



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1992

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92 VIETNAMESE ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH SHEK KONG INCIDENT

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POLICE HAVE SO FAR ARRESTED 92 VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ALLEGEDLY CONNECTED WITH THE DISTURBANCES WHICH OCCURRED IN SHEK KONG DETENTION CENTRE ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 3).

THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE CHARGED TOMORROW (THURSDAY) WITH RIOTING AND WILL APPEAR IN COURT ON FRIDAY.

INVESTIGATIONS INTO OTHER OFFENCES INCLUDING MURDER, ARSON AND WOUNDING ARE CONTINUING.

POLICE BELIEVE THREE OF THE ARRESTED PERSONS ARE ALLEGEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING FIRE TO A HUT DURING THE INCIDENT WHICH LED TO THE DEATHS OF 21 VIETNAMESE PEOPLE.

ENQUIRIES REVEALED THAT MORE THAN 10 VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WERE SEEN BY EYE-WITNESSES ALLEGEDLY PREVENTING PEOPLE FROM LEAVING THE HUT.

AT PRESENT, APART FROM NORMAL POLICE DUTIES AT THE CENTRE, ONE COMPANY OF POLICE TACTICAL UNIT HAS BEEN DEPLOYED AT SHEK KONG AND WILL REMAIN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

TENSION WITHIN THE CENTRE DECREASED FOLLOWING THE DISTURBANCE AND AN INCIDENT LAST NIGHT (FEBRUARY 4) WAS QUICKLY DEFUSED AND ORDER RESTORED WITH PROMPT POLICE ACTION.

DURING YESTERDAY NIGHT'S INCIDENT, A LARGE CROWD GATHERED IN SECTION 'B' OF THE CENTRE AND SET FIRE TO SOME BLANKETS WHILE PEOPLE FROM SECTION 'A' ATTEMPTED TO BREAK OUT FROM THE SECTION.

POLICE FIRED THREE ROUNDS OF CS SHELLS AT ABOUT 8.45 PM AND THE CROWDS QUICKLY DISPERSED.

TODAY, POLICE CONTINUED TO RELOCATE ALL NORTHERNERS IN THE CENTRE TO HEI LING CHAU. A TOTAL OF 1,505 VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WERE MOVED IN THREE BATCHES AND THE REMAINING 500 WILL BE RELOCATED TOMORROW.

POLICE RELOCATED 419 PEOPLE YESTERDAY.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF POLICE TACTICAL UNIT, POLICE ALSO CONDUCTED A SEARCH OF SECTION 'A' FOR WEAPONS BEGINNING AT ABOUT 2 PM AND LASTED UNTIL 6 PM.

PRIOR TO THE SEARCH, CENTRE MANAGEMENT HAD SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATED THE SURRENDER OF 153 HOME-MADE WEAPONS WITH VIETNAMESE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SECTION.

LATER, POLICE CONFISCATED 243 ITEMS CONSISTED OF MOSTLY WOODEN PLANKS AND OTHER ARTICLES WHICH OFFICERS BELIEVED COULD BE MADE INTO POTENTIAL WEAPONS DURING THE SUBSEQUENT SEARCH.

/A SPOKESMAN

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENTRE TODAY (WEDNESDAY) SAID ALL VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN THE CENTRE HAD BEEN WELL BRIEFED ABOUT THE SITUATION.

HE SAID STAFF MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) AND OTHER VOLUNTARY AGENCIES' WORKERS HAD BEEN VERY CO-OPERATIVE IN EASING TENSION WITHIN THE CENTRE.

SITUATION REMAINED STABLE IN THE CENTRE, HE SAID, THOUGH SOME PEOPLE FROM SECTION 'D' AND 'E' BEGAN TO GATHER AMIDST A SMALL FIRE BROKE OUT AT AN EMPTY HUT IN SECTION 'B' AT ABOUT 2.30 PM.

THE FIRE, WHICH WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY CHILDREN, WAS QUICKLY PUT OUT AND THE CROWDS DISPERSED FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CENTRE MANAGEMENT.

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VIEWS INVITED ON MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES PROPOSALS

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO COMMENT ON PROPOSALS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES IN HONG KONG ARE INVITED TO SEND IN THEIR VIEWS BEFORE THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ENDS ON FEBRUARY 29.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THE PURPOSE OF SETTING UP MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES WAS TO CONSERVE SENSITIVE MARINE HABITATS OF ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE FOR THE LONG-TERM BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WERE THREATS TO THE LOCAL MARINE ENVIRONMENT DUE TO POLLUTION, LAND RECLAMATION AND ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CORAL COLLECTION.

HE SAID THE OBJECTIVES OF SETTING UP MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES, WERE:

- * TO CONTROL ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT;
- * TO ENHANCE THE WILDLIFE AND THEIR HABITATS;
- * TO PROVIDE WAYS AND MEANS FOR HUMAN ACTIVITIES TO BE INTERGRATED WITH THE CONSERVATION OF MARINE RESOURCES; AND
- * TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF MARINE LIFE.

/A MARINE

A MARINE PARK WOULD BE A RELATIVELY LARGE PIECE OF SEA AREA WHICH WOULD BE USED FOR BOTH RECREATION AND CONSERVATION PURPOSES WHILE A MARINE RESERVE WOULD BE A RELATIVELY SMALL PIECE OF SEA AREA WITH HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE WHERE THE CONTROL OF INCOMPATIBLE HUMAN ACTIVITIES MIGHT BE NECESSARY.

TO SET UP MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES IN HONG KONG, THE SPOKESMAN SAID NEW LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED AND IT HAD BEEN PROPOSED THAT THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES SHOULD BE THE MARINE PARKS AUTHORITY.

"THE MARINE PARKS AUTHORITY WILL BE GIVEN THE POWER TO CONTROL ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENT IN MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES IN ORDER TO MANAGE AND PROTECT THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT," HE SAID.

FOUR BOARD MANAGEMENT METHODS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED. THEY ARE:

- * ALLOWING - ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE LITTLE IMPACT UPON THE MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES SHOULD BE ALLOWED AND WHERE APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR POSITIVE USE SUCH AS NATURE STUDIES OR EDUCATION SHOULD BE PROVIDED.
- * MONITORING - ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT UPON MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES, OR EXISTING USES OF THE AREA WHICH CAN BE TOLERATED SHOULD BE MONITORED AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, CODES OF CONDUCT WITHIN MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR USERS TO OBSERVE, E.G. DIVING, RECREATIONAL USE.
- * REGULATING/RESTRICTING - ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO CONTROL; FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES PRIOR PERMISSION FROM THE AUTHORITY WOULD BE NECESSARY, E.G. SPECIMEN COLLECTION.
- * PROHIBITING - ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE OR ARE CONSIDERED TO BE INCOMPATIBLE TO THE MARINE PARKS OR RESERVES SHOULD BE PROHIBITED, E.G. TRAWLING OR SPEAR-FISHING.

"THE DEGREE OF CONTROL WILL VARY WITH THE DEGREE OF POTENTIAL DAMAGE BUT CONTROL WILL BE MORE STRINGENT IN MARINE RESERVES THAN IN MARINE PARKS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THESE CONTROLLING METHODS WOULD BE APPLIED MORE FLEXIBLY TO THE EXISTING USES OF SEA AREAS IN THE MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES SO THAT THE UNHARMFUL ACTIVITIES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE.

HOI HA WAN AND YAN CHAU TONG ARE RECOMMENDED FOR DESIGNATION AS MARINE PARKS AND CAPE D'AGULILAR AS MARINE RESERVES IN THE FIRST PHASES OF DEVELOPMENT.

"THE THREE SITES WERE CHOSEN BECAUSE THEY REPRESENT TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF THE MARINE AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENT OF HONG KONG.

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THEY ARE RICH IN MARINE RESOURCES AND HAVE GREAT POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC INVESTIGATION," HE SAID.

CONSULTATION WITH RELATED ADVISORY BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS IS IN THE PROCESS AND WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF THIS MONTH.

ANYONE WHO WISH TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSALS CAN CONTACT THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 733 2249.

VIEWS SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, 12TH FLOOR, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 29.

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PUBLIC REMINDED TO EXPRESS VIEWS ON RENEWAL OF CMB'S FRANCHISE

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT BRANCH SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT TO ENSURE THE FULLEST POSSIBLE RANGE OF PUBLIC VIEWS COULD BE EXPRESSED, A PAPER GIVING A FACTUAL RECORD OF CMB'S PERFORMANCE IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS HAD BEEN SENT TO THE VARIOUS DISTRICT BOARDS AND TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEES ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE PAPER ON CMB'S PERFORMANCE AND/OR A COPY OF THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME NOW APPLICABLE TO CMB MAY CONTACT MISS SHIRLEY LAM OF THE TRANSPORT BRANCH DIRECT ON 810 2488 DURING OFFICE HOURS. THESE PAPERS ARE ALSO BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO THE MEDIA IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

THEY MAY ALSO WRITE TO THE TRANSPORT BRANCH, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE TWO-YEAR FRANCHISE EXTENSION SOUGHT BY CMB WAS UNDER EXAMINATION AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NEGOTIATE ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC WITH CMB ON THE TERMS OF THE NEW FRANCHISE AGREEMENT.

"VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PUBLIC WILL BE CAREFULLY AND FULLY CONSIDERED BEFORE A DECISION IS MADE," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID CONSULTATION NOW BEING CONDUCTED WOULD FOCUS MAINLY ON THE BROAD TERMS FOR FRANCHISE RENEWAL AND THE GENERAL DIRECTION IN WHICH BUS SERVICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND SHOULD FURTHER DEVELOP.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO GIVE VIEWS ON THE FOLLOWING KEY ISSUES:

- * THE PUBLIC'S DESIRE FOR BETTER SERVICES;

/* CMB'S PERFORMANCE

- * CMB'S PERFORMANCE AND ITS COMMITMENT TOWARDS FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES;
- * WHETHER MORE BUS ROUTES SHOULD BE TENDERED OUT, TO PROMOTE HEALTHY COMPETITION;
- * HOW TO MAKE THE TRANSPORT OPERATORS MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THEIR CUSTOMERS;
- * THE NEED TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING MORE ACTIVE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION;
- * WHETHER THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME SHOULD BE ROLLED FORWARD IN ITS PRESENT FORM; AND
- * WHETHER THE FRANCHISEES OUGHT TO BE GIVEN SOME ASSURANCE ON THE RATE OF RETURN, AS A MEANS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO PLAN AHEAD AND CONTINUE INVESTING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT WAS ESTABLISHED POLICY FOR THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TO BE CONSULTED ON ALL FRANCHISES RELATED TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

"MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REQUESTED TO WRITE TO THE SECRETARY, TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE DIRECT C/O TRANSPORT BRANCH, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, OR EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS THROUGH THE RELEVANT DISTRICT BOARDS ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 25," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS TO FACILITATE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION WORKS

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A SERIES OF TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR MOTORISTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SHAM SHUI PO FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 7) FOR A PERIOD OF ABOUT FOUR MONTHS TO FACILITATE WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION PROJECT.

THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE:

- * LEFT-TURN TRAFFIC FROM LAI CHI KOK ROAD WESTBOUND INTO FAT TSEUNG STREET SOUTHBOUND WILL BE BANNED;
- * LEFT-TURN TRAFFIC FROM FAT TSEUNG STREET NORTHBOUND INTO LAI CHI KOK ROAD WESTBOUND WILL BE BANNED;
- * FAT TSEUNG STREET BETWEEN YEE KUK STREET AND TUNG CHAU STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND;

/* YEE KUK

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- * YEE KUK STREET BETWEEN FAT TSEUNG STREET AND WANG CHEONG FACTORY ESTATE WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY EASTBOUND TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND;
- * TUNG CHAU STREET BETWEEN FAT TSEUNG STREET AND WANG CHEONG FACTORY ESTATE WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND; AND
- * THE SECTION OF CIRCULATION ROAD AROUND WANG CHEONG FACTORY ESTATE BETWEEN YEE KUK STREET AND TUNG CHAU STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

MEANWHILE, EXISTING TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN THE DISTRICT WILL BE EXTENDED FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS STARTING ON THE SAME DAY.

THEY ARE:

- * TUNG CHAU STREET BETWEEN FAT TSEUNG STREET AND TONKIN STREET IS RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY EASTBOUND TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC;
- * RIGHT-TURN TRAFFIC FROM LAI CHI KOK ROAD EASTBOUND INTO FAT TSEUNG STREET SOUTHBOUND IS BANNED;
- * RIGHT-TURN TRAFFIC FROM FAT TSEUNG STREET NORTHBOUND INTO LAI CHI KOK ROAD EASTBOUND IS BANNED;
- * TRAFFIC USING FAT TSEUNG STREET IN BOTH DIRECTIONS IS PROHIBITED FROM MAKING STRAIGHT-AHEAD MOVEMENTS ACROSS LAI CHI KOK ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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STUDENTS TO VISIT BEE FARM

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STUDENTS FROM PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL BE GOING TO CLASS - AT A BEE FARM.

THIS OUT-OF-THE-CLASSROOM ADVENTURE ATTRACTED STUDENTS FROM 135 SCHOOLS LAST YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

TALKS AND DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HELD ON THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND LIFE OF BEES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH MANKIND.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE NOW BEING INVITED TO APPLY FOR THE SERIES OF VISITS TO THE PO SANG YUEN BEE FARM IN FANLING FROM MARCH TO JUNE.

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