



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1976

GOLD COINS TO MARK YEAR OF THE SNAKE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT A LEGAL TENDER \$1,000 GOLD COIN WILL BE ISSUED TO MARK THE COMING LUNAR NEW YEAR - THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE.

THIS IS THE SECOND OF A SERIES THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO ISSUE OF 12 UNIQUE GOLD COINS EACH DEPICTING ONE OF THE 12 ANIMALS TRADITIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE OF PARTICULAR LUNAR YEARS. THE FIRST WAS ISSUED EARLY THIS YEAR TO MARK THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON.

THE OTHER ELEVEN ANIMALS IN THEIR ORDER ARE THE SNAKE, HORSE, GOAT, MONKEY, COCKEREL, DOG, PIG, RAT, OX, TIGER AND RABBIT.

THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE FALLS BETWEEN FEBRUARY 18, 1977 AND FEBRUARY 6, 1978. THE SNAKE IS, THEREFORE, THE BIRTHDAY ANIMAL FOR THOSE BORN BETWEEN THESE DATES.

THE SNAKE ALSO RULED OVER THE FOLLOWING PERIODS: FEBRUARY 4, 1905 TO JANUARY 24, 1906= JANUARY 23, 1917 TO FEBRUARY 10, 1918= FEBRUARY 10, 1929 TO JANUARY 29, 1930= JANUARY 27, 1941 TO FEBRUARY 14, 1942= FEBRUARY 14, 1953 TO FEBRUARY 2, 1954= FEBRUARY 2, 1965 TO JANUARY 20, 1966.

SIMILAR TO THE DRAGON COIN WHICH WAS HEAVILY OVERSUBSCRIBED, THE QUANTITY OF SNAKE COINS STRUCK WILL BE ABSOLUTELY LIMITED. A MAXIMUM OF 10,000 PROOF COINS AND 20,000 UNCIRCULATED COINS WILL BE MADE FOR SALE WORLD WIDE.

EACH COIN IS MADE OF 22 CARAT GOLD, WITH A STANDARD WEIGHT OF 15.976 GRAMMES AND A DIAMETER OF 28.4 MM (1.118 INCHES). IT HAS A PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN ON THE OBLVERSE SIDE AND A PICTURE OF THE SNAKE ON THE REVERSE.

THEY MAY BE BOUGHT IN BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED CONDITION AT THEIR FACE VALUE OF \$1,000 OR IN PROOF QUALITY AT \$1,500. EACH COIN WILL BE SUPPLIED WITH A DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET AND PACKAGED IN AN ATTRACTIVE PRESENTATION CASE.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE INVITED SOME TIME IN DECEMBER/JANUARY FOR THE GOLD COINS, WHICH SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION BEFORE THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE ACTUALLY BEGINS.

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THIRTEEN SHIP FIRES SO FAR THIS YEAR
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S FIREBOATS WERE CALLED OUT TO PUT OUT 13 SHIP FIRES SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR.

SOME OF THE FIRE FIGHTING BATTLES LASTED AS LONG AS EIGHT HOURS WHILE A NUMBER REQUIRED LESS THAN HALF-AN-HOUR TO PUT OUT.

OF THE TOTAL, SIX BROKE OUT ON OCEAN-GOING VESSELS AND THE REMAINING SEVEN INVOLVED FISHING JUNKS, A PLEASURE CRAFT AND A REFUSE BARGE.

ACCORDING TO A FIRE SERVICES SPOKESMAN, FIREMEN BATTLED A FIRE ON THE CARGO SHIP LEDESCO TRES AT JUNK BAY ON MARCH 24 FOR SEVEN HOURS AND 57 MINUTES. A LARGE QUANTITY OF FINISHED PLASTIC AND ELECTRICAL GOODS WAS DAMAGED.

IN ANOTHER INCIDENT ON MAY 3, IT TOOK FIREMEN THREE HOURS AND 41 MINUTES TO EXTINGUISH A BLAZE ON BOARD AN 8,000-TON CARGO VESSEL, STRAAT HONG KONG. THE FIRE INVOLVED 1,500 BAGS OF CHARCOAL WEIGHING MORE THAN 73 TONS.

FIREBOATS WERE TWICE CALLED OUT TO THE GUARDSHIP CHICHESTER EARLY THIS YEAR. BOTH INCIDENTS LASTED LESS THAN 30 MINUTES. THE SHIP HAD SINCE SAILED BACK TO BRITAIN IN LATE MARCH AFTER THREE YEARS' SERVICE IN HONG KONG.

THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT PRESENT MAINTAINS A FLEET OF SIX BOATS TO CARRY OUT FIRE FIGHTING AND RESCUE DUTIES AT SEA.

OF THE SIX VESSELS, THE LARGEST IS THE 350-TON ALEXANDER GRANTHAM, ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL OF ITS TYPE IN THE WORLD.

IT HAS AN OUTPUT CAPACITY OF 10,000 GALLONS OF WATER AND 7,300 GALLONS OF FOAM A MINUTE. IN ADDITION TO AN ARRAY OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, IT IS ALSO FITTED WITH A HYDRAULIC RESCUE AND WATER TOWER WITH A PLATFORM WHICH CAN BE RAISED TO A HEIGHT OF 60 FEET.

THE OTHERS VARY IN SIZE FROM A 40-FOOT LAUNCH CAPABLE OF PUMPING 1,000 GALLONS A MINUTE TO A 94-TON VESSEL WHICH CAN PUMP 4,000 GALLONS A MINUTE.

BESIDES TACKLING FIRES ABOARD SHIPS, THE FIREBOATS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN FIGHTING OIL POLLUTION, GRASS FIRES AND LAND FIRES.

THE VESSELS ALSO PROVIDE PROTECTION TO DOCKSIDE WAREHOUSES, TIMBER YARDS AND OTHER WATERFRONT INSTALLATIONS.

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LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD ELECTION

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THIS YEAR'S LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD ELECTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 2 (TUESDAY) AT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S REGIONAL OFFICE IN NEW RODNEY BLOCK, QUEENSWAY. IT WILL BE HELD BY SECRET BALLOT AT 11.00 A.M.

THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD IS A NON-STATUTORY BODY WHICH ADVISES THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR ON MATTERS REFERRED BY HIM TO THE BOARD, INCLUDING PROPOSED LEGISLATION, AND CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

ACCORDING TO MRS. EVELYN T.C. PUN, THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, A TOTAL OF 24 CANDIDATES HAD BEEN NOMINATED FOR ELECTION AND THEIR NAMES HAD BEEN SENT TO ALL EMPLOYEES' UNIONS FOR INFORMATION.

+A REGISTERED WORKERS' TRADE UNION WISHING TO VOTE SHOULD SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ELECTION. THE REPRESENTATIVE MUST BRING WITH HIM A LETTER OF AUTHORISATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF HIS UNION AND A COPY OF THE CIRCULAR LETTER DATED OCTOBER 16, 1976 FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON THE SUBJECT,+ SHE ADDED.

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WHAT IT COSTS TO LEARN TO DRIVE

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A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT ANYONE WISHING TO LEARN TO DRIVE MUST FIRST APPLY FOR A PROVISIONAL DRIVING LICENCE WHICH COSTS \$100. THIS LICENCE IS VALID FOR 12 MONTHS FROM THE DAY OF ISSUE.

WHEN THE LEARNER DRIVER FEELS HE IS COMPETENT TO TAKE A DRIVING TEST HE CAN APPLY FOR A TEST FORM WHICH COSTS \$150. HE WILL THEN BE GIVEN A DATE FOR A WRITTEN TEST FOR WHICH THE PRESENT WAITING TIME IS ABOUT FOUR WEEKS.

IF HE PASSES THE WRITTEN TEST HE WILL THEN BE GIVEN A DATE FOR A ROAD TEST. CURRENTLY THE WAITING TIME FOR A ROAD TEST IS BETWEEN EIGHT TO TEN MONTHS.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THERE WERE NO FURTHER CHARGES, APART FROM THE INITIAL \$150, FOR THE ROAD TEST.

HE SAID THAT THE +DRIVER-ON-TEST+ PLATES WHICH ARE ATTACHED TO VEHICLES DURING DRIVING TESTS WERE PROVIDED FREE BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO MAKE A REPORT TO THE I.C.A.C. OR THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT IF THEY WERE ASKED FOR MONEY IN CONNECTION WITH A DRIVING TEST.

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REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE AT PAT HEUNG KU MIU

A TEAM FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT REGISTRATIONS AT PAT HEUNG KU MIU FOR RESIDENTS AND PERSONS LIVING NEARBY FOR TWO DAYS FROM NOVEMBER 8 (MONDAY).

THE VISIT IS TO ENABLE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN OR WARDS OF 11 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.

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. DAILY.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Sunday, October 31, 1976

TAI WO HAU REMOVAL OPERATION GOING WELL

The operation to move 804 families from two blocks in Tau Wo Hau Estate, Tsuen Wan, which are to be demolished and then redeveloped is progressing well.

A Housing Authority spokesman said the majority of the 804 families involved had agreed to move and more than 450 families had already left.

Over half the families had accepted accommodation in new estates in the area, such as Lai King, while the remainder were moving into vacant flats in other estates in different areas.

All the families come from blocks 12 and 13 which are to be demolished in January and then rebuilt as part of the Housing Authority's scheme to redevelop the whole estate.

Approximately 4,300 people are involved in the initial phase of the scheme.

Work on rebuilding the blocks is due to begin in the summer and be completed in about two and a half years.

A Housing Authority spokesman pointed out that the Authority has decided to spend \$182 million over the next few years redeveloping its old Mark I and Mark II blocks either by converting flats into larger units or demolishing whole blocks and rebuilding on the sites. The aim was to offer improved living conditions to people in these estates.

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一九七六年十月廿一日 星期日

荃灣大窩口邨 兩座重建大廈 住戶陸續遷出

荃灣大窩口邨將拆卸重建之兩座大廈，住戶搬遷之工作正順利進行中。

房屋委員會發言人說，與重建計劃有關之八百零四個住戶，絕大部份已同意搬遷，超過四百五十戶經已遷出。

其中半數以上之住戶已接納在荃灣區內各新建屋邨之單位，其餘則遷往其他各區屋邨空出之單位。

搬遷之住戶均為大窩口邨第十二及十三座之居民，該兩座樓宇將於一月拆卸，然後重建，為房屋委員會重建大窩口邨計劃之一部份。

與該重建計劃最初一期有關之住客約四千三百人。重建該兩座大廈之工程定於明年夏季開始進行，約於兩年半內竣工。

房屋委員會發言人說，該委員會已決定動用一億八千二百萬元，在今後數年間將早期興建的「第一型」及「第二型」大廈拆卸重建或將其居住單位改建為較大單位，以改善該等屋邨居民之居住環境。