



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, October 21, 1972

PRINCESS UNVEILS PLAQUE AT CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL

Project Symbolises Stature Of New Hong Kong

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra said today (Saturday) that the cross-harbour tunnel symbolised the stature of the new Hong Kong.

She was speaking at the Cross-Harbour Tunnel Company where she unveiled a plaque outside the Administration Building to commemorate the completion of what she described as a "bold and successful venture."

The Chairman of the Cross-Harbour Tunnel Company, Mr. J.L. Marden, presented to the Princess, as a memento of the occasion, a silver cigarette box containing gold, silver and bronze commemorative medallions.

Addressing the gathering, Princess Alexandra said: "We are both of us particularly pleased to be back in Hong Kong for today's ceremony, for we realize full well that the building of the Cross-Harbour Tunnel is an important and significant milestone in the history of Hong Kong.

"To have completed such a vast project in the short space of three years is a truly remarkable feat in itself, but this undertaking signifies very much more than the construction of a quick and convenient means of crossing the harbour.

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"Not only does it mean the union of the two halves of this great city, so that the seat of Government and commerce is now joined by road to the industrial and residential areas and to the New Territories, but, being an enterprise which is both very imaginative and very sophisticated, it symbolises the stature of the new Hong Kong, which is today one of the major commercial, financial and tourist centres of the world.

"I feel very privileged that you have asked me to unveil this plaque which commemorates the completion of such a bold and successful venture."

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Note to Editors: Copies of the text of Mr. J.L. Marden's
 speech are distributed separately in the Press Boxes,
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APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING MAKES PROGRESS

Progress made by the Apprenticeship Training Unit of the Labour Department has been encouraging so far, according to Mr. H.R. Knight, Senior Training Officer (Apprenticeship).

This summer, he said, 750 suitably qualified school-leavers took up technician and craft apprenticeships.

Of this number 625 became apprentices to firms in the major industries while 125 took up training in government departments.

Of those in industry, 150 took up technician and 475 craft apprenticeships, an increase of 50% over last year's figure. Of them 425 were placed through the efforts of the Labour Department.

During the year, another 42 firms started proper apprentice training along the lines of the apprenticeship scheme proposed by the Apprenticeship Unit of the Labour Department. The total number of firms now running the scheme stands at 122, representing all the ten major industries.

The proposed apprenticeship scheme has the support of the Chinese Manufacturers' Association, the Federation of Hong Kong Industries, the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce as well as a number of the major trade organisations.

However, Mr. Knight said there is no room for complacency.

"We still have a long way to go before we can claim that sufficient numbers of technicians and craftsmen are being trained to satisfy industry's needs. The numbers being trained certainly pale against the estimated annual demand of about 2900 technicians and 9700 craftsmen," he said.

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ANTI-DIPHTHERIA AND TETANUS CAMPAIGN

A Colony-wide drive is being carried out by the Medical and Health Department to protect Hong Kong's children against the dangerous diseases of diphtheria and tetanus.

The campaign has begun about two weeks ago and free inoculations are available at all government maternal and child health centres, clinics, hospitals and at fixed inoculation centres.

In addition, mobile teams are visiting schools, nurseries, resettlement estates and villages in the rural area.

The campaign, lasting until the end of this year, has become an annual drive since 1959, aimed at eradicating the diseases.

A spokesman for the Medical and Health Department said this time of the year used to be the diphtheria season in the past.

Although it is no longer the case following determined efforts by the department, the spokesman stressed that it is still advisable for children to get immunised against the disease as early as possible.

Note to Editors: Copies of lists of centres where diphtheria and tetanus injections are available free of charge are distributed separately in the G.I.S. Press Boxes this afternoon.

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KOREAN VIOLINIST TO PLAY IN HONG KONG

A talented young Korean violinist, Kim Bok Soo, will give a recital at the City Hall Concert Hall on Wednesday, October 25 at 8 p.m.

The recital is jointly presented by the Urban Council and the Korean Consulate General.

Born in Seoul, Korea, in 1951, he started to play the violin at the age of six studying under Chung Yung Gap and Lee Tae Hon.

He has won first prize in five national competitions. He was acclaimed the finest musician and awarded the gold medal in the South Korean Revolutionary Festival.

Critics in Seoul have remarked: "In this young violinist, one finds great dexterity in his technique and playing. There is clarity in his tone which combines with his tremendous vitality and sensitivity to give out great warmth in feeling."

On Wednesday, Kim Bok Soo will play two sonatas by Beethoven and Mozart and other items by Biriote and Wieniawski. He will be accompanied by Nancy Loo at the piano.

Tickets at \$1 (students only), \$3 and \$5 are available at the City Hall Box Office from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

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QUIET DAY FOR PRINCESS TOMORROW

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra will have a quiet day tomorrow (Sunday) -- the first full day of her visit to Hong Kong.

Her only public engagement will be at the Police Training School, where she will attend a Beating the Retreat ceremony in the evening.

This will be the first of a number of police engagements she will attend in her capacity as Honorary Commandant-General of the Royal Hong Kong Police and the Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Police.

Her Royal Highness and her husband, the Hon. Angus Ogilvy, will drive to Aberdeen, accompanied by the Governor and Lady MacLehose.

The ceremony will begin at 6.30 p.m. and last about half an hour.

Note to Editors: Copies of tomorrow's detailed programme for Princess Alexandra's visit are distributed separately in the press boxes this evening.

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BEATING RETREAT AT P.T.S. - PRESS TRANSPORT

Note to Editors: Press representatives covering the Beating of Retreat ceremony at the Police Training School are reminded that transport will be provided by the Royal Hong Kong Police to take them to Aberdeen. The Press buses will leave Police Headquarters, Arsenal Street at 5.20 p.m. sharp. After the ceremony, the buses will return to Police Headquarters.

Those making their own way to the P.T.S. are asked to note that they must be in position by 6.00 p.m.

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STOP FOR APPLICATIONS FOR TAXI DRIVING LICENCES

The Transport Department has announced that it is reluctantly forced to stop accepting applications for taxi driving licences from Monday, October 23.

From August 1 to the present, over 1,400 of these licences have been issued and there are 8,000 applications pending.

A department spokesman said as it will take over a year to process this waiting list and as there are more than enough licensed taxi drivers to meet demand, there is no point in continuing to accept applications.

An announcement will be made when applications can be accepted again, he added.

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ISSUE OF SUNDAY D.I.B.

Note to Editors: There will be an issue of the Daily Information Bulletin, both in Chinese and English, tomorrow (Sunday).

The Sunday D. I. B. will be available for collection as from 3 p.m. at the G.I.S. press room, sixth floor, Beaconsfield House.

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GETTING GOVERNMENT'S MESSAGE ACROSS TO YOUTH

One Of Greatest Challenges Of His New Job -- Mr. Jack Cater

The Secretary for Information, Mr. Jack Cater, said today he considered getting the government's message across to the youth of Hong Kong to be one of the greatest challenges of his new job.

Mr. Cater was officially opening a new \$123,000 extension to the Salvation Army's Home for boys at Shaukiwan.

He said: "As Secretary for Information, it is my task to see that the people of Hong Kong are kept informed of the government's policies and achievements.

"As so much of our population is young, obviously we are going to be spending much of our time talking to youth.

"I regard this question of getting the government's message across to the youth of Hong Kong as one of the greatest challenges of my new job.

"After all," he said, "the discontent of youth is often aimed at the Establishment, so it would be surprising if the government did not attract a great deal of it."

In his speech Mr. Cater stressed the importance which he felt should be placed on dealing with Hong Kong's youth.

"In Hong Kong, more possibly than in any other place in the world, the future is in the hands of our youth, for Hong Kong is a city of young people.

"Sixty per cent of our population is under 30 years of age. Even more startling is the fact that now almost half the population is teenage or younger

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"One cannot contemplate these figures without a sense of excitement at the promise for the future implied by the energy and drive of these youthful millions.

"But if that energy is not properly harnessed, it could do tremendous harm. For example, an increasing percentage of Hong Kong's crime is being committed by people under the age of 25."

"But, of course, these crimes are committed by a very small percentage of our young people; the vast majority of Hong Kong's young people are honest, industrious, and have an integrity of which the community of Hong Kong can be justly proud."

Mr. Cater criticised people who took the easy course of making blanket criticisms of Hong Kong's youth. He said Hong Kong's young people were one of its greatest assets, and were as good as or better than young people in any other part of the world.

He said the so-called "generation gap" was an age-old problem and one that was experienced all over the world. "But, in Hong Kong, it has special significance at this stage of our development," he said.

"Unlike many of the older generations, our young people of today were either born here or were very young when they came to Hong Kong.

"They have, therefore, every right to think of Hong Kong as their home, and to expect to be involved in the future development of this community.

"So we must not allow a gap to grow between us and the younger generation.

"We need to understand the hopes and desires of youth in order that we can communicate with them."

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT - POK MAN STREET

The Transport Department has made new traffic arrangement for the section of Pok Man Street between Kok Cheung Street extension and House No. 22, Pok Man Street, which is at present routed one way.

As from 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 24, 1972, the section will be re-routed two-way to improve local traffic circulation.

Appropriate traffic signs will be posted to guide motorists.

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RESULTS OF LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD ELECTION

At an election held at the Labour Department's Kowloon Regional Office this morning Mr. Lee Shing-chu of Hong Kong Stevedores Union (Chap Yin), and Mr. Leung Tat-shing of U.S.D. Kowloon Workers General Union, were elected as workers' representatives to be appointed by the Governor as members of the Labour Advisory Board for the year 1973.

The election was supervised by officers of the Labour Department.

The Labour Advisory Board is composed of four employers' representatives and four workers' representatives with the Commissioner of Labour as chairman.

Two of the workers' representatives are elected by registered trade unions of workers and two are selected for appointment by His Excellency the Governor.

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Release Time: 2.30 p.m.