



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1977

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

LAW OF WORKERS ANNUAL LEAVE EFFECTIVE ON JANUARY 1, 1978 .	1
GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1978 AND 1979	2
PWD INVITES TENDERS FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM	4
WORK OF FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT PRAISED	5
MORE THAN 100 NEEDED TO FILL FIREMAN POSTS	6
ISLANDS DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD HOLDS FIRST MEETING	7
RTHK TO HOLD CHRISTMAS PARTY	8

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1977

- 1 -

LAW ON WORKERS ANNUAL LEAVE
EFFECTIVE FROM NEXT YEAR

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. PETER WILLIAMS, TODAY (FRIDAY) DREW ATTENTION TO THE LAW PROVIDING SEVEN DAYS PAID ANNUAL LEAVE FOR WORKERS WHICH COMES INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1.

HE SAID ALL WORKERS COVERED BY THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE (ALL MANUAL WORKERS AND THOSE NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH) WHO HAVE COMPLETED A YEAR'S SERVICE WITH AN EMPLOYER BEFORE JANUARY 1 WOULD BE ENTITLED TO ANNUAL LEAVE WITH PAY WITHIN THE FOLLOWING 12 MONTHS.

MR. WILLIAMS, WHO WAS SPEAKING TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON NORTH AT THE HONG KONG HOTEL, SAID: +THE SPIRIT IS TO GIVE ALL EMPLOYEES A BREAK OF SEVEN DAYS FROM WORK TO ENABLE THEM TO REST AND TO RECHARGE THEIR BATTERIES.

+NEEDLESS TO SAY ANY ENACTMENT IN LAW IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE SPIRIT IN WHICH IT IS MADE.+

MR. WILLIAMS SAID THAT AFTER EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES HAD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT SHUTTING DOWN A PLANT FOR SEVEN CONSECUTIVE DAYS WOULD AFFECT PRODUCTION AND THAT NOT ALL EMPLOYEES WOULD WISH TO TAKE ALL THEIR ANNUAL LEAVE IN ONE GO, THE NEW LAW HAD BEEN AMENDED TO PERMIT THE COMBINATION OF PAID ANNUAL LEAVE WITH STATUTORY HOLIDAYS OR REST DAYS TO FORM A TOTAL OF SEVEN CONSECUTIVE DAYS.

+THE BREAK IS BASED ON SEVEN DAYS OF CONTINUOUS LEAVE FOR EVERY COMPLETED YEAR OF SERVICE,+ HE EXPLAINED.

+THOSE WHO HAD NOT COMPLETED THIS SERVICE SHOULD RECEIVE IT PRO RATA,+ HE SAID.

+HOWEVER, IF AN EMPLOYER PREFERS TO SHUT DOWN AN ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF GIVING EVERY EMPLOYEE SEVEN DAYS OFF THEN THOSE WHO DO NOT QUALIFY BECAUSE OF SHORTER SERVICE SHOULD NEVERTHELESS BE PAID FOR THOSE DAYS OF SHUT-DOWN WHICH ARE COUNTED AS ANNUAL LEAVE.

+IF A SHORTER PERIOD OF ANNUAL LEAVE IS COMBINED WITH STATUTORY HOLIDAYS OR REST DAYS TO MAKE UP A TOTAL OF SEVEN CONSECUTIVE DAYS, THEN ANY LEAVE BALANCE, PROVIDED IT HAS ALREADY BEEN EARNED, SHOULD BE CREDITED TO THE EMPLOYEE AND HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE IT AT SOME OTHER TIME DURING THE YEAR.+

REFERRING TO PUBLIC DEBATES IN THE PRESS AND ELSEWHERE MR. WILLIAMS SAID MANY VIEWS WERE EXPRESSED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT WORKERS DID NOT WANT LEAVE BUT WANTED EXTRA PAY= THAT WIVES PREFERRED HUSBANDS AT WORK= AND THAT IF SO MANY WORKERS WERE OFF AT THE SAME TIME, THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WOULD BE OVERWHELMED AND SO ON.

+THERE MAY WELL BE SOME REASON BEHIND THESE VIEWS BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN, THE GENERAL CONCENSUS IS THAT WORKERS WANT THEIR LEAVE — AND FURTHERMORE IF WE DO NOT MAKE PROGRESS IN THESE AND OTHER SOCIAL FIELDS WE LEAVE OURSELVES OPEN TO CONSIDERABLE MORAL AND POLITICAL CRITICISM,+ HE SAID.

/MR. WILLIAMS ALSO

MR. WILLIAMS ALSO REFERRED TO PRESS REPORTS ALLEGING THAT WORKERS, BECAUSE OF IGNORANCE, HAD BEEN DEPRIVED OF THEIR STATUTORY HOLIDAYS OR ENTITLEMENT TO HOLIDAY PAY.

HE SAID: +IT IS THE PRACTICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TO REMIND, THROUGH THE PUBLIC MEDIA, ALL EMPLOYERS OF THEIR OBLIGATIONS AND ALL EMPLOYEES OF THEIR ENTITLEMENT JUST A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO EACH STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

+PAMPHLETS EXPLAINING THE PROVISIONS OF STATUTORY HOLIDAYS AND REST DAYS ARE READILY AVAILABLE AND HAVE ALREADY BEEN WIDELY DISTRIBUTED.+

HE ADDED THAT A NEW PAMPHLET ON REST DAYS AND HOLIDAYS HAD BEEN ISSUED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

+IN THIS PAMPHLET, REST DAYS, STATUTORY HOLIDAYS AND PAID ANNUAL LEAVE ARE SEPARATELY SET OUT AND EXPLAINED SO THAT THERE CAN BE NO CONFUSION ABOUT THESE PROVISIONS,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1978 AND 1979

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) CONTAINS DETAILS OF THE GENERAL HOLIDAYS TO BE OBSERVED IN 1978 AND 1979. EXCLUDING SUNDAYS, THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 17 HOLIDAYS FOR BOTH YEARS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL NEXT YEAR FALLS ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1978, AND, AS USUAL, THE DAY AFTER THE FESTIVAL IS A GAZETTED PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

THE FULL LIST OF GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1978 IS:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| * EVERY SUNDAY | |
| * THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JANUARY | MONDAY, JANUARY 2 |
| * LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 |
| * THE SECOND DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 |
| * THE THIRD DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 |
| * GOOD FRIDAY | FRIDAY, MARCH 24 |
| * THE DAY FOLLOWING GOOD FRIDAY | SATURDAY, MARCH 25 |
| * EASTER MONDAY | MONDAY, MARCH 27 |
| * CHING MING FESTIVAL | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5 |
| * THE BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN | FRIDAY, APRIL 21 |
| * TUEN NG (DRAGON BOAT) FESTIVAL | SATURDAY, JUNE 10 |

/*THE FIRST WEEK-DAY ...

* THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JULY	SATURDAY, JULY 1
* THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST	MONDAY, AUGUST 7
* THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST, WHICH SHALL BE LIBERATION DAY	MONDAY, AUGUST 28
* THE DAY FOLLOWING THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
* CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10
* CHRISTMAS DAY	MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
* THE FIRST WEEK-DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1979 :

* EVERY SUNDAY	
* THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JANUARY	MONDAY, JANUARY 1
* THE SECOND DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR	MONDAY, JANUARY 29
* THE THIRD DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR	TUESDAY, JANUARY 30
* THE FOURTH DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31
* CHING MING FESTIVAL	THURSDAY, APRIL 5
* GOOD FRIDAY	FRIDAY, APRIL 13
* THE DAY FOLLOWING GOOD FRIDAY	SATURDAY, APRIL 14
* EASTER MONDAY	MONDAY, APRIL 16
* THE BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN	SATURDAY, APRIL 21
* TUEN NG (DRAGON BOAT) FESTIVAL	WEDNESDAY, MAY 30
* THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JULY	MONDAY, JULY 2
* THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST	MONDAY, AUGUST 6
* THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST WHICH SHALL BE LIBERATION DAY	MONDAY, AUGUST 27
* THE DAY FOLLOWING THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6
* CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL	MONDAY, OCTOBER 29
* CHRISTMAS DAY	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25
* THE FIRST WEEK-DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1977

- 4 -

PWD INVITES TENDERS FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM

* * * *

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY INVITED TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SUPERSTRUCTURE OF THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR MORRISON HILL INDOOR STADIUM, NOW NAMED QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, IN WAN CHAI.

THE 12-STOREY COMPLEX IS BEING BUILT ON A NEARLY 3,000 SQUARE METRE SITE BETWEEN OI KWAN ROAD AND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

IT WILL PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF SPORTING FACILITIES FOR BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND FACILITATE OTHER IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES.

MR. K.M. TSENG, CHIEF P.W.D. ARCHITECT, SAID WORK ON THE SUPERSTRUCTURE WOULD START IN EARLY FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED LATE IN 1979.

+THE FOUNDATION WORK FOR THE STADIUM IS PROGRESSING WELL AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR.+

MR. TSENG SAID THAT THE STADIUM WOULD PROVIDE A MAJOR NEW SPORTING CENTRE FOR HONG KONG'S YOUNG SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN.

+IT WILL HAVE FACILITIES FOR JUST ABOUT EVERY SPORT-- FROM TABLE TENNIS AND BADMINTON TO ATHLETIC AND GYMNASTIC EVENTS.

+IN ADDITION TO TRAINING ROOMS, LECTURE AND COMMITTEE ROOMS, IT WILL HAVE WARM-UP GYMNASIUMS AND CHANGING ROOMS AS WELL AS HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITING TEAMS,+ HE SAID.

ONE OF THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE COMPLEX, SAID MR. TSENG, WOULD BE A LARGE MULTI-PURPOSE STADIUM WITH SEATS FOR NEARLY 3,500 SPECTATORS.

THE STADIUM WOULD HAVE A CENTRAL ARENA OF ABOUT 290 SQUARE METRES, WHICH WILL TAKE UP THE THIRD TO FIFTH FLOORS OF THE 12-STOREY BUILDING.

+THE HOSTELS WILL OCCUPY THE UPPER FLOORS WHILE THE LOWER FLOORS WILL PROVIDE SUCH FACILITIES AS WARM-UP GYMS, TABLE TENNIS PRACTISING HALLS, CHANGING ROOMS AND SHOWERS, AS WELL AS CONFERENCE ROOMS,+ HE SAID.

IN THE BASEMENT, ANOTHER LARGE MULTI-PURPOSE HALL WOULD BE PROVIDED ALONG WITH THREE SQUASH COURTS AND MORE FACILITIES FOR TABLE TENNIS.

WHEN COMPLETED, THE STADIUM WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1977

- 5 -

WORK OF FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT PRAISED

* * * * *

THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WAS PRAISED TODAY FOR THEIR PROMPT ACTION IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF THE MANY FIRES THAT OCCURRED ON TSING YI ISLAND SINCE A FIRE STATION WAS ESTABLISHED THERE IN 1965.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW TSING YI FIRE STATION, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RURAL COMMITTEE ON THE ISLAND, MR. TANG YUEN-PUI SAID THE STOPPING OF THESE FIRES COULD ONLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE PROMPT EFFICIENCY OF THE FIRE SERVICES WITH THE AID OF RESIDENTS AND THE CIVILIAN FIRE PREVENTION SQUADS ON THE ISLAND.

THE NEW TSING YI FIRE STATION WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION IN JUNE THIS YEAR WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY MR. TANG.

+WHEN YOU CONSIDER FIRE FIGHTING, FIRE PREVENTION, FIRST AID AND ANY OTHER CALAMITY THAT MIGHT ARISE, WE MOST CERTAINLY HAVE A FIRE SERVICE THAT IS SURPASSED BY NONE,+ MR. TANG SAID.

THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES) MR. A.J. JONES WHO ALSO SPOKE AT THE CEREMONY SAID THE NEW FIRE STATION COST OVER \$2 MILLION TO BUILD AND ITS STAFFING, MAINTENANCE AND PROVISIONING WOULD REQUIRE AN ANNUAL EXPENDITURE OF MORE THAN \$1.5 MILLION.

+SUCH COMMITMENT CLEARLY SHOWS THAT THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES THE IMPORTANCE OF TSING YI WITH ITS INDUSTRY, DEVELOPMENT AND A STRONG COMMUNITY SPIRIT - AND WE IN THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT INTEND TO PLAY OUR FULL ROLE IN AFFORDING THE PROTECTION AND AID WHICH IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE SAFETY AND CARE OF ALL PEOPLE WHETHER THEY BE RESIDENTS, WORKERS OR VISITORS TO TSING YI,+ MR. JONES SAID.

AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY, MR. TANG PRESENTED CERTIFICATES TO 20 MEMBERS OF THE TSING YI TONG CIVILIAN FIRE PREVENTION SQUAD WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A FIRE FIGHTING COURSE ORGANISED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE SQUAD WAS FORMED TO LOOK AFTER THE FIRE SAFETY ASPECTS OF TSING YI TONG ON THE ISLAND AND TO SERVE AS A FIRST STRIKE-FORCE IN CASE OF A FIRE BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF FIRE SERVICES PERSONNEL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1977

- 6 -

WANTED OVER 100 FIREMEN
* * * * *

MORE THAN 100 PHYSICALLY FIT YOUNG MEN ARE REQUIRED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO FILL VACANCIES IN THE RANK OF FIREMAN.

THEY WILL BE TRAINED FOR GENERAL FIRE-FIGHTING AND RESCUE DUTIES.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE AGED BETWEEN 18 AND 30, HAVE GOOD PHYSIQUE AND NORMAL EYE SIGHT.

APART FROM BEING ABLE TO SPEAK FLUENT CANTONESE AND READ AND WRITE CHINESE, THEY SHOULD HAVE LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF AT LEAST FIVE YEARS AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION.

THE STARTING SALARY FOR A FIREMAN IS \$1,210 AND THE MAXIMUM IS \$1,770.

ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED SHOULD APPLY IN PERSON BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 1 P.M. DAILY FROM MONDAY TO THURSDAY (DECEMBER 19-22) AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING RECRUITMENT CENTRES:

- * HONG KONG - HARBOUR ROAD FIRE STATION, HARBOUR ROAD-
- * KOWLOON - TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION, CANTON ROAD, KWUN TONG FIRE STATION, KWUN TONG ROAD- OR
- * NEW TERRITORIES - TSUEN WAN FIRE STATION, TAI CHUNG ROAD.

THE APPLICANT SHOULD BRING ALONG HIS IDENTITY CARD, DOCUMENTS PROVING HIS RESIDENTIAL AND EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND A DULY COMPLETED FORM (G.F. 340) WHICH IS OBTAINABLE FROM ANY CITY DISTRICT OFFICE.

HE SHOULD ALSO BRING ALONG A PAIR OF GYM SHOES AND SHORTS FOR USE IN THE STRENGTH TEST AT THE RECRUITMENT CENTRES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1977

- 7 -

ISLANDS DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD HOLDS FIRST MEETING

* * * *

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND THE POSSIBLE PROVISION OF SWIMMING POOL FACILITIES FOR YOUTH ON OUTLYING ISLANDS WERE AMONG THE ITEMS DISCUSSED IN THE FIRST MEETING OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING.

CHAired BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. VICTOR YUNG, THE INAUGURAL MEETING SAW MEMBERS FREELY EXCHANGE VIEWS ON HOW BEST TO CATER FOR THEIR GROWING NEED FOR RECREATIONAL AND AMENITY FACILITIES ON LANTAU, CHEUNG CHAU, LAMMA AND PENG CHAU ISLANDS.

BEFORE THE BOARD GOT DOWN TO BUSINESS, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, THANKED THE BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE TIME THEY WOULD DEVOTE IN WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS AN IMPORTANT TASK.

MR. AKERS-JONES POINTED OUT THAT THE DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHY OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT WOULD CALL FOR A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE RESIDENTS.

TODAY'S MEETING WAS THE FIFTH IN A SERIES OF INAUGURAL MEETINGS OF THE SEVEN NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS.

SITTING ON THE BOARD WERE 13 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE EIGHT RURAL COMMITTEES IN THE ISLANDS DISTRICT AS WELL AS LOCAL TRADE AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.

IN THE MEETING, MEMBERS ALSO DISCUSSED WAYS TO PROMOTE WITHIN THE DISTRICT THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME WHICH IS SPONSORED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT THROUGH EACH COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICERS.

THE SCHEME INVITES YOUTH TO PARTICIPATE IN PROJECTS THAT AIM AT PROMOTING THEIR PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDING SOCIAL BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1977

- 8 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

RTHK TO HOLD CHRISTMAS PARTY
* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR. BRIAN WILSON= THE DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING-DESIGNATE, MR. DONALD KERR= AND FILM STAR, MISS SIU FONG-FONG WILL ATTEND A CHRISTMAS PARTY ORGANISED BY RTHK'S +YOUTH CALL+ PROGRAMME AT CAUSEWAY BAY ROAD SPORTS CENTRE ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 18).

THEY WILL OFFICIATE AT THE SWITCH-ON CEREMONY FOR A 40-FEET TALL CHRISTMAS TREE.

PROGRAMMES OF THE PARTY, WHICH WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 2 P.M. AND 7 P.M., INCLUDE AN ICE CARVING COMPETITION, SINGING OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS BY A CHOIR OF 200, AND PERFORMANCES BY A STRING ORCHESTRA AND A WIND AND ENSEMBLE ORCHESTRA.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PARTY. THE SWITCH-ON CEREMONY FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE WILL TAKE PLACE AT 5 P.M. ON SUNDAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -