



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1978

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SAI KUNG COUNTRY (EAST AND WEST) PARKS DESIGNATED
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MOST OF THE SAI KUNG PENINSULA - A LAND AREA OF ALMOST 7,500 HECTARES (ABOUT 30 SQUARE MILES) - HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS A COUNTRY PARK.

THE PENINSULA WILL BE PRESERVED FOR THE PROTECTION OF FLORA AND FAUNA AS WELL AS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC SEEKING RECREATIONAL PURSUITS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

THE SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARKS, WHICH WERE INSPECTED LAST WEEK BY LADY MACLEHOSE, CONSISTS OF TWO ADJACENT AREAS: SAI KUNG EAST AND WEST.

SAI KUNG EAST (AN AREA OF 4,470 HECTARES) IS IMMEDIATELY EAST OF THE PAK TAM CHUNG-KO TONG ROAD AND STRETCHES FROM LONG HARBOUR SOUTHWARDS TO HIGH ISLAND. IT CONSISTS MOSTLY OF WOODS AND GRASSLAND HILLS AND INCLUDES THE AREA OF THE HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR.

SAI KUNG WEST STARTS AT THE WONG CHUK WAN ROUNDABOUT, WHERE THE ROAD LEADS NORTH TO NAI CHUNG AND STRETCHES EASTWARDS TO PAK TAM CHUNG. THIS AREA CONSISTS OF ABOUT 3,000 HECTARES OF WOODLANDS, GRASSLANDS AND THE HIGH ISLAND CATCHMENT AREA AND INCLUDES 850 HECTARES OF FOREST PLANTATIONS.

THE HIGH ISLAND BARRIER GATE AT TAI MONG TSAI WILL BE MOVED ABOUT ONE KILOMETER EASTWARDS TO PAK TAM CHUNG WHERE A PARKING AREA IS BEING CONSTRUCTED FOR PRIVATE CARS.

IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE REMOTENESS OF THE AREA, ROADWAYS TO THE EAST OF PAK TAM CHUNG WILL ONLY BE USED BY SERVICE VEHICLES AND COUNTRY PARK AUTHORITY PASSENGER VEHICLES.

ALTHOUGH NO PRIVATE VEHICLES WOULD BE ALLOWED BEYOND PAK TAM CHUNG THE AUTHORITY WOULD BE MAKING SPECIAL TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR PICNICKERS GOING TO THE LESS ACCESSIBLE AREAS OF THE PARK.

BARBECUE PITS AND PLAY AREAS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED ALONG THE ROADSIDE TO PAK TAM CHUNG FOR EASY ACCESS TO VISITORS. MORE PICNIC AREAS AND CAMPSITES ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED WITHIN THE PARK AREA INCLUDING HIGH ISLAND, WHEN THE RESERVOIR HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

A COUNTRY PARKS MANAGEMENT CENTRE IS IN OPERATION AT PAK TAM AU - THE CENTRE OF THE TWO PARKS - AND OTHERS ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT HOI HA, KEI LING HA AND PAK TAM CHUNG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AUTHORITY SAID TODAY THERE ARE A LARGE NUMBER OF WALKS WITHIN THE AREA WHICH PRESENTED COMMANDING VIEWS OF LONG HARBOUR, HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR AND TAI LONG WAN. AND THERE ARE FERRY SERVICES WHICH CAN TAKE VISITORS TO WONG SHEK AND CHEK KENG WITHIN THE LONG HARBOUR AREA.

-- NO NEW DEVELOPMENT CAN TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE AREA WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE COUNTRY PARKS AUTHORITY WHO IS ALSO THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

+ ANY INCOMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT WOULD ROB THIS BEAUTIFUL AREA OF ITS NATURAL SCENIC BEAUTY, WHICH IT IS INTENDED WILL BE PRESERVED, + HE SAID.

EIGHT COUNTRY PARKS SO FAR DESIGNATED WITH A TOTAL LAND AREA OF 12,000 HECTARES. THE DESIGNATED PARKS ARE AT SHING MUN, KAM SHAN, LION ROCK, TAI PO KAU (SPECIAL AREA), ABERDEEN, TAI TAM, SAI KUNG EAST AND SAI KUNG WEST. IN ADDITION COUNTRY PARKS AT PLOVER COVE (4,500 HECTARES) AND SOUTH LANTAU (5,600 HECTARES) HAVE BEEN GAZETTED. A FURTHER NINE COUNTRY PARKS ARE PLANNED.

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ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN KOWLOON TONG

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL SHORTLY CARRY OUT A SERIES OF ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS IN KOWLOON TONG IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 600-METRE-LONG ELEVATED ROAD IN THE AREA LATER THIS YEAR.

TENDERS FOR THE WORKS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE P.W.D.

MR. TOM ARMOUR, ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE HIGHWAYS (KOWLOON) DIVISION, SAID THE WORKS WOULD INVOLVE THE WIDENING OF APPROACHES TO WATERLOO ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH JUNCTION ROAD AND CORNWALL STREET.

IN ADDITION, PART OF WATERLOO ROAD BETWEEN SUFFOLK ROAD AND RUTLAND QUADRANT WOULD BE WIDENED AND A FOOTBRIDGE WOULD BE BUILT ACROSS WATERLOO ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH SUFFOLK ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, FACILITIES AIMED AT IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY WOULD BE PROVIDED.

MR. ARMOUR SAID THAT WORKS ON THE PROJECT WOULD BEGIN IN APRIL AND WOULD TAKE ABOUT TEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

ON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT AND THE ELEVATED ROAD, HE SAID, THE TRAVELLING TIME BETWEEN KOWLOON AND SHA TIN VIA THE LION ROCK TUNNELS WOULD BE GREATLY REDUCED.

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NEW FIRE STATION AND AMBULANCE DEPOT FOR TUEN MUN
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A NEW FIRE STATION AND AN AMBULANCE DEPOT WILL BE BUILT AT SAN HUI, TUEN MUN TO COPE WITH THE RAPID EXPANSION OF THE NEW TOWN.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THE SAN HUI FIRE STATION AND TUEN MUN AMBULANCE DEPOT WILL BE BUILT ON A SITE AT PUI TO ROAD, TUEN MUN.

MR. K.M. TSENG, CHIEF ARCHITECT, SAID TODAY THAT WORK ON THE PROJECTS WOULD BEGIN IN EARLY APRIL AND BE COMPLETED IN JUNE NEXT YEAR.

HE SAID THE FIRE STATION WOULD HAVE FOUR STOREYS AND THE AMBULANCE DEPOT WOULD BE OF TWO STOREYS.

THE LOWER FLOORS OF THE FIRE STATION, MR. TSENG SAID, WOULD CONTAIN ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONAL OFFICES, LECTURE ROOM, OFFICERS ACCOMMODATION AND WASHROOM FACILITIES.

OTHER FACILITIES ON THE TOP FLOORS WOULD INCLUDE A CANTEEN, OFFICERS DINING AND RECREATIONAL ROOMS, AND STAFF QUARTERS.

FIVE DOUBLE BAYS FOR TEN FIRE APPLIANCES WOULD BE PROVIDED AT THE NEW STATION, HE SAID.

THE STATION WILL SHARE A COMMON DRILL YARD WITH THE AMBULANCE DEPOT WHICH WILL HAVE FOUR BAYS FOR AMBULANCES.

ACCOMMODATION FOR OFFICES, DINING AND RECREATION STORAGE, STAFF QUARTERS AND WASHROOM FACILITIES WOULD ALSO BE PROVIDED IN THE DEPOT, MR. TSENG SAID.

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DUTY FREE BRANDY
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THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT PASSENGERS ARRIVING FROM MACAU DURING THE TWO DAYS (FEBRUARY 8 AND 9) FOLLOWING THE CHINESE NEW YEAR DAY MAY BRING INTO HONG KONG A BOTTLE OF ONE LITRE PORTUGUESE BRANDY FREE OF DUTY IN LIEU OF THE CUSTOMARY ONE QUART BOTTLE OF GRAPE WINE.

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METHADONE TREATMENT CENTRES
TO OPEN FOR LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT ALL THE METHADONE TREATMENT CENTRES WILL REMAIN OPEN DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

ALL THE 16 EVENING DETOXIFICATION CENTRES WILL BE OPEN FROM 6 P.M. TO 10 P.M., WHILE THE DAY DETOXIFICATION CENTRES WILL BE OPEN ONLY IN THE MORNING FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M. DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

THE FOUR MAINTENANCE CENTRES WILL BE OPERATING AS USUAL FROM 7 A.M. TO 9.30 P.M.

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HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR MARINE DEPARTMENT
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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ITS PORT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE WILL REMAIN OPEN AS USUAL THROUGHOUT THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 7 TO 9.

OFFICES OF THE MACAU FERRY WHARF UNIT WILL OPERATE FROM 7.30 A.M. TO 1.30 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIOD, AND THE VICTORIA SMALL CRAFT LICENSING SECTION AND THE ENTRY AND CLEARANCE OFFICE WILL BE OPEN BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 11 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 8).

THE DEPARTMENT'S THREE PUBLIC CARGO HANDLING AREAS AT WAN CHAI, YAU MA TEI AND KWUN TONG WILL BE CLOSED ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 7 AND 8). WORK WILL RETURN TO NORMAL AT 7 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 9).

VESSELS WITH VALID PERMITS MAY BERTH ALONGSIDE THESE AREAS DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

ALL OTHER SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE CLOSED THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAY PERIOD.

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