



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1979

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GOVERNOR'S TERM EXTENDED

H.M. THE QUEEN HAS APPROVED THAT SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE
WILL REMAIN GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG UNTIL APRIL 1980.

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ANOTHER \$100 MILLION SHIPYARD PROJECT ON TSING YI ISLAND

HONG KONG'S SHIPPING INDUSTRY HAS RECEIVED ANOTHER BOOST
WITH THE LEASE OF A LARGE AREA OF LAND ON TSING YI ISLAND FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A \$100 MILLION SHIPYARD FINANCED BY THE
BANK OF CHINA.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES,
AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE YIU LIAN MACHINERY REPAIRING
WORKS LTD., MR. CHAN CHUNG, SIGNED THE CONDITIONS OF GRANT
TODAY (TUESDAY) FOR A LEASE OF 11.6 HECTARES OF LAND AT NAM WAN
ON THE WESTERN COAST OF THE ISLAND.

MR. AKERS-JONES SAID THE LAND WOULD BE INTENSIVELY USED
FOR SHIP BUILDING, SHIP REPAIRING AND ANCILLARY SERVICES AND
WOULD INVOLVE THE INSTALLATION OF A FLOATING DOCK, CONSTRUCTION
OF A SLIPWAY, A NUMBER OF ALONGSIDE REPAIR BERTHS, MACHINE
SHOPS, AN ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING AND WORKERS' QUARTERS WITH
A TOTAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF MORE THAN \$100 MILLION.

PERMISSION WAS FIRST GIVEN TO THE COMPANY TO COMMENCE
SITE FORMATION WORK IN APRIL 1977, PENDING THE FINALISATION
OF DETAILS.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION
OF REPAIR BERTHS, WORKSHOPS AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, IS
WELL ADVANCED AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN A YEAR. THE FLOATING
DOCK HAS ALREADY BEEN INSTALLED.

YIU LIAN MACHINERY REPAIRING WORKS LTD. IS A HONG KONG
REGISTERED COMPANY CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH CHINA MERCHANTS
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY LTD.

THE TSING YI FACILITIES ARE EXPECTED TO CATER FOR MORE
THAN 200 VESSELS A YEAR AT THE ALONGSIDE BERTHS AND SLIPWAY,
WITH ABOUT 50 VESSELS A YEAR AT THE FLOATING DOCK, TOGETHER
WITH SHIPBUILDING AS ORDERS ARE RECEIVED.

MORE THAN 2,500 PEOPLE WILL BE EMPLOYED AT THE SHIPYARD
WHEN IT IS FULLY OPERATIONAL.

/+THE GOVERNMENT

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+THE GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THIS SIGNIFICANT ADDITION TO OUR SHIPPING INDUSTRY AND THE INVESTMENT THAT GOES WITH IT,+
MR. AKERS-JONES SAID.

+TSING YI IS A MUCH BETTER LOCATION FOR SHIP BUILDING AND REPAIRING THAN THE CENTRAL HARBOUR AREA BECAUSE IT IS SITUATED ON THE WESTERN APPROACH TO THE HONG KONG HARBOUR.+

TSING YI ISLAND ALREADY HAS THREE DOCKYARDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, A POWER STATION AND OTHER INDUSTRIES INCLUDING THOSE SET UP BY DOW CHEMICAL, OUTBOARD MARINE , CHEMSYN AND THE FEOSO OIL STORAGE DEPOT.

+THESE PROJECTS REPRESENT INVESTMENTS OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN HONG KONG AND SHOULD BE OF GREAT LONG-TERM BENEFIT,+
MR. AKERS-JONES NOTED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF TSING YI WAS BEING ACCOMPANIED BY HOUSING AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES AS PART OF THE BALANCED OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF TSEUN WAN AS A NEW TOWN.

THE PROJECTED POPULATION ON THE ISLAND IS ABOUT 190,000 PEOPLE BY THE MID-1980'S.

+THE INDUSTRIAL PLANTS ON THE ISLAND WILL NO DOUBT PROVIDE MANY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE WHO WILL LIVE THERE,+
MR. AKERS-JONES ADDED.

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AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE IN 1978 TOTALLED \$25,982 MILLION
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AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE IN 1978, VALUED AT \$25,982 MILLION, WAS ABOUT 39 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN 1977.

AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 31 PER CENT, REACHING \$9,980 MILLION AND REPRESENTING A 25 PER CENT SHARE OF OVERALL DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

AIRBORNE IMPORTS ALSO INCREASED BY 45 PER CENT TO \$11,811 MILLION WHILE RE-EXPORTS, AT \$4,191 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 44 PER CENT.

AIRBORNE IMPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ACCOUNTED FOR 19 PER CENT AND 32 PER CENT OF TOTAL IMPORTS AND TOTAL RE-EXPORTS.

SUMMARY TRADE STATISTICS ON AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR 1978 WERE RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES HONG KONG'S AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SIX MAJOR MARKETS:

| | 1978 (HK\$ MN) | 1977 (HK\$ MN) | INCREASE (HK\$ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| U.S.A. | 4,439 | 3,713 | + 726 | + 20 |
| F.R. OF GERMANY | 1,170 | 819 | + 351 | + 43 |
| JAPAN | 721 | 444 | + 277 | + 62 |
| U.K. | 652 | 403 | + 249 | + 62 |
| SWITZERLAND | 298 | 233 | + 65 | + 28 |
| CANADA | 282 | 249 | + 33 | + 13 |

THE INCREASE IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE GROWTH IN DELIVERIES OF ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$3,686 MILLION, + 31 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$2,442 MILLION, + 63 PER CENT), THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES AND MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRICAL APPARATUS (\$892 MILLION, + NINE PER CENT), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (\$855 MILLION, + NINE PER CENT) AS WELL AS JEWELLERY AND OTHER PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$533 MILLION, + 19 PER CENT).

A MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWN REVEALED THAT THE GROWTH IN AIRBORNE EXPORTS TO THE U.S.A. WAS DUE MAINLY TO INCREASED DELIVERIES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$1,762 MILLION, + 31 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$693 MILLION, + 57 PER CENT), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (\$554 MILLION, + TWO PER CENT) AND INTEGRATED MICRO CIRCUITS (\$195 MILLION, + 16 PER CENT).

GROWTH IN AIRBORNE EXPORTS TO THE F.R. OF GERMANY WAS RECORDED IN APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$692 MILLION, + 43 PER CENT), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$188 MILLION, + 172 PER CENT). IN ADDITION, PROMINENT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN AIRBORNE EXPORTS OF WATCHES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND SWITZERLAND.

IMPORTS BY AIR FROM THE FOLLOWING MAJOR SUPPLIERS ALSO RECORDED INCREASES:

| | 1978 (HK\$ MN) | 1977 (HK\$ MN) | INCREASE (HK\$ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| JAPAN | 2,644 | 1,758 | + 886 | + 50 |
| U.S.A. | 2,031 | 1,957 | + 74 | + 4 |
| SWITZERLAND | 1,442 | 873 | + 569 | + 65 |
| ISRAEL | 961 | 178 | + 783 | + 440 |
| UNITED KINGDOM | 558 | 409 | + 149 | + 36 |
| SINGAPORE | 519 | 358 | + 161 | + 45 |

IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, MORE AND MORE PRODUCTS WERE IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG BY AIR.

INCREASES DURING 1978 WERE REGISTERED CHIEFLY IN WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$3,016 MILLION, + 46 PER CENT), THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, AND MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRICAL APPARATUS (\$1,885 MILLION, + 29 PER CENT), PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$1,640 MILLION, + 150 PER CENT), AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (\$912 MILLION, + 48 PER CENT).

BY COUNTRY, INCREASES IN AIRBORNE IMPORTS FROM JAPAN WERE LARGELY DUE TO RISES IN WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$1,224 MILLION, + 38 PER CENT), AND FROM THE U.S.A., RISES IN ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (\$520 MILLION, + EIGHT PER CENT), GINSENG (\$86 MILLION, + NINE PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$76 MILLION, + 38 PER CENT) AND DIAMONDS (\$50 MILLION, + 81 PER CENT).

REMARKABLE INCREASES WERE NOTED IN ARRIVALS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$1,141 MILLION, + 56 PER CENT), FROM SWITZERLAND AND OF DIAMONDS (\$952 MILLION, + 480 PER CENT) FROM ISRAEL VIA AIR.

INCREASES WERE ALSO FOUND IN AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS WITH MAJOR ITEMS LIKE PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$935 MILLION, + 71 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$812 MILLION, + 13 PER CENT), THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES AND MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY (\$495 MILLION, + 24 PER CENT) AS WELL AS PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND PHOTO GRAPHIC APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (\$209 MILLION, + 25 PER CENT).

MAIN MARKETS FOR AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS INCLUDED JAPAN (\$1,316 MILLION, + 80 PER CENT), TAIWAN (\$585 MILLION, + 43 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (\$528 MILLION, + 33 PER CENT) AND THE U.S.A. (\$452 MILLION, + 40 PER CENT) WHICH TOGETHER ABSORBED ABOUT 69 PER CENT OF RE-EXPORTS DESPATCHED FROM HONG KONG BY AIR DURING 1978.

TAX EXEMPTION ON INTEREST RAISED

INTEREST PAYABLE BY LICENSED BANKS, BY CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITIES AND BY THE GOVERNMENT AT RATES OF UP TO 5-3/4 PER CENT PER ANNUM WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM INTEREST TAX FROM TODAY (TUESDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED.

HE SAID THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF HALF PER CENT IN THE EXEMPTION LIMIT AND FOLLOWS THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE EXCHANGE BANKS' ASSOCIATION LAST SATURDAY (MARCH 17) THAT THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS WOULD BE SIMILARLY RAISED TO 5-3/4 PER CENT, ALSO WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY.

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KEEN BIDDING FOR TUEN MUN COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL SITE

A COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITE AT TUEN MUN NEW TOWN WAS TODAY (TUESDAY) SOLD FOR \$32.5 MILLION AT A PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE PRICE WAS THE EQUIVALENT OF \$20,312 PER SQUARE METRE --- ALMOST DOUBLE THE PRICE OF \$10,760 PAID FOR A LOT IN THE SAME AREA IN JANUARY LAST YEAR.

THE 1,600-SQUARE METRE SITE WAS KNOCKED DOWN TO THE KAI HEI LAND CO. LTD. AFTER SPIRITED BIDDING AMONG AT LEAST SIX POTENTIAL BUYERS PUSHED UP THE OPENING BID OF \$14.5 MILLION.

THE SITE IS ADJACENT TO TUEN MUN'S PROPOSED TOWN CENTRE, THE FIRST STAGE OF WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR DEVELOPMENT LATER THIS YEAR.

THE SENIOR ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR. VICTOR LEUNG, SAID THE COMPETITION AMONG TODAY'S BIDDERS REFLECTED A KEEN AWARENESS OF THE POTENTIAL OF THE NEW TOWN.

+THE TOWN CENTRE WILL BE THE SHOWPIECE OF TUEN MUN AND AS THIS SITE IS RIGHT ALONGSIDE IT WILL BE MUCH SOUGHT-AFTER RESIDENTIAL AREA,+ HE ADDED.

MR. LEUNG ALSO AUCTIONED AN INDUSTRIAL SITE OF 2,935 SQUARE METRES IN SHEK PAI TAU ROAD. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WAS THE HOI KA CO. LTD., WHICH PAID \$22.1 MILLION, OR \$7,530 PER SQUARE METRE.

THIS WAS DOWN ON THE PREVIOUS PRICE OF \$9,180 PER SQUARE METRE AT AN AUCTION LAST OCTOBER BUT WAS NONETHELESS SATISFACTORY PRICE IN VIEW OF THE RECENT INCREASE IN INTEREST RATES, MR. LEUNG SAID.

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NEW SOUTH KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT BUILDING

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THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO THE NEW SOUTH KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT BUILDING IN GASCOIGNE ROAD.

A SPOKESMAN FOR PWD SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THE FIVE-STOREY BUILDING WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE JUDICIARY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

THE COURT BUILDING IS ON A 3,070 SQUARE-METRE SITE NEXT TO THE EXISTING SOUTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY.

IT HOUSES SIX COURTROOMS WITH CELL ACCOMMODATION AT THE BASEMENT. THERE IS A CAR PARK CAPABLE OF ACCOMMODATING 16 CARS.

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D.S.W. TO OPEN +INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD+
PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF AN +INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD+ PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION AT THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE.

THE EXHIBITION WILL DISPLAY 250 PICTURES PORTRAYING THE DAILY LIFE OF CHILDREN THROUGH THE LENS OF PHOTO ENTHUSIASTS FROM HONG KONG AND ASIA.

THE EXHIBITS ARE PART OF THE 1,350 ENTRIES IN AN ASIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PO LEUNG KUK AND THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF HONG KONG IN RESPONSE TO THE +INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD+.

AT TOMORROW'S OPENING CEREMONY, MR. LEE WILL ALSO PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST AND TO THOSE WHO HAVE WON A RECENT CHILDREN'S PAINTING COMPETITION.

THE THREE-DAY EXHIBITION WILL OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM THURSDAY TO SATURDAY BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 7 P.M. ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE +INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD+ PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, AT 5.30 P.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) ON THE FOURTH FLOOR, HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD.

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HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT COMPETITION PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY

WINNING ENTRIES OF THE 1979 HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLS WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION HALL FROM THURSDAY TO SUNDAY.

THE COMPETITION IS AN ANNUAL EVENT JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. ITS AIM IS TO AROUSE INTEREST AND AWARENESS AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN ON PUBLIC HEALTH, PERSONAL HYGIENE, +CLEAN HONG KONG+ AND SAFETY IN SWIMMING.

URBAN COUNCILLOR, DR. WONG PUN-CHEUK, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 3 P.M. ON THURSDAY (MARCH 22).

THIS YEAR'S TOP FIVE WINNERS ARE S.K.H. LAM WOO MEMORIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL, TANG KING PO SCHOOL, PO LEUNG KUK C.F.A. NO. 1 COLLEGE, BUDDHIST SIN TAK COLLEGE, AND CHAN SUI KI COLLEGE. THEY WILL BE PRESENTED WITH CASH PRIZES AND TROPHIES.

ANOTHER 10 SCHOOLS WILL ALSO EACH RECEIVE A \$500 MERIT PRIZE FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING DESIGNS.

A SPECIAL AWARD WILL BE GIVEN TO THE WINNER OF THE BEST ARTWORK DESIGN WHICH WILL BE CHOSEN BY THE ADJUDICATORS FROM THE ENTRIES SHORTLY BEFORE THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE PICTURES, PHOTOGRAPHS, MODELS, GRAPHS, CHARTS AND FEATURE ARTICLES PRODUCED BY THE COMPETING SCHOOLS OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS. AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE JOINT EXHIBITION, THE BEST PROJECTS WILL GO ON DISPLAY AT VARIOUS COMMUNITY CENTRES AND SCHOOLS BY ROTATION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT COMPETITION PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION HALL AT 3 P.M. ON THURSDAY.

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