



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1974.

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INTEGRATED SCIENCE COURSES FOR H.K. PROPOSED
PILOT SCHEME PROVED SUCCESSFUL

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING THE INTRODUCTION OF INTEGRATED SCIENCE COURSES INTO JUNIOR FORMS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ARTHUR BROWN, DISCLOSED TODAY.

THE INTEGRATED SCIENCE COURSE TO BE ADAPTED FOR USE IN HONG KONG HAD BEEN DEVELOPED IN SCOTLAND, AND TRIED AND TESTED BOTH THERE AND OVERSEAS. HE SAID IT AIMED AT OFFERING KNOWLEDGE WHICH WAS COMPLETELY RELEVANT TO THE MODERN WORLD.

MR. BROWN EMPHASISED THAT THE COURSES WOULD BE MODIFIED AND DEVELOPED TO SUIT THE NEEDS OF HONG KONG STUDENTS.

FOUR TUTORS FROM SCOTLAND HAD CONDUCTED AN IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSE HERE LAST SUMMER FOR SCIENCE TEACHERS IN THE LOWER FORMS. THEY WOULD RETURN HERE LATE THIS MONTH TO CONTINUE THE TRAINING PROGRAMME, HE SAID.

+THIS IS A KIND OF EXPERIMENT-ORIENTED LEARNING, USING LABORATORY AS PLACE OF EXPLORATION,+ HE EXPLAINED. +IT OFFERS TRAINING IN OBSERVATION AS WELL AS IN THE ABILITY TO ASSESS AND RELATE OBSERVED DATA.+

INSTEAD OF LEARNING FROM TEXT BOOK, STUDENTS OF INTEGRATED SCIENCE ARE GIVEN WORK-SHEETS FROM TIME TO TIME. THEY WORK IN THE LABORATORY AND RECORD WHAT THEY OBSERVE AS THE EXPERIMENTS GO ON.

+THIS IS HOW A SCIENTIST WOULD APPROACH THE PROBLEM,+ MR. BROWN SAID.

IT MAKES THE SITUATION EVEN MORE REALISTIC BY KNOCKING DOWN THE BARRIERS BETWEEN SEPARATE SCIENCE SUBJECTS SUCH AS PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY AND TEACHING SCIENCE AS ONE COHESIVE WHOLE, HE ADDED.

AS A PILOT SCHEME, THE INTEGRATED SCIENCE COURSES HAD BEEN ADOPTED IN FORM 1 CLASSES OF 20 SCHOOLS IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR AND IT HAS PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

+A FEW MORE SCHOOLS ALSO EXPRESSED INTERESTS IN JOINING THE SCHEME TO ADOPT THE SUBJECT IN THEIR JUNIOR FORMS,+ SAID MR. BROWN.

TOUCHING ON THE QUESTION OF EXAMINATIONS, MR. BROWN FELT THAT CHANGES IN THE TEACHING IN LOWER FORMS WOULD INEVITABLY INFLUENCE THE WORK IN UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

HOWEVER, THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION BOARD WAS CONSIDERING WHAT, IF ANY, CHANGES WERE NEEDED IN THE EXAMINATIONS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS, STARTING OFF WITH THIS COURSE IN SCIENCE.

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CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO DISPOSE OF RUBBISH URGED

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THE PROBLEM OF WATERBORNE POLLUTION WILL CONTINUE VIRTUALLY UNCHECKED UNTIL EVERYONE MAKES A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THEIR LITTER OR WASTE PRODUCTS ARE DISPOSED OF IN THE CORRECT WAY.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MR. JAMES ROBSON, STRESSED THIS TODAY IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE HONG KONG LIFE GUARD CLUB RESCUE AWARDS HELD AT THE LORD MOUNTBATTEN YOUTH CENTRE IN REPULSE BAY.

HE NOTED THAT UNFORTUNATELY MANY PEOPLE HAD THE MISGUIDED BELIEF THAT THE SEA WAS THE ENDLESS DUSTBIN WHERE RUBBISH WOULD JUST MAGICALLY DISAPPEAR ONCE THROWN INTO IT.

+THIS IS NOT SO. ALL TOO OFTEN IT COMES BACK ONTO THE BEACHES AND LOWERS THE QUALITY OF THE WATER WHERE WE SWIM.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE MARINE DEPARTMENT OPERATED A SPECIAL HARBOUR CLEANSING FLEET AND THERE WERE PLANS TO EXPAND THIS FLEET TO SERVE SUCH AREAS AS CHAI WAN AND JUNK BAY. BUT EVEN THIS WOULD BE VERY LIMITED.

MR. ROBSON ALSO DREW SPECIAL ATTENTION TO ONE +DISTURBING ASPECT+ WHICH HAD DEVELOPED ALONG WITH THE SUDDEN POPULARITY IN SWIMMING, ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY AS A RESULT OF IT+AND THIS IS THE INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF POLLUTION WHICH IS NOW VISIBLE THROUGHOUT THE WATERS OF THE COLONY.+

COMMENTING ON LIFE SAVING AT SEA, THE SECRETARY HIGHLY PRAISED THE CLUB FOR ITS VITAL ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING LIFE THROUGHOUT THE WATERS OF HONG KONG. HE STRESSED THAT IT WAS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE THAT, IN ITS 18 YEARS OF EXISTENCE, MEMBERS OF THE CLUB HAD SAVED 5,661 LIVES.

THE CLUB, HE CONTINUED, HONOURED CITIZENS WHO HAD RESCUED LIVES AT SEA, AND IT MUST BE A MATTER OF SOME PRIDE THAT EACH YEAR THE MAJORITY OF THE AWARDS WENT TO FISHERMEN.

+THIS ALL TOO CLEARLY DISPELS THE OLD FASHIONED BELIEF THAT IT WAS AGAINST THE WILL OF TIN HAU TO RESCUE PEOPLE WHO WERE DROWNING. IN FACT, IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, 61 LIVES HAVE BEEN SAVED BY FISHERMEN.+

AT THE CEREMONY, MR. ROBSON PRESENTED RESCUE STARS AND CERTIFICATES TO 18 FISHERMEN, FIVE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE AND A LIFE GUARD CLUB MEMBER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF MR. ROBSON'S FULL TEXT OF SPEECH ARE BOXED SEPARATELY TODAY.

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SHIP MASTERS WARNED OF TYPHOON PRECAUTION

SHIP MASTERS ARE TODAY REMINDED OF THE PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN DURING THE PASSAGE OF TROPICAL CYCLONES AFFECTING HONG KONG.

IN A NOTICE ISSUED TO OWNERS, AGENTS AND CHARTERERS, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE POINTED OUT THAT IN THE PAST MANY VESSELS HAVE NOT BEEN ADEQUATELY MANNED DURING THE HOISTING OF LOCAL STORM SIGNALS.

+SUCH INADEQUATE MANNING HAS POSED A DANGER TO OTHER VESSELS USING THE PORT AT THE SAME TIME, + HE STRESSED.

SUFFICIENT MANNING AT ALL TIMES IS REQUIRED OF ALL SHIPS WITHIN HONG KONG WATERS UNDER THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (CONTROL OF PORTS) REGULATIONS. CONTRAVENTION OF THIS IS LIABLE, ON SUMMARY CONVICTION, TO A FINE OF \$1,000.

MASTERS OF VESSELS EQUIPPED WITH V.H.F. ARE ADVISED TO MAINTAIN A LISTENING WATCH ON CHANNEL 12 FOR INFORMATION BROADCAST BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT PORT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE.

THOSE WITHOUT V.H.F. SHOULD MAINTAIN NORMAL RADIO WATCHES AND LISTEN TO WEATHER BROADCASTS FROM THE LOCAL RADIO OR TELEVISION STATIONS.

A TOTAL OF 60 MOORINGS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR SPECIAL TYPHOON USE. THIRTY-EIGHT OF THESE ARE +A+ CLASS FOR SHIPS NOT EXCEEDING 600 FEET IN LENGTH. THE REST ARE +B+ CLASS FOR SHIPS NOT EXCEEDING 370 FEET.

THE LATEST LIST OF THESE MOORINGS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE PORT CONTROL OFFICE (TEL. 5-450181 EXT.275) DURING NORMAL OFFICE HOURS, OR FROM THE PORT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE (TEL. 5-450181 EXT.281) OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS.

ALTHOUGH AN ANCHOR IS NOT ALLOWED TO BE DROPPED +UNDER FOOT+ AT A MOORING DURING NORMAL WEATHER CONDITIONS, IT IS PERMISSIBLE TO DO SO IN STRONG WINDS AT AN APPROVED TYPHOON MOORING TO MINIMISE SHEERING, BUT ONLY IF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE MOORING IS NOT IMPAIRED.

ADVICE ON STORM PRECAUTIONS ARE CONTAINED IN THE MARINE DEPARTMENT PUBLICATION, +SHIPMASTERS GUIDE - PART I - TROPICAL CYCLONES AFFECTING HONG KONG WATERS,+ WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION COUNTER AT 102, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

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WEATHER IN MAY MAINLY FINE

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THE WEATHER IN MAY WAS WARMER, SUNNIER AND DRIER THAN USUAL, AND THE TOTAL RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH WAS 203.7 MM, WHICH WAS 30 PER CENT BELOW NORMAL.

ACCORDING TO A MONTHLY WEATHER ROUNDUP ISSUED TODAY BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, THE WEATHER BETWEEN MAY 5 AND 24 WAS MAINLY FINE, WITH ONLY CLOUDY INTERVALS AND BRIEF PATCHES OF MORNING RAIN ON SEVERAL DAYS.

HOWEVER, THE WEATHER BECAME UNSETTLED LATER ON IN THE MONTH, AND HEAVY THUNDERSTORM OCCURRED ON THE MORNING OF MAY 30, CAUSING THE DEATH OF THREE CAMPERS ON LANTAO ISLAND.

A TOTAL OF EIGHT THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WAS ISSUED LAST MONTH.

NO AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED IN THE PERIOD DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER, AND NO FIRE DANGER WARNINGS WERE ISSUED.

THE ONLY TROPICAL CYCLONE FORMED DURING THE MONTH, TYPHOON +CARLA+, WAS LOCATED TO THE SOUTHEAST OF GUAM AND DID NOT AFFECT HONG KONG.

THE HIGHEST TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH OF 32.6 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON MAY 23, AND THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 21 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON MAY 3.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A FULL WEATHER REPORT FOR MAY, PREPARED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, IS BOXED SEPARATELY TODAY.

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PINNACLE OF ROCK IN ABERDEEN TYPHOON SHELTER

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MASTERS AND OPERATORS OF VESSELS ARE ADVISED TO PROCEED WITH CAUTION WHEN NAVIGATING IN THE VICINITY OF THE ABERDEEN SOUTH TYPHOON SHELTER TO AVOID HITTING THE PINNACLE OF A ROCK.

IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED TODAY (SATURDAY), THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT A ROCK WITH A LEAST DEPTH OF FIVE FEET EXISTS IN THE TYPHOON SHELTER AT A POSITION APPROXIMATELY 25 FEET NORTH-WESTWARD OF THE ABERDEEN SOUTH PORT HAND FAIRWAY BUOY OFF PAK SHA WAN.

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REMOVAL OF RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT

A NUMBER OF DIVISIONS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT, FORMERLY ACCOMMODATED AT 1, GARDEN ROAD AND 99, QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG, HAVE NOW MOVED TO NEW OFFICES ON THE 17TH AND 18TH FLOORS OF THE NEW MERCURY HOUSE AT 22, FENWICK STREET, WAN CHAI.

THEY ARE THE RENT CONTROL DIVISION AND RATING DIVISIONS FOR HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND NEW KOWLOON.

WITH EFFECT FROM MONDAY, JUNE 10, THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR THE NEW OFFICES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:-

RATING DIVISIONS : 5-281424

RENT CONTROL DIVISION : 5-271385 (CHONG KONG ISLAND)
5-271455 (MAINLAND)

HOWEVER, THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT TOGETHER WITH THE NEW TERRITORIES RATING, LEASING, AND SPECIAL PROPERTIES DIVISIONS WILL CONTINUE TO BE HOUSED AT 1, GARDEN ROAD. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THIS BUILDING WILL REMAIN AT 5-249021.

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CLOSURE OF ACCESS ROAD IN SHA TIN

A SECTION OF THE ACCESS ROAD TO TUNG LO WAN, SHA TIN, WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR TWO MONTHS FROM 10 A.M. NEXT MONDAY (JUNE 10) TO FACILITATE DRAINAGE WORKS.

IN ORDER TO REGULATE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TWO-WAY TRAFFIC WOULD BE IMPOSED ALONG BOTH END SECTIONS OF THE ACCESS ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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