



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GRANTHAM HOSPITAL TO BECOME A HEART CENTRE	1
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO INTRODUCE NEW SCHEME TO SPEED UP PROCESSING AND APPROVAL OF BUILDING PLANS	3
SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT FOR ABERDEEN	4
TOUGHER MEASURES AGAINST INTEREST TAX DEFAULTERS	5
LAST MONTH WAS THE THIRD WETTEST AUGUST ON RECORD	6
DEMONSTRATION ON HOW TO HELP DISABLED TRAVEL ON BUSES	7
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR JUNE SHOW A DEFICIT	8
SIR PAUL BRYAN SEES PROGRESS IN TSUEN WAN	8

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 1 -

GRANTHAM HOSPITAL TO BECOME A HEART CENTRE

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GRANTHAM HOSPITAL, ONE OF TWO CHEST DISEASE HOSPITALS RUN BY THE HONG KONG ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS AND THORACIC DISEASES ASSOCIATION, IS TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO A MAIN HEART CENTRE, WHERE AN INSTITUTE OF CARDIOLOGY MAY BE ESTABLISHED.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. G.H. CHOA, IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE LIONS CLUB OF HONG KONG (HOST) THIS AFTERNOON.

HE SAID THE TRANSITION OF GRANTHAM HOSPITAL FROM A CHEST DISEASE TO HEART DISEASE HOSPITAL WAS NECESSITATED BY THE DECLINING TREND OF TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND THE INCREASED PREVALENCE OF HEART DISEASES IN HONG KONG.

HE POINTED OUT THAT TUBERCULOSIS, ONCE HONG KONG'S NUMBER ONE KILLER DISEASE, HAD NOW RECEDED TO THE SEVENTH PLACE.

IN VIEW OF THE PROGRESSIVELY DECREASING NUMBER OF CASES DETECTED, THE DEPARTMENT IS RE-DIRECTING THE MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEYS FROM GROUPS OF ASYMPTOMATIC PEOPLE TO THOSE AT RISK.

DR. CHOA SAID THE RISK GROUP INCLUDED WORKERS IN THE DUSTY OCCUPATIONS AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE SYMPTOMS OF CHEST DISEASES SUCH AS COUGH, BLOOD-STAINED SPUTUM AND DIFFICULTY IN BREATHING.

+WE NOW TREAT TUBERCULOSIS IN OUR OUT-PATIENT CLINICS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, AND BECAUSE OF THIS WE HAVE BEDS IN OUR TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS WHICH ARE NOT FILLED,+ HE SAID.

THE DIRECTOR SAID AFTER VERY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND FOLLOWING THE ADVICE OF TWO EXPERT CHEST PHYSICIANS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT THE RUTTONJEE SANATORIUM WILL REMAIN AS THE MAIN CHEST HOSPITAL IN HONG KONG AND THAT GRANTHAM HOSPITAL WILL BE USED AS THE MAIN HEART CENTRE.

THERE IS ALREADY AN OPEN-HEART SURGERY UNIT IN GRANTHAM HOSPITAL, AND IT IS PROPOSED TO RENOVATE IT BY ADDING SOME OPERATING THEATRES, INTENSIVE CARE UNITS, X-RAY AND LABORATORY FACILITIES AND STAFF QUARTERS.

THE CAPITAL COST OF THIS PROJECT IS ESTIMATED TO BE IN THE REGION OF \$17 MILLION.

DR. CHOA SAID IT WAS HOPED THAT FUNDS COULD BE RAISED FOR CAPITAL WORKS BY THE HONG KONG ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS AND THORACIC DISEASES ASSOCIATION AND THE NEWLY FORMED HONG KONG HEART FOUNDATION LIMITED, WHILE GOVERNMENT WOULD REVISE THE PRESENT METHOD OF SUBVENTING THE HOSPITAL IN ORDER TO MEET THE INCREASED RECURRENT COST.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 2 -

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD, THE DIRECTOR SAID IT WAS HOPED TO BUILD AN INSTITUTE OF CARDIOLOGY WITHIN THE HOSPITAL COMPOUND WHICH WILL SERVE AS THE NERVE CENTRE, CO-ORDINATING ALL ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG CONCERNING TREATMENT AND RESEARCH, HEALTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF PERSONNEL.

ONE OF THE MAIN TASKS WHICH THE INSTITUTE WILL UNDERTAKE IS HEALTH EDUCATION WHICH, ACCORDING TO DR. CHOA, SHOULD BE PLANNED AND CONDUCTED ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING CHILDREN.

IN THIS RESPECT, HE SAID HE WOULD WELCOME CO-OPERATION WITH THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT, WHICH IS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

THE DIRECTOR SAID IT WAS ALSO ESSENTIAL TO CONDUCT EPIDEMIOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN HONG KONG, FOR +WE STILL HAVE TO FIND OUT WHETHER OUR PEOPLE ARE MORE OR LESS PRONE TO HEART DISEASE THAN OTHERS, AND WHETHER THE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ARE THE SAME OR NOT.+

HE SAID MUCH REMAINED TO BE DONE AND THE HONG KONG HEART FOUNDATION, OF WHICH HE IS THE PRESIDENT AND THE HON. Q.W. LEE THE CHAIRMAN, COULD HELP THE COMMUNITY TO HELP THEMSELVES.

ON THE PREVENTION OF HEART DISEASES, DR. CHOA REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE OF OBSERVING SOME SIMPLE RULES, SUCH AS GETTING BLOOD PRESSURE TREATED IF IT HAS GONE UP, NOT EATING TOO MUCH ANIMAL FATS, GIVING UP SMOKING, REDUCING WEIGHT IF IT IS ABOVE THE OPTIMUM AVERAGE, AND TAKING SOME EXERCISE REGULARLY.

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/3

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 3 -

NEW SCHEME TO CUT PROCESSING TIME OF BUILDING PLANS
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO INTRODUCE A NEW SCHEME NEXT MONTH TO SPEED UP THE PROCESSING AND APPROVAL OF BUILDING PLANS.

THE P.W.D.'S DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT, MR. JACK STEAN, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT UNDER REVISED REGULATIONS PUBLISHED TODAY THE ENTIRE PROCESS OF CLEARING PLANS FOR NEW BUILDING PROJECTS WOULD BE SIMPLIFIED SO AS TO CUT PROCESSING TIME TO THE MINIMUM.

BASICALLY, HE SAID, THE AMENDED BUILDING (ADMINISTRATION) REGULATIONS, DUE TO COME INTO FORCE ON OCTOBER 8, PROVIDED FOR ALL GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE APPROVAL OF BUILDING PROJECTS TO BE CO-ORDINATED THROUGH ONE OFFICE -- THE P.W.D.'S BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE.

+THIS MEANS THAT PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS WILL NO LONGER BE OBLIGED, AS AT PRESENT, TO REFER THEIR BUILDING PLANS TO VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AS THIS WILL BE DONE DIRECTLY BY THE B.O.O.

+HOWEVER, IT WILL OF COURSE BE ADVISABLE FOR PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS TO DO SOME BASIC RESEARCH AND ESTABLISH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE GROUNDWORK BEFORE ANY SUBMISSION IS MADE,+ HE ADDED.

+IN FUTURE, THE APPLICANT WILL SIMPLY HAVE TO SUBMIT SEVERAL COPIES OF HIS PLANS TO THE B.O.O. WHICH WILL THEN LIAISE DIRECTLY WITH ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO OBTAIN THEIR COMMENTS OR APPROVAL, WHILE CONCURRENTLY CARRYING OUT ITS OWN CHECKS.

+THOSE OFFICES CONSULTED WILL BE OBLIGED TO REPLY IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO ALLOW THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE TO CO-ORDINATE AND RECONCILE ALL COMMENTS AND COMPLETE ALL PROCESSING WITHIN THE 60-DAY STATUTORY PERIOD,+ HE SAID.

+THIS WILL OF COURSE MEAN A CONSIDERABLE SAVING IN TIME AS WELL AS SPARE THE APPLICANT THE TROUBLE OF GOING FROM ONE DEPARTMENT TO ANOTHER BEFORE FORMALLY SUBMITTING HIS PLAN TO THE BUILDING AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL,+ HE ADDED.

MR. STEAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM, EVEN BEFORE AN APPLICANT COULD SUBMIT HIS BUILDING PLANS TO THE BUILDING AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL, HE WAS LEGALLY BOUND TO CONSULT VARIOUS GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO ESTABLISH VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION, USE, REGISTRATION OR LICENSING OF PREMISES.

+BUT EVEN AFTER THESE PRIOR CONSULTATIONS, IT WAS FOUND IN PRACTICE THAT REFERENCE HAD OFTEN HAD TO BE MADE BY THE B.O.O. TO OTHER OFFICES EITHER FOR CONFIRMATION OR CLARIFICATION OF THEIR REQUIREMENTS OR TO DEAL WITH MATTERS NOT COVERED BY THE CONSULTATIONS.

/+THE NEW.....

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 4 -

+THE NEW SYSTEM WILL ERASE UNNECESSARY LOSS OF TIME AND THUS CUT THE TIME REQUIRED FOR PROCESSING AND APPROVING PLANS,+ HE SAID.

MR. STEAN SAID THAT WHERE COMMENTS WERE OF SUCH A MINOR NATURE THAT ONLY SIMPLE AMENDMENTS TO THE PLANS WERE NECESSARY, THE APPLICANT WOULD BE INVITED TO MAKE THESE AMENDMENTS SO AS TO ALLOW THE PLANS TO BE APPROVED ON FIRST SUBMISSION.

+WHERE PLANS ARE RESUBMITTED, PROVIDING THE PROJECT HAS NOT BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY REPLANNED, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE WILL UNDERTAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CLEARING OUTSTANDING POINTS AND COMPLETING ALL PROCESSING WITH A VIEW TO ISSUING AN APPROVAL WITHIN THE FURTHER STATUTORY 30 DAYS,+ HE SAID.

MR. STEAN SAID THE NEW SCHEME MARKED AN IMPORTANT STEP IN SIMPLIFYING THE BUILDING CONTROL PROCESS AND COINCIDED WITH A MARKED UPSWING IN THE PRIVATE BUILDING INDUSTRY.

IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, HE SAID, THE NUMBER OF BUILDING PLANS SUBMITTED FOR PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT HAD RISEN BY 42 PER CENT OVER THE FIRST HALF OF 1975 AND THERE WAS EVERY INDICATION THAT THE FIGURE WOULD INCREASE FURTHER.

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SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT FOR ABERDEEN
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CONSTRUCTION OF THE ABERDEEN SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT IS EXPECTED TO START THIS NOVEMBER.

THE PROJECT, WHICH FORMS PART OF A MAJOR SEWERAGE SCHEME FOR THE ABERDEEN SEWERAGE DISTRICT, INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, A STATION CONTROL ROOM AND VARIOUS FACILITIES FOR THE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE.

ON COMPLETION, THE SEWAGE WILL BE ADEQUATELY TREATED BEFORE IT IS DISCHARGED THROUGH A SUBMARINE OUTFALL INTO THE SEA FOR DILUTION AND DISPERSION.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE DRAINAGE WORKS DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS PROJECT WILL TAKE 20 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 5 -

TOUGHER MEASURES AGAINST INTEREST TAX DEFAULTERS
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THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT IS TO TAKE A TOUGHER LINE WITH INTEREST TAX DEFAULTERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID A NUMBER OF INTEREST PAYERS (MORTGAGORS AND BORROWERS) WERE NOT COMPLYING WITH THE LAW.

HE EXPLAINED: +INTEREST TAX IS A WITHHOLDING TAX. WHERE A PERSON IN HONG KONG PAYS OR CREDITS TO ANY OTHER PERSON INTEREST, WHICH IS CHARGEABLE WITH INTEREST TAX, HE IS OBLIGED BY LAW TO DEDUCT INTEREST TAX AT SOURCE - AT THE TIME HE MAKES THE PAYMENT OR CREDIT.+

CURRENTLY, HE SAID, 15 PER CENT OF THE INTEREST MUST BE DEDUCTED, SO THAT THE RECIPIENT SHOULD RECEIVE AT THAT TIME 85 PER CENT OF THE INTEREST.

THE INTEREST PAYER, HAVING WITHHELD 15 PER CENT TAX FROM THE RECIPIENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD THEN HAND OVER THAT TAX TO THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT WITHIN 30 DAYS. THE DEPARTMENT WILL GIVE TO THE RECIPIENT, THROUGH THE PAYER, A RECEIPT FOR THE TAX AND A DEDUCTION CERTIFICATE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID : +SOME INTEREST PAYERS ARE FAILING TO REMIT THE TAX THEY HAVE DEDUCTED TO THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT WITHIN 30 DAYS OF MAKING THE DEDUCTION. THE PAYERS OF INTEREST MUST NOT AWAIT THE ISSUE OF AN INTEREST TAX RETURN OR WAIT FOR A NOTICE OF DEMAND FOR THE TAX FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

+THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TAKES A SERIOUS VIEW OF THIS OFFENCE AND THE PENALTY, ON CONVICTION, IS A FINE OF \$2,000.+

+THE DEPARTMENT MAY IN THE PAST HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT LENIENT IN THIS MATTER,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +BUT WILL NOT HESITATE TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THIS TYPE OF OFFENDER.+

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/6

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 6 -

THIRD WETTEST AUGUST LAST MONTH
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HONG KONG EXPERIENCED ONE OF THE WETTEST AUGUST ON RECORD LAST MONTH.

DURING THE MONTH, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY RECORDED A TOTAL OF 765.3 MM OF RAINFALL, MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NORMAL FIGURE, MAKING IT THE THIRD WETTEST AUGUST ON RECORD.

TROPICAL STORM ELLEN, WHICH BY PASSED HONG KONG ON AUGUST 24, BROUGHT EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY RAIN AND VIOLENT THUNDERSTORMS.

AS A RESULT, 416.2 MM OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED BETWEEN 11 A.M. ON AUGUST 24 AND 11 A.M. ON AUGUST 25. THIS IS THE HIGHEST 24-HOUR AMOUNT RECORDED IN AUGUST AND THE THIRD HIGHEST IN ANY MONTH.

THE RAINFALL ON THESE TWO DAYS AMOUNTED TO 511.6 MM WHICH IS A NEW RECORD FOR AUGUST AND HAS ONLY BEEN EXCEEDED ON TWO PREVIOUS OCCASIONS IN MAY 1889 AND JULY 1926.

HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT ISSUED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, THE MONTH WAS SUNNIER AND WARMER THAN NORMAL IN SPITE OF THE EXCESSIVE RAIN.

DURING THE MONTH, FOUR TROPICAL CYCLONES WERE REPORTED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, AND OF THESE, BOTH SEVERE TROPICAL STORM CLARA AND TROPICAL STORM ELLEN CAME WITHIN 100 MILES OF HONG KONG AND CAUSED STRONG TO GALE FORCE WINDS AND HEAVY RAIN OVER THE TERRITORY.

AS FOR TEMPERATURES, THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH WAS 22.1 DEGREES CELSIUS WHICH WAS RECORDED ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 25. THE HIGHEST READING OF 34.1 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS TAKEN IN THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 23.

DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS, EIGHT AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DURING THE MONTH.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 7 -

DEMONSTRATION ON HOW TO HELP DISABLED TRAVEL ON BUSES
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OFFICERS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING GAVE A DEMONSTRATION TO SOME 20 SUPERVISORS AND REGULATORS OF THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY ON HOW TO HELP THE DISABLED TO BOARD AND TO GET OFF BUSES.

THIS WAS PART OF A SERIES OF LECTURES AND DEMONSTRATIONS ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO SHOW STAFF OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMPANIES HOW THEY COULD HELP THE DISABLED.

THE MOVE WAS TO ENABLE THE DISABLED PEOPLE TO INTEGRATE MORE EASILY INTO THE SOCIETY.

DURING THE WEEK, OVER 100 SUPERVISORS AND REGULATORS OF THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS, CHINA MOTOR BUS AND HONG KONG TRAMWAYS COMPANIES ATTENDED TALKS GIVEN BY OFFICERS OF THE REHABILITATION DIVISION.

SUBJECTS OF THE TALKS INCLUDED THE CLASSIFICATION OF DISABILITIES, THE MAIN DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY DISABLED PEOPLE IN USING PUBLIC TRANSPORT, AND HOW STAFF OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMPANIES COULD HELP THESE PEOPLE TO MAKE THE MAXIMUM USE OF THE FACILITIES.

COMMENTING ON THE NEED FOR THESE LECTURES AND DEMONSTRATIONS, MR. KO KI-CHUNG, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY DISABLED WELFARE UNIT, SAID : +APART FROM THE HUMANITARIAN REASONS, THE EXTENSIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY WELFARE AGENCIES IS TO GIVE DISABLED PEOPLE AN OPPORTUNITY OF LIVING AS FULL AND PRODUCTIVE LIVES AS THEIR DISABILITIES ALLOW. FOR THIS, THEY NEED EDUCATION, BOTH ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL, AND THEN EMPLOYMENT.+

+BUT,+ HE STRESSED, +THE REHABILITATION EFFORTS CAN BE WASTED IF A DISABLED PERSON FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO GET TO HIS PLACE OF EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT.+

+FURTHERMORE, IF A DISABLED PERSON CAN PROVIDE FOR HIMSELF, HE GAINS ENORMOUSLY IN SELF-RESPECT AND BECOMES LESS OF A SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL BURDEN ON BOTH HIS FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY,+ HE ADDED.

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/8

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

- 8 -

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR JUNE 1976

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1976 SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$181 MILLION COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$146 MILLION IN JUNE LAST YEAR.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF \$54 MILLION FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$224 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

GROSS EXPENDITURE AT \$554 MILLION WAS \$78 MILLION MORE THAN IN JUNE 1975. THE INCREASED EXPENDITURE INCLUDED SOME \$58 MILLION FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE EFFECTIVE FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS AT \$374 MILLION FOR THE MONTH WAS \$44 MILLION MORE THAN IN JUNE 1975, DUE MAINLY TO INCREASED RECEIPTS FROM DUTIES, RATES, MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES, LICENCES AND LAND SALES.

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SIR PAUL BRYAN SEES PROGRESS IN TSUEN WAN

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SIR PAUL BRYAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE ANGLO-HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, TODAY TOOK AN ELEVATED VIEW OF ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES - TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN.

SIR PAUL AND LADY BRYAN WENT TO THE LAI KING HEADLAND WHICH COMMANDS A SWEEPING VIEW OF THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AND HOUSING PROJECTS SPRINGING UP IN THE AREA.

THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. JAMES HAYES, AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S PROJECT MANAGER, MR. F.E. SHORT, WHO GAVE A BRIEFING ON PROGRESS ACHIEVED SO FAR AND FUTURE PLANS FOR THE NEW TOWN WHICH WILL HAVE A POPULATION OF 900,000 BY 1983.

THE TWO OFFICERS ALSO EXPLAINED INDUSTRIAL AND RESIDENTIAL PLANS FOR TSING YI ISLAND, WHERE HONG KONG UNITED DOCKYARD IS TO CONSTRUCT A \$250 MILLION SHIPYARD.

SIR PAUL AND LADY BRYAN CONCLUDED THEIR INSPECTION TOUR WITH A VISIT TO THE CONTAINER TERMINAL AT KWAI CHUNG.

IT WAS THEIR SECOND VISIT TO THE NEW TERRITORIES IN TWO DAYS - YESTERDAY THEY TOOK A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT PROGRESS IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS RELEASE 新聞稿

Friday, 17th September 1976

CLEAREES THANK HOUSING STAFF FOR
Effort And Hardwork

A group of about 10 former tenants of the Ma Chai Hang Licensed Area, who have all been accommodated in public housing estates, called at the Housing Department this (Friday) morning to thank Clearance and Applications staff for their hard work and effort in meeting their requests.

As a gesture of their appreciation, Mr Leung Kam-chiu and Madam Tam Fun, representing the former tenants of the licensed area, presented a cup as a memento to the Housing Department.

The cup was accepted by two Senior Housing Managers, Mr Chiu Shing of Clearance Division and Mrs Joy Au of Applications Section.

Inscribed on the cup are the Chinese characters for "Diligence and consideration for the people".

In accepting the cup, Mr Chiu expressed the hope that all former tenants concerned were now happily settled in their new homes.

The Ma Chai Hang Licensed Area was first set up in November 1967. In 1972, all the tenants were moved into housing estates and the site was re-used as a licensed area.

In May this year, the tenants were informed that they would be moved into public housing estates as part of the Housing Authority's programme to clear all old licensed areas which are without electricity and individual water supplies.

Through the efforts of the Applications Section, various requests from clearerees as to location and rent were smoothly handled. The 203 families totalling 815 people were accommodated in seven different estates - Lai King, Kwai Shing, Lek Yuen, Lei Cheng Uk, Upper Ngau Tau Kok, Kwun Tong (Tsui Ping Road) and Lam Tin.

A Housing Department spokesman said that Ma Chai Hang Licensed Area will be re-used but the new one will have part-built structures, electricity and individual water supplies.

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