



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1977

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FEASIBILITY STUDY OF ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

SYSTEM FOR HARBOUR

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A feasibility study into the use of electronic surveillance system for Hong Kong port will soon be carried out by consultants, a Marine Department spokesman announced today.

A Canadian firm of consultants, Adga Systems International Ltd. of Ottawa, has arrived in Hong Kong last week to begin work.

The study, which is expected to take six months to complete at a cost of over \$600,000, will include :

- \* a survey of a possible electronic surveillance system in the approaches to and within the port of Hong Kong;
- \* advice on the possible benefits to be derived from the introduction of an electronic surveillance system;
- \* advice on the estimated cost of installing and the annual recurrent costs associated with such a system; and
- \* assessment of the desirability or otherwise of phasing out some or all of the existing Marine Department signal stations in the event that an electronic surveillance system is established.

Commenting on the appointment of consultants for the study, which was approved by the Government last year, a Marine Department spokesman said the Department considered that a safe and efficient flow of traffic within Hong Kong waters demanded an effective surveillance system beyond the limitations of existing visual sightings and radio communications.

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"The port of Hong Kong," he said, "is one of the busiest in the world with traffic increasing steadily each year."

"It is the responsibility of the Marine Department to co-ordinate shipping movements within Hong Kong waters so that vessels can enter the port, work their cargoes, and leave, as quickly and as safely as possible. To achieve this it is necessary to keep under surveillance the position and movement of all ships under different conditions," he added.

The spokesman pointed out that the equipment currently available from manufacturers which specialise in harbour traffic control systems consisted of principally radar, television, VHF radio location, or a combination of all three.

A primary radar system cannot identify a vessel which it has located while a television system cannot locate with accuracy a vessel which it has identified. A VHF radio location system can locate and identify only those vessels fitted with operational VHF equipment, the spokesman explained.

"A combination of all three principal systems may prove to be necessary for Hong Kong conditions," he said.

Ports overseas which have installed some form of electronic surveillance system include Hamburg, Rotterdam, Liverpool, London, Southampton, San Francisco and New York.

Note to Editors :

A contract for the feasibility study into the use of electronic surveillance system for Hong Kong port will be signed tomorrow (Tuesday) at 3.30 p.m. between the Marine Department and the consultant firm, Adga Systems International Ltd.

You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the signing ceremony which will take place in the Director of Marine's Office, first floor, Marine Department.

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NEW POSTING FOR RTHK DIRECTOR

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The Director of Broadcasting, Mr. James Hawthorne, will leave Hong Kong towards the end of the year to take up a senior post within the BBC as Controller, Northern Ireland.

Mr. Hawthorne first joined the Hong Kong Government in May 1970 on secondment from the BBC as Controller (Television), and became Director of Broadcasting in November 1972.

A Government spokesman said today Mr. Hawthorne had been a prime force in the development of the Government's radio and television services and would be greatly missed.

"He was particularly effective in building up the government's television service from scratch, and its success is clearly evident in the popularity of such series as 'Viewpoint and Angles' and 'Below the Lion Rock' which has won many awards and is firmly established as one of Hong Kong's most popular programmes," the spokesman said.

"Mr. Hawthorne played a major role in merging Educational Television (ETV) with Radio Television Hong Kong to enable the best use to be made of the creative talent and production resources of the two units.

"He was also prominent in the Asian-Pacific Broadcasting Union in its negotiations over the shared use of international broadcast facilities," the spokesman added.

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## PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST

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The value of domestic exports for last month was \$3,316 million, imports were worth \$3,759 million and re-exports \$841 million, according to the Census and Statistics Department's provisional figures for Hong Kong's external merchandise trade during August.

The figures for the period June to August 1977 (latest three months) published today showed increases by value, compared with the same period in 1976 of 9.7 per cent for domestic exports, 10.3 per cent for imports and 13.6 per cent for re-exports.

Compared with the same month in 1976, increases by value of \$352 million or 11.9 per cent in exports, \$250 million or 7.1 per cent in imports and \$157 million or 23 per cent in re-exports were recorded.

The short-term changes, August 1977 compared with July 1977, showed decreases of \$80 million or 2.4 per cent for domestic exports and \$480 million or 11.3 per cent for imports and an increase of \$26 million or 3.2 per cent for re-exports. Exports, however, remained at a relatively high level compared with the trend in the first half of the year.

The figures for the 12-month period from September 1976 to August 1977 compared with those of the previous 12-month period showed increases by value of 15.7 per cent for domestic exports, 15.2 per cent for imports and 15.8 per cent for re-exports.

The following tables give the comparative figures:-

<u>Latest 3 Months</u>	June-August 1977	June-August 1976	Increase or Decrease	
	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	%
Domestic Exports	9,643	8,791	+ 851	+ 9.7
Imports	11,989	10,866	+1,124	+ 10.3
Re-exports . . .	2,462	2,168	+ 294	+ 13.6

/Same Month . . . . .

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<u>Same Month Last Year</u>	<u>August 1977</u>	<u>August 1976</u>	<u>Increase or Decrease</u>	
	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	%
Domestic Exports (% of total exports)	3,316 (79.8%)	2,964 (81.3%)	+ 352	+ 11.9
Imports	3,759	3,509	+ 250	+ 7.1
Re-exports (% of total exports)	841 (20.2%)	683 (18.7%)	+ 157	+ 23.0
<u>Last Month</u>	<u>August 1977</u>	<u>July 1977</u>	<u>Increase or Decrease</u>	
	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	%
Domestic Exports (% of total exports)	3,316 (79.8%)	3,396 (80.6%)	+ 80	- 2.4
Imports	3,759	4,239	- 480	- 11.3
Re-exports (% of total exports)	841 (20.2%)	815 (19.4%)	+ 26	+ 3.2
<u>Calendar Year To-date</u>	<u>Jan.-August 1977</u>	<u>Jan.-August 1976</u>	<u>Increase or Decrease</u>	
	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	%
Domestic Exports (% of total exports)	22,488 (78.2%)	20,761 (78.5%)	+1,727	+ 8.3
Imports	31,437	27,820	+3,618	+13.0
Re-exports (% of total exports)	6,266 (21.8%)	5,690 (21.5%)	+ 576	+10.1
<u>Last 12 Months</u>	<u>September 1976 to August 1977</u>	<u>September 1975 to August 1976</u>	<u>Increase or Decrease</u>	
	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	\$ mn.	%
Domestic Exports	34,356	29,690	+4,667	+ 15.7
Imports	46,910	40,734	+6,176	+ 15.2
Re-exports	9,503	8,210	+1,294	+ 15.8

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SALE OF SPECIAL STAMPS AND FIRST DAY COVERS

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The Post Office announced today that three special stamps featuring Hong Kong orchids will be issued next month.

The three stamps in 20 cents, \$1.30 and \$2 denominations will be placed on sale at all post offices on October 12.

The series of new stamps shows three species of orchids -- Buttercup, Lady's Slipper and Susan -- which can be found growing in Hong Kong.

Special first day covers at 20 cents each will be placed on sale at all post offices from tomorrow (Tuesday), and the public should obtain their requirements early to avoid disappointment.

Advance orders for servicing of first day covers will be accepted at the General Post Office, Connaught Place; Kowloon Central Post Office, Nathan Road; and Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office, Salisbury Road.

For this service, addressed first day covers must be handed in with an order form and a remittance to cover the cost.

The charge will be \$3.70 per cover which includes the cost of three stamps together with a service fee of 20 cents. The covers must be fully addressed by the applicant, and not less than 10 covers in each order will be accepted.

The order forms will be available at the General Post Office, Kowloon Central Post Office and Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office tomorrow.

Covers addressed to a local destination may be collected on October 13 from the post office where the order was placed. Covers addressed overseas will be sent as ordinary surface mail, unless sufficient stamps are affixed to cover airmail and/or registration charges. The latest acceptance date for advance orders of serviced covers will be 5 p.m. on October 8.

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A service will be provided on October 12 at all post offices whereby first day covers will be accepted over the counter, impressed with the normal post office date chop and handed back to the person presenting them. No time type will appear in the postmark. The special conditions for this service are :

- \* Only articles bearing an indication that they are "First Day Covers" will be so treated;
- \* The articles must be addressed to a local address;
- \* The articles must not bear any other cancellations; and
- \* No registered items will be processed by this method.

Special posting boxes will also be available at the General Post Office, Kowloon Central Post Office and Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office on October 12 for those who wish to have first day covers carefully hand-postmarked before despatch to the address on the covers.

The new stamps will be on display on the first floor public counter of the General Post Office Building, Connaught Place, from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., on October 4.

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PUPILS URGED TO TAKE ART SERIOUSLY

\* \* \* \* \*

The Assistant Director of Education (Chief Inspector of Schools), Mr. Arthur Brown this afternoon urged more pupils to take art seriously and also take it as an examination subject.

Speaking at the opening of the Joint School Art Society's Art Exhibition at Ming Yin College in Tai Hang-Tung, Kowloon, Mr. Brown said that by doing this pupils would take some of the pressure off examinations because of the pleasure this subject could give them.

"We want to persuade more and more schools to take art as a serious subject in the curriculum right up to form five and beyond," he added.

The Assistant Director pointed out that art was not just a selfish activity designed to help oneself.

"It is also extremely useful and gives great pleasure to other people. Furthermore it develops a sense of design which you will be able to make use of all your life.

"I think it also helps to make you more aware of your surroundings and much more observant of what goes on around you. So we definitely regard art and design as an essential part of the school curriculum."

"The effect of modern art and design," he said, "can be seen all around us, even in our homes. Nowadays good designs surround us, and most new products have been created to give pleasure in their appearances as well as being functional."

Mr. Brown congratuated the pupils for putting together the exhibition on their own initiative. "I think this is a very fine thing. It is an excellent omen for the future of Hong Kong," he said.

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REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE AT HA TSUEN RURAL COMMITTEE

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The Registration of Persons Office announced today that registrations will be conducted at Ha Tsuen Rural Committee for residents and persons living nearby for five days from next Monday (October 3).

Registrations will be conducted between 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. daily.

The visit is to enable parents or guardians to register their children or wards 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.

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TRANSFER OF MAIL FROM ADRIAN MAERSK

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Efforts are being made by the Post Office to off-load letters and parcels on board the cargo vessel "Adrian Maersk" which ran aground north of Lamma Island last Monday, a spokesman for the Post Office announced today.

The mail, posted between September 9 and 15, was destined for the U.S.A. and certain countries in Central and South America.

The spokesman said it would be transferred to another vessel in the next few days.

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MOONCAKE PARTY FOR THE DISABLED

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About 150 trainees from the World Rehabilitation Fund Day Centre will celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival at a 'Mooncake Party' specially organised for them by the Hong Kong Life Guard Club.

The Director of Social Welfare, Mr. Thomas Lee, will present the children with mooncakes, festival toys and lanterns at the party which will take place at the Club's premises at Repulse Bay tomorrow (Tuesday).

Mr. Lee will be met on arrival by Mr. Chan Kang-fout, Chairman of the 'Mooncake Party' Organising Committee, Mr. Wu Po-ling, Vice-Chairman of the Water Safety Campaign and Mr. Kwok Hon-ming, Director of the Hong Kong Life Guard Club.

A 30-minute variety show, including a lion dance, will be staged by the Auxiliary Medical Service.

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Note to Editors :

You are invited to send a representative to cover the 'Mooncake Party' for the disabled trainees in the Hong Kong Life Guard Club at Repulse Bay at 2.30 p.m. tomorrow (Tuesday).

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NORTH POINT TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT

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The Transport Department announced today that vehicles would be permitted to turn left from Tong Shui Road into Java Road eastbound with effect from 10 a.m. on Wednesday, (September 28), following the completion of road works in the section of Java Road between Tong Shui Road and Kam Hong Street.

Appropriate traffic signs will be set up to guide motorists.

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