



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, January 28, 1974

CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Mr. Peter Lloyd is to become Deputy Governor of Bermuda	1
Hong Kong's domestic exports last year increased by 27 per cent	2
Three killed and 25 injured on rail tracks last year	4
Wu York Yu Clinic officially opens this Friday	5
UMELCO Secretary retiring shortly	6
Court fines 19 defendants a total of \$40,850 for illegal storage of dangerous goods	7
Lunar New Year party for Fire Services staff and families ..	10
N.T. District Commissioner to host luncheon for rural leaders	10

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Daily guide to wholesale prices and supply of basic food commodities

Release time: 7.30 p.m.

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 1 -

SENIOR BERMUDA POST FOR MR. LLOYD

Mr. L.M. Davies To Take Over As Secretary For Security

Mr. Peter Lloyd, Secretary for Security, is to be appointed Deputy Governor of Bermuda, it was announced today.

He will leave Hong Kong in early March and take up his new post at the end of April this year.

Succeeding him as Secretary for Security will be Mr. Lewis M. Davies who is at present working as Deputy Secretary in the Environment Branch of the Colonial Secretariat.

Mr. Lloyd came to Hong Kong in 1971 and was Defence Secretary prior to his appointment as Secretary for Security. He was previously Colonial Secretary of the Seychelles from 1961 to 1966 and Chief Secretary of Fiji from 1966 to 1970.

Mr. Davies, who is 51 years old, arrived in Hong Kong last November and has since been attached to the Environment Branch as Deputy Secretary.

He joined the Overseas Civil Service in 1948 and was Chief Secretary of the Western Pacific High Commission from 1965 to 1970, and Deputy Governor of the Bahamas from 1970 to 1973.

As Secretary for Security, Mr. Davies will be responsible for co-ordinating policy and programmes covering external security, emergencies, internal law and order, immigration, prisons, narcotics and fire services.

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Note to Editors: Copies of Mr. Davies' photograph are boxed for collection.

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/2

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 2 -

1973 EXPORTS UP BY 27 PER CENT

The value of Hong Kong's domestic exports last year amounted to \$19,475 million - an increase of \$4,229 million or 27.7 per cent over 1972, according to provisional trade figures released today by the Census and Statistics Department.

Imports during the year increased in value by 33.3 per cent to \$29,005 million while the value of re-exports was \$6,525 million, an increase of 57.1 per cent.

"This was achieved in testing and uncertain trading conditions and is a tribute to the resilience and strength of the economy and the enterprise and hard work of our industrialists, merchants and workers," said Mr. Maurice Sargant, Assistant Director of Commerce and Industry.

For the month of December 1973, the total value of domestic exports amounted to \$1,960 million -- an increase of \$747 million or 61.6 per cent over December 1972.

The value of imports during the month increased by 54.4 per cent and that for re-exports by 58.9 per cent over the previous December.

Following is a list of the provisional trade figures with comparative tables:

<u>MERCHANDISE:</u>	Domestic Exports	: \$1,960 million
	Imports	: \$3,058 million
	Re-exports	: \$ 621 million

/COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 3 -

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	December 1973 \$ Mn.	December 1972 \$ Mn.	Increase or decrease	
			\$ Mn.	%
Domestic Exports	1,960	1,213	+ 747	+61.6
Imports	3,058	1,980	+1,078	+54.4
Re-exports	621	391	+ 230	+58.9
	<u>Oct.-Dec. 1973</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Oct.-Dec. 1972</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Increase or decrease</u>	
			\$ Mn.	%
Domestic Exports	5,794	4,044	+1,750	+43.3
Imports	9,109	5,796	+3,313	+57.2
Re-exports	2,023	1,201	+ 822	+68.5
	<u>Jan.-Dec. 1973</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Jan.-Dec. 1972</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Increase or decrease</u>	
			\$ Mn.	%
Domestic Exports	19,475	15,245	+4,229	+27.7
Imports	29,005	21,764	+7,241	+33.3
Re-exports	6,525	4,154	+2,371	+57.1

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

Monday, January 28, 1974.

- 4 -

DEATH ON THE RAIL TRACKS

Do Not Play On Trains Warning

Parents were urged today to impress on their children the dangers of playing on trains and railway tracks.

In issuing the warning, a Railway spokesman said that three passengers were killed last year when falling off trains which were not crowded and 25 others were injured while boarding or alighting from trains.

He noted that there was a tendency on the part of children to play on trains by running through carriages.

"This is very dangerous as it is easy to lose one's balance and fall off the train when it negotiates a curve or when a locomotive driver applies brakes," he stressed.

"Parents should therefore impress on their children that running through trains, as well as playing on carriage platforms and staircases, may result in serious accidents."

The spokesman also warned against the dangerous practice of jumping off and attempting to board a train while it is still moving.

Passengers should wait until the train comes to a complete stop, and they should make full use of the seats and standing room inside the carriages instead of taking risks by travelling on carriage platforms and staircases which are not intended for this.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 5 -

OPENING OF WU YORK YU CLINIC

Note to Editors: The Wu York Yu Clinic, a new Medical and Health Department standard clinic and maternity home in Tsz Wan Shan, will be officially opened this Friday (February 1).

Officiating will be Mr. Wu Yee-sun, chairman of the Wing Lung Bank, who together with his brother, Mr. Wu Jieh-yee, donated \$800,000 towards half of the construction cost in memory of their late father, after whom the clinic is named.

Dr. Gerald Choa, Director of Medical and Health Services, will attend and address the gathering.

You are invited to have the ceremony covered. It will be held at 3.30 p.m. on Friday in the grounds of the clinic, Sheung Fung Street, Tsz Wan Shan. Refreshments will be served.

Transport will be provided for media representatives. They are requested to assemble at the sub-pool behind the Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office before 2.10 p.m. that day. Information Officer Mr. Mak King-yiu will be on hand to assist them.

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/6

Monday, January 28, 1974

UMELCO SECRETARY RETIRING

Mr. Au Wai-sum, Secretary of UMELCO, is retiring this week after nearly 10 years of service with the office.

To mark the occasion, Sir Robert Rodrigues, senior member of UMELCO, will present him with a souvenir on Friday (February 1).

Mr. Au first joined the General Clerical Service in 1930. He was promoted to Executive Officer Class II in 1947, Chinese Assistant to the Secretary for Chinese Affairs in 1952, and Assistant Secretary for Chinese Affairs in 1960. He was appointed to his present post in 1964.

Mr. Au was awarded the MBE and appointed an unofficial Justice of the Peace in 1965.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the presentation covered. It will take place at 12 noon in the UMELCO Office, Windsor House, third floor, on Friday.

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/7

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 7 -

NINETEEN FINED A TOTAL OF \$40,850
For Illegal Storage Of Dangerous Goods

A Tai O woman, who stored almost 1,900 gallons of kerosene on open ground in front of her shop without a licence was told by Magistrate Mr. F.W. Blackwell, at Tsuen Wan Magistracy today: "This was tantamount to putting a bomb in the middle of the village."

The woman, Miss So Foon-yung, of 77 Kut Hing Street, Tai O Island, pleaded guilty to storing 43 x 44 gallon drums of kerosene without a valid licence granted by the Director of Fire Services.

She was one of 22 defendants appearing before Mr. Blackwell on similar and other charges, which arose from a series of dawn raids by officers of the Fire Prevention Bureau on January 15.

Fines totalling \$40,850 were imposed on the defendants, all of whom pleaded guilty. Two other defendants pleaded not guilty and their cases will be heard on February 8. The case of another defendant was adjourned for one week.

Divisional Officer Li Kwok-choi, prosecuting, said Miss So held a licence to store dangerous goods, but it was in connection with premises about 10 minutes' walk from 77 Kut Hing Street.

"The Fire Services Department realise the need for the storage of dangerous goods on offshore islands and have, in fact, issued a licence to the defendant for many years, but it was issued with the fire safety of the island in mind," Divisional Officer Li told the Court. "This is why the store is sited on the hillside, away from the middle of the village."

/He said

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 8 -

He said that the drums belonging to Miss So were stored in the middle of the village by her shop.

"Due to the remoteness of this island," he said, "the Fire Services Department feared that, in the event of a fire, involving such large quantities of dangerous goods, the entire village would be wiped out before any re-inforcements from Hong Kong could arrive. The defendant has been a licensee of dangerous goods for many years and is aware of the dangerous properties of such goods and should certainly not pose such a serious hazard by placing goods in this area."

Miss So, when asked by Mr. Blackwell if she had anything to say, pointed out the existence of a dangerous goods licence, but Mr. Li said that this had no relevance to the case.

Imposing a fine of \$4,000, Mr. Blackwell said: "This was tantamount to putting a bomb in the middle of the village. You had no thought for the safety of the other villagers. It was a most selfish act."

Fines totalling \$7,000 were imposed on the Sang Hing Hong Company Limited, of 84, Chung On Street, Tsuen Wan, who pleaded guilty to two summonses of storing dangerous goods without a licence, one summons of carrying dangerous goods without approval and two summonses of depositing dangerous goods on a parked vehicle for an unreasonable period of time.

The total amount of dangerous goods involved in the summonses was 3,200 gallons of kerosene, 1,976 gallons of diesel oil and 118 containers of liquefied petroleum gas, which were placed in locations at Tsuen Wan, Kwai Chung and Fanling. The company stated that the goods were awaiting delivery to customers.

/Madam

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 9 -

Hadam Mok Lai-fong, of 40 Cheung Shui Street, ground floor, Kowloon, was fined \$4,500 after pleading guilty to three summonses of storing dangerous goods on board parked and unattended vehicles without valid licences.

Divisional Officer Li said that there would be no request for confiscation of the goods in this, or any, of the cases as "we don't wish to create a fuel shortage."

Miss Yu Shook-fai, of Tai Fat Hong, 464 Tai On Building (4th floor), Shaukiwan Road, Hong Kong, pleaded guilty to storing 400 gallons of kerosene on the pavement in front of No. 19, Block 6, Chai Wan Estate, ground floor, Hong Kong.

Mr. Li told the Court that the defendant operated a retail shop at Chai Wan Estate, but could not hold a licence to store dangerous goods because the premises were situated near a domestic building.

"The risk posed by storing this quantity of dangerous goods in such an estate is extremely serious," Mr. Li declared.

Miss Yu was fined \$2,500. Mr. Blackwell asked her: "What would have happened if someone had thrown a lighted cigarette into the kerosene? How many people do you think might have been killed or maimed through your carelessness?"

- - - - 0 - - - -

/10

Monday, January 28, 1974

- 10 -

FIRE SERVICES FAMILY DAYS

Miss Rebecca Pan, Miss Frances Yip, Miss Sum Sum and her sisters -- these are some of the stars who will be performing during the Fire Services Department's Chinese New Year Family Days to be held at the Lee Theatre on Wednesday and Thursday (January 30 and 31).

The event is being held over two days so that all members of the department will be given an opportunity to attend.

The programme, which lasts three hours, has been arranged and produced by Miss Pan.

Also taking part will be Miss Ko Siu-hing, Mr. Bau Li, Miss Susana Kwan, Miss Wah Wah, Miss Choi Nai-ching, Mr. Tao Siu-ming, Mr. Kam Kong, Mr. Kam Kwai, Mr. Peter Chan, Miss Chan Ping (guest star), the Monsoon and the T.V.B. Dancers, Mr. Anthony Au and his Colourful Combo, the Hong Kong Fire Services Chinese Musical Band, directed by Divisional Officer Cheung Shu-shing, as well as performers from Radio Hong Kong and Commercial Radio.

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YAN YAT LUNCHEON FOR N.T. ELDERS

Note to Editors: The District Commissioner of the New Territories, Mr. David Akers-Jones, will host his annual Yan Yat luncheon party for some 300 New Territories personalities at the Peninsula Hotel at 1 p.m. tomorrow (Tuesday).

Among those attending will be members of the Heung Yee Kuk, the rural committees, and village representatives.

You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the occasion.

- - - - 0 - - - -

Monday, January 28, 1974

CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

Daily Guide To Wholesale Market Prices And Supplies

The following prices were realised today (Monday) at sales under the Rice Control Scheme and at the Vegetable Marketing Organisation Wholesale Market and the Fish Marketing Organisation Wholesale Market at Cheung Sha Wan, Kowloon:

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Rice

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>
<u>China Rice</u>		<u>Average</u>
See Mew -- old crop	Good	1.80
-- new crop		1.84
S.C.Jion -- old crop	Good	1.74
new crop		1.78
Po Ngai	Good	1.47
Chu Cho	Good	--
<u>Thai Rice</u>		
100% Whole	Good	1.74
10-15% Broken	Good	1.69
A1 Super Extra	Good	1.52
A1 Super	Good	1.42
Whole Glutinous	Good	1.82
<u>U.S. Rice</u>	Good	1.74
<u>Australian Rice</u>	Good	1.72
<u>Pakistan Rice</u>	Good	1.42
<u>Taiwan Rice</u>	Good	--

/Supplies and

Monday, January 28, 1974

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Marine Fish

<u>Species</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>		
		<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Average</u>
Golden Thread	Limited	5.25	3.5	4.2
Big-Eyes	Limited	2.8	1.6	2.0
Squid	Scarce	6.5	4.5	6.0
Hair-Tails	Limited	2.8	1.5	2.5
Lizard Fishes	Scarce	4.9	1.8	3.5
Croakers	Scarce	3.2	1.4	2.2
Conger-Fillets	Scarce	4.0	3.2	3.5
Melon Coat	Limited	3.3	1.9	2.6
Breams	"	"	"	"
Yellow Belly	"	"	"	"
Hackerels	Scarce	6.0	4.5	5.0
Red Goat Fish	Limited	2.0	1.2	1.6
Fork-Tail	"	"	"	"
Horse-Head	Limited	6.5	3.8	5.0
Melon Seed	Limited	4.0	3.2	3.5
Penfrets	Scarce	9.0	8.0	8.5
Garoupas	"	"	"	"
Yellow Croaker	"	"	"	"

/Supplies and

Monday, January 28, 1974

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of

Locally Produced Vegetables

<u>Type</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>		
		<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Average</u>
Flowering cabbage	Normal	1.4	0.3	0.8
White cabbage	Good	0.8	0.2	0.5
Chinese Lettuce	Good	0.8	0.2	0.5
Chinese Kale	Good	0.8	0.15	0.5
Spring onion	Limited	1.6	0.6	1.2
Spinach	Good	0.8	0.2	0.5
Water cress	Good	1.3	0.2	0.7
Leaf mustard cabbage	-	-	-	-
Tomato	Normal	1.2	0.4	0.8

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Pork (Live weight)

	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price</u>
		<u>(\$/ picul)</u>
		(Average)
Pork	Normal	285