



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1978

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

GOVERNOR AND LADY MACLEHOSE RETURNING TOMORROW  
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THE GOVERNOR AND LADY MACLEHOSE ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON AFTER A SIX-WEEK VACATION IN BRITAIN.

SIR MURRAY AND LADY MACLEHOSE ARE DUE TO ARRIVE BY FLIGHT BA 030, ETA 3.50 P.M.

A PRESS PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY WILL BE ARRANGED FOR NEWSMEN TO COVER THE GOVERNOR'S ARRIVAL. THOSE PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THE FACILITY ARE ASKED TO ASSEMBLE IN THE PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING AT LEAST 30 MINUTES BEFORE THE ARRIVAL TIME. THEY ARE ALSO REMINDED TO BRING THEIR IDENTITY CARDS OR PASSPORTS TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO THE RESTRICTED AREA.

G.I.S. OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR MAY  
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THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1978, SHOW A SURPLUS OF \$182 MILLION COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$70.3 MILLION IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE AT \$743.7 MILLION WAS \$214.3 MILLION MORE THAN IN MAY, 1977.

TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS AT \$925.6 MILLION WERE \$326 MILLION MORE THAN FOR THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

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REPORT ON QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY  
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS COMPILED A REPORT ON A QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY HELD IN JULY 1978.

IN THE SURVEY, ABOUT 700 FIRMS FROM VARIOUS INDUSTRIES, FORMING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, WERE ASKED ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS EXPERIENCE IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1978, AND THEIR BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER.

THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY SUGGESTED THAT THE HONG KONG ECONOMY, AFTER EXPERIENCING A SECOND QUARTER WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED OVER THE FIRST QUARTER, WAS EXPECTING FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

WITHIN THE MANUFACTURING DIVISION, PLASTICS AND FOOD, BEVERAGE, AND TOBACCO REPORTED REMARKABLE PERFORMANCES IN THE SECOND QUARTER AND EXPRESSED SIGNIFICANT OPTIMISM FOR THE THIRD QUARTER.

FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES DID VERY WELL IN THE SECOND QUARTER AND WERE EXPECTING MODERATE IMPROVEMENTS.

FOR PRINTING, ELECTRONICS AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS, BUSINESS IN THE SECOND QUARTER WAS STEADY AND THEY WERE CONFIDENT OF FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS.

WEARING APPAREL AND TEXTILES EXPECTED THEIR STEADY SECOND QUARTER BUSINESS TO CARRY FORWARD INTO THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

FOR NON-MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, CONSTRUCTION AND GAS, ELECTRICITY AND WATER CONTINUED TO REPORT GOOD PERFORMANCES AND OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATIONS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE ACHIEVED A SATISFACTORY SECOND QUARTER, DESPITE EARLIER EXPECTATIONS WHICH PREDICTED OTHERWISE- AND EXPECTED MILD ADVANCES.

HOTELS AND TRANSPORTATION BOTH HAD A HIGH SECOND QUARTER AND EXPECTED SOME SLOW-DOWN TO COME, PROBABLY DUE TO SEASONAL EFFECTS.

RESTAURANTS, THE ONLY SECTOR REPORTING DETERIORATIONS IN THE SECOND QUARTER, LOOKED FORWARD TO MUCH BETTER PROSPECTS. BANKS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS SERVICE CONTINUED TO ADVANCE STEADILY.

A SPECIAL QUESTION ON INVESTMENT INTENTION FOR 1978 AS A WHOLE WAS INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY. IT WAS OBSERVED THAT DIFFERENT SECTORS REPORTED WIDELY DIFFERENT INVESTMENT INTENTIONS IN MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT FOR OWN USE IN 1978 COMPARED WITH 1977.

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WITHIN THE MANUFACTURING DIVISION, ELECTRONICS, TEXTILES AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES INTENDED TO DECREASE THEIR NEW INVESTMENT WHILE PRINTING, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS INTENDED TO INCREASE.

FOR THE REMAINING MANUFACTURING SECTORS, ABOUT THE SAME AMOUNT OF NEW INVESTMENT WAS INTENDED FOR 1978 AS FOR 1977.

TAKEN AS A WHOLE, DECREASED NEW INVESTMENT WAS EXPECTED FOR THE MANUFACTURING DIVISION IN 1978 AS COMPARED WITH 1977.

THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR ALSO EXPECTED A SUBSTANTIAL DECREASE IN NEW INVESTMENT IN 1978.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SERVICE SECTORS WERE PREPARED TO MAKE SUBSTANTIALLY MORE INVESTMENT IN 1978 THAN IN 1977, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORS BEING RESTAURANTS, BANKS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS SERVICES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THE DATA, OBTAINED WITH A MINIMUM TIME LAG, WERE BASICALLY INTENDED TO FACILITATE A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION IN HONG KONG.

+APART FROM A LIMITED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS REQUIRING ANSWERS IN QUANTITATIVE TERMS, THE FIRMS WERE ASKED TO COMPARE THE QUARTER JUST PAST WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND SIMILARLY FOR THE FORTHCOMING ONE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THEY ONLY HAD TO INDICATE WHETHER, IN THEIR OPINION, A CERTAIN VARIABLE WAS 'UP', 'SAME' OR 'DOWN',+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED THAT IN A SURVEY OF THIS NATURE, CONSIDERABLE RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS, BECAUSE IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE ACCORDS WITH THE UNDERLYING TRENDS, AND THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE PROBABLY AFFECTED CONSIDERABLY BY SEASONALITY.

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MTR TAFFIC RE-ROUTING IN SHAM SHUI PO  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY) A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE SHAM SHUI PO AREA TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATIONS AND TUNNELS ALONG CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD.

PEI HO STREET BETWEEN APLIU STREET AND CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC, AND THE SOUTH SECTION OF PEI HO STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT INTO CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD FROM PEI HO STREET.

FURTHERMORE, KWEILIN STREET BETWEEN CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD AND APLIU STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC, AND THE SOUTH SECTION OF KWEILIN STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

THE LEFT TURNING MOVEMENT FROM CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD INTO KWEILIN STREET WILL BE CANCELLED AND ENTRY INTO THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD WILL BE FROM APLIU STREET.

MEANWHILE, THE SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC IN NAM CHEONG STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, AND THE NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC IN NAM CHEONG STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING LEFT INTO CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE AREA TO GUIDE THE MOTORISTS.

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C.A.S. TO HOLD PASSING-OUT PARADE  
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THE CIVIL AID SERVICES WILL HOLD A PASSING-OUT PARADE AT THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS COMPOUND, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 7.30 P.M.

THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR. F.M. WATSON WILL INSPECT THE PARADE OF 180 MEN AND WOMEN RECRUITS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE BASIC TRAINING COURSES IN FOOTDRILL, FIRST AID, AND CIVIL DEFENCE SUBJECTS.

MR. WATSON WILL ALSO AWARD SPECIAL CERTIFICATES TO THE MOST OUTSTANDING RECRUITS AND PRESENT CIVIL DEFENCE LONG SERVICE MEDALS TO 17 C.A.S. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PASSING-OUT PARADE WHICH BEGINS AT 7.30 P.M. ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 18) AT THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS COMPOUND, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG.

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LATE ARRIVAL OF SURFACE MAIL FROM U.K.  
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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT SURFACE MAIL CARRIED BY THE SHIP +CARDIGAN BAY+ WHICH SAILED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM ON JULY 3, 1978; HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED IN HONG KONG.

THE VESSEL HAD REPORTEDLY GONE AGROUND DURING ITS VOYAGE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL, RESULTING IN THE DELAYED ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WESTERN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN WESTERN DISTRICT FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

FROM 10 A.M. ON THAT DAY, THE SECTION OF WHITTY STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND THE SECTION OF WESTERN STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.

IN ADDITION, THE UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN NOS. 329 AND 331 DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY, THE TEMPORARY PUBLIC LIGHT BUS PROHIBITION IN CHEUNG WOO LANE, SHARP STREET WEST AND BOWRINGTON ROAD WHICH WAS INTRODUCED TO FACILITATE ROAD RE-CONSTRUCTION WILL BE CANCELLED.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THESE AREAS TO ASSIST MOTORISTS.

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