



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 1977

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FURTHER WATER RESTRICTIONS FROM NEXT TUESDAY

THE SECOND PHASE OF HONG KONG'S WATER RESTRICTIONS — REDUCING SUPPLY TO TEN HOURS A DAY — WILL COME INTO FORCE NEXT TUESDAY (JULY 5).

ANNOUNCING THIS AT TODAY'S LUNCHEON OF THE KIWANIS CLUB IN CENTRAL, THE P.W.D.'S DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. WILLIAM TUCKER, SAID THE REDUCED SUPPLY WOULD BE DIVIDED BETWEEN A FOUR-HOUR MORNING PERIOD AND A SIX-HOUR EVENING PERIOD.

THE MORNING HOURS OF SUPPLY WOULD BE FROM 6 A.M. TO 10 A.M., WITH THE SECOND SUPPLY PERIOD COMING BETWEEN 4 AND 10 IN THE EVENING.

MR. TUCKER SAID THE DELIVERY HOURS HAD BEEN SELECTED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH AS THE MOST CONVENIENT FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC.

THEY WOULD REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

+AS IN THE FIRST PHASE OF RESTRICTIONS, A 24-HOUR SUPPLY WILL BE MAINTAINED TO INDUSTRIAL AREAS,+ MR. TUCKER SAID. +IF INDUSTRIALISTS OUTSIDE THESE AREAS EXPERIENCE ANY PROBLEMS, THEY MAY RING 5-225011 EXT. 2808, THE LINE ESTABLISHED FOR THIS PURPOSE ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FIRST PHASE OF RESTRICTIONS.+

MR. TUCKER SAID THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SECOND STAGE OF THE RESTRICTIONS HAD BEEN DELAYED AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, BUT FURTHER DELAY WOULD BE UNWISE.

HE SAID ANOTHER 5,000 MILLION GALLONS WERE NEEDED IN THE RESERVOIRS IF THE SECOND STAGE OF RESTRICTIONS WERE TO BE POSTPONED ANY FURTHER.

TO ACHIEVE THIS NOW, EXTREMELY HEAVY RAINSTORMS WOULD BE NEEDED BY THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK, AND ON PRESENT PREDICTIONS THE PROSPECTS OF OBTAINING THIS AMOUNT OF WATER — WHICH WOULD BRING RESERVOIRS LEVELS TO ABOUT 35,000 MILLION GALLONS — WERE REMOTE.

WITHOUT 35,000 MILLION GALLONS IN THE RESERVOIRS BY NEXT MONDAY, THE SECOND STAGE OF RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE INEVITABLE.

MR. TUCKER SAID THAT THE FIRST STAGE RESTRICTIONS INTRODUCED AT THE BEGINNING OF JUNE, TOGETHER WITH THE RESPONSE OF THE PUBLIC TO THE +SAVE WATER+ CAMPAIGN, HAD ACHIEVED THE 10 PER CENT REDUCTION IN JUNE CONSUMPTION AIMED FOR IN THE LIGHT OF THE SITUATION AS IT STOOD AT THE END OF MAY.

/BUT AT THAT

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BUT AT THAT TIME IT HAD BEEN HOPED THAT GOOD JUNE RAINFALLS WOULD BRING ABOUT A MARKED INCREASE IN TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE — AS WAS USUAL WITH THE ONSET OF THE WET SEASON.

+HOWEVER, SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH,+ MR. TUCKER SAID, +THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY 234 MM OF RAINFALL REGISTERED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, COMPARED WITH A LONG-TERM AVERAGE OF 401 MM.+

AND THE ACTUAL YIELD TO RESERVOIRS DURING THE PERIOD WAS ONLY 2,024 MILLION GALLONS.

THE EFFECT OF THIS VERY LOW YIELD HAD BEEN THAT — AT A TIME WHEN STORAGE SHOULD HAVE BEEN INCREASING SHARPLY — IT HAD IN FACT FALLEN.

SINCE RESTRICTIONS HAD BEEN INTRODUCED ON JUNE 1, TOTAL STORAGE HAD FALLEN FROM 31,488 MILLION GALLONS TO TODAY'S 30,034 MILLION GALLONS.

TODAY'S RESERVOIR STORAGE — REPRESENTING 44.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY — WAS THE LOWEST EXPERIENCED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR FOR FIVE YEARS.

AT THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR, THE STORAGE WAS 52,698 MILLION GALLONS OR 78.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

MR. TUCKER SAID: +IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY, THEREFORE, TO REASSESS THE SITUATION IN THE LIGHT OF PRESENT STORAGE AND ANTICIPATED DEMANDS — NOT ONLY DEMANDS IN THE REMAINDER OF THE SUMMER, BUT ALSO IN THE DRY WINTER MONTHS AHEAD.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE RAINFALL SINCE OCTOBER LAST YEAR HAD BEEN SOME 480 MM BELOW AVERAGE AND THIS, COUPLED WITH THE DEMAND FOR WATER, HAD GIVEN RISE TO THE PRESENT, UNFAVOURABLE STORAGE POSITION.

+TOGETHER, THESE HAVE ERODED OUR RESERVES TO AN EXTENT WHERE THE CONTINUATION OF A 16 HOURS A DAY SUPPLY CAN NO LONGER BE JUSTIFIED IF THE RISK OF IMPOSING SEVERE RESTRICTIONS IN THE COMING WINTER IS TO BE AVOIDED,+ HE SAID.

MR. TUCKER SAID THAT IT WAS HOPED THAT THE NEW CUTS TO BE IMPOSED NEXT WEEK WOULD REDUCE CONSUMPTION BY A FURTHER 10 PER CENT, AND SAID THAT TO DO THIS THE CO-OPERATION OF THE PUBLIC WOULD BE VITAL.

+TO THIS END THE CAMPAIGN ON SAVING WATER HAS BEEN STEPPED UP,+ HE SAID.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT HAD ALREADY WITHDRAWN PERMISSION FOR MAINS SUPPLIES TO PRIVATE GARDENS, DISPLAY FOUNTAINS AND PRIVATE SWIMMING POOLS.

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WELL, NULLAH AND STREAM WATER WAS NOW BEING USED FOR THE WATERING OF PUBLIC GARDENS WHEREVER AVAILABLE, AND THE PLANTING OF FLOWERS AND SHRUBS HAS BEEN STOPPED IN ORDER TO CONSERVE WATER.

+FOR HEALTH REASONS,+ MR. TUCKER SAID, +WATER IS STILL SUPPLIED FOR WASHING DOWN REFUSE COLLECTING POINTS, MARKETS, HAWKERS BAZAARS, COMMON AREAS AND STAIR WAYS OF BUILDINGS, BUT THE MANAGEMENTS CONCERNED HAVE BEEN CAUTIONED TO EXERCISE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE ECONOMY IN THE WASHING OPERATION.+

IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO THE PUBLIC, HE SAID WATER WAS STILL SUPPLIED TO PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS FOR TOPPING UP PURPOSES ONLY.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ADVISED TO TAKE ALL POSSIBLE STEPS TO MINIMISE THE QUANTITY OF WATER USED FOR SUCH PURPOSES.

MR. TUCKER SAID: +THE U.S.D. HAS ALREADY STOPPED USING MAINS WATER FOR WASHING THEIR VEHICLES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW VEHICLES WHICH REQUIRE WASHING FOR REASONS OF HYGIENE.

+A SIMILAR BAN IS NOW BEING IMPOSED ON ALL REMAINING GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC VEHICLES, AND IN THIS CONNECTION PRIVATE CAR OWNERS SHOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE BY RE-USING HOUSEHOLD WATER TO WASH THEIR CARS.+

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APPOINTMENT OF MARINE COURT EXPLAINED

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THE REPORT OF THE PRELIMINARY INQUIRY CONDUCTED INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE COLLISION LAST MARCH BETWEEN THE FERRY, MAN TAK, AND THE HYDROFOIL, FLYING ALBATROSS, INDICATED THAT THE DEGREE OF ERROR ON THE PART OF THE MASTERS OF THE SHIPS INVOLVED WAS INSUFFICIENT TO WARRANT CHARGES OF SERIOUS INCOMPETENCE OR MISCONDUCT.

IT ALSO INDICATED THAT THERE WERE NO DEFECTS IN THE DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION OF THE VESSELS OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE EQUIPMENT, A MARINE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

BECAUSE THE FINDINGS OF THE PRELIMINARY INQUIRY WERE CONCLUSIVE, THE GOVERNOR DECIDED NOT TO APPOINT A MARINE COURT, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PURPOSE OF A MARINE COURT IS :

- * TO INVESTIGATE ANY CHARGES OF SERIOUS MISCONDUCT, NEGLIGENCE OR INCOMPETENCE WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE PRELIMINARY INQUIRY REPORT AND, IF NECESSARY, ORDER THE CANCELLATION OR SUSPENSION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY OF ANY MASTER, MATE OR ENGINEER CONCERNED=
- * TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY FAULT IN THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION OR EQUIPMENT OF THE VESSEL CONCERNED WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CASUALTY AND TO MAKE SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS AS WOULD APPEAR NECESSARY TO PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF SIMILAR CASUALTIES IN THE FUTURE= AND
- * WHERE THERE HAS BEEN LOSS OF LIFE, TO DETERMINE THE CAUSES OF SUCH LOSS AND THE MEASURES NECESSARY TO PREVENT SIMILAR LOSSES IN THE FUTURE.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT IT IS NOT THE NORMAL PRACTICE, EITHER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR IN HONG KONG, TO MAKE A FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF FACTS ELICITED IN THE COURSE OF A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY.

HOWEVER, IF FAULTS OR INADEQUACIES IN ANY MARINE PROCEDURES ARE REVEALED IN THE COURSE OF A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY, THESE ARE NORMALLY MADE THE SUBJECT OF GENERAL MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICES WHICH ARE ISSUED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE DIRECTOR, HE ADDED.

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LEGO MEETING TOMORROW

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EIGHTEEN QUESTIONS, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE HYGIENIC CONDITIONS AT KWAI SHING WAI AND OTHER SIMILAR AREAS, WILL BE RAISED BY THE UNOFFICIALS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW.

THERE WILL BE QUESTIONS ON GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO PREVENT LOSS OF WATER FROM FAULTY UNDERGROUND WATER MAINS, PORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR VISITORS FROM CHOLERA AFFECTED AREAS, AND INSPECTION OF UNDERGROUND MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WORKS BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO BE ASKED IF IT WILL MAKE A STATEMENT ON A RECENT FISHING BOAT INCIDENT IN WHICH A FISHERMAN WAS KILLED AND SEVERAL INJURED, AND WILL BE URGED TO MAKE ANOTHER STATEMENT AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE ON THE ALLEGED MISMANAGEMENT OF FUNDS IN A GOVERNMENT-AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOL.

OTHER MATTERS TO BE RAISED DURING QUESTION TIME INCLUDE PROGRESS ON RECRUITING CANTONESE-SPEAKING MAGISTRATES, LEGISLATION ON ACCESS TO PERSONAL INFORMATION KEPT IN COMPUTER BANKS, CONTROL OVER UNDESIRABLE ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE CHINESE PRESS, PARTICULARLY MEDICAL ADVERTISEMENTS, SHORTER WAITING TIME AND BETTER WAITING FACILITIES AT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS.

QUESTIONS WILL ALSO BE ASKED ON ALLOCATION OF MARKET STALLS FOR LICENSED HAWKERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, POSSIBILITY OF AN EVENING SESSION IN THE KOWLOON CHEST CLINIC, CONTROL OVER THE HIRING OF MOTOR CYCLES, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF TABLING ALL WRITTEN ANSWERS TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE BILL 1977 AND THE FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READING.

DEBATE WILL RESUME ON EIGHT BILLS, INCLUDING THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1977, WHICH SEEKS BETTER WAGE PROTECTION FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.

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DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD FOR 53 BOYS

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A TOTAL OF 53 BOYS FROM THE FOUR SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS WERE PRESENTED WITH THEIR DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD BRONZE CERTIFICATES THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

THEY COMPRISED 12 MEMBERS FROM THE BEGONIA ROAD BOYS' HOME, 12 FROM THE CASTLE PEAK BOYS' HOME, 17 FROM KWUN TONG HOSTEL AND 12 FROM THE O PUI SHAN BOYS' HOME.

ALL HAVE UNDERGONE AT LEAST SIX MONTHS' PRACTICAL TRAINING ON SERVICE, EXPEDITIONS, INTEREST DESIGN FOR LIVING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES.

IN THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, MR. I.A. RAMSAY, JUVENILE COURT MAGISTRATE, ENCOURAGED THE BOYS OF THE HOMES TO WORK HARD AND TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TRAINING FOR THEIR RE-INTEGRATION BACK TO THE COMMUNITY.

GUESTS INVITED WERE MAGISTRATES, JUSTICES OF THE PEACE, CIVIC AND KAIFONG LEADERS, PROBATION OFFICERS AND OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE BOYS FROM THE VARIOUS HOMES GAVE PERFORMANCES ON GYMNASTIC DISPLAY, LIFE-SAVING LAND DRILL AND FIRST-AID DEMONSTRATION.

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+DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY+ EXHIBITION AT
THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE

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THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY WILL HOLD AN EXHIBITION AT THE COLLEGE PREMISES, 373, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, ON THURSDAY (JUNE 30) FROM 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

THE EXHIBITION, IN SUPPORT OF THE MODERN TREND OF TEACHING TECHNIQUES, IS ONE IN THE SERIES OF PROGRAMMES PLANNED AT PROMOTING THE TEACHING OF DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY IN SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION.

THIS PARTICULAR EXHIBITION IS AIMED AT INTRODUCING TO THE PUBLIC THE +LEARNING PROCESS+ INVOLVED WHEN TEACHING THE SUBJECT. DETAILED ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE PHASES AND STAGES WHICH SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE EXPECTED TO EXPERIENCE WILL BE DEMONSTRATED IN THE FORM OF CHARTS AND FILM-SLIDES. PRODUCTS OF WORK COLLECTED DURING THE RECENT TEACHING PRACTICE AT 17 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG WILL ALSO BE ON DISPLAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EXHIBITION WHICH STARTS FROM 10 A.M. AT THE COLLEGE PREMISES, 373, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, ON JUNE 30.

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TAI WONG LANE BUILDING DANGEROUS

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY DECLARED THE BUILDING AT NO. 2 TAI WONG LANE, SHAU KEI WAN, TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

AN ORDER FOR ITS TEMPORARY CLOSURE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY COURT THIS AFTERNOON.

IN A STATEMENT THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THE TWO-STOREY BUILDING HAD BEEN AFFECTED BY FIRE AND THE WOODEN MEMBERS SUPPORTING THE FIRST FLOOR WERE NOW IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

+ONCE THE REPAIR ORDER HAS BEEN COMPLIED WITH IT IS EXPECTED TO RAISE THE CLOSURE ORDER AND ALLOW THE OCCUPANTS TO RETURN,+ HE SAID.

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LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY EXAMS

THE NEXT LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY EXAMINATIONS TO BE HELD IN HONG KONG WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN NOVEMBER 28 AND DECEMBER 7 THIS YEAR.

THE SUBJECTS INVOLVED ARE COSTING, ACCOUNTING AND BOOK-KEEPING AT VARIOUS LEVELS AND THE ENTRY FEES RANGE FROM \$28 TO \$36.

CANDIDATES PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION BY ATTENDING COURSES IN SCHOOLS SHOULD REGISTER THROUGH THEIR SCHOOLS WHILE CANDIDATES NOT REPRESENTED BY SCHOOLS MAY APPLY AS PRIVATE CANDIDATES.

ENTRY FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, TENTH FLOOR, KOWLOON FROM MONDAY (JULY 4) TO FRIDAY (JULY 8).

COMPLETED ENTRY FORMS FOR PRIVATE CANDIDATES, ALONG WITH PROOF OF IDENTITY (HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD OR PASSPORT) AND TWO RECENT PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE APPLICANT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON, AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS, BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 4 P.M. FROM JULY 4 TO 8.

CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED THAT NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. THE FEES MAY BE PAID TO THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON THE 11TH FLOOR OF THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES NOT LATER THAN JULY 11.

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Handwritten note:
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