DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1979

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TSIM SHA TSUI CULTURAL COMPLEX
SYMBOLISES FUTURE OF ARTS IN HONG KONG
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THE TSIM SHA TSUI CULTURAL COMPLEX WILL STAND AS A PERMANENT SYMBOL OF CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF THE ARTS IN HONGKONG, AND IN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ROLE WHICH THEY ARE COMING TO PLAY IN THE LIFE OF OUR CITY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SIR MURRAY SPOKE WHEN HE LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE CULTURAL COMPLEX MARKING WHAT HE SAID WAS +THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PHASE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CULTURAL LIFE IN HONG KONG.+

THE LAST FIVE YEARS HAD SEEN AN UNPRECEDENTED EXPANSION IN ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES, HE NOTED.

HE CONTINUED: +THE NEXT FEW YEARS SHOULD SEE THE OPENING OF THREE MAJOR CULTURAL COMPLEXES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND THE COMPLETION OF THIS PROJECT DESIGNED TO BE THE CULTURAL CENTRE OF HONG KONG, AND SO BUILT ON THIS MAGNIFICENT SITE.+

WHEN COMPLETED THE CULTURAL COMPLEX WILL CONSIST OF THREE MAIN COMPONENTS: THE SPACE MUSEUM NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND EXPECTED TO OPEN AT THE END OF NEXT YEAR= AN AUDITORIUM COMPLEX WITH HALLS SEATING A TOTAL OF NEARLY 5,000 PEOPLE AS WELL AS AN ARTS LIBRARY AND ANCILLARY FACILITIES= AND A MUSEUM BLOCK FOR THE PERMANENT DISPLAY OF THE COLLECTIONS CURRENTLY HELD IN THE MUSEUMS OF ART AND HISTORY.

SIR MURRAY SAID OF THE TOTAL CAPITAL COST OF THE COMPLEX TO DATE, THE TAXPAYERS, THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT, WILL PAY $160 MILLION FOR THE AUDITORIUM BLOCK AND THROUGH THE URBAN COUNCIL $50 MILLION FOR THE SPACE MUSEUM AND ANCILLARY FACILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE AUDITORIA.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO MEET THE COST OF THE MUSEUMS OF ART AND HISTORY. ONCE COMPLETED THE COMPLEX WILL BE MANAGED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

THE GOVERNOR THANKED THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR THEIR ENTHUSIASTIC INVOLVEMENT IN THIS VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT AND ALSO PRAISED THE GOVERNMENT ARCHITECTS +FOR THEIR IMAGINATIVE AND RESOURCEFUL DESIGN+ OF A CIVIC INSTITUTION WHICH HE SAID WILL MATCH THE PROMINENCE AND PRESTIGE OF THE WATERFRONT SITE.

IN INVITING THE GOVERNOR TO PERFORM THE CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR. A. DE O. SALES, SAID SIR MURRAY'S ENCOURAGEMENT HAS ENABLED THOSE MOST CONCERNED WITH CULTURAL PROMOTION IN HONG KONG TO SEEK NEW GOALS TO CONQUER.

/+IN EFFECT.....

+IN EFFECT THE GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT ENABLES THE COUNCIL TO GIVE SUBSTANCE TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE TO ENJOY AND APPRECIATE SOME OF THE MOST ENDURING VALUES OF HUMAN ACHIEVEMENT.+

MR. SALES SAID CREDIT WAS ALSO DUE TO THE MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WHO, FOR A GREAT NUMBER OF YEARS, WORKED LONG AND HARD FOR THE INITIAL POSTWAR DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HERE.

WITH THE OPENING OF THE CITY HALL IN 1962, THE CONDITIONS, HE SAID, WERE CREATED FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF ARTISTIC PRESENTATIONS IN A PROPER SETTING.

IN RECENT TIMES THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS BEEN ABLE TO GIVE MUCH PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE AND ALSO TO PLAY A POSITIVE ROLE FOR THE COMMON GOOD.

+THE ADVENT OF THE CULTURAL COMPLEX IN THIS SPLENDID LOCATION WILL ENABLE THE NEW GENERATION TO DO FAR MORE IN DUE TIME. IT IS INDEED A CHALLENGE FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE CULTURAL LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE REMAINING YEARS OF THE CENTURY AND BEYOND.+

MR. SALES THANKED THE PUBLIC WORKS AND URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENTS FOR WHAT HE CALLED +THE REALLY GREAT PREPARATORY WORK THEY ARE DOING TOGETHER+ UNDER THE COUNCIL'S SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE'S GUIDANCE AND LEADERSHIP, TO MAKE THIS PROJECT COME TRUE.

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+LIVE+ QUADRAPHONIC BAND CONCERT

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MORE THAN 6,000 PEOPLE — INCLUDING THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, ARE EXPECTED AT THE FAN LING PLAYGROUND ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 6) TO SAMPLE THE FIRST +LIVE+ QUADRAPHONIC BAND CONCERT.

SOME 400 PLAYERS FROM NINE YOUTH BANDS WILL GATHER IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE PLAYGROUND TO GIVE A TWO-HOUR PERFORMANCE OF WESTERN CLASSICS AND POPULAR TITLES THAT WILL, IN THE WORDS OF THE ORGANISERS, +WRAP THE AUDIENCE IN MUSIC+.

IT WILL BE THE FIRST OPEN-AIR CONCERT STAGED IN THE TAI PO DISTRICT AND IS BEING JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES TAI PO SIX DISTRICTS ARTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION, THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE AND THE TOM LEE MUSIC FOUNDATION LTD.

THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MR. GORDON SIU, TODAY (THURSDAY) PROMISED +A SPECTACULAR SHOW+ FOR THE DISTRICT'S FIRST OPEN-AIR CONCERT.

+THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME WE HAVE USED THE MASSED BAND QUADRAPHONIC TECHNIQUE IN HONG KONG AND WHILE I HAVE HEARD OF IT BEING USED OVERSEAS, IT HAS NEVER BEEN PERFORMED BY SO MANY PLAYERS,+ HE SAID.

+THE RESULT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS SENSATIONAL.+

SATURDAY'S CONCERT IS THE RESULT OF THREE MONTHS' HARD WORK AND REHEARSALS BY THE BANDS AND THE ORGANISERS, WHO ARE ESPECIALLY PLEASED THAT TWO TAI PO DISTRICT GROUPS WILL BE TAKING PART — THE BANDS FROM THE BUDDHIST KWAI TONG MIDDLE SCHOOL AND THE TANG KING PO SCHOOL.

THE OTHER BANDS ARE THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND, THE HONG KONG LUTHERAN YOUTH BAND, THE SALESIAN SCHOOL BAND, THE DELIA MEMORIAL SCHOOL BAND, THE HONG KONG YMCA BAND THE ST. BONAVENTURE COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL BAND.

THE CONCERT WILL HAVE THE +BLESSING+ OF A LION DANCE AT 2.30 P.M. BEFORE THE GOVERNOR OFFICIALLY OPENS THE CONCERT WITH A BRIEF SPEECH AT 3 P.M.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CONCERT AT FAN LING PLAYGROUND AT 3 P.M. ON SATURDAY. PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A GOVERNMENT VAN (AM 2088) WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI AT 1.30 P.M.

AN OFFICER FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

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SPECIAL TRAINS TO SHA TIN RACE COURSE STATION

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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THREE SPECIAL TRAINS TO SHA TIN RACE COURSE STATION WOULD BE OPERATED ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 6).

THESE NON-STOP TRAINS WOULD LEAVE THE KOWLOON STATION IN HUNG HOM AT 12.31 P.M., 12.57 P.M. AND 1.12 P.M., A SPOKESMAN FOR KCR SAID.

THERE WOULD BE THREE SPECIAL TRAINS TO CONVEY PASSENGERS BACK TO THE KOWLOON STATION AND, IN ADDITION, THREE SCHEDULED TRAINS WOULD BE RE-ROUTED VIA THE RACE COURSE STATION AT 4.31 P.M., 6.42 P.M., AND 7.16 P.M. TO PICK UP PASSENGERS.

THE RUNNING TIME OF THESE SPECIAL TRAINS WOULD BE 20 MINUTES AND THEIR TIMETABLES WOULD BE DISPLAYED AT ALL RAILWAY STATIONS AND AT THE JOCKEY CLUB'S OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRES.

HE ENCOURAGED THOSE GOING BY PRIVATE CARS TO MAKE USE OF THE HUNG HOM MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK ABOVE KOWLOON STATION.

HE FURTHER MENTIONED THAT APART FROM SEVERAL BUS CONNECTING ROUTES, THERE WERE FERRY SERVICES OPERATING BETWEEN CENTRAL, WAN CHAI AND NORTH POINT AND THE HUNG HOM PIER WHICH WAS A FEW MINUTES WALK FROM THE STATION TERMINAL.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE TIMETABLES OF THE SCHEDULED TRAIN SERVICES HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY AMENDED.

THE REVISED TIMETABLES OF THE SCHEDULED TRAINS BETWEEN 10.30 A.M. AND 11.00 P.M. ARE:

FROM KOWLOON STATION: 11.09 A.M., 12.11 P.M., 1.22 P.M., 2.20 P.M., 3.07 P.M., 3.54 P.M., 5.07 P.M., 5.38 P.M., 6.56 P.M., 7.46 P.M., 8.32 P.M., 9.21 P.M., AND 11.00 P.M.

FROM LO WU STATION: 10.52 A.M., 11.51 A.M., 12.49 P.M., 1.43 P.M., 3.00 P.M., 3.38 P.M., 4.35 P.M., 5.48 P.M., 6.28 P.M., 7.25 P.M., 8.27 P.M., AND 9.28 P.M.

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CLEAN-UP OPERATION IN SHAM SHUI PO

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A TWO-WEEK DISTRICT-WIDE CLEAN-UP OPERATION WILL BE MOUNTED AT SHAM SHUI PO TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE OPERATION, IN LINE WITH THE CHINESE TRADITION OF CLEANING HOUSEHOLDS AND LIVING AREAS TO PREPARE FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (SHAM SHUI PO), URBAN SERVICES OFFICE (SHAM SHUI PO) AND THE SHAM SHUI PO CITY DISTRICT COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE FIVE AREA COMMITTEES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE OPERATION WILL BE LAUNCHED AREA BY AREA AND THE FIRST EXERCISE WILL BE AT THE AREAS BOUNDED BY BOUNDARY STREET, NAM CHEONG STREET AND SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET.

DURING THE OPERATION, LABOURERS FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND VOLUNTEERS WILL CONCENTRATE ON COMMON AREAS IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AND CANOPIES.

THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (SHAM SHUI PO) HAS SET UP A TELEPHONE HOTLINE (3-704251 EXT. 33) TO DEAL WITH REQUESTS FROM RESIDENTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN CLEANING THEIR BUILDINGS DURING THE OPERATION PERIOD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CLEAN-UP OPERATION IN SHAM SHUI PO TOMORROW (FRIDAY). THE CLEANSING TEAM WILL ASSEMBLE AT 10 A.M. AT THE SHAM SHUI PO KAIFONG ASSOCIATION AT 88, YU CHAU STREET BEFORE SETTING OFF FOR THE OPERATION.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

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ROAD 27B AND 27C LEADING TO MOUSE ISLAND IN TUEN MUN WILL EACH HAVE A SECTION CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES FROM JANUARY 7 TO FACILITATE ROAD AND DRAINS CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF ROAD 27B, FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO ABOUT 120 METRES WESTWARD, WILL BE CLOSED FOR 11 DAYS TO JANUARY 17. DURING THIS PERIOD, THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE OPENDED TO TRAFFIC FROM BOTH DIRECTIONS ALTERNATIVELY.

MEANWHILE, A LENGTH OF ABOUT 50 METRES OF THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF ROAD 27C ADJACENT TO MOUSE ISLAND WILL BE CLOSED FOR 19 DAYS TO JANUARY 25.

THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC FROM BOTH DIRECTIONS ALTERNATIVELY.

AT BOTH AFFECTED SECTIONS, TRAFFIC FLOW WILL BE REGULATED BY TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND OTHER TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL ALSO BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM -- SUSPENSION OF SURFACE MAIL SERVICE

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THE POST OFFICE TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT DUE TO TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF RAILWAY SERVICE BETWEEN CHINA AND VIETNAM, SURFACE LETTER AND PARCEL DESPATCHES TO THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WILL BE SUSPENDED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

+UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, NO SURFACE MAILS FOR VIETNAM WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR POSTING,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID.

+AIRMAIL LETTERS AND PARCELS FOR THIS COUNTRY WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO BE ACCEPTED AT THIS STAGE,+ HE ADDED.

MEANWHILE, DUE TO THE SITUATION IN TEHERAN, AIRMAIL SERVICES TO IRAN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, WILL BE SUBJECT TO DELAY.

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STREAM RE-ALIGNMENT IN TSUEN WAN
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO START WORK SHORTLY ON THE RE-ALIGNMENT OF CHUNG HANG STREAM IN TSUEN WAN.

THE WORK, TENDERS FOR WHICH WILL BE INVITED TOMORROW (FRIDAY), AIMS TO PROVIDE LAND FOR THE TSUEN WAN EXTENSION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY.

IT ALSO INCLUDES THE FORMATION OF SEVEN HECTARES OF LAND FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

MR. NORMAN TUCKER, PROJECT MANAGER OF PWD'S TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, SAID THE PROJECT FORMED PART OF THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START NEXT MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT 17 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY SCOTT WILSON KIRKPATRICK AND PARTNERS ON BEHALF OF THE TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF PWD.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN
SUPPLEMENT

SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, GBE, KCMG, KCVO,
AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI CULTURAL COMPLEX FOUNDATION STONE
LAYING CEREMONY, JANUARY 4, 1979

The laying of the foundation stone of the Tsim Sha Tsui Cultural Complex marks the beginning of a new phase in the development of the cultural life in Hong Kong.

The last five years have seen an unprecedented expansion in artistic activities.

The next few years should see the opening of three major cultural complexes in the New Territories, and the completion of this project designed to be the cultural centre of Hong Kong, and so built on this magnificent site.

When completed it will consist of three main components: the space Museum which is already under construction and expected to open at the end of next year; an Auditorium complex with halls seating a total of nearly 5,000 people as well as an Arts Library and ancillary facilities; and a Museum Block for the permanent display of the collections currently held in the Museums of Art and History.

/Of the total .....

Of the total capital cost of the complex to date the tax-payers, through the Government, will pay $160 million for the auditorium block and through the Urban Council $50 million for the Space Museum and ancillary facilities associated with the auditoria.

The Government will also meet the cost of the Museums of Art and History. Once complete the Complex will be managed by the Urban Council.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Urban Council for their enthusiastic involvement in this very important project.

I should also like to thank the Government Architects for their imaginative and resourceful design of a civic institution which will match the prominence and prestige of this water-front site.

This Cultural Complex will stand as a permanent symbol of confidence in the future of the arts in Hong Kong, and in the importance of the role which they are coming to play in the life of our City.

I now have great pleasure in laying the foundation stone of this Cultural Complex.

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