



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1980

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
REDOUBLED EFFORTS AGAINST COUNTERFEITERS	1
LANTAU BUS FARES AND SCHEDULES REVISED	2
BUILDING IN TSUEN WAN DECLARED DANGEROUS	4
LABOUR DEPARTMENT ACTS AGAINST LAW BREAKERS	4
GOODWILL VISIT BY UK CHINESE COMMUNITY	5
MAJOR RAIL WORK IN KOWLOON TONG	5
SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO CAREERS SEMINARS	6
POPULAR SCHOOL QUIZ FINALS	6
WATER CUT IN SHAM SHUI PO	7

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1980

- 1 -

REDOUBLED EFFORTS AGAINST COUNTERFEITERS

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THE TRADE INVESTIGATION BRANCH OF THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO DOUBLE THE SIZE OF ITS INVESTIGATION STAFF TO STEP UP EFFORTS AGAINST COUNTERFEIT GOODS.

ADDRESSING THE ROTARY CLUB OF PENINSULA TODAY (TUESDAY), MR JOHN HOWARD, CHIEF INDUSTRY OFFICER, SAID HOWEVER THAT WHAT WAS REALLY REQUIRED WAS A GREATER PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SUCH MALPRACTICES.

+I HOPE YOU, AS MEMBERS OF ROTARY, AND DOUBTLESS INVOLVED IN VARIOUS COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES, WILL KEEP YOUR EYES AND EARS OPEN. IN NO WAY AM I ASKING YOU TO BE COMMON INFORMERS, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT OUR TRADING REPUTATION SHOULD NOT BE TARNISHED BY A RELATIVELY FEW UNSCRUPULOUS TRADERS,+ HE SAID.

+NO COMPLAINANT IS OBLIGED TO GIVE EVIDENCE BEFORE THE COURT SINCE PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS ARE TRAINED TO DO THIS WHERE COUNTERFEIT GOODS ARE FOUND,+ HE ADDED.

MR HOWARD POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG'S FREE AND OPEN MARKET SITUATION, AND THE DEMANDS OF INCREASINGLY AFFLUENT LOCAL CONSUMERS AND TOURISTS DID LEAVE SCOPE FOR UNSCRUPULOUS MERCHANTS TO PROFITEER IN FAKE PRODUCTS.

DURING 1979, 302 COMPLAINTS WERE INVESTIGATED BY THE BRANCH, RESULTING IN THE SEIZURE OF COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE VALUED ON THE MARKET AT OVER \$3.7 MILLION AND FINES OF \$754 000 WERE IMPOSED BY THE COURTS. A COUNTERFEIT WATCH MANUFACTURER WAS SENTENCED TO FOUR MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT. SO FAR THIS YEAR FINES OF \$38 000 HAVE BEEN IMPOSED AND GOODS VALUED AT \$970 000 WERE SEIZED.

ON CONTROLLING LEGISLATION, MR HOWARD SAID THE EXISTING MERCHANDISE MARKS ORDINANCE PROVIDES PENALTIES UP TO \$50 000 AND TWO YEARS' IMPRISONMENT IN THE LOWER COURTS, AND UP TO \$100 000 AND FIVE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT IN THE HIGHER COURTS, AND LATER THIS YEAR SHOULD SEE THE ENACTMENT OF A TRADE DESCRIPTION BILL.

+THIS BILL WILL CLOSELY FOLLOW THE UK TRADE DESCRIPTIONS ACT, AS FAR AS ITS APPLICATION TO GOODS GOES. ONE ADVANTAGE WILL BE THAT A WARRANT WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED AS A PRE-REQUISITE TO THE SEARCH OF PREMISES,+ HE ADDED.

DESCRIBING THE FORMS OF FALSE MARKING OF PRODUCTS, MR HOWARD SAID THE MOST COMMON WAS TO APPLY WELL-KNOWN INTERNATIONAL BRAND NAMES TO GOODS. ANOTHER WAS TO APPLY A FALSE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN TO GOODS WHERE THAT COUNTRY MIGHT HAVE A REPUTATION FOR QUALITY IN FASHION, TREND AND CRAFTSMANSHIP.

+IN SOME CASES THE FALSE MARKS ARE APPLIED TO LOCALLY MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS, WHILE OTHERS ARE IMPORTED, HAVING BEEN ORDERED BY LOCAL TRADERS WHO WELL KNOW THE GOODS ARE FAKE, BUT THE PRICE RIGHT. FASHIONWEAR HAS BECOME A PRIME TARGET FOR SUCH RACKETEERS, AND LEATHERWEAR, NECKTIES, SCARVES AND FASHION GARMENTS FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN THIS UNSCRUPULOUS COUNTERFEITING.

/+OTHER MERCHANDISE.

+OTHER MERCHANDISE, HIGH ON THE LIST OF FAKE PRODUCTS, ARE VARIOUS FORMS OF JEWELLERY, PRINCIPALLY GOLD, WHERE THE HALLMARK IS FALSELY REPRESENTED,+ HE SAID.

PRECIOUS STONES ALSO FIGURE HIGHLY. MR HOWARD CITED A CASE PRESENTLY IN HAND WHERE ANALYSIS OF A RELATIVELY EXPENSIVE ARTICLE, PURCHASED BY A TOURIST, REPRESENTED TO BE A PRECIOUS STONE, WAS FOUND TO BE GLASS.

OTHER GOODS WHICH ARE FAKED ARE PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, DETERGENT POWDERS, WATCHES, PRE-PACKED RICE AND BREAKFAST CEREALS.

THE TRADE INVESTIGATION BRANCH WORKS CLOSELY WITH THE CONSUMER COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION IN FOLLOWING UP COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THESE BODIES. THE BRANCH ALSO WORKS CLOSELY WITH VARIOUS OVERSEAS TRADE COMMISSIONS AND OWNERS OF INTERNATIONALLY-KNOWN TRADE MARKS.

+THERE IS, FOR EXAMPLE, EXCELLENT CO-OPERATION WITH MEMBERS OF BOTH THE SWISS AND JAPANESE WATCH INDUSTRIES, WHICH HAS GONE A LONG WAY TOWARDS STEMMING THE FLOW OF COUNTERFEIT WATCHES MANUFACTURED LOCALLY. INDEED, A REWARD SYSTEM HAS BEEN SET UP BETWEEN THESE INDUSTRIES AND THE GOVERNMENT IN AN ATTEMPT TO ENCOURAGE INFORMANTS TO COME FORWARD,+ MR HOWARD SAID.

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LANTAU BUS FARES AND SCHEDULES REVISED

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TODAY APPROVED AN APPLICATION FOR FARE INCREASES BY THE NEW LANTAU BUS CO. THE INCREASES, WHICH OVERALL AVERAGE 33 PER CENT ON WEEKDAYS AND 45 PER CENT ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 1.

IN COMING TO THEIR DECISION THE COUNCIL TOOK INTO ACCOUNT RISING OPERATING COSTS INCLUDING INCREASES IN FUEL PRICE, WAGES AND MAINTENANCE COSTS. IT ALSO NOTED THE COMPANY'S RECENT PURCHASE OF TWO DOUBLE DECKER BUSES AND ITS PLANS TO BUILD A NEW DEPOT AT MUI WO AND TO INSTALL MORE BUS SHELTERS ALONG ITS ROUTES. AS PART OF THE PACKAGE, SERVICES WILL BE IMPROVED ON ALL ROUTES.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE OPPORTUNITY HAD BEEN TAKEN TO RATIONALIZE THE SCALE OF FARES, WHICH IS NOW RELATED TO DISTANCE, AND TO INTRODUCE ADDITIONAL FARE STAGES. THIS HAS RESULTED IN SOME FARES BEING INCREASED ABOVE THE AVERAGE AND SOME BEING REDUCED, WHILE OTHERS REMAIN UNCHANGED.

SOME NEW ROUTES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO GIVE LOCAL VILLAGERS A BETTER AND MORE FREQUENT SERVICE.

EXAMPLES OF THE NEW FARES ON THE MOST POPULAR ROUTES ARE:

ROUTE 1 - MUI WO TO TAI O

WEEKDAYS: OLD FARE \$2- NEW \$3

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: OLD FARE \$3- NEW \$4.50

ROUTE 2 - MUI WO TO NGONG PING

WEEKDAYS: OLD FARE \$3- NEW \$4

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: OLD FARE \$4- NEW \$6

ROUTE 3 - MUI WO TO TUNG CHUNG

WEEKDAYS: OLD FARE \$2- NEW \$2.50

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: OLD FARE \$3- NEW \$4

ROUTE 4 - MUI WO TO CHEUNG SHA BEACH

WEEKDAYS: OLD FARE \$1- NEW \$1.50

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: OLD FARE \$1.50- NEW \$2.50

THE FREQUENCY OF SERVICES WILL ALSO BE INCREASED. ON WEEKDAYS, 36 VEHICLES WILL BE SCHEDULED INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT 18 AND, ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, 48 WILL BE SCHEDULED INSTEAD OF 34.

FOR EXAMPLE, ON ROUTE 1 THERE WILL BE THREE TRIPS AN HOUR INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT HOURLY SERVICE DURING WEEKDAY PEAK PERIODS AND ON ROUTE 2, TWO TRIPS AN HOUR INSTEAD OF ONE ON WEEKDAYS. ON THIS ROUTE ON WEEKENDS IN WINTER THEY WILL RUN AT 20 MINUTE INTERVALS INSTEAD OF ONCE AN HOUR AND IN SUMMER, 10 MINUTES INSTEAD OF 20 MINUTES. ON ROUTE 3 THERE WILL BE 12 TRIPS INSTEAD OF NINE TRIPS PER DAY SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. ROUTE 4 WILL BE OPERATED BY DOUBLE DECK BUSES AND WILL BE EXTENDED TO TONG FUK. DURING THE SUMMER, SPECIAL BUSES WILL RUN TO CHEUNG SHA BEACH EVERY 15 MINUTES.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1980

- 4 -

BUILDING IN TSUEN WAN DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (TUESDAY) DECLARED AN EIGHT-STORY INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AT 126-140, TEXACO ROAD IN TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BUILDING AUTHORITY SAID THE BUILDING WAS INTENSIVELY INVESTIGATED AFTER SHEAR CRACKS HAD BEEN FOUND IN THE REINFORCED CONCRETE BEAMS.

THE INVESTIGATION, HE SAID, INVOLVED THE EXTRACTION OF SAMPLES FROM THE REINFORCED CONCRETE STRUCTURE FOR TESTING AND ANALYSIS OF THE CONSTITUENTS OF THE CONCRETE.

+THE RESULT OF THE INVESTIGATION HAS REVEALED THAT THIS BUILDING IS CONSIDERABLY SUB-STANDARD IN ITS CONSTRUCTION.

+A HIGH PROPORTION OF THE CONCRETE SAMPLES HAVE BEEN FOUND NOT TO HAVE THE REQUIRED CRUSHING STRENGTH AND DEFICIENCIES IN CEMENT CONTENT WERE ALSO FOUND BY ANALYSIS,+ HE SAID.

AS THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF STRUCTURAL FAILURE LEADING TO COLLAPSE IT IS NECESSARY TO CLOSE THIS BUILDING, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON JUNE 18 WAS POSTED TODAY.

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LABOUR DEPARTMENT ACTS AGAINST LAW BREAKERS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT LAST MONTH PROSECUTED 561 CASES AGAINST PROPRIETORS OF INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS FOR BREACHES OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS, THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND THE BOILERS AND PRESSURE RECEIVERS ORDINANCE.

OF THESE CASES TAKEN OUT BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S PROSECUTIONS UNIT, 543 RESULTED IN CONVICTIONS, AND FINES IMPOSED BY THE COURTS TOTALLED MORE THAN \$310 000.

OFFENCES CONCERNING THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACCOUNTED FOR 288 OF THE SUMMONSES, THESE RESULTED IN 275 CONVICTIONS WITH FINES TOTALLING MORE THAN \$114 000.

BREACHES OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY REGULATIONS PRODUCED 266 SUMMONSES WITH 265 CONVICTIONS. FINES TOTALLED MORE THAN \$194 000.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THAT MOST OF THE CONVICTIONS WERE THE RESULT OF ACTION INITIATED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE AND LABOUR INSPECTORATE.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT EXISTING LEGISLATION SAFEGUARDED EMPLOYEES AT WORK AND PROTECTED THE WELFARE OF WOMEN AND YOUNG WORKERS.

HOWEVER, IT TOOK MORE THAN LEGISLATION TO STAMP OUT OFFENCES IN INDUSTRY AND CO-OPERATION WAS NEEDED FROM ALL CONCERNED TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION, HE SAID.

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GOODWILL VISIT BY UK CHINESE COMMUNITY

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THE WINNER OF THE 1980 MISS CHINA TOWN GREAT BRITAIN COMPETITION, MISS CEZARINE LEE WAI-YAN, WILL ARRIVE IN HONG KONG TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) FOR A TWO WEEK HOLIDAY AS PART OF HER PRIZE.

MISS LEE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY SEVEN SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM THE MIDLANDS CHINESE ASSOCIATION, BASED IN BIRMINGHAM, WHO ORGANISED THE COMPETITION.

DURING HER STAY IN HONG KONG, MISS LEE WILL CALL ON THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEW TERRITORIES HEUNG YEE KUK, MR STEPHEN WONG, WHEN SHE WILL ALSO MEET THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR A. DE O. SALES- THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR J.M. RIDDELL-SWAN- AND OTHER LOCAL DIGNITARIES.

ONE PURPOSE OF BOTH THE COMPETITION AND THE VISIT IS TO FOSTER CLOSER TIES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ON HER ARRIVAL AT KAI TAK, MISS LEE WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.

THEY SHOULD BE IN THE AIRPORT GROUND FLOOR PRESS ROOM BY 5 PM (BA 021 ON WHICH MISS LEE IS TRAVELLING IS DUE TO LAND AT 4.45 PM). MR DONALD STRANGE OF THE NTA INFORMATION UNIT WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST THE MEDIA.

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MAJOR RAIL WORK IN KOWLOON TONG

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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL BE CARRYING OUT MAJOR RAIL ALIGNMENT WORK BETWEEN SURREY LANE AND BEACON HILL TUNNEL IN KOWLOON TONG STARTING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE WORK WHICH INVOLVES SLEWING A SECTION OF THE TRACK ONTO A TEMPORARY ALIGNMENT TO ENABLE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW KOWLOON TONG STATION WILL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS TO COMPLETE.

A KCR SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT A NIGHT WORK PERMIT HAD BEEN GIVEN TO CARRY OUT SOME OF THE WORK AT NIGHT AND DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING, ESPECIALLY ON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, SO AS TO AVOID HAVING TO SUSPEND NORMAL PASSENGER AND FREIGHT TRAFFIC.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE NOISE LEVEL WILL BE KEPT DOWN TO THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM. HE ALSO STRESSED THAT THE PLANT AND EQUIPMENT TO BE USED ON SITE WILL BE SOUND-INSULATED AND MUFFLED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

+THIS IS TO KEEP DOWN THE NOISE DISTURBANCE FOR THOSE LIVING NEAR THAT SECTION OF THE RAILWAY,+ HE SAID.

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SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO CAREERS SEMINARS
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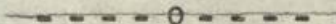
NEARLY 9 000 STUDENTS ATTENDED A SERIES OF 13 CAREERS SEMINARS ORGANISED RECENTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE AT VARIOUS SECONDARY SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

THE FINAL SEMINAR, HELD TODAY (TUESDAY) AT KUNG LEE COLLEGE IN TAI HANG, ATTRACTED MORE THAN 500 STUDENTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID, +RESPONSE TO THE SEMINARS BY THE STUDENTS WAS ENCOURAGING AND EVERY SEMINAR WAS WELL ATTENDED.

+WE ARE CERTAIN THAT THE SEMINARS HAVE PROVIDED THEM WITH FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ON THE WIDEST RANGE OF CAREERS AND HELPED THEM MAKE A DECISION ON A CAREER BEST SUITED TO THEIR INTERESTS AND ABILITIES.+

AT TODAY'S SEMINAR, THE STUDENTS HEARD TALKS GIVEN BY EXPERTS ON SOCIAL AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY WORK, LIBRARY WORK AND THE DENTAL PROFESSION. THEY ALSO SAW SLIDES ON ACCOUNTANCY, SOCIAL WORK AND THE WORK OF ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AND FACTORY INSPECTORS.



POPULAR SCHOOL QUIZ FINALS
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THE WINNER OF THE TELEVISION QUIZ SHOW +COMMUNITY YOUTH CHALLENGE+ IS TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS WONG FUNG LING COLLEGE.

THE SECOND PRIZE GOES TO SHENG KUNG HUI LUI MING CHOI SECONDARY SCHOOL, WHILE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON CHIU CHOW SCHOOL CAME THIRD IN THE CONTEST.

THE PRE-RECORDED MATCH BETWEEN THE THREE SCHOOLS WILL BE SCREENED THIS EVENING AT 5.30 PM ON HK-TV8 JADE AND ON RTV 1 AT 6 PM ON SUNDAY (MARCH 23).

THE WINNING TEAM WON BOOK COUPONS WORTH \$1 200. THE SECOND PRIZE WAS \$960 AND THE THIRD PRIZE \$600 ALSO IN BOOK COUPONS. EACH TEAM ALSO RECEIVED A TROPHY.

MR R. M. CAMERON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS)- MR STUART WILKINSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING- AND MR H. LIANG OF LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL PRESENTED THE PRIZES TO THE WINNERS DURING THE PROGRAMME.

THE SHOW WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE EDUCATION TELEVISION SECTION OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUBS FROM 21 SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE CONTEST WHICH LASTED 10 WEEKS.

OBERLIN COLLEGE WON FIRST PRIZE AS THE BEST CHEERING TEAM- WHILE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON CHIU CHOW SCHOOL CAME SECOND AND BUDDHIST TAI KWONG MIDDLE SCHOOL CAME THIRD.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1980

- 7 -

WATER CUT IN SHAM SHUI PO
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 20) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AREAS TO BE AFFECTED ARE PO ON ROAD, CHEUNG FAT STREET, KWONG LEE ROAD, PRATAS STREET, FAT TSEUNG STREET AND BLOCK NOS. 3-8 AND 16-19 OF LI CHENG UK ESTATE.

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