



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JULY 22, 1991

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MOU ON NEW AIRPORT A MAJOR STEP FORWARD: MINISTER  
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THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA ON THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECT IS VERY GOOD FOR HONG KONG AND A MAJOR STEP FORWARD, THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, LORD CAITHNESS, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS ON HIS ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT, LORD CAITHNESS SAID HE WAS VERY GRATEFUL FOR ALL THE HELP THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, THE OFFICIALS, AND THE GOVERNOR HAD GIVEN IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IN PEKING LAST MAY.

"NOW, THAT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN SIGNED. I THINK THAT'S A GOOD STEP FORWARD. WE WANT TO BUILD ON THAT, BECAUSE THE ONE THING THAT IS IMPORTANT FOR HONG KONG IS STABILITY AND CONTINUITY, AND EVERYBODY HERE HAS SAID THAT GOOD HONG KONG-BRITAIN AND CHINESE RELATIONSHIPS ARE ESSENTIAL. NOW THAT IS WHAT WE WANT TO BUILD ON," THE MINISTER ADDED.

LORD CAITHNESS SAID DURING HIS VISIT HE WOULD BE TALKING TO THE GOVERNOR AND SENIOR OFFICIALS, AND MEET AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE, TO HEAR CURRENT CONCERNS OF WHICH THE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WAS CERTAINLY ONE.

THE MINISTER SAID PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN GENEVA DURING TALKS ON THE BOAT PEOPLE PROBLEM: "WE'VE HAD GOOD SESSIONS OF TALKS AND WE WANT TO GET THOSE FORWARD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE GET A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION, AND WE BELIEVE THE BEST WAY FORWARD IS THROUGH THE INTERNATIONALLY MANAGED CENTRES IN VIETNAM."

IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON THE BCCHK ISSUE, LORD CAITHNESS SAID THAT WAS A MATTER FOR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT. HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN IMMEDIATE STEPS TO PROVIDE SOME RELIEF TO DEPOSITORS.

LORD CAITHNESS WILL ALSO LEAD THE REGIONAL HEADS OF MISSION CONFERENCE BEING ATTENDED BY 14 HEADS OF MISSION IN THE PACIFIC AREA.

"WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE REGION, FROM JAPAN AND KOREA IN THE NORTH RIGHT DOWN TO NEW ZEALAND IN THE SOUTH AND WHAT HAPPENS IN BETWEEN, WHAT ARE BRITISH INTERESTS, HOW CAN WE ENHANCE OUR ROLE IN THE COMMERCIAL FIELD," THE MINISTER SAID.

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GOVERNOR PAYS TRIBUTE TO GURKHA RIFLES

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (MONDAY) PAID TRIBUTE TO THE SIXTH QUEEN ELIZABETH'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES FOR ITS PROUD HISTORY OF SERVICE IN HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE PARADE OF THE REGIMENT AT CASSINO LINES, SAN TIN THIS MORNING, SIR DAVID NOTED THAT THE REGIMENT HAD SERVED REGULARLY IN THE TERRITORY AND THAT HONG KONG HAD MUCH TO THANK IT FOR.

"ONE OFFICER AND FOUR OTHER RANKS HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY HERE.

"THE REGIMENT SAW BORDER DUTIES DURING THE TROUBLED YEARS OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. IT GAVE VALUABLE SUPPORT TO THE POLICE DURING THE RIOTS IN 1967.

"YOUR VIGILANCE AND PROFESSIONALISM SINCE THEN ON THE BORDER HAVE HELPED KEEP THIS TERRITORY SECURE," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID OVER THE YEARS THE REGIMENT HAD ALSO WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, HELPING THEM IN TIMES OF TROUBLE DURING TYPHOONS, FLOODS AND LANDSLIPS AND IN MANY OTHER WAYS.

"YOU HAVE WORKED WITH OUR DISABLED AND OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

"YOU HAVE BUILT PATHS AND WATER SUPPLIES FOR OUR REMOTE VILLAGES.

"AND YOUR BAND HAS ALWAYS BEEN READY TO ADD DISTINCTION TO OUR FESTIVALS AND CEREMONIES," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR NOTED THAT TODAY WAS A PROUD AND MEMORABLE DAY FOR THE REGIMENT WHEN IT RECEIVED INTO ITS OWN KEEPING THE VICTORIA CROSS WON BY CAPTAIN MICHAEL ALLMAND.

HE POINTED OUT THAT CAPTAIN ALLMAND, WHO WAS KILLED IN BURMA IN 1944 DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, HAD GIVEN HIS LIFE FOR HIS COUNTRY, FIGHTING WITH REMARKABLE GALLANTRY.

"HIS HEROISM STANDS AS A REMINDER OF THE LOYAL SERVICE GIVEN BY THIS REGIMENT SINCE IT WAS FIRST RAISED IN 1817 AS THE CUTTACK LEGION," HE SAID.

THE REGIMENT WILL DEPART HONG KONG FOR BRUNEI NEXT APRIL. "YOU WILL BE MISSED AND WE SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR RETURN," SIR DAVID SAID.

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ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE REVIEW RELEASED

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THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE HAVE ESTABLISHED WORKABLE PROCEDURES WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN CHINA FOR THE SPEEDY EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON CASES INVOLVING FIREARMS, DRUGS, SMUGGLING AND CAR THEFTS.

SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE DURING 1990 WHEN THE MAIN CONCERN OF THE HONG KONG PUBLIC WAS THE OCCURRENCE OF A NUMBER OF CASES INVOLVING THE USE OF FIREARMS, A SPATE OF THEFTS OF VEHICLES INCIDENTS AND AN UPSURGE IN SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES BY SEA.

THIS WAS STATED BY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR LI KWAN-HA, IN THE 1990 ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE REVIEW WHICH WAS OFFICIALLY RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY).

POINTING OUT THAT POLICE HAD DEVELOPED PROFESSIONAL LINKS WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES FOR SEVERAL YEARS, MR LI SAID THAT LIAISON MEETINGS HAD BEEN A REGULAR FEATURE AND WOULD CONTINUE AT NATIONAL, PROVINCIAL AND BORDER LEVEL.

TO TACKLE THE SMUGGLING PROBLEM, MR LI SAID THAT A TASK FORCE, FORMED WITH COMBINED RESOURCES OF SEVERAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, WOULD IN CONSULTATION WITH OVERSEAS AUTHORITIES THROUGH ESTABLISHED LINKS SUCH AS INTERPOL AND LIAISON GROUPS SEEK TO DETERMINE THE BEST METHODS TO COMBAT THE SITUATION.

"GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY MADE CHANGES TO THE IMPORT AND EXPORT ORDINANCE AND IT IS OUR INTENTION TO TAKE STRONG ENFORCEMENT ACTION ON LAND AND SEA.

"INCREASED EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO EFFECT ARRESTS AND SEIZED CONTRABAND BEFORE THEY ARE LOADED ONTO SPEEDBOATS OR OTHER FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION OUT OF HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

ON LOCAL CRIME RATE, THE POLICE CHIEF SAID THAT IT WAS PLEASING TO NOTE THAT THE REPORTED CRIME RATE IN 1990 HAD REMAINED ABOUT THE SAME AS FOR 1980, WHICH WAS THE LOWEST IN THE EARLY EIGHTIES. THIS WAS OPPOSED TO AN INCREASED POPULATION AND THE FACT THAT THE POLICE HAD BEEN ENCOURAGING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO REPORT CRIME, MR LI SAID.

MR LI, HOWEVER, STRESSED THAT THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SERIES OF OPERATION 'LEVINGTON', WHICH STRIKED AT TRIADS, GANG MEMBERS AND OTHER CRIMINALS IN THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THEY OPERATED WOULD CONTINUE.

IN THE FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS, THE COMMISSIONER NOTED THAT THE FORCE HAD CONSOLIDATED ITS CO-OPERATIVE APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING DURING 1990.

"HONG KONG HAS SIGNED BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH SEVERAL COUNTRIES TO FACILITATE CO-OPERATION IN INVESTIGATION AND IN THE SEIZURE OF DRUG-RELATED ASSETS.

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"SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DRUG TRAFFICKING (RECOVERY OF PROCEEDS) ORDINANCE IN SEPTEMBER 1989 TO THE END OF 1990, CASH AND ASSETS AMOUNTING TO \$261 MILLION WERE FROZEN, AND THE COURTS CONFISCATED ABOUT \$500,000 FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS."

ON TRAFFIC, MR LI SAID THAT 1990 EMERGED AS A YEAR OF CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS IN THE OVERALL EFFORT TO REDUCE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

"THE FORCE CONTINUED TO STRENGTHEN ITS SPEED-DETECTION AND WEIGHT-CHECKING CAPABILITY BY ACQUIRING MORE ADVANCED EQUIPMENT AND WEIGHING FACILITIES TO MEET INCREASING OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND TO UPGRADE ENFORCEMENT LEVELS."

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY HAD BECOME AN IMPORTANT PART OF MODERN POLICING, MR LI DISCLOSED THAT MANY ADVANCED PROJECTS HAD BEEN COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR TO COPE WITH OPERATIONAL DEMANDS.

IN CONCLUSION, MR LI STRESSED THE NEED FOR THE PUBLIC TO PREVENT CRIME, REPORT CRIME AND PROVE CRIME, ADDING THAT THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME COULD NOT BE WON WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF THE COMMUNITY.

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#### EFFECTIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN SOUTH CHINA SEA NEEDED

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DWINDLING CATCHES BY LOCAL FISHING FLEET AND SHRINKING SIZE OF FISH CAUGHT HAS BROUGHT HOME THE NEED FOR EFFECTIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA REGION, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

MRS CHAN WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA (CDMSCS) HELD AT OMNI THE HONG KONG HOTEL.

THE CDMSCS, SET UP IN 1981, IS ONE OF THE SEVEN SUBSIDIARY BODIES UNDER THE INDO-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION (IPFC) WHICH IS ORGANISED AND RUN BY THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE SESSION IS ATTENDED BY DELEGATES OF THE COMMITTEE'S MEMBER COUNTRIES WHICH INCLUDE THAILAND, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THE PHILIPPINES AND HONG KONG.

CURRENTLY, THE UK (HONG KONG) GOVERNMENT, REPRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, IS CDMSCS'S CHAIRMAN.

MRS CHAN COMMENDED THE CDMSCS FOR ITS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION IN THE LAST DECADE TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES IN THE REGION THROUGH ITS CO-ORDINATION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION SERVICES.

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NEVERTHELESS SHE STRESSED THAT MUCH WORK STILL LEFT TO BE DONE AND THAT THE COMMITTEE'S WORK WAS GETTING MORE COMPLEX AND CHALLENGING.

"AT THIS SESSION, THE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED TO CONSIDER EXPANDING ITS ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO INCLUDE NOT ONLY MARINE FISHERIES BUT ALSO INLAND FISHERIES, AQUACULTURE, FISH PROCESSING AND FISH MARKETING.

"YOU WILL NEED TO ADDRESS THE NOW VERY PRESSING PROBLEMS OF OVER-EXPLOITATION OF THE FISH RESOURCES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND THE DEGRADATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT IN THE REGION.

"IN ADDITION, THERE ARE MANY COMPETING INTERESTS TO BE RECONCILED AND ANY PROPOSALS OR RECOMMENDATIONS YOU MAKE WILL NEED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE SHORTAGE OF FUNDS LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT THEM," MRS CHAN SAID.

MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE LOCAL FISHING INDUSTRY, WHICH RELIED HEAVILY ON THE RESOURCES OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, HAS ENABLED HONG KONG TO COME FAIRLY CLOSE TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN MARINE FISH.

"WE RELY ON THE LOCAL FISHING FLEET FOR ABOUT THREE-QUARTERS OF OUR SUPPLIES. OUR CLOSE MONITORING OF FISH LANDINGS HAS INDICATED HOWEVER THAT CATCHES, AND THE SIZE OF THE FISH CAUGHT, ARE BECOMING SMALLER," MRS CHAN SAID.

SHARING THE SAME CONCERN, DR LAWRENCE LEE STRESSED IN A WELCOME SPEECH EARLIER AT THE FIVE-DAY SESSION THAT THERE IS A PRESSING NEED NOT ONLY FOR HONG KONG BUT ALSO FOR GOVERNMENTS IN THE REGION TO PROPERLY ADDRESS DEVELOPMENT AND ESPECIALLY MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IN VIEW OF THE DECLINING LEVELS OF FISHERIES RESOURCES.

HE NOTED THAT DESPITE RAPID INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, FISHERIES REMAIN A VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE BECAUSE THEY PROVIDE A VITAL SOURCE OF CHEAP AND YET MUCH NEEDED ANIMAL PROTEIN.

"IN HONG KONG, FISHERIES SUPPLY THE 5.8-MILLION POPULATION WITH 31 PER CENT OF THE ANIMAL PROTEIN REQUIREMENT.

"THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECT IS OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE SINCE FISHERIES PROVIDE DIRECT AND INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ESPECIALLY FOR COASTAL POPULATIONS IN THE REGION.

"IT IS PERHAPS UNFORTUNATE THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF FISHERIES IS NOT OFTEN TRULY REFLECTED BY THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT," DR LEE CONTINUED.

DR LEE DEEMED IT TIMELY TO HOLD THE CDMSCS'S SEVENTH SESSION IN HONG KONG BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN 12 YEARS SINCE THE TERRITORY LAST HOSTED AN INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES CONFERENCE.

"TODAY, THE COMMITTEE HAS A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY THAN A DECADE AGO IN VIEW OF THE MANY PREVAILING CONSTRAINTS FACED BY FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION, ESPECIALLY IN RESPECT OF INADEQUATE FUNDINGS AND DECLINING LEVELS OF MARINE RESOURCES.

"NEVERTHELESS, I AM STILL CONFIDENT THAT WITH THE DEDICATION OF THE COMMITTEE AND ITS MEMBERS, WE CAN STILL ACHIEVE THE COMMON OBJECTIVES OF BRINGING ABOUT RATIONAL AND COST-EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF OUR FISHERIES," HE CONCLUDED.

PRESENTING HK'S COUNTRY STATEMENT TO THE CONFERENCE IN THE AFTERNOON, THE SENIOR CAPTURE FISHERIES OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, DR PAUL MAK, CITED DWINDLING FISHING GROUNDS AND LABOUR SHORTAGE AS MAJOR CONSTRAINTS FACED BY THE LOCAL CAPTURE FISHERIES INDUSTRY.

HE DESCRIBED MARINE CAPTURE AS THE BACKBONE OF THE FISHING INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG AS IT ACCOUNTS FOR 96 PER CENT OF THE 233,840 TONNES OF FISHERIES PRODUCTION IN 1990.

"CONSIDERING THAT THE SCOPE FOR IDENTIFYING A NEW OR UNDER-UTILISED RESOURCE IS LIMITED, (HONG KONG'S) EFFORT IS NOW FOCUSED ON DEVELOPING THE PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY OF THE FISHING FLEET," HE SAID.

DR MAK ADDED THAT A TOTAL OF 255,360 TONNES OF FISHERY PRODUCTS WERE CONSUMED LAST YEAR, REPRESENTING A PER CAPUT CONSUMPTION OF 44 KILOGRAMS.

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NEW SHEUNG WAN POST OFFICE TO OPEN ON JULY 29

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THE NEW SHEUNG WAN POST OFFICE, LOCATED ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF WEST EXCHANGE TOWER, 322-324 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, WILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS AT 9.30 AM ON MONDAY, JULY 29, THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MISS ELLE M.L. SHUM, ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

THE EXISTING POST OFFICE AT KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 159-161 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL WILL CLOSE FOR BUSINESS WITH EFFECT FROM 1 PM ON SATURDAY, JULY 27.

THE HOURS OF BUSINESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE NEW POST OFFICE WILL BE THE SAME AS THOSE OF THE EXISTING OFFICE.

THERE WILL BE 1,000 P.O. BOXES IN THE NEW BRANCH POST OFFICE.

A SPECIAL HAND-BACK SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL PHILATELISTS ON JULY 29.

UNREGISTERED FULL POSTAGE PREPAID FIRST DAY COVERS PREPARED PRIVATELY, AND BEARING A LOCAL ADDRESS, WILL BE ACCEPTED OVER THE COUNTER, IMPRESSED WITH THE NORMAL POST OFFICE DATESTAMP AND HANDED BACK TO THE PERSON PRESENTING THEM.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE  
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 29.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 174.083 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 293.209 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 50.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
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	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	20.7.91	540
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	22.7.91	+148
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-148
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 113.4 \*+0.2\* 22.7.91

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

	22.7.91	19.7.91
MATURING IN 1 WEEK	5.91 PCT	5.81 PCT
1 MONTH	6.04 PCT	5.93 PCT
3 MONTHS	6.24 PCT	6.28 PCT
6 MONTHS	6.32 PCT	6.35 PCT
12 MONTHS	6.71 PCT	6.75 PCT
TOTAL BILLS TRANSFERRED	8,775 MN*	6,913 MN

\* RECORD HIGH

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