



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1980

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POPULATION TOPS FIVE MILLION

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HONG KONG'S ESTIMATED POPULATION AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1979 WAS 5 017 000, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 296 800 PEOPLE OR 6.3 PER CENT OVER THE ESTIMATE IN 1978.

THE LARGEST CONSTITUENT IN THE GROWTH RATE WAS NET IMMIGRATION, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 189 300 OR 4 PER CENT.

THE NATURAL INCREASE IN POPULATION WAS ONLY 57 800 OR 1.2 PER CENT. THE FIGURE INCLUDES 1 218 HONG KONG BORN BABIES OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES.

THE BALANCE OF ARRIVALS OVER DEPARTURES OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 49 700 OR 1.1 PER CENT.

THE GAIN IN THE BALANCE OF IMMIGRATION WAS DUE SOLELY TO IMMIGRATION FROM CHINA.

THE NUMBER OF LEGAL CHINESE IMMIGRANTS WHO ARRIVED IN 1979 WAS 70 466, COMPARED WITH 71 490 IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ENTERING HONG KONG SUCCESSFULLY WAS 113 000, WHICH WAS THREE TIMES THE CORRESPONDING FIGURE FOR 1978.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THE TOTAL POPULATION FIGURE WAS OBTAINED BY UPDATING THE ESTIMATE FOR MID-1979.

+DURING THE YEAR, THERE HAS BEEN A GROWING TENDENCY AMONG ILLEGAL CHINESE IMMIGRANTS TO REPORT EARLIER TO THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE AND THIS HAS RESULTED IN A MORE ACCURATE ESTIMATE OF NEW ARRIVALS WHO EVADED ARREST,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IN FACT, ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF THE ESTIMATED NUMBER FOR 1979 WAS BASED ON APPLICATIONS FOR ID CARDS,+ HE ADDED.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS LAST YEAR WAS 83 019, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 2.8 PER CENT OVER 1978'S ESTIMATE. THIS WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE GRADUAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN THE CHILDBEARING AGES 15-49.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS, AT 25 268, WAS HIGHER BY 5.7 PER CENT. THE INCREASE WAS ASSOCIATED MAINLY WITH THE GROWING NUMBER OF OLD PEOPLE IN THE POPULATION.

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CHIEF JUSTICE TO OPEN
FIRST CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATORS CONFERENCE

THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE FIRST ASIAN AND PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATORS AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 25).

DELEGATES FROM 14 COUNTRIES IN THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC REGION AS WELL AS CANADA WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS FROM FEBRUARY 25-29.

THE CONFERENCE IS ORGANISED BY THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FIRST ASIAN AND PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATORS BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, TO BE HELD IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 25) STARTING AT 9.15 AM.

TELEVISION CREWS ARE ADVISED TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE AMPLE TIME TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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RETIREMENT SOUVENIR FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPUTY DIRECTOR

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR WILLIAM BELL, WILL PROCEED ON PRE-RETIREMENT LEAVE EARLY NEXT MONTH AFTER 27 YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

TO MARK HIS RETIREMENT, MR DAVID MCDONALD, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, TODAY PRESENTED HIM WITH A SOUVENIR ON BEHALF OF HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES.

+LIKE MANY OF THE WORLD'S MOST RENOWNED ENGINEERS BILL IS A SCOT,+ MR MCDONALD SAID.

HE GREW UP IN THE CLYDESIDE AREA AND AFTER LEAVING SCHOOL HE WORKED INITIALLY FOR A CONTRACTING FIRM BEFORE TRANSFERRING TO THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OF THE COUNTY OF DUNBARTON.

+HIS CAREER WAS, HOWEVER, INTERRUPTED WHEN HE WAS CONSCRIPTED DURING WORLD WAR II FOR SERVICE IN THE ROYAL AIR FORCE,+ MR MCDONALD CONTINUED.

/+DURING THESE

+DURING THESE YEARS HE FLEW BOTH AS A PILOT AND AS A FLIGHT ENGINEER. AFTER DEMOBILISATION HE RETURNED TO WORK IN DUNBARTON AND IN 1951 WAS ELECTED A.M.I.C.E.+

IN 1953, MR BELL JOINED THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND WAS POSTED TO THE PORT WORKS OFFICE.

AFTER A TOUR IN PORT WORKS, HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE THEN ROADS OFFICE AND THERE HE REMAINED IN VARIOUS POSTS CULMINATING IN HIS APPOINTMENT AS PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY ENGINEER IN 1971.

MR BELL LEFT THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE IN 1973 TO ASSUME THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT.

IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR, HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE SPECIALLY CREATED POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (MASS TRANSIT).

IN THIS CAPACITY, HE LIAISED WITH THE NEW MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION ON EVALUATION OF TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAILWAY AND WAS INVOLVED IN THE RE-EXAMINATION OF GOVERNMENT'S FUTURE ROLE IN RELATION TO THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY.

IT WAS IN AUGUST 1975 WHEN MR BELL WAS PROMOTED TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TOOK OVER THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DAY-TO-DAY RUNNING OF THE DEPARTMENT. HE HAS, ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, ACTED AS DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS DURING MR MCDONALD'S ABSENCE.

IN RECOGNITION OF HIS YEARS OF STEADY HARD WORK AND READY ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY, HE WAS AWARDED THE O.B.E. IN 1977.

MR BELL REACHED THE AGE OF NORMAL RETIREMENT IN 1978, MR MCDONALD SAID, BUT WAS INVITED AND CONSENTED TO STAY ON FOR ANOTHER TWO YEARS FOR THE FURTHER BENEFIT OF THE DEPARTMENT.

AFTER HIS RETIREMENT, MR BELL AND HIS WIFE GWEN WILL SETTLE DOWN IN ALFRISTON, A SMALL VILLAGE NEAR THE SUSSEX COAST.

MR JACK STEAN, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO ACT AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

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CUTBACK ON LATE EVENING FERRY SAILINGS

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LATE EVENING FERRY SAILINGS ON FIVE CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES OF THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY WILL TERMINATE EARLIER FROM THIS SUNDAY.

THE ROUTES AFFECTED ARE:

- * JUBILEE STREET TO JORDAN ROAD WHICH WILL NOW TERMINATE AT MIDNIGHT INSTEAD OF 2 AM=
- * NORTH POINT TO KOWLOON CITY WHICH WILL TERMINATE AT 10.30 PM INSTEAD OF 11.50 PM=
- * NORTH POINT TO HUNG HOM WHICH WILL TERMINATE AT 10.20 PM INSTEAD OF 11.55 PM=
- * WAN CHAI TO JORDAN ROAD WHICH WILL TERMINATE AT 10.40 PM INSTEAD OF MIDNIGHT, AND
- * JUBILEE STREET TO SHAM SHUI PO WHICH WILL TERMINATE AT 10.30 PM INSTEAD OF MIDNIGHT.

ALTERNATIVE CROSS-HARBOUR TRANSPORT AFTER THE TERMINATION OF THE FIVE ROUTES WILL BE AVAILABLE BY STAR FERRY, ALL-NIGHT BUS ROUTES NO. 121 AND 122 AS WELL AS THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY UP TO 1 AM.

A TRANSPORT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY WAS MAKING THE CUTBACK IN ORDER TO SAVE FUEL.

HE ADDED THAT THE MAJORITY OF COMMUTERS WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED AS ONLY LATE EVENING SAILINGS WITH VERY LOW PASSENGER DEMAND WERE BEING CURTAILED.

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NEW RAILWAY BRIDGE

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A NEW RAILWAY BRIDGE WILL SHORTLY BE CONSTRUCTED OVER THE LOWER LAM TSUEN RIVER TO REPLACE THE EXISTING STEEL SINGLE TRACK BRIDGE WHICH HAS BEEN IN USE SINCE 1910.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE NOW BEING INVITED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE NEW THREE-SPAN PRESTRESSED CONCRETE BRIDGE WILL BE ABOUT 80 METRES LONG AND 13 METRES WIDE.

HE SAID THE WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES SO THAT NORMAL TRAIN SERVICES WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED.

/HE SAID,

HE SAID, +IT WILL ALSO BE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT SPACE BENEATH THE BRIDGE FOR FUTURE ROAD WIDENING AS WELL AS FOR RIVER TRAINING WORK WITH A CONSEQUENT IMPROVEMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT IN THIS PART OF TAI PO.+

+THE PROJECT FORMS PART OF THE DOUBLE-TRACKING PROGRAMME FROM HUNG HOM TO LO WU AND THE MODERNISATION AND ELECTRIFICATION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.+

WORK IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN APRIL AND BE COMPLETED BY NOVEMBER NEXT YEAR.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE RAILWAY DIVISION OF THE PWD'S CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE.

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TAI WAI PUBLIC DUMP TO CLOSE

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT THE PUBLIC DUMP NEAR TAI WAI, SHA TIN, WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY.

ON THE SAME DAY, AN ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC DUMP WILL BE OPENED IN THREE AREAS NEAR SIU LEK YUEN, SHA TIN.

ACCESS TO THE NEW DUMP WILL BE FROM SIU LEK YUEN ROAD OFF LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD.

* DUMPING PERMITS ALREADY ISSUED FOR USE WITHIN SHA TIN WILL REMAIN VALID FOR THE NEW DUMP.

ONLY APPROVED SOFT EARTH AND STONES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

VEHICLES WITHOUT DUMPING PERMITS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO DUMP MATERIAL IN THE THREE SIU LEK YUEN AREAS.

DUMPING PERMITS MAY BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE ON WRITTEN APPLICATION TO THE PROJECT MANAGER OF THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

EACH APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER, THE ORIGIN, TYPE AND APPROXIMATE QUANTITY OF MATERIALS TO BE DUMPED AND THE PERIOD FOR WHICH THE PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR A PARTICULAR JOB.

DUMPING WILL BE ALLOWED BETWEEN 8 AM AND 6 PM ON WEEKDAYS EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

ALL DUMPING MUST BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE DUMP SUPERVISOR.

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OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME TECHNICAL TEACHERS

YOUNG PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE IN INDUSTRY ARE INVITED TO ENROL IN TECHNICAL COURSES AND THE HOTEL-KEEPING AND CATERING COURSE RUN BY THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THESE COURSES WILL BE ONE YEAR FULL-TIME AND WILL COMMENCE THIS SEPTEMBER.

THEY ARE INTENDED FOR MATURE STUDENTS WITH SOME YEARS OF INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PASSING ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO STUDENTS IN TECHNICAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND IN TAKING UP TEACHING AS A PROFESSION.

FINANCIAL GRANTS MAY BE GIVEN, RANGING FROM \$1 410 TO \$2 155 PER MONTH, DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF YEARS OF POST-QUALIFICATION INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE.

APPLICANTS TO THE TECHNICAL COURSES MUST POSSESS AN ORDINARY OR TECHNICIAN DIPLOMA AWARDED BY THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, THE POLYTECHNIC OR TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, OR ITS EQUIVALENT. THEY CAN APPLY FOR THE APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINES OFFERED, INCLUDING CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING.

APPLICANTS TO THE HOTEL-KEEPING AND CATERING COURSE MUST HOLD AN ORDINARY NATIONAL DIPLOMA (UK) IN HOTEL AND CATERING OPERATIONS, OR ITS EQUIVALENT, WITH PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE RELATED FIELDS.

A GOOD STANDARD OF BOTH WRITTEN AND SPOKEN ENGLISH AND CHINESE IS ESSENTIAL.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE AT 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE COLLEGE ON MARCH 19.

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FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 13 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF PRACTICE.

THE PRACTISING TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
MARCH 3 (MONDAY)	7 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 4 (TUESDAY)	7 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 14 (FRIDAY)	9 AM -- 4 PM
MARCH 17 (MONDAY)	8 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 18 (TUESDAY)	8 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 19 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 20 (THURSDAY)	8 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 21 (FRIDAY)	8 AM -- 4 PM
MARCH 24 (MONDAY)	9 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 25 (TUESDAY)	8 AM -- 11 PM
MARCH 26 (WEDNESDAY)	5 AM -- 4 PM
MARCH 27 (THURSDAY)	8 AM -- 5 PM
MARCH 28 (FRIDAY)	8 AM -- 4 PM

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