

**HONG KONG
GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
SERVICES**

**DAILY
INFORMATION
BULLETIN**

Thursday, June 29, 1972

MR. N. G. ROLPH APPOINTED COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS

The Government today announced the appointment of Mr. Norman G. Rolph, Deputy Commissioner of Police, as Hong Kong's first Commissioner for Narcotics.

Mr. Rolph will assume his new duties in August, 1972.

He has lived and worked on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and in the New Territories during his many years in Hong Kong and has a wide and extensive knowledge of the complex drug and crime problems.

Mr. Rolph will work in the Secretariat for Home Affairs and will be responsible to the Secretary for Home Affairs. In general terms he will have an overall co-ordinating role concerning the activities of every Government Department and the various Voluntary Agencies involved in the fight against the illicit drug traffic in all its forms, including the rehabilitation of drug addicts.

A Government spokesman said today: "Government fully recognises that the attainment of these aims will be no easy matter and will be of a long term nature given the scope and size of the problems to be faced. By its appointment of a Commissioner who will be able to devote his full time to these matters, Government has shown it is determined that the serious criminal and social problems connected with dangerous drugs will be tackled with the utmost vigour."

/Mr. Rolph

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Mr. Rolph who has been in Hong Kong since January 1946 is well known to the community both in his official capacity and also as a former Commissioner of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

He is an Officer of the Most Venerable Order of St. John and holds the Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service and the Colonial Police Medal for Meritorious Service. He is the Founder President of the Rotary Club of Tsuen Wan, now the Rotary Club of Kowloon North. For over 15 years, he was a member of the Board of Examiners in the Chinese language.

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POLLUTION CONTROL SURVEYS

Two major surveys to help formulate the policy for the control of pollution have been arranged by the Advisory Committee on Environmental Pollution of Land and Water (EPCOM).

The first survey, which is being carried out by Hong Kong University students on vacation, covers all the domestic refuse, sewage and animal and industrial waste in Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long district and another selected area in Fan Ling.

During the past week the students have been visiting every house and structure within the survey area, compiling information sheets which will show every type of waste being produced and the way in which it is disposed.

This survey will greatly assist the Government in planning the infrastructure of services and measures necessary to control pollution in the areas concerned. It will also provide a guideline for the planning of services throughout the New Territories.

The second survey covers industries producing liquid effluents. At the end of the month questionnaires will be sent to 150 selected factories and businesses. These forms will be completed with the assistance of the Trade Investigation Division of the Commerce and Industry Department.

The survey is required by the Industrial Effluents sub-committee of EPCOM for the preparation of legislation to control industrial effluents, which is presently under consideration.

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BETTER LOW-COST HOUSING ESTATES

Funds have been approved by the Finance Committee for the construction of two new Low Cost Housing Estates; one at Lek Yuen, Sha Tin and the other at Lei Muk Shu, Kwai Chung.

Although these estates have been planned on the usual basis of 35 square feet for each adult, they will include many more facilities for day to day life than has been the case up to now.

Work on the Lek Yuen estate, estimated to cost over \$63 million, is to begin later this year. It will be built on an area of 23 acres of reclaimed land at Sha Tin.

The estate is part of the Sha Tin New Town development and is designed to accommodate 23,000 people. The original plan was to provide housing for some 30,000 people, but with new design features, the population density has been reduced.

A further site at Sha Tin has already been earmarked to provide a second estate to accommodate 20,000 people. But as part of the government's aim not to allow the total amount of housing it provides fall below the demand, long term plans envisage another three estates in the area, providing housing for 110,000 people.

In addition to the usual domestic and welfare facilities, the estate will have an air-conditioned shopping centre, with department stores, a post office, a bank and a restaurant.

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This type of building will allow more shopping facilities to be provided for the people in the estate and in Sha Tin and may well prove an added attraction to visitors. A market planned for the estate is to be designed in such a way that the roof can be converted into a fish market at weekends and on holidays.

Another new feature is a workshop area which will be provided below the shopping centre and this will effectively seal off the noise and dirt from the domestic accommodation.

Normally only kindergarten and primary schools are included in the construction of an estate, but at Lek Yuen a secondary school is to be built by the Government. The benefits here are twofold: Secondary schooling facilities will be available to the people in the estate from the outset; and the school can be designed as an integral part of the estate. The success of this point depends to a large extent on the availability of a sponsor to run the school.

Parking

There are also plans to build a covered car park. On-street parking may be regulated by parking meters, but there should be adequate space for the estate residents as well as visitors.

Welfare and recreational facilities will be on the normal scale, but the estate will be planned with additional space which can be used for local kaifong and community activities, and on which a temporary mat-shed can be erected when required.

In conjunction with the new town development, a second road tunnel is planned through Lion Rock and there are plans for double tracking the railway line to Sha Tin. Both bus and mini-bus terminals will be built at the estate.

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The new project at Lei Muk Shu, Kwai Chung, is actually the third and final stage of the Lei Muk Shu Low Cost Housing Estate, and is planned on a similar basis to that of the Lek Yuen estate. It will accommodate 18,000 people, a decrease of 3,600 from the original estimate.

As in Lek Yuen, there will be a commercial centre with a department store and a restaurant. The building will be constructed to allow individual shopkeepers to instal their own air-conditioners.

Because three adjacent sites have already been allocated for secondary schools, and these will be sufficient to meet the demands of the area, no secondary schools are included in the plans.

Market and workshop facilities will largely follow those at Sha Tin, and there are also plans for an underground car park for 170 vehicles. This, together with metered on-street parking, will provide a total of 446 spaces. Bus and public light bus services will operate to and from the estate.

The project is estimated to cost \$75 million and work will begin in the near future.

In addition to these two Low Cost Housing projects there are several other estates in the Public Works Programme. The planning and treatment will vary according to the location of each estate, but the overriding theme will be to provide a range of facilities and buildings which will enable a self-contained community to be formed.

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OPENING OF TIN HAU TEMPLE, TAI O

A double celebration is to take place at Tai O on Lantau Island tomorrow. The 260th anniversary of the Tin Hau Temple at San Tsuen will also be marked by the official opening of the reconstructed temple.

The temple was repaired at a cost of about \$70,000. It is one of the two oldest temples in Tai O and has considerable historical significance to the fishing community there.

A spokesman for the District Office, Islands said that as the local villagers attached great importance to the temple they had raised, despite their meagre income, some \$12,000 towards its repairs. \$58,000 was granted by the Chinese Temples Committee.

Tomorrow, Mr. Chau Li-ping, a member of the Chinese Temples Committee and Mr. Mayer Ng Chak-lam, District Officer, Islands will jointly officiate at the ceremony.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the ceremony. Press representatives are requested to take the 9.30 a.m. Hong Kong & Yaumati Ferry from Hong Kong to Mui Wo. A special bus has been arranged at Mui Wo at 10.30 a.m. to take them to the Temple. Lunch will be provided by the Tai O Rural Committee.

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MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR ELDERLY

As part of a plan to improve welfare services for the aged, about 200 elderly residents in the Sau Mau Ping area are to be given free medical examinations to see if they need particular attention or treatment.

The examinations will take place on three afternoons in July - the 4th, 5th and 6th between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. On the afternoon of July 6 a lecture will be given about medical care and health of the aged and this will be followed by a group discussion involving the residents who have had the examination.

The project has been organised by the Sau Mau Ping (South) Estate Community Work Office of the Social Welfare Department with the co-operation and support of the United Christian Hospital Sau Mau Ping Community Health Centre.

The medical examinations and discussions will both take place in the Sau Mau Ping (South) Estate Welfare Building.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the medical examinations on July 4 covered. The Sau Mau Ping (South) Estate Community Work Office is located within the Sau Mau Ping Resettlement Estate.

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ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

School teachers and workers wishing to further their studies can do so in a series of courses to be run by the Adult Education Section of the Education Department during the 1972/73 session.

These courses are the Evening Institute, the Evening School of Higher Chinese Studies and Adult Education and Recreation Centres.

They include elementary to senior levels of English studies; primary to secondary courses leading to the Hong Kong Certificate of Education; post-secondary studies and teachers' courses in art, music and other subjects.

Apart from general recreational activities, the Adult Education and Recreation Centres offer short courses on a variety of subjects such as folk dancing, Mandarin, Chinese boxing, photography etc.

Fees for the courses vary from \$5 per course to \$160 per annum. No fees are charged for the courses run by the Adult Education and Recreation Centres.

Application forms for enrolment for any of the courses can be obtained free of charge between July 3 and 15. No entry fees are required.

For further details please contact the Adult Education Section, Kowloon Government Offices, Tel: K-884111.

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MONTHLY HEALTH REPORT

One-hundred-and-thirteen people died of notifiable infectious diseases during May. They were among the 915 notifications of such diseases recorded by the Medical and Health Department.

However, a spokesman for the department said Hong Kong had remained free from cholera and other quarantinable diseases during the month.

In the previous month - April - the Medical and Health Department recorded a total of 962 notifications and 103 deaths.

"Compared with April," the spokesman said, "there was no significant variation in the number of notifications of the intestinal group of infectious diseases, such as bacillary dysentery and typhoid fever."

In May, the number of chickenpox notifications dropped to 60 from 104 in April. During the month, there were three cases of cerebrospinal meningitis notified, but no case of diphtheria, polio-myelitis or puerperal fever was recorded.

"There was no appreciable variation in the incidence of other infectious diseases," the spokesman added.

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NEW KWUN TONG-BUS TERMINUS

A new bus terminus at the Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse serving seven Kowloon Motor Bus routes will be opened on Saturday, July 1 at 10 a.m.

The terminus is a part of the \$3 million Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse, which is designed to complement the new Kwun Tong Ferry Pier opened earlier this year.

The seven bus routes are Nos, 5B, 11D, 13B, 13C, 15B, 40 and 14B.

The concourse also provides a taxi stand, a temporary car park and a public light bus terminus.

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Release time: 7.00 p.m.