



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1977

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FURTHER CUTS IN CONCESSIONARY WATER SUPPLIES

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THE P.W.D.'S DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. WILLIAM TUCKER TODAY ANNOUNCED FURTHER CUTS IN CONCESSIONARY WATER SUPPLIES IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING SERIOUSNESS OF HONG KONG'S WATER STORAGE POSITION.

FROM TOMORROW:

- * ALL PUBLIC TRANSPORT VEHICLES WILL NOT BE WASHED WITH FRESH WATER, NOR WILL ANY GOVERNMENT VEHICLE APART FROM THOSE WHICH REQUIRE CLEANING IN THE INTERESTS OF HYGIENE=
- * AUTOMATIC CAR WASHERS WILL NO LONGER BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE=
- * THE DIRECT USE OF MAINS WATER FOR PRIVATE GARDENS WILL BE BANNED.

MR. TUCKER SAID THAT BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN A SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION IN THE STORAGE POSITION, THESE CONCESSIONARY SUPPLIES COULD NO LONGER BE MAINTAINED.

DESPITE THE SHORTAGE, SOME CONCESSIONARY SUPPLIES WOULD BE CONTINUED FOR THE MOMENT, BUT MR. TUCKER WARNED THAT THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WOULD BE KEEPING A CLOSE WATCH ON THESE CONCESSIONARY WATER USERS TO ENSURE THAT THERE WERE NO ABUSES.

INCLUDED IN THESE EXCEPTIONS ARE THE USE OF MAINS WATER FOR +TOPPING UP+ OF PUBLIC AND CLUB SWIMMING POOLS.

THE FILLING OR REFILLING OF ALL POOLS HAS ALREADY BEEN BANNED.

MAINS WATER MAY STILL BE USED FOR WASHING DOWN COMMON AREAS IN HOUSING ESTATES, BAZAARS AND MARKETS, BUT INCREASED EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS MAXIMUM ECONOMY IN THE USE OF WATER FOR THESE PURPOSES.

MR. TUCKER SAID THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO LAUNCH A LETTER CAMPAIGN AIMED AT ENCOURAGING BUILDING MANAGERMENTS TO HELP CONSERVE WATER AND AVOID WASTE.

MR. TUCKER SAID HIS DEPARTMENT HAD ALREADY INTENSIFIED ITS EFFORTS TO AVOID WASTAGE, AND STAFF OF THE WATERWORKS WASTE DETECTION AND PROSECUTION UNITS WERE ON FULL ALERT TO CHECK ANY LEAKAGES IN THE MAINS AND TO CLAMP DOWN ON WATER WASTERS.

+WE HAVE ALSO SET UP +HOT LINES+ ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR TO WHICH PEOPLE CAN REPORT INSTANCES OF WASTAGE OR LEAKS AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT SO THAT PROMPT ACTION CAN BE TAKEN,+ HE SAID.

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+THE NUMBER TO CALL ON HONG KONG ISLAND IS 5-726311, AND 3-948261 FOR KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.+

OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE CO-OPERATING WITH THE P.W.D. IN THE CAMPAIGN TO SAVE WATER.

THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS USING WELL, NULLAH AND STREAM WATER WHEREVER POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN ITS GARDENS.

WHERE THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE, MAINS WATER IS BEING USED, BUT NEVER WITH A HOSE - ALL WATERING BEING CARRIED OUT BY HAND.

THE U.S.D. HAS ALSO SUSPENDED THE PLANTING OF FLOWERS AND SHRUBS PENDING THE LIFTING OF THE WATER RESTRICTIONS.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IS EDUCATING ITS TENANTS TO AVOID WASTAGE AND NOTICES AND POSTERS HAVE BEEN PUT UP IN ALL ESTATES AS A FURTHER REMINDER TO RESIDENTS TO CONSERVE WATER.

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APPEAL FOR RESPONSE TO EMPLOYMENT SURVEY

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OVER 25,000 ESTABLISHMENTS HAVE RETURNED THE SURVEY CARDS IN RESPONSE TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT IN IMPORT/EXPORT, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE PROMPT RESPONSE BY THESE ESTABLISHMENTS, AND APPEALED TO OTHERS WHO HAVE NOT YET RETURNED THE SURVEY CARDS TO DO SO QUICKLY SO AS TO ENABLE EARLY RELEASE OF SURVEY RESULTS.

REMINDER LETTERS WITH COPIES OF SURVEY CARDS HAVE BEEN SENT TO ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH HAVE NOT YET RESPONDED TO THE SURVEY. MANAGERMENTS ARE URGED TO COMPLETE THE CARDS AND TO RETURN THEM IMMEDIATELY TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT USING THE POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPES PROVIDED.

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GOVERNOR VISITS WATCH FACTORY

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL BE PAYING ANOTHER VISIT TO A FACTORY TOMORROW (MONDAY) - HIS SECOND IN LESS THAN A WEEK. THIS TIME, SIR MURRAY VISITS A WATCH FACTORY, REMEX INTERNATIONAL LIMITED, AT WONG CHUK HANG, ABERDEEN.

THE GOVERNOR WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. BILL DORWARD, AND A PRINCIPAL TRADE OFFICER OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH, MR. NICHOLAS YEK.

SUCH VISITS ARE UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNOR PERIODICALLY IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT SEE FOR HIMSELF SOMETHING OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS PROBLEMS.

REMEX INTERNATIONAL LIMITED WAS FORMED IN 1968 AND IS A MEMBER OF THE HERALD GROUP OF COMPANIES. IT IMPORTS COMPONENT PARTS OF WATCHES FROM SWITZERLAND, FRANCE AND GERMANY, AND ASSEMBLES THESE INTO COMPLETE MOVEMENTS. ITS ANNUAL PRODUCTION IS APPROXIMATELY 7-1/2 MILLION WATCH MOVEMENTS WHICH IS THE LARGEST PRODUCTION UNDER ONE ROOF - IN QUANTITY - ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

THE COMPANY SELLS ABOUT 65 PER CENT OF THE MOVEMENTS TO OTHER HONG KONG WATCH EXPORTERS AND 35 PER CENT TO THEIR OWN SUBSIDIARY, INTERNATIONAL PRECISION TIME LIMITED, WHICH CONVERTS THE MOVEMENTS INTO COMPLETE WATCHES AND EXPORTS THEM.

HONG KONG'S WATCH INDUSTRY HAS EXPANDED RAPIDLY IN RECENT YEARS, AND IS CURRENTLY ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING INDUSTRIES HERE.

AT THE END OF LAST YEAR, THERE WERE OVER 620 FACTORIES EMPLOYING MORE THAN 19,000 WORKERS, OR ABOUT 2.5 PER CENT, OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE PRODUCING WATCHES, WATCH CASES, DIALS, METAL WATCH BANDS AND ASSEMBLED WATCH MOVEMENTS. AN INCREASING NUMBER OF FACTORIES ARE ALSO MANUFACTURING ELECTRONIC DIGITAL QUARTZ WATCHES.

IN 1976, HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF WATCHES, WATCH PARTS AND ACCESSORIES WERE VALUED AT HK\$1,264 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 72 PER CENT OVER 1975. IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1977 DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY OVER 29 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE UNITED STATES AND SWITZERLAND ARE HONG KONG'S MAJOR MARKETS. OTHER IMPORTANT MARKETS ARE THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, SINGAPORE AND JAPAN.

SIR MURRAY WILL BE MET ON ARRIVAL AT REMEX INTERNATIONAL LIMITED BY THE COMPANY'S CHAIRMAN, MR. GEORGE BLOCH, MR. ADRIAN HOUTZAAGER (DIRECTOR), MR. AUSTIN LEE CHING CHANG (DIRECTOR) AND MR. ROGER TSUI HING SHING (FACTORY MANAGER).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE VISIT. THE GOVERNOR ARRIVES AT THE FACTORY, AT YALLY INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, NO. 6, YIP FAT STREET, WONG CHUK HANG, AT 2.50 P.M. YOU REPRESENTATIVE IS ADVISED TO ARRIVE A LITTLE EARLIER.

MAY -- A CRUCIAL MONTH FOR STUDENTS AND
PRINTING DEPARTMENT
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MAY HAD BEEN A CRUCIAL MONTH FOR MANY STUDENTS AND THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT BECAUSE BOTH HAD TO FACE THE SECONDARY SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AND THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION.

EVERY YEAR, THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT MUST HAVE READY BEFORE THIS TIME ALL THE QUESTION PAPERS, ANSWER BOOKS AND OTHER STATIONERY FOR THE TWO EXAMINATIONS.

USUALLY THE DEPARTMENT STARTS PRINTING IN LATE JANUARY, TAKING 3-1/2 TO FOUR MONTHS TO COMPLETE THE WORK.

MR. DENNIS RICK, ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT PRINTER, SAID THAT THIS YEAR A TOTAL OF 51 STAFF, FIVE OFFSET PRINTING MACHINES AND A VARIETY OF SOPHISTICATED BINDING AND FINISHING EQUIPMENT WERE USED. IN TERMS OF PAPER, QUESTION SHEETS ALONE REQUIRED 68,524 KG. (67.3 TONS) OF PAPER.

FOR THE SECONDARY SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 353,400 COPIES OF QUESTION PAPERS, RUNNING INTO SOME 7,065,000 PAGES, WERE PRINTED.

IN ADDITION, THERE WERE 2,266,180 ANSWER BOOKS, NUMEROUS SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER SHEETS, ROUGH WORK SHEETS AND VARIOUS KINDS OF STATIONERY, MR. RICK POINTED OUT.

JUST LIKE THE STUDENTS, THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT IN FACT, STARTS PREPARING FOR THE SSEE LONG BEFORE THE EXAMINATION STARTS. IT HAS TO PRODUCE FOR EVERY SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE THE CHOICE-OF-SCHOOL FORM.

MR. RICK EXPLAINED THAT THE PRINTING OF THE CHOICE-OF-SCHOOL FORM IS A METICULOUS JOB BECAUSE NOT ONLY DOES THE FORM PROVIDE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE VARIOUS TYPES OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS AVAILABLE, IT HAS TO BE APPENDED WITH A MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF EACH SCHOOL.

FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION, THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT FACED THE CHALLENGING TASK OF MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF 20 MULTIPLE CHOICE PAPERS AND 100 CONVENTIONAL PAPERS WHICH ADDED UP TO 1,381,380 COPIES OF QUESTION PAPERS OR SOME 15,087,560 PAGES, ALL PRODUCED IN CONDITIONS OF STRICT SECURITY.

THE INTRODUCTION OF MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS IN EXAMINATIONS HAS INCREASED THE PRINTING WORK BY MORE THAN HALF BUT THE COMMITMENTS ARE BEING SUCCESSFULLY FULFILLED BY CAREFUL CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE FORM THAT THE PAPERS AND THE STATIONERY SHOULD TAKE AS WELL AS THE PACKAGING OF THE FINISHED PRODUCTS ARE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS GIVEN BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT THEN COLLECTS THE ITEMS ONE BY ONE AS EACH BECOMES AVAILABLE.

AS FOR SURPLUS COPIES AND THOSE WHICH ARE DAMAGED IN THE PROCESS OF BEING PRINTED, THEY ARE PACKED AND SEALED AND EVENTUALLY DESTROYED BY FIRE AFTER THE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF EXAMINATION RESULTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

THIS IS NOT ALL. THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRINTING OF EXAMINATION PAPERS FOR THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION EXAMINATIONS, THE ATTAINMENT AND ABILITY TESTS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE INTERNAL EXAMINATIONS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

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HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR MARINE DEPARTMENT

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE WAN CHAI AND THE YAU MA TEI PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS, AND THE PORT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE WILL BE OPEN AS USUAL ON FRIDAY (JULY 1) WHICH IS A GENERAL HOLIDAY.

THE MACAU FERRY WHARF UNIT OFFICES WILL ALSO BE OPEN FROM 7.30 A.M. TO 1.30 A.M. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY.

ALL OTHER OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE HOLIDAY.

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