



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, March 30, 1974

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Release time: 3.00 p.m.

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SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG ACTIVITIES

By Preventive Service

The Preventive Service mounted widespread land and sea operations last month (February) to keep up the pressure against the illicit trade in narcotics.

A total of 133 dangerous drug seizures were made during the month - 104 on land, 20 on outer islands and nine on board incoming vessels. The number of persons arrested totalled 485.

Two raids in the Walled City resulted in 11 smokers being rounded up and the seizure of 460 packages of heroin and 80 pounds of paracetamol (a barbitone substitute).

A heroin supplying centre in Western District was also successfully raided and 10,280 packages of heroin seized.

In the outlying areas, a total of 13 anti-narcotic actions were mounted on Yung Shu Wan, Ping Chau, Cheung Chau, Tsing Yi and Mui Wo. Ten were successful, resulting in the seizure of drugs and smoking paraphernalia.

Fourteen people were arrested -- one for keeping a divan, one for letting the premises be used as divan, nine for smoking opium and two for possession of drugs and opium pipes.

During the month the Preventive Service conducted seven investigations into alleged copyright infringements. Raids were made on two centres manufacturing pirated cassette tapes and one distribution-centre, resulting in the seizure of 6,681 pirated tapes and 42 records.

Action was also taken to suppress the production of illicit liquor. Three stills, 61 gallons of rectified alcohol and 40 gallons of denatured alcohol were seized. Another 20 gallons of fermenting material were destroyed on site.

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PASSING-OUT PARADE OF PRISON OFFICERS

Mr. R.V. Brimmicombe-Wood, Acting Senior Superintendent of Prisons, said today that with changing patterns in crime and variations in the type of offender it is necessary for the prison officers to keep abreast of development.

He was speaking at the passing out parade of prison officers at the Prisons Department Staff Training Institute at Stanley.

Mr. Brimmicombe-Wood told the prison officers that routines would now become an essential part of their work.

"Such routines are made doubly difficult due to the overcrowding problem which exists in some institutions and with which you must contend," he said. "Such problems have to be faced as they are part and parcel of your job. You must therefore always be alert and prepared for the unexpected."

Mr. Brimmicombe-Wood said that the duty of prison officers to the community in the safe custody of the dangerous offender must be paramount.

However, he said: "Prisoners are people and whilst you must maintain a high degree of discipline, you must always be fair, in keeping with humanitarian principles."

Taking part in the parade today were 8 Prison Officers and 68 Assistant Prison Officers II.

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SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICES FOR CHING MING FESTIVAL

Special passenger train services will be operated between Kowloon and Wo Hop Shek during the Ching Ming Festival period to cope with the expected increase in commuters.

Eleven up-trains will ply between Tsim Sha Tsui and Wo Hop Shek Cemetery between 6.15 a.m. and 4.44 p.m. on Friday (April 5) and Sunday (April 7) while a similar number of down trains will be operated between 7.40 a.m. and 6.14 p.m. These special trains will not pick up passengers at the Mong Kok Station.

At the same time, all up and down local passenger trains will also not pick up passengers at the Mong Kok Station between 8 a.m. and 3.10 p.m. on these two days.

During this period, passengers wishing to board at the Mong Kok Station should go to the Tsim Sha Tsui Station. Holders of season and monthly tickets will be allowed to board these trains at Tsim Sha Tsui without extra charge.

A spokesman for the Kowloon-Canton Railway said that additional special trains would be operated in the late evenings if necessary.

He said that there would be no advance booking for all types of railway tickets.

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RETIREMENT OF SENIOR CLERICAL OFFICER

Mr. Lau Chi-him, Senior Clerical Officer, of the Waterworks Office, will be retiring shortly after 33 years' service with the government.

To mark his retirement, Mr. W.T. Knight, Director of Water Supplies, will present a farewell gift to Mr. Lau on behalf of the staff of Waterworks on Monday (April 1).

Mr. Lau joined the civil service in 1941 as a junior clerk. He was promoted to his present post in 1965.

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Note to Editors: You are welcome to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the presentation ceremony which will take place at the P.W.D. Conference room, 21st floor, Murray Building, Garden Road, at 4.30 p.m. on Monday (April 1).

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN MID-LEVELS

New traffic arrangements will be introduced in Breezy Path and High Street next week in connection with the mid-levels traffic scheme.

Starting from 10 a.m. on Wednesday (April 3), the section of Breezy Path between Park Road and the entrance to the Nethersole Hospital quarters will be re-routed one-way from Park Road towards Bonham Road.

At the same time, the section of High Street between Polfulam Road and the Police Station (Upper Level) will be re-routed one-way from Pokfulam Road towards Bonham Road.

Appropriate traffic signs will be erected to guide motorists.

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EFFECTS OF INFLATION IN WORLD TRADE

Note to Editors: Mr. Chau Tak-hay, a Hong Kong delegate to the 30th plenary session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) in Colombo, today spoke about the effects of world inflation and the shortage and high prices of oil on world trade.

Copies of the full text of his speech will be distributed separately in the G.I.S. press boxes this afternoon.

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SUNDAY D.I.B.

Note to Editors: There will be an issue of the Daily Information Bulletin tomorrow (Sunday). Copies will be available for collection at 3 p.m. that day from the G.I.S. Press Room on the 6th floor of Beaconsfield House.

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