ALSO GET DOMESTIC REMOVAL ALLOWANCE RANGING FROM \$600 TO \$1,000 ACCORDING TO THE SIZE OF THE FAMILY.+

MR. PETER NG SAID AS FAR AS TUEN MUN WAS CONCERNED PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CLEARANCE COULD BE ACCOMMODATED EITHER IN TAI HING OR SUN FAT ESTATES.

HE POINTED OUT THAT TAI HING ESTATE HAD NOT ONLY ALL THE NECESSARY FACILITIES SUCH AS SCHOOLS, MARKETS, PARKS AND CLINICS, BUT ALSO THE CHEAPEST RENTS IN ALL PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1977

- 6 -

REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE AT
SHA TAU KOK GOVERNMENT SCHOOL
* * * * *

A TEAM FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE WILL CONDUCT REGISTRATIONS AT SHA TAU KOK GOVERNMENT SCHOOL FOR RESIDENTS AND PERSONS LIVING IN SHA TAU KOK AND NEARBY AREAS ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 29 AND 30).

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. ON THE TWO DAYS.

THE VISIT IS TO ENABLE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN AND WARD BETWEEN 11 AND 17 YEARS OF AGE FOR JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS AND HOLDERS OF JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS TO REGISTER FOR ADULT IDENTITY CARDS ON REACHING 18 YEARS OF AGE.

ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THIS AREA ARE REMINDED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO REGISTER THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN FOR IDENTITY CARDS AND TO REPORT CHANGES OF EMPLOYMENT OR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES, MARITAL STATUS, OR ANY OTHER PARTICULARS WHICH HAVE CHANGED SINCE REGISTERING FOR THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

- - - - 0 - - - -