



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1976.

## WORK ON H.K.'S PLANETARIUM BEGINS IN MARCH \* \* \* \* \*

HONG KONG'S \$20 MILLION PLANETARIUM ADVANCED ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT STEP THIS WEEK WITH THE CALLING OF TENDERS FOR THE MAIN CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

CHIEF P.W.D. ARCHITECT, MR. JOSEPH LEI, SAID TODAY THE BUILDING WORKS WOULD BEGIN IN MARCH AND THE COMPLEX SHOULD BE READY BY SEPTEMBER 1978.

+PILING WORK FOR THE COMPLEX ARE PROGRESSING WELL AND WILL BE COMPLETED VERY SOON TO ENABLE THE MAIN CONSTRUCTION WORKS TO PROCEED,+ HE SAID.

THE PLANETARIUM, WHICH WILL RANK WITH THE BEST IN THE WORLD, WILL OCCUPY A 7,600-SQUARE METRE SITE ON THE FORMER KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY STATION SITE AT TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE PLANETARIUM FORMS PART OF THE PROPOSED CULTURAL CENTRE IN THE AREA AND IS BEING BUILT BY THE P.W.D.'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE ON BEHALF OF THE URBAN COUNCIL WHICH IS FINANCING THE PLANETARIUM PROJECT.

THE BUILDING CONTRACT, FOR WHICH TENDERS ARE NOW BEING CALLED, WOULD BE SIGNED IN FEBRUARY, SAID MR. LEI.

HE SAID THE DESIGN OF THE COMPLEX HAD BEEN CAREFULLY SELECTED AFTER NEARLY TWO YEARS OF EXHAUSTIVE PLANNING AND RESEARCH BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND A TEAM OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ARCHITECTS.

+THE CONCEPT,+ HE SAID, +HAS BEEN TO PRODUCE A DESIGN THAT WOULD NOT ONLY BE FUNCTIONAL BUT VISUALLY PLEASING AS WELL.+

MR. LEI SAID THE DOMINANT FEATURE OF THE BUILDING WOULD BE THE LARGE EGG-SHAPED DOME STRUCTURE HOUSING THE SKY THEATRE WHERE AUDIENCES OF BETWEEN 350 AND 400 WOULD MAKE IMAGINARY TRIPS TO THE STARS.

AN ADDED FEATURE OF THE UNUSUAL DOME DESIGN, HE SAID, WOULD BE THAT IT WOULD GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF +FLOATING+ ON A POOL SURROUNDING IT.

FORMING THE 'YOLK' OF THE EGG-SHAPED STRUCTURE, WOULD BE THE SKY THEATRE IN THE SHAPE OF A CIRCULAR DOME WITH A 23-METRE DIAMETRE PROJECTION SCREEN.

/THE THEATRE .....

THE THEATRE WOULD BE SURROUNDED WITH A LARGE EXHIBITION AREA BELOW FOR DISPLAYS ON ASTRONOMY, EARTH SCIENCES AND ASTRO-NAVIGATION.

DIRECTLY UNDER THE SKY THEATRE WOULD BE THE CONTROL ROOM, STUDIOS, WORKSHOPS AND OFFICES.

THE OTHER MAIN FEATURE OF THE PLANETARIUM WOULD BE A TWO-STOREY RECTANGULAR BUILDING EMBRACING THE EGG-SHAPED DOME, SAID MR. LEI.

THIS ANNEXE, HE SAID, WOULD PROVIDE SUCH FACILITIES AS A LARGE RESTAURANT ON THE FIRST FLOOR, AND A LARGE LECTURE HALL ON THE GROUND FLOOR TO SEAT AN AUDIENCE OF 200.

MEANWHILE, THE MAJOR PART OF THE EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING A SOPHISTICATED PLANETARIUM STAR-PROJECTOR, A PROJECTION DOME AND VARIOUS SPECIAL-EFFECTS PROJECTORS, HAVE ALREADY BEEN ORDERED FROM A GERMAN FIRM AND WILL BE DELIVERED FOR INSTALLATION WHEN THE BUILDING WORKS HAVE REACHED AN ADVANCE STAGE.

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#### INTERNATIONAL-STANDARD SPORTS COMPLEX FOR KWAI CHUNG

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RESIDENTS OF KWAI CHUNG AND NEARBY AREAS WILL HAVE THEIR OWN INTERNATIONAL-STANDARD SPORTS COMPLEX.

TENDERS FOR THE MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR PROJECT ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL BEGIN IN FEBRUARY.

MR. F. HO-ASJOE, CHIEF P.W.D. ARCHITECT, SAID TODAY THE SPORTS GROUND WOULD BE THE LARGEST OF ITS TYPE IN KWAI CHUNG AND WOULD OFFER A FULL RANGE OF FACILITIES FOR BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS.

HE SAID THE COMPLEX WOULD BE COMPLETED BY MID-1978 AND WOULD OCCUPY A 4.3-HECTARE SITE BOUNDED BY HING SHING ROAD, KWAI FUK ROAD, HING FONG ROAD AND KO FONG STREET.

IT WOULD HAVE A FULL-SIZE GRASS SOCCER PITCH AS WELL AS TWO HARD-SURFACE MINI-SOCCER PITCHES AND THREE BASKETBALL COURTS.

THERE WOULD ALSO BE AN EIGHT-LANE 400-METRE RUNNING TRACK, DESIGNED FOR ALL-WEATHER USE, AND FACILITIES FOR SUCH ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES AS SHOT PUT, JAVELIN, AND HIGH JUMP AND LONG JUMP.

MR. HO-ASJOE SAID A LARGE SPECTATOR STAND FOR 1,500 PEOPLE WOULD BE BUILT OVERLOOKING THE MAIN SOCCER FIELD.

OTHER FACILITIES WOULD INCLUDE A REFRESHMENT KIOSK, CHANGING AND TOILET FACILITIES, AND SITTING OUT AREAS.

HE SAID ADEQUATE FLOODLIGHTING WOULD BE PROVIDED TO ENABLE THE FACILITIES TO BE USED AT NIGHT.

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HONG KONG'S WEATHER ROLE SPOTLIGHTED

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HONG KONG'S ROLE IN THE GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM OF THE WORLD WEATHER WATCH PROGRAMME IS HIGHLIGHTED IN THE NEWLY-PUBLISHED ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR FOR 1977.

PRODUCED IN A COMBINED ENGLISH AND CHINESE EDITION, THE COLOUR-ILLUSTRATED CALENDAR, WHICH CONTAINS A COLLECTION OF INTERESTING DATA, CHARTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS, IS NOW ON SALE AT \$7 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, STAR FERRY CONCOURSE, HONG KONG.

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM ARE TO COLLECT METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TO DISTRIBUTE THEM TO CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND TO EXCHANGE PROCESSED INFORMATION WITH OTHER CENTRES.

HONG KONG IS CONNECTED BY POINT-TO-POINT TELETYPE CIRCUITS WITH TOKYO, PEKING AND BANGKOK, WHICH IN TURN ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY LINKED WITH WASHINGTON, MOSCOW AND MELBOURNE.

OBSERVATIONAL DATA COLLECTED IN HONG KONG IS FED INTO THE GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR TRANSMISSION TO TOKYO, PEKING AND BANGKOK AND FOR FURTHER RELAY TO OTHER CENTRES. IN RETURN, OBSERVATIONAL AND PROCESSED DATA FROM TOKYO, PEKING AND BANGKOK ARE TRANSMITTED TO HONG KONG.

A COMPUTER AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY HANDLES ALL THE RECEPTION, TRANSMISSION, SELECTION AND RELAY OF METEOROLOGICAL MESSAGES REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH HONG KONG'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SYSTEM.

THE OBSERVATORY'S COMPUTER SYSTEM IS USED TO DECODE, CHECK, ANALYSE AND STORE METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION RECEIVED THROUGH TELECOMMUNICATION CIRCUITS. DATA IS RECEIVED CONTINUOUSLY AND PROCESSED IN BATCHES EVERY SIX HOURS.

A WEATHER CHART WHICH INVOLVES SORTING, DECODING AND PLOTTING A LARGE VOLUME OF DATA AND THOUSANDS OF COMPUTATIONS CAN NOW BE PRODUCED BY COMPUTER IN A FEW MINUTES.

THE NEW CALENDAR CONTAINS CHARTS AND ILLUSTRATIONS ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS, INCLUDING LIGHTNING, FOG, RADAR OBSERVATION OF TROPICAL CYCLONES, WEATHER CHARTS PRODUCED BY COMPUTER AND THE MOVEMENT OF TROPICAL CYCLONES.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR. GORDON J. BELL, NOTES THAT THE CALENDAR HAS BEEN PRODUCED TO ACKNOWLEDGE +OUR APPRECIATION OF THE WORK OF VOLUNTARY WEATHER OBSERVERS AND SIGNAL STATION OPERATORS.+

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PAY YOUR TAXES BY POST  
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE URGED TO PAY THEIR TAXES BY POST.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS MANY PEOPLE WOULD BE SETTling THEIR TAX BILLS.

+BY PAYING THROUGH THE POST, YOU CAN SAVE A TRIP TO ONE OF THE COLLECTION OFFICES AND AVOID THE INCONVENIENCE OF QUEUING UP THERE,+ HE SAID.

LAST YEAR ABOUT 100,000 PEOPLE MADE USE OF THE POST TO PAY THEIR TAXES AND MANY MORE ARE DOING SO THIS YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +THERE IS NO SURCHARGE IF THE PAYMENTS ARE RECEIVED LATE SO LONG AS THE ENVELOPE IS POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN THE DUE DATE SHOWN IN THE DEMAND NOTE.+

+CHEQUES SHOULD BE SENT WITH THE DEMAND NOTES, WHICH WILL BE RECEIPTED AND POSTED BACK TO THE TAXPAYER WITHIN A FEW DAYS.+

+IF YOU CANNOT SEND YOUR DEMAND NOTE WITH YOUR CHEQUE, BE SURE TO QUOTE YOUR INLAND REVENUE REFERENCE NUMBER OR CHARGE NUMBER, AND TO GIVE YOUR ADDRESS.

+WITHOUT THAT INFORMATION OR A DEMAND NOTE, A CHEQUE CANNOT BE RECEIPTED IMMEDIATELY AND THE DELAY IN PROCESSING IT MAY RESULT IN THE ISSUE OF A COMPUTER-PRODUCED SURCHARGE NOTICE.+

REMINDERS WOULD NOT BE ISSUED, HE STRESSED.

CROSSED CHEQUES SHOULD BE SENT TO:-

THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE,  
CENTRAL MAIL OFFICE,  
G.P.O. BOX 132,  
HONG KONG.

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