



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1982

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APPOINTMENT OF REGISTRAR GENERAL

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS HAS APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MR N.M. GLEESON AS REGISTRAR GENERAL TO SUCCEED MR PIERS JACOBS, WHO WILL ASSUME THE POST OF SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES LATE NEXT MONTH.

MR GLEESON IS AGED 48. HE JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN 1963 AS A LEGAL ASSISTANT IN THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT. HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR LEGAL ASSISTANT IN 1965 AND ASSISTANT REGISTRAR GENERAL IN 1969. SINCE 1976, HE HAS ACTED AS REGISTRAR GENERAL ON MANY OCCASIONS.

MR GLEESON IS AT PRESENT IN CHARGE OF THE LAND OFFICE AND HAS EXTENSIVE AND DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF LAND ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG.

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FRENCH RESTRICTIONS REFERRED TO GATT

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THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR PETER TSAO, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT HONG KONG HAS HELD SEVERAL ROUNDS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EEC COMMISSION SINCE OCTOBER 1981, IN THE SEARCH FOR A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY FRANCE ON THE IMPORT OF A NUMBER OF PRODUCTS FROM HONG KONG, MOST NOTABLY QUARTZ WATCHES.

SINCE NO SATISFACTORY SOLUTION HAS BEEN REACHED IN THE VARIOUS ROUNDS OF TALKS, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS REFERRED THE MATTER TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT), WITH A REQUEST THAT THE GATT SHOULD FORM A PANEL TO EXAMINE THE MATTER.

MR TSAO EXPLAINED THAT ARTICLE XXIII OF THE GATT PROVIDES FOR PARTIES ENCOUNTERING PROBLEMS IN THEIR TRADE WITH ANOTHER PARTY TO REFER THE MATTER TO THE GATT COUNCIL FOR A RECOMMENDATION, IF THEY FIND THEMSELVES UNABLE TO REACH A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION BILATERALLY.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE MATTER IS LIKELY TO BE TAKEN UP BY THE GATT COUNCIL LATE IN OCTOBER.

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HONG KONG'S FISH CONSUMPTION RATES AMONG WORLD'S HIGHEST

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THE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS DEPENDS ON BOTH THE RESOURCE AND THE FLEET, THE FISHERIES OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR PETER GAIGER, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE HONG KONG FISHING FLEET, COMPRISING ABOUT 4 700 VESSELS, IS IN A CONTINUOUS STATE OF DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE, MR GAIGER ADDED.

+THE OVERALL TREND HAS BEEN FOR AN INCREASE IN MECHANISATION AND A REDUCTION IN THE OVERALL SIZE OF THE FLEET,+ HE SAID IN A SPEECH TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON.

ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE GENERAL OPERATING EFFICIENCY INCLUDE FISHING GEAR TECHNOLOGY INVESTIGATIONS, PRIMARILY FOR TRAWLING-HULL DESIGN AND PROPULSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT; FISHERMEN'S RADIO NETWORKS AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON NAVIGATIONAL ELECTRONICS.

+ENCOURAGEMENT IS PROVIDED THROUGH LOW-INTEREST LOANS FROM THE LOAN FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND TECHNICAL BACKUP,+ HE SAID.

VESSELS WITH FUEL-EFFICIENT MEASURES ARE ALSO BEING BUILT WITH GOVERNMENT FINANCE, MR GAIGER ADDED.

HE REPORTED THAT LAST YEAR HONG KONG'S AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS WAS 37 KILOGRAMS PER PERSON.

+THIS IS A SLIGHT DECREASE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR BUT STILL ONE OF THE HIGHEST PER CAPITA CONSUMPTIONS IN THE WORLD,+ HE NOTED.

CATCHES BY THE FISHING FLEET ACCOUNT FOR 96 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL FISHERIES OUTPUT IN HONG KONG.

MR GAIGER SAID THERE WAS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT THE MAJOR RESOURCE WAS BECOMING OVER-EXPLOITED.

+DEVELOPMENTS TO CONTROL THE EXTENT OF FISHING GROUNDS ALSO RESTRICT RESOURCE AVAILABILITY,+ HE SAID.

+OUR MAIN SOURCE OF FISH IS THE MIXED DEMERSAL, OR BOTTOM-SWIMMING, FISH STOCKS OF THE NORTHERN SHELF IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT THE EAST CHINA SEA.+

THE ABUNDANCE OF STOCKS OF PELAGIC FISH WHICH ARE POSSIBLY UNDER-EXPLOITED OR UNEXPLOITED IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA NEEDS TO BE INVESTIGATED TO ESTABLISH WHETHER THEY WILL BE CAPABLE OF SUSTAINING A LONG-TERM, COMMERCIALY VIABLE FISHERY, MR GAIGER SAID.

+LITTLE IS KNOWN OF THEIR COMPOSITION, ABUNDANCE, MIGRATION, PATTERNS OR OTHER BIOLOGICAL PARAMETERS, BUT THESE ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION,+ HE ADDED.

MR GAIGER SAID THE STRATEGY WAS TO DEPLOY THE DEPARTMENT'S FISHERIES RESEARCH VESSEL, +TAI SHUN+, ON AN EXPLORATORY PROGRAMME TO LOCATE AND QUANTIFY SUCH STOCKS.

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+THE CHALLENGE WE FACE IS TO FIND ADDITIONAL STOCKS OF FISH, DEVELOP THE MEANS TO FISH THEM AND TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE LOCAL FLEET TO A LEVEL WHEREBY IT CAN SUPPLY THE FISH AT A PRICE THAT CONSUMERS CAN AFFORD.

+THIS WILL REQUIRE THE CO-OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE FISHING COMMUNITY AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

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## LIBERATION DAY CEREMONY

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HONG KONG WILL OBSERVE THIS YEAR'S LIBERATION DAY WITH A WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY AT THE CITY HALL ON MONDAY (AUGUST 30).

DURING THE CEREMONY, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 10.45 AM IN THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HONG KONG BRITISH FORCES, HONG KONG PRISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION, ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS), THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT AND HONG KONG WAR MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE WILL LAY WREATHS AT THE SHRINE IN MEMORY OF MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS WHO DIED IN THE BATTLE OF HONG KONG IN DECEMBER 1941 OR LATER AS PRISONERS OF WAR.

THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES, MAJOR-GENERAL J.L. CHAPPLE WILL LAY A WREATH ON BEHALF OF THE HONG KONG BRITISH FORCES.

THE WREATH OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION WILL BE LAID BY ITS HONORARY SECRETARY AND TREASURER, MR F.M. CASTRO.

REGIMENTAL WREATHS OF THE VOLUNTEERS WILL BE LAID BY THE HONORARY COLONEL, DR S.M. BARD, AND ITS COMMANDING OFFICER, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL M.P. BARNEY, AND THAT OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT BY WARRANT OFFICER SECOND CLASS (W02) T.W. SAUNDERS.

THE WREATH OF THE HONG KONG WAR MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE WILL BE LAID BY ITS CHAIRMAN, SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES.

THE WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE SOUNDING OF THE LAST POST, A TWO-MINUTE SILENCE AND REVEILLE, AND THE FIRING OF THREE VOLLEYS OF SALUTE.

THE FIRING PARTY, BUGLER AND SENTRIES WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE VOLUNTEERS.

TWO OTHER CEREMONIES OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG POLICE RESERVE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR WILL ALSO BE HELD ON LIBERATION DAY.

THE FIRST CEREMONY IS TO BE HELD AT LITTLE SAI WAN CEMETERY AT ABOUT 10.30 AM AND THE OTHER AT STANLEY CEMETERY AT ABOUT 11.30 AM.

PARADES WILL BE HELD AT BOTH CEMETERIES DURING WHICH WREATHS WILL BE LAID AT THE FOOT OF THE WAR MEMORIAL ON BEHALF OF THE COMMANDANT AND OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY POLICE FORCE.

BUGLERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY POLICE FORCE WILL ALSO ATTEND BOTH CEREMONIES AND SOUND THE LAST POST AND REVEILLE.

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+DOLOSSE+ DESIGN IMPRESSES D.B. MEMBERS  
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TWENTY-THREE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WERE AMAZED TODAY (THURSDAY) TO SEE THE 7 000 GIANT +DOLOSSE+ -- EACH WEIGHING 25 000 KG -- PLACED ALONG THE EAST COFFERDAM OF THE HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR.

DURING AN HOUR-LONG VISIT TO THE RESERVOIR, THEY WERE TOLD THAT THE +DOLOSSE+ HAD BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNED AS WAVE-BREAKERS TO PROTECT THE SEAWARD FACE OF THE DAM FROM OCEAN WAVES WHICH COULD REACH A HEIGHT OF 12 METRES IN CASE OF A TYPHOON.

BEING HONG KONG'S LARGEST RESERVOIR, HIGH ISLAND WAS COMPLETED IN 1979 WITH A TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY OF 273 MILLION CUBIC METRES. IT IS AT PRESENT ABOUT 70 PER CENT FULL.

THE VISIT TO THE RESERVOIR WAS PART OF A FIELD PROGRAMME BY WHICH BOARD MEMBERS MIGHT FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH EXISTING GOVERNMENT FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

IN THE AFTERNOON, THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHAN SUI-JEUNG, AND FOUR DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS OPENED A 3 500 SQUARE-METRE SOCCER PITCH AT PAK KONG.

THIS PROJECT WAS FIRST INITIATED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND LATER COMPLETED WITH FUNDS FROM THE FORMER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AT A COST OF \$290 000.

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