



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1975

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HONG KONG DESIGNERS ARE GRADUALLY ADOPTING A MORE ORIGINAL APPROACH	1
PRISON'S DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE MOVES TO HEI LING CHAU	2
NEW LEGISLATION PROPOSED TO BRING RESIGNATION PROCEDURES FOR GAZETTED POLICE OFFICERS IN LINE WITH THOSE FOR RANK-AND-FILE	3
BUS FRANCHISES TO BE EXTENDED UNTIL MAY	3
NEW BILL PAVES WAY FOR EXTRA POSTAL SERVICES	4
GRADUATION PARADE FOR PRISON RECRUITS	4
NEW RULES PROPOSED FOR ADMISSION OF TAPED EVIDENCE	5
NEWLY COMPLETED TRAFFIC LANE AT QUEENSWAY OPEN ON SUNDAY	6
ANONYMOUS DONOR CONTRIBUTES \$10 MILLION FOR BIG SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX AT ABERDEEN	6

HONG KONG DESIGNERS BECOMING MORE ORIGINAL
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HONG KONG IS GRADUALLY GETTING AWAY FROM BEING A PLACE THAT JUST MANUFACTURES TO OTHER PEOPLES' DESIGNS AND SPECIFICATIONS, THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. DAVID JORDAN, SAID TODAY.

THIS TREND WAS EVIDENT FROM THE WINNING PRODUCTS IN THE RECENT +GOVERNOR'S AWARD+ COMPETITION, HE TOLD THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE GIFTWARE DESIGN EXHIBITION FROM JAPAN AT THE CITY HALL.

MR. JORDAN SAID THERE WAS NOW A LARGE AND INCREASING NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WHO RECOGNISE THE GROWING NEED IN ORIGINAL WORK, AND HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE INCREASING ACTIVITIES OF THE DESIGN COUNCIL AND BY THE DEVELOPMENTS IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

THE POLYTECHNIC, HE POINTED OUT, WAS OFFERING A THREE-YEAR FULL TIME HIGHER DIPLOMA COURSE AND A ONE-YEAR FULL TIME ASSOCIATE-SHIP COURSE IN INDUSTRIAL DESIGN. +BOTH OF OUR UNIVERSITIES,+ HE ADDED, +HAVE EXTRA-MURAL COURSES ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN. THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE PROVIDES A FULL TIME DESIGN COURSE ON FURNITURE AND THE DESIGN CENTRE ITSELF OFFERS A CERTIFICATE COURSE ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN.

MR. JORDAN NOTED THAT TODAY'S EXHIBITION AT THE CITY HALL COVERED, DELIBERATELY, ONLY A LIMITED FIELD. BUT IT WAS ONE IN WHICH THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF SCOPE FOR HONG KONG, HE SAID.

+I HOPE THAT STUDENTS, PRACTISING DESIGNERS AND MANUFACTURERS ALIKE WILL GAIN PRACTICAL BENEFIT FROM STUDYING THE PRODUCTS HERE- AND THAT OUR BUDDING DESIGNERS WILL ALSO STAND BACK A LITTLE TO CONSIDER THE OVERALL APPROACH OF THE JAPANESE DESIGNERS WHO PRODUCED THE ITEMS,+ HE SAID.

+COLLECTIVELY THEY HAVE SOMETHING WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET MANAGED TO ACHIEVE: A UNITY DERIVED FROM A DISTINCT AND READILY RECOGNISED JAPANESE APPROACH TO DESIGN.

+THIS OF COURSE IS APPROPRIATE AND INDEED POSSIBLE ONLY IN SOME FIELDS. BUT THIS IS ONE OF THEM - AND I THINK IT OFFERS AN INTERESTING CHALLENGE TO OUR DESIGNERS TO DEVELOP A RECOGNISABLE HONG KONG STYLE, WHICH COULD BE IN ITSELF A POSSIBLE SELLING POINT,+ MR. JORDAN ADDED.

MR. JORDAN EMPHASISED THAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT DESIGN, AND NOT ABOUT THE ADDITION TO AN EXISTING PRODUCT OF IRRELEVANT +STYLING+.

+THE EXHIBITION AND THE ASSOCIATED SEMINAR SHOULD BE MORE HELPFUL TO THE PRODUCTION OF BETTER DESIGNED - AND AGAIN I USE THIS TERM IN ITS WIDER SENSE - HONG KONG PRODUCTS IN THIS SECTOR.

+THIS IS OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THESE DIFFICULT DAYS. AS I SAID TO OUR EXPORTERS A FEW WEEKS AGO, 1975 IS GOING TO BE A YEAR IN WHICH THEY HAVE TO GO OUT AND SELL AND OUR MANUFACTURERS AND DESIGNERS HAVE TO SEE THAT THEY HAVE WELL-DESIGNED, GOOD QUALITY PRODUCTS TO SELL,+ MR. JORDAN SAID.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1975

PRISON'S DRUG ADDICTION CENTRE
MOVES TO HEI LING CHAU
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A DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE IS TO BE LOCATED ON HEI LING CHAU WHEN THE LEPROSY MISSION (HONG KONG) AUXILIARY CLOSES DOWN AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL BE REVIEWED AFTER THE CENTRE HAS BEEN OPERATING FOR FOUR YEARS AND IT IS HOPED THAT HEI LING CHAU MAY THEN BE USED FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO PROVIDE MORE PRISON ACCOMMODATION.

THIS WAS NECESSARY AS EXISTING PRISON DEPARTMENT ACCOMMODATION WAS SUFFERING FROM SERIOUS OVERCROWDING DUE TO THE FACT THAT MORE CONVICTIONS WERE BEING SECURED AND LONGER SENTENCES BEING IMPOSED BY THE COURTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ONE OF THE MEASURES TO OVERCOME THIS PROBLEM WAS THE RECONVERSION OF THE MA PO PING DRUG ADDICTION CENTRE TO A PRISON, FOR WHICH IT WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED, AND THE CONSEQUENT MOVE OF THE CENTRE TO HEI LING CHAU.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE BUILDINGS ON THE ISLAND WOULD NEED VERY LITTLE ALTERATION SO THAT THE MOVE WOULD BEGIN AT ONCE.

THE SPOKESMAN RECALLED A STATEMENT MADE BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TWO MONTHS AGO IN WHICH HE SAID THAT *ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PREFER TO USE THE ISLAND FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES, THE ACUTE SHORTAGE OF PRISON ACCOMMODATION HAS MADE IT ESSENTIAL TO FIND ADDITIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTS AT VERY SHORT NOTICE.*

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE NEW CENTRE ON HEI LING CHAU WOULD USE MOST OF THE BUILDINGS ON THE NORTHERN PART OF THE ISLAND. *THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE SOUTHERN PART SHOULD BE USED FOR RESITING THE GREEN ISLAND EXPLOSIVES DEPOT IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION.*

IN THE MEANTIME, THE WHOLE ISLAND WILL BE MADE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS.

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/3

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1975

- 3 -

RESIGNATION PROCEDURES FOR GAZETTED POLICE OFFICERS
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DRAFT LEGISLATION SETTING OUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH A GAZETTED POLICE OFFICER MAY RESIGN FROM THE FORCE, IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THE NEW PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE POLICE (AMENDMENT) BILL ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE WHICH AT PRESENT APPLY IN THE CASE OF INSPECTORS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND POLICE CONSTABLES.

THE BILL SPECIFIES THAT A GAZETTED POLICE OFFICER MAY NOT RESIGN UNLESS HE GIVES THREE MONTHS' NOTICE IN WRITING TO THE COMMISSIONER, OR PAYS -- WITH THE PRIOR CONSENT OF THE COMMISSIONER -- ONE MONTH'S SALARY IN LIEU OF NOTICE. THIS BRINGS THE RESIGNATION PROCEDURES FOR GAZETTED OFFICERS IN LINE WITH THOSE OF THE RANK-AND-FILE.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

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BUS FRANCHISES TO BE EXTENDED UNTIL MAY
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HONG KONG'S MAJOR BUS COMPANIES - KMB AND CMB - WILL HAVE THEIR EXISTING FRANCHISES EXTENDED FOR A FEW MONTHS UNDER PROPOSED LEGISLATION PUBLISHED TODAY.

THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT (EXTENSION OF GRANTS) BILL 1975 SEEKS TO EXTEND THE FRANCHISES UNTIL MAY 31.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED TODAY THAT THE EXISTING FRANCHISES OF THE TWO COMPANIES ARE DUE TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 14. IT HAD BEEN HOPED TO IMPLEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE NEW PUBLIC OMNIBUS SERVICES BILL BEFORE THIS DATE, BUT MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAVE ASKED FOR MORE TIME TO CONSIDER THE BILL.

FOR THIS REASON, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY TO SEEK A FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING FRANCHISES UNTIL NEW ONES ARE APPROVED AND ISSUED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NEW PUBLIC OMNIBUS SERVICES BILL.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1975.

- 4 -

NEW BILL PAVES WAY FOR EXTRA POSTAL SERVICES

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MORE AND BETTER POSTAL SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED UNDER NEW DRAFT LEGISLATION PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THE POST OFFICE BILL 1975, IF PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING POST OFFICE ORDINANCE WHICH HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED APART FROM SOME MINOR AMENDMENTS SINCE IT WAS ENACTED IN 1926.

IT GIVES EXPANDED AND MORE DEFINED AUTHORITY TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO OPERATE EXISTING SERVICES AND TO INTRODUCE ADDITIONAL SERVICES WHICH ARE MORE IN LINE WITH PRESENT DAY REQUIREMENTS.

IT ALSO DESCRIBES IN FULL HIS POWERS TO DEAL WITH UNPAID AND UNDERPAID POSTAL PACKETS, AND GIVES LEGAL BACKING TO EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS AIMED AT PREVENTING LOSS OF POSTAL REVENUE.

THE BILL ALSO AUTHORIZES THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER POSTAL ADMINISTRATIONS FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF MAIL, AND TO IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION RATIFIED ON BEHALF OF HONG KONG BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITY TO DISPOSE OF POSTAL PACKETS WHICH CONTRAVENE THE LAW OR WHICH CANNOT BE RETURNED TO THE SENDER OR FORWARDED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID TODAY THAT THE POST OFFICE BILL WAS DRAWN UP AFTER A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE EXISTING LEGISLATION.

+THE NEW BILL WILL, IF ENACTED, UPDATE THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH POSTAL SERVICES OPERATE IN HONG KONG, AND PROVIDE LEGISLATION FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW SERVICES AS THE NEED ARISES AND SOME EXISTING SERVICES NOT COVERED IN THE PRESENT ORDINANCE,+ HE SAID.

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PRISON RECRUIT OFFICERS GRADUATE

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MORE THAN 100 PRISON RECRUIT OFFICERS WILL GRADUATE FROM THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE AT STANLEY TOMORROW (SATURDAY). TO MARK THE OCCASION THEY WILL PARTICIPATE IN A PARADE BEFORE THE HON. PETER WILLIAMS, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OCCASION. THE PARADE STARTS AT 10 AM.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1975

- 5 -

NEW RULES FOR ADMISSION OF TAPED EVIDENCE
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AMENDING LEGISLATION TO HELP SPEED UP TRIAL PROCEDURES WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY. KNOWN AS THE EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975, IT PROVIDES FOR A CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPT OF A TAPE RECORDING IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH TO BECOME ADMISSIBLE IN EVIDENCE IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

AT PRESENT, IF A TAPE RECORDING IS ADMITTED IN EVIDENCE IN ANY COURT PROCEEDINGS AND IT IS IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH, IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE PERSON WHO TRANSCRIBED THE RECORDING IN THAT LANGUAGE TO GIVE EVIDENCE AS TO THE TRANSCRIPTION.

THE BILL MAINLY SEEKS TO CHANGE THIS REQUIREMENT BY MAKING A DULY CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPT ADMISSIBLE IN EVIDENCE, SO THAT THE PERSON WHO TRANSCRIBED THE RECORDING NEED NOT BE CALLED AS A WITNESS.

IT ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE ADMISSIBILITY IN EVIDENCE OF CERTIFIED TRANSLATIONS OF A DOCUMENT IN ANY LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH. AT PRESENT, THE LEGISLATION ONLY PROVIDES FOR THE ADMISSIBILITY IN EVIDENCE OF A CERTIFIED TRANSLATION IN ENGLISH IN ANY DOCUMENT IN THE CHINESE LANGUAGE WHICH IS ADMITTED IN EVIDENCE.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE WILL ALSO BE EMPOWERED BY THE AMENDED LEGISLATION TO APPOINT PERSONS OTHER THAN PUBLIC OFFICERS TO CARRY OUT TRANSLATIONS AND TO SIGN CERTIFICATES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

THE EXISTING ORDINANCE CARRIES A SECTION WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE ADMISSIBILITY OF PRINTS MADE FROM FILMS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE GOVERNMENT OR AN AUTHORISED PERSON. THE BILL PROPOSES TO TRANSFER THE AUTHORITY FOR DECLARING THE AUTHORISED PERSON FROM THE GOVERNOR TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1975

- 6 -

NEW QUEENSWAY TRAFFIC LANE OPENS ON SUNDAY

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THE NEW EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF QUEENSWAY ON HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE OPENED TO TWO-LANE TRAFFIC AS FROM 10 A.M. ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26).

QUEENSWAY, WHICH LINKS WAN CHAI AND CENTRAL DISTRICTS, IS BEING WIDENED AND REALIGNED TO ELIMINATE A SHARP BEND SO AS TO FACILITATE TRAFFIC MOVEMENT.

ALSO FROM SUNDAY, THE EXISTING EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC, EXCEPT TRAMS, TO ENABLE WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY.

WESTBOUND TRAFFIC WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE EXISTING WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY UNTIL THE NEW ONE IS COMPLETED.

THE NEW EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY IS TO HAVE THREE LANES. MOTORISTS WILL LATER BE ALLOWED TO USE THE THIRD LANE.

FROM SUNDAY, THERE WILL BE A NEW BUS STOP ON THE NEW CARRIAGEWAY NEAR THE NEW PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION. EASTBOUND BUSES NOW OBSERVING THE BUS STOP OUTSIDE THE MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STORY CAR PARK BUILDING WILL ALSO USE THE NEW BUS STOP.

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ANONYMOUS DONOR GIVES \$10 MILLION FOR HUGE SWIMMING COMPLEX IN ABERDEEN

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A NEW SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX, WHICH WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE 5,000 SWIMMERS AT ANY ONE TIME, WILL BE BUILT IN ABERDEEN.

A CONTRIBUTION OF \$10 MILLION TOWARDS ITS BUILDING COST HAS BEEN DONATED BY A HONG KONG RESIDENT, WHO WISHES TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

THE POOL IS DESIGNED TO THE BEST STANDARD OF THOSE ALREADY EXISTING AND OPERATED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. IT WILL HAVE TWO 50-METRE POOLS, THREE TEACHING POOLS, PADDLING POOLS AND A DIVING POOL. ONE OF THE 50-METRE POOLS WILL BE HEATED SO THAT SWIMMERS CAN CONTINUE USING IT IN WINTER.

OTHER NORMAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING CHANGING ROOMS, A SPECTATOR'S STAND, A REFRESHMENT KIOSK AND STAFF QUARTERS, WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

THE SITE, MEASURING SOME 200,000 SQ. FT., IS LOCATED AT SHAM WAN NEXT TO WONG CHUK HANG ESTATE AND NAM LONG HOSPITAL.

EXTENSIVE SITE FORMATION IS REQUIRED BEFORE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SUPERSTRUCTURE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT SITE FORMATION WORK CAN BE COMPLETED IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR.

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