



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1975.

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REVISION OF POSTAL CHARGES

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THE POST OFFICE WILL INCREASE SOME OF ITS CHARGES FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

COMMENTING ON THE REVISION OF CHARGES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID : +THE INCREASES ARE DICTATED MAINLY BY THE NEED TO CONFORM WITH NEW INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS WHICH GOVERN THE CHARGES FOR CERTAIN POSTAL SERVICES, AND THE NEED TO UPDATE THE PRICING OF A NUMBER OF MINOR AND SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES WHICH HAVE BEEN OPERATING AT A LOSS FOR SEVERAL YEARS.+

AT THE CONVENTION IN LAUSANNE IN 1974, THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU), OF WHICH NEARLY EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD IS A MEMBER, AGREED TO A NUMBER OF CHANGES AND PRICE INCREASES IN THE INTERNATIONAL MAIL SERVICES.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OF THESE TO HONG KONG, ACCORDING TO THE SPOKESMAN, IS A THREE-FOLD INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF MONEY WHICH THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION OF ONE COUNTRY MUST PAY TO THAT OF ANOTHER IF IT SENDS TO THAT COUNTRY MORE MAIL THAN IT RECEIVES FROM IT. THIS +IMBALANCE PAYMENT+ WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$1 TO \$3 FOR EACH KILOGRAMME OF EXCESS WEIGHT OF MAIL FROM JANUARY 1.

THE COST OF AEROGRAMMES WILL GO UP FROM 50 CENTS TO 60 CENTS. +THE 50 CENT AEROGRAMME HAS BEEN WITH US FOR 20 YEARS, AND HAS LONG BEEN A POPULAR 'BEST BUY'. BUT EVEN AT ITS NEW PRICE, IT WILL STILL PROVIDE ONE OF THE CHEAPEST AIRMAIL SERVICES IN THE WORLD,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

INCREASES IN AIRMAIL CHARGES TO INDIA, JAPAN AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA, AND ALSO A MODEST UPWARD MOVEMENT OF SEAMAIL LETTER RATES TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA, MACAU AND TAIWAN ARE ALL BEING MADE TO CONFORM WITH UPU TARIFF CHANGES.

BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, THE INSURED BOX SERVICES WILL CEASE. THE ITEMS WHICH MUST BE SENT IN INSURED BOXES AT PRESENT MAY BE SENT IN INSURED LETTERS OR PACKETS IN FUTURE.

BY SIMILAR AGREEMENT, INSURANCE FEES AND THE COST OF INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS WILL BE INCREASED. THE FEE FOR REQUESTING ADVICE OF DELIVERY OF A REGISTERED LETTER WILL ALSO BE INCREASED, AND IT WILL NO LONGER BE POSSIBLE TO REQUEST SUCH AN ADVICE AFTER THE LETTER HAS BEEN POSTED.

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AMONG OTHER TARIFF CHANGES, THERE WILL BE INCREASES IN THE STORAGE FEE FOR UNCOLLECTED PARCELS AND A DELIVERY FEE FOR BUSINESS REPLY LETTERS. THE FORMER IS NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST OF PROVIDING STORAGE SPACE FOR THE LARGE NUMBER OF UNCOLLECTED PARCELS. THE LATTER IS REQUIRED BECAUSE THE SERVICE HAS BEEN PROVIDED VIRTUALLY FREE OF CHARGE AND AT CONSIDERABLE COST TO THE POST OFFICE FOR MANY YEARS.

THE INLAND POSTCARD RATE (15 CENTS) WILL BE ABOLISHED AS IT IS RARELY USED AND POSTCARDS WILL BE TREATED AS LETTERS. THIS WILL NOT AFFECT PRINTED CARDS WHICH WILL STILL BE ADMISSIBLE AT THE 10-CENT PRINTED PAPER RATE.

THE PREFERENTIAL SURFACE LETTER RATES TO COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES WILL ALSO BE ABOLISHED ON JANUARY 1. +THERE IS NO LONGER ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR SUCH PREFERENTIAL POSTAGE RATES TO CONTINUE, AND A NUMBER OF COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM, HAVE ALREADY ABOLISHED THEM,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SURFACE PARCEL CHARGES WILL ALSO BE INCREASED AS A RESULT OF HIGHER DELIVERY FEES TO BE PAID TO OTHER ADMINISTRATIONS AND THERE ARE CERTAIN CHANGES TO THE AIR PARCEL TARIFF.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

A TABLE SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL POSTAGE RATES EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1, 1976 WILL BE PUT IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOX FOR COLLECTION THIS EVENING.

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'MASSIVE INVESTMENT' NEEDED FOR ADEQUATE POWER SUPPLY

THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MR. JIM ROBSON, SAID TONIGHT THAT THE DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY IN HONG KONG WAS STILL GROWING DESPITE A RECENT SLACKENING DUE TO THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE.

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE FAR EAST CONFERENCE ON ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY INDUSTRY, HE SAID THAT IT WAS STILL DIFFICULT TO FORESEE WHERE THE EVENTUAL DEMAND FROM ALL SOURCES WOULD BEGIN TO LEVEL OFF.

HONG KONG NOW HAS A SUPPLY POTENTIAL OF OVER 2,000 MEGAWATTS, WITH EQUIPMENT ON ORDER OR CURRENTLY BEING INSTALLED TO INCREASE THIS BY SOME 30 PER CENT.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, FORECASTS BY THE INDUSTRY INDICATE THAT THE PRESENT DEMAND COULD DOUBLE BY 1985 AND IT IS +A MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT THAT ADEQUATE SUPPLIES ARE MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES IN THE FUTURE.+

THIS WOULD MEAN +CONTINUAL MASSIVE INVESTMENT+ IN ADDITIONAL POWER GENERATING CAPACITY, AND +SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT+ IN NEW TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES WITH THE DISPERSION OF THE POPULATION AND INDUSTRY AWAY FROM THE OLDER URBAN AREAS.

IN FACT, MR. ROBSON SAID THAT CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY HONG KONG'S TWO MAJOR POWER COMPANIES ON NEW EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN RUNNING AT THE RATE OF ABOUT \$300 MILLION A YEAR IN RECENT YEARS.

HE ADDED THAT AS SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT HE WAS VERY CONCERNED WITH THE IMPACT WHICH NEW GENERATING STATIONS AND TRANSMISSION LINES WOULD HAVE ON THE ENVIRONMENT. BUT HE WAS GRATIFIED TO SEE THAT THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY WAS NOW GIVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO THESE MATTERS.

TURNING TO THE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR POWER, MR. ROBSON RESTATED THAT IN HIS OPINION NUCLEAR-POWERED PLANTS PRESENTED A FAR LESS THREAT TO THE ENVIRONMENT THAN TRADITIONAL FOSSIL FUEL POWER.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT THE TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS AND PLANNING NECESSARY FOR SETTING UP A NUCLEAR POWER STATION IN HONG KONG WERE BEYOND OUR RESOURCES, AND LARGE SCALE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WAS CLEARLY REQUIRED.

MR. ROBSON WENT ON: +IT MAY BE THAT WHEN IT COMES TO THE CRUNCH, HONG KONG WILL FIND THAT IT DOES NOT HAVE THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO EMBARK UPON A PROGRAMME FOR NUCLEAR POWER AND A DECISION WILL BE MADE TO CONTINUE USING FOSSIL FUEL PLANTS.+

/IF THIS WERE

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IF THIS WERE THE CASE, HE SAID, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO HEED THE WARNING SOUNDED AT THE CONFERENCE THAT THE CONTRIBUTION OF FOSSIL FUEL POWER TO CIVILISATION IN THE COMING YEARS WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON ACHIEVING SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF INSECURITY OF FUEL SUPPLY AND TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

ON THE QUESTION OF FINANCING, MR. ROBSON SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE WAS THAT +NO INDUSTRY OF SERVICE SHOULD BE SUBSIDISED AND THAT EACH SHOULD PAY ITS WAY.+ HOWEVER, THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT THERE WERE NO CONTROLS OVER WHAT THE POWER COMPANIES CHARGED.

IN FUTURE, HE SAID, THERE WERE GOING TO BE MORE SYSTEMATIC CONTROLS OVER THE AFFAIRS OF PRIVATELY OWNED UTILITY COMPANIES, ALTHOUGH HE WAS SURE THESE CONTROLS WOULD BE THE MINIMUM REQUIRED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND TO ENSURE THAT THE COMPANIES COULD GET ON WITH THE JOB OF PROVIDING AN EFFICIENT PUBLIC SERVICE AT THE MINIMUM REASONABLE PRICE.

MR. ROBSON EMPHASISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NO INTENTION OF ATTEMPTING TO RUN ANYTHING WHICH COULD BE LEFT TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

IN FACT, THE TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN POWER PRODUCTION IN HONG KONG DURING THE PAST 30 YEARS WAS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE GENERATION OF ELECTRIC POWER WAS LEFT TO FREE ENTERPRISE, HE ADDED.

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CAREERS '76 EXHIBITION

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT CAREERS '76 -- THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FOURTH ANNUAL CAREERS EXHIBITION -- WILL OPEN AT THE CITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, AT NOON.

THE 12-DAY EXHIBITION, ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE, AIMS TO ACQUAINT SECONDARY SCHOOL LEAVERS AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A WIDE RANGE OF CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG, AND TO OFFER ADVICE ON HOW TO MAKE A CHOICE.

FIFTEEN ORGANISATIONS FROM THE COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND CIVIL SERVICE SECTORS ARE TAKING PART. THEY WILL SHOW CAREER OPPORTUNITIES SUCH AS BANKING, TRANSPORT, TEXTILES, TELEVISION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND PUBLIC UTILITIES.

EACH EXHIBITOR WILL DISPLAY INFORMATION ON THE JOBS AND POSTS NORMALLY AVAILABLE IN ITS FIELD.

+TO MAKE A SENSIBLE AND REALISTIC CHOICE OF CAREER,+ MR. PRICE SAID,+ THE RELEVANT AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AND FACTS MUST BE MADE KNOWN. CAREERS '76 IS DESIGNED EXACTLY TO CATER FOR THIS NEED.

+I AM SURE STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE VISITING THE EXHIBITION WILL GAIN AN INSIGHT INTO THE CHOICE OF CAREERS THAT IS AVAILABLE AFTER FORMAL EDUCATION.+

THE COMMISSIONER REMARKED THAT CHOOSING A CAREER IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISIONS A YOUNG PERSON HAS TO MAKE IN HIS LIFE. +HE HAS TO MAKE SUCH A DECISION, IRRESPECTIVE OF HOW RICH OR POOR HE IS, OR HOW PROSPEROUS OR UNFAVOURABLE THE HONG KONG ECONOMY MAY BE.

+CAREERS '76 WILL PROVIDE FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND HELP THEM CHOOSE WISELY THEIR CAREERS,+ MR. PRICE ADDED.

CAREERS '75 LAST YEAR HAD A RECORD ATTENDANCE OF 93,000, WITH STUDENTS IN THE MAJORITY. IT ALSO RECEIVED FAVOURABLE COMMENT FROM TEACHERS, PARENTS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, DR. KEITH LEGG, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN CAREERS '76 AT 11 A.M. ON DECEMBER 17.

IT WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM NOON THE SAME DAY, AND DAILY FROM 9.30 A.M. TO 7 P.M. UNTIL IT CLOSSES AT 5 P.M. ON DECEMBER 28.

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MAIL SERVICES TO CANADA RESUME
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THE STRIKE BY CANADIAN POSTAL WORKERS, WHICH HAS DISRUPTED POSTINGS FROM HONG KONG FOR MORE THAN ONE MONTH, IS NOW OVER, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC STILL HAVE TIME TO SEND THEIR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN CANADA BUT THEY MUST DO SO ON OR BEFORE NEXT MONDAY (DECEMBER 8).

THIS IS THE FINAL DATE FOR POSTING AIRMAIL LETTERS AND CARDS TO CANADA FOR DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID HONG KONG WAS ADVISED OF THE END OF THE STRIKE BY THE CANADIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION.

ALL CLASSES OF AIR AND SURFACE MAILES CAN NOW BE ACCEPTED AGAIN FOR DESTINATIONS IN CANADA.

HOWEVER, AT THE REQUEST OF THE CANADIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION, THE FIRST DESPATCH OF AIR MAIL FROM HONG KONG WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL NEXT MONDAY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN JAVA ROAD
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TOMORROW IN NORTH POINT FOR ABOUT FOUR WEEKS IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE SECTION OF JAVA ROAD BETWEEN KAM HON STREET AND TONG SHUI ROAD.

FROM 9 A.M. WESTBOUND TRAFFIC IN JAVA ROAD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT INTO SHU KUK STREET WHILE EASTBOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO KAM HON STREET OR LEFT INTO SHU KUK STREET.

DURING THIS PERIOD BUSES ON ROUTES 23 AND 23B WILL BE REROUTED FROM JAVA ROAD VIA TONG SHUI ROAD TO KING'S ROAD AND SHU KUK STREET.

IN YAU MA TEI, KOWLOON, THE SECTION OF KANSU STREET BETWEEN FERRY STREET AND CANTON ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM 1 P.M. TOMORROW UNTIL 1 P.M. ON SATURDAY TO ENABLE PILING WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLYOVER.

MEANWHILE, FROM SATURDAY (DECEMBER 6), NORTH-WEST BOUND TRAFFIC ON TAIPO ROAD IN KOWLOON TURNING LEFT TO JOIN LUNG CHEUNG ROAD TO TRAVEL EASTBOUND WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TURN RIGHT SUBSEQUENTLY FROM LUNG CHEUNG ROAD INTO NAM CHEONG STREET.

THIS ARRANGEMENT IS BEING INTRODUCED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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WATER INTERRUPTION
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MONGKOK AND ABERDEEN WILL BE INTERRUPTED FROM 1 A.M. TO 6 A.M. ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 6) TO ALLOW LEAKAGE TESTS TO BE CARRIED OUT.

IN MONGKOK, PREMISES BOUNDED BY CANTON ROAD, NELSON STREET, NATHAN ROAD, DUNDAS STREET AND SHANGHAI STREET WILL BE AFFECTED.

IN ABERDEEN, PREMISES AFFECTED ARE BOUNDED BY ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TUNG SING ROAD TO THE END OF SHEK PAI WAN ROAD, YUE WOK STREET, YUE LEI STREET, TIN WAN STREET, TANG FUNG STREET, KA WO STREET AND TIN WAN ESTATE.

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RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE HOLDS EXHIBITION
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE IS CELEBRATING ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH AND TO MARK THE OCCASION, A TWO-DAY EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT THE OCEAN TERMINAL CONCOURSE STARTING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE PERFORMED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION, MR. DENIS BRAY, AT 12 NOON TOMORROW.

MR. DICKEN YUNG, SENIOR RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICER, SAID THAT THE AIM OF THE EXHIBITION WAS TO TELL THE PUBLIC WHAT THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE HAD BEEN DOING IN THE PAST YEAR SO AS TO ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS FUNCTIONS.

+IT IS ALSO A WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU TO ALL THE ORGANISATIONS AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE GIVEN US THEIR ARDENT SUPPORT AND WE WILL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL FOR SUPPORT FROM MORE ORGANISATIONS,+ MR. YUNG SAID.

THE EXHIBITION WILL INCLUDE PHOTOGRAPHS AND GRAPHS SHOWING THE VARIOUS SPORT AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE SERVICE.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM 12 NOON TO 7 P.M. TOMORROW AND FROM 8 A.M. TO 6 P.M. ON SATURDAY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AND THE EXHIBITION.

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LAM TIN SPORTS DAY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNGSTERS
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ONE THOUSAND CHILDREN AND YOUNGSTERS AGED BETWEEN NINE AND 14 WILL BE GATHERING AT THE LAM TIN RESERVOIR FOOTBALL PITCH ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 7) TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

THERE WILL BE TEN DIFFERENT EVENTS DESIGNED TO TEST THEIR PHYSICAL FITNESS AND PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THOSE ACHIEVING THE HIGHEST SCORES.

THIS SPORTS DAY HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE ESTATE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICES IN LAM TIN EAST AND WEST AND THE LAM TIN CENTRES OF THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS ASSOCIATION= THE Y.M.C.A. AND THE FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS.

FOUR GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN KWUN TONG DISTRICT ARE SPONSORING THE EVENT. THEY ARE THE RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICE= THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE= THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICE.

A BRIEF OPENING CEREMONY IS SCHEDULED FOR 2 P.M. AT WHICH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SPONSORING AND ORGANISING OFFICES WILL OFFICIATE.

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

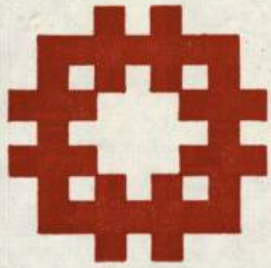
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COURSE ON MAGIC
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IN ORDER TO WIDEN THE SCOPE OF ITS ACTIVITIES, THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE HAS ORGANISED A THREE-MONTH COURSE ON PERFORMING MAGIC.

THE COURSE WILL BE HELD EACH FRIDAY EVENING FROM 7.30 P.M. TO 9.30 P.M. AT THE COMMON ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

ANYONE OVER THE AGE OF 14 WHO WANTS TO JOIN SHOULD CONTACT STAFF AT THE CENTRE. THE COST IS \$15 A PERSON.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

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THURSDAY, December 4, 1975

MORE ESTATES TO BE BUILT IN TSUEN WAN

Five public housing estates are being built and another one has just been completed in the Tsuen Wan/Kwai Chung area of Kowloon. These housing projects will eventually provide homes for about 137,000 people.

Mr. Ian Lightbody, Secretary for Housing; Mr. Donald P.H. Liao, Director of Housing and Mr. H.M.G. Forsgate, Mr. V.O. Roberts and Mr. CHEUNG Yan-lung, members of the Building Committee of the Housing Authority, made a site visit this (Thursday) morning to see building works being carried out there.

Tsing Yi Island will have a population of some 125,000 in public housing by 1985.

The party inspected the building progress of the first public housing estate on the Island.

The project, comprising four twin-tower blocks and one slab block, will house some 23,000 people on completion in early 1977.

The group then visited the Cheung Shan Estate site where levelling and other site formation work is going ahead.

This estate will provide housing to about 12,500 people when finished in 1979.

The inspection tour ended with a visit to Li Muk Shue Estate where new flats for nearly 19,000 people have recently been completed and Ha Kwai Chung Estate where public housing blocks are being erected on a terraced slope commanding a panoramic view of Tsuen Wan/Kwai Chung and Tsing Yi Island.

Construction of Ha Kwai Chung Estate is progressing well and the first housing units for 5,000 people should be ready for occupation during the first half of next year.

The estate will be able to house about 19,000 people when fully developed in 1977.

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