



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 1975

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CONTRACT SIGNED FOR FORMER PAUL LEE PROJECT
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A CONTRACT WAS SIGNED TODAY FOR THE COMPLETION OF WORK ON ONE OF THE MAJOR PROJECTS ON WHICH THE PAUL LEE ENGINEERING COMPANY WAS FORMERLY ENGAGED -- THE ELEVATED ROAD BETWEEN PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND LAI CHI KOK ROAD AND THE ASSOCIATED LINK TO SAI YEE STREET.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED:

- * THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR A SECOND PROJECT, FOR SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE WORKS IN CHAI WAN ROAD, WHICH IS TO BE SIGNED EARLY NEXT WEEK=
- * THE GOVERNMENT'S APPROVAL OF THE MAIN TERMS OF SIX OTHER CONTRACTS WHICH ARE LIKELY TO BE CONCLUDED SOON= AND
- * THE COMPLETION OF WORK ON ANOTHER PROJECT FORMERLY HANDLED BY THE PAUL LEE COMPANY.

THE CONTRACT SIGNED TODAY WAS AWARDED TO GAMMON (HONG KONG) LTD. AND IS VALUED AT \$15.368 MILLION. WORK IS EXPECTED TO START SOON AND THE PROJECT SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID THE WORK WILL INCLUDE THE COMPLETION OF THE SUPERSTRUCTURE OF THE ELEVATED ROAD= THE COMPLETION OF A 42-INCH DIAMETER INTERCEPTING SEWER= AND VARIOUS GROUND-LEVEL JOBS.

THE CONTRACT TO BE SIGNED EARLY NEXT WEEK IS FOR SECTION II OF THE WORK ON EXTENDING THE TRUNK SEWER AND STORMWATER CULVERT IN CHAI WAN ROAD.

THIS CONTRACT, FOR WORK VALUED AT \$2.904 MILLION, HAS BEEN AWARDED TO THE FOOK LEE CONSTRUCTION CO., LTD. THE WORK, WHICH WILL ALSO START VERY SOON AND WHICH WILL TAKE 16 MONTHS TO COMPLETE, CONSISTS OF EXCAVATION, PILING AND REINFORCED CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DETAILS OF THE SIX OTHER AGREEMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED VERY SHORTLY. THE SIX PROJECTS INVOLVED ARE:
* THE CHING CHEUNG ROAD EXTENSION= * THE FUNG MO STREET INTERCHANGE (STRUCTURE) AND SHA TIN PASS ROAD PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS= * THE NAM CHEONG INTERCHANGE= * THE AUSTIN ROAD EXTENSION AND ASSOCIATED WORKS= * THE TAI WOR PING INTERCHANGE= AND * THE MAIN TUNNEL SECTION OF THE AIRPORT TUNNEL ROAD.

/THE PROJECT

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THE PROJECT ON WHICH WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE P.W.D. UNDER A MAINTENANCE CONTRACT IS THE GRADE-SEPARATED (OR FLYOVER-TYPE) ACCESS ROAD INTO THE AIRPORT. THIS BRIDGE LINK SHOULD BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS MONTH.

THE TWO REMAINING PROJECTS OF THE 11 ON WHICH THE PAUL LEE COMPANY WAS ENGAGED ARE THE PO KONG INTERCHANGE (STAGE 1) AND THE ROBINSON ROAD/CASTLE ROAD JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

THE BALANCE OF WORK TO BE DONE ON THE PO KONG INTERCHANGE (STAGE 1) IS NOW TO BE INCLUDED IN A NEW CONTRACT FOR THE SECOND STAGE OF THE PROJECT.

A RESUMPTION OF WORK ON THE ROBINSON ROAD/CASTLE ROAD FLYOVERS WILL HAVE TO AWAIT THE COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION WORK ON AN ADJOINING SITE.

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IMPORTANCE OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UNDERLINED

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APART FROM FORMAL EDUCATION EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ARE ALSO ESSENTIAL IN HELPING STUDENTS DEVELOP PROPERLY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, STRESSED TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE LOK SING TONG YU KAN HING SCHOOL'S OPEN DAY AND SCIENCE EXHIBITION.

MR. LEE SAID EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES GAVE STUDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GO OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL SETTING HELPING THEM TO BROADEN THEIR INSIGHT THUS ADDING TO THEIR EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS SUCH AS THE CLEAN HONG KONG, FIGHT VIOLENT CRIME AND ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGNS WILL ALSO PROVIDE THEM WITH INVALUABLE EXPERIENCES.

FROM A SOCIAL WORKER'S POINTS OF VIEW, HE POINTED OUT, INVOLVING STUDENTS IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WAS A GOOD METHOD OF HELPING THEM BROADEN THEIR OUTLOOK OF SOCIETY BECAUSE EDUCATION, IN ITS BROAD SENSE, SHOULD NOT BE CONFINED TO SCHOOL ALONE.

HE SAID IT WAS ENCOURAGING THAT IN THIS COMMUNITY WHERE MUCH EMPHASIS WAS LAID ON THE EXAMINATION SYSTEM AND CERTIFICATES, THE LOK SING TONG YU KAN HING SCHOOL HAD PLAYED ITS PART IN PROVIDING THIS EXTRA EMPHASIS ON THE TRAINING OF STUDENTS AS GOOD CITIZENS.

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\$980 M. DEFICIT RECORDED SO FAR
THIS FINANCIAL YEAR
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THE GOVERNMENT'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1974 SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$163 MILLION COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$88 MILLION IN OCTOBER 1973.

THE RESULT IS AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF \$980 MILLION FOR THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$242 MILLION OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEFICIT WAS MAINLY DUE TO INCREASED EXPENDITURE ON PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS AND PUBLIC WORK PROJECTS.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE MONTH AT \$376 MILLION WAS \$29 MILLION MORE THAN IN OCTOBER 1973. TOTAL EXPENDITURE WAS \$539 MILLION -- \$104 MILLION MORE THAN OCTOBER 1973.

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FIREMEN HONOURED FOR LONG SERVICE
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FORTY SIX SERVING AND RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WITH MORE THAN 1,000 YEARS OF SERVICE BETWEEN THEM, WERE TODAY PRESENTED WITH COLONIAL FIRE BRIGADES LONG SERVICE MEDALS AND CLASPS BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR. HARRY WOOD.

THE RECIPIENTS WERE TWO DIVISIONAL OFFICERS, TWO ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICERS, A STATION OFFICER, 14 PRINCIPAL FIREMEN, A PRINCIPAL AMBULANCEMAN, 18 SENIOR FIREMEN, A SENIOR AMBULANCEMAN AND SEVEN FIREMEN.

A TOTAL OF 25 MEDALS AND 23 FIRST CLASPS WERE PRESENTED, TWO OF THE RECIPIENTS BEING PRESENTED WITH BOTH DECORATIONS. LAST WEEK, THE DIRECTOR OF MANPOWER, MR. J.A. HIGGINS, WHO SERVED IN THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT BEFORE TAKING UP HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT IN 1972, WAS PRESENTED WITH A LONG SERVICE MEDAL IN MR. WOOD'S OFFICE.

THE LONG SERVICE MEDAL IS AWARDED ON COMPLETION OF 18 YEARS' SERVICE AND A FIRST CLASP AFTER A FURTHER SEVEN YEARS' SERVICE.

THIS IS THE SECOND SUCH CEREMONY CONDUCTED BY MR. WOOD IN THE SPACE OF A WEEK. LAST FRIDAY (JANUARY 3), IN KOWLOON, HE PRESENTED 42 SERVING AND EX-MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WITH LONG SERVICE MEDALS AND CLASPS.

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LORD GORONWY-ROBERTS ARRIVING TOMORROW
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

LORD GORONWY-ROBERTS, PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, AND LADY GORONWY-ROBERTS ARE DUE TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG AT 6.30 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) ON FLIGHT BA 880.

THEY WILL BE MET AT THE AIRPORT BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY WILL BE PROVIDED AT KAITAK AIRPORT BUT THERE WILL BE NO PRESS CONFERENCE ON LORD GORONWY-ROBERTS' ARRIVAL. HE WILL BE MEETING MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES BEFORE HE LEAVES ON THURSDAY JANUARY 16TH AND DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE.

T.V. AND PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS WISHING TO COVER LORD GORONWY-ROBERTS' ARRIVAL SHOULD MEET G.I.S. OFFICERS AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM AT 6 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) OR 30 MINUTES BEFORE ARRIVAL TIME IF THE PLANE IS DELAYED.

THIS WILL BE LORD GORONWY-ROBERTS' FIRST VISIT TO HONG KONG AND THE FIRST BY A MINISTER OF THE PRESENT LABOUR GOVERNMENT. THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT IS TO ENABLE HIM TO OBTAIN A GENERAL VIEW OF HONG KONG.

DURING HIS SEVEN-DAY STAY, HE WILL MEET SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS, URBAN COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND OTHER PERSONALITIES.

HE WILL ALSO TOUR THE NEW TERRITORIES BY HELICOPTER AND VISIT A SQUATTER AREA, PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, WELFARE AGENCIES AND FACTORIES.

LORD GORONWY-ROBERTS IS DUE TO LEAVE ON JANUARY 17 FOR MANILA ON A FAMILIARISATION TOUR AT THE INVITATION OF THE PHILIPPINE'S GOVERNMENT.

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UPWARD TREND IN BIRTHS CONTINUES

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MORE BIRTHS AND DEATHS WERE REGISTERED LAST YEAR THAN IN 1973, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR. WALTER HUME.

THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 1974 WAS 81,879, WHICH WAS 1,732 OVER THE 1973 FIGURE OF 80,147, WHILE THE NUMBER OF DEATHS REGISTERED INCREASED BY 690 TO 22,050.

ALTHOUGH THE INCREASE IN REGISTERED BIRTHS WAS ONLY ABOUT 2.16 PER CENT, MR. HUME SAID IT WAS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT 1974 WAS THE THIRD SUCCESSIVE YEAR IN WHICH THE TOTAL OF REGISTERED BIRTHS SHOWED AN INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURE.

THE GREATEST NUMBER OF BIRTHS REGISTERED IN ANY ONE YEAR WAS IN 1963, WHEN 115,263 WERE REGISTERED. THEREAFTER THE NUMBER DECLINED EVERY YEAR UNTIL THE DOWNWARD TREND WAS REVERSED IN 1972.

OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS REGISTERED LAST YEAR, 79,746 WERE CHINESE (40,980 MALE AND 38,766 FEMALE) AND 2,133 NON-CHINESE (1,042 MALE AND 1,091 FEMALE).

A TOTAL OF 20,980 WERE REGISTERED ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 50,073 IN KOWLOON AND 10,826 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. THESE REPRESENTED INCREASES OF 3.74 PER CENT AND 2.17 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON AND A DECREASE OF 0.79 PER CENT FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES AS COMPARED WITH THE 1973 FIGURES.

IN ISSUING THESE FIGURES, MR. HUME EMPHASISED THAT THEY WERE IN RESPECT OF REGISTERED BIRTHS ONLY. +THERE ARE ALWAYS A NUMBER OF BIRTHS EVERY YEAR WHICH ARE NOT REGISTERED BY THE PARENTS AT THE TIME, WITH THE RESULT THAT WHILE THE FIGURES FOR THE REGISTERED BIRTHS SHOW TRENDS, THEY DO NOT GIVE A COMPLETELY ACCURATE PICTURE,+ HE SAID.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED DEATHS COMPRISED 21,771 CHINESE (12,042 MALE AND 9,722 FEMALE AND SEVEN UNKNOWN SEX) AND 279 NON-CHINESE (178 MALE AND 101 FEMALE).

THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE WAS 1,421 AS AGAINST 1,345 IN 1973, WHILE THAT OF INFANTS UNDER ONE WEEK OLD WAS 717 COMPARED WITH 724 THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

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RATING FORMS FOR PROPOSED NEW RATING AREAS IN N.T.
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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WILL START SENDING FORMS OF REQUISITION FOR PARTICULARS OF TENEMENTS TO OWNERS OF PREMISES IN FIVE PROPOSED NEW RATING AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ABOUT 7,500 COPIES OF THIS INFORMATION-SEEKING FORM, KNOWN AS FORM R. 1A, WILL BE SENT NEXT MONDAY (JANUARY 13) TO OWNERS OF PREMISES IN YUEN LONG, TAI PO, LUEN WO MARKET, ON LOK TSUEN AND SHEK WU HUI.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT SAID MORE OF THIS FORM WOULD BE SENT TO OWNERS OF PREMISES IN CLEARWATER BAY ROAD, TUEN MUN, AND SHA TIN OVER THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO.

THE FORM IS AIMED AT OBTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATE OF OCCUPATION AND RENTAL PARTICULARS OF PREMISES IN THESE PROPOSED NEW RATING AREAS.

RECIPIENTS OF THIS FORM ARE ALSO REQUESTED TO COMPLETE AN ENCLOSED SIMPLE FORM SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT THE RENTAL PARTICULARS OF THE PREMISES OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THE R. 1A FORM, IN MOST CASES, WOULD NOT BE SENT TO OWNERS WHO HAD ALREADY COMPLETED FORM R 1G SENT BY THE DEPARTMENT LAST NOVEMBER AND HAD STATED THAT THE PREMISES WERE OCCUPIED BY THEMSELVES.

HE ADDED THAT THE FORM R 1A WAS A SPECIFIED FORM ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE RATING ORDINANCE AND URGED THE RECIPIENTS TO RETURN IT FULLY AND CORRECTLY COMPLETED WITHIN THE TIME LAID DOWN.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID +ANYONE IN DOUBT AS HOW TO COMPLETE THE FORM SHOULD CALL AT, OR TELEPHONE THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE AT 1, GARDEN ROAD (5-249021) WHERE ASSISTANCE WILL GLADLY BE GIVEN.+

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LAND TO BE RECLAIMED FOR INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

MORE THAN 273 ACRES OF FORESHORES AND SEABED AT TAI PO HOI, TOLO HARBOUR, ARE TO BE RECLAIMED TO PROVIDE LAND FOR AN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

THE AREA INVOLVED IS SITUATED ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF TOLO HARBOUR AND STRETCHES FROM NAM HANG IN THE WEST TO HA HANG IN THE EAST.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT FOUR YEARS TO COMPLETE.

IN VIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO IMPROVE A STRETCH OF THE TING KOK ROAD AND ITS ACCESS WITH TAI PO ROAD.

IN ADDITION, PART OF THE RECLAIMED LAND WILL BE USED TO BUILD A NEW ROAD WHICH WILL SERVE THE ESTATE AND CONNECT DIRECTLY WITH KWONG FUK ROAD.

FILL FOR THE RECLAMATION WILL BE TAKEN FROM TWO BORROW AREAS WHICH ARE LOCATED NEARBY AND THIS WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE ABOUT 60 ACRES OF LAND SUITABLE FOR LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

COMMENTING ON THE PROJECT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID IT WOULD HELP MEET THE DEMAND FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND WHERE THE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT LOW INTENSITY BUT CAPITAL INTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT.

+THIS AREA COULD BE SUITABLE, THEREFORE, FOR MANY MANUFACTORY PROCESSES THAT REQUIRE A LARGE AREA OF LAND BUT ONLY LOW BUILDINGS,+ HE SAID.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE. ANYONE HAVING OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSALS OR ANY CLAIMS OF PRIVATE RIGHT SHOULD SUBMIT THEM IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN TWO MONTHS FROM NOW.

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SPECIAL NEWSPAPER FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

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THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG HAS BEEN PRESENTED WITH ITS OWN NEWSPAPER - BY COURTESY OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE NEWSPAPER - CALLED +SITE SAFETY+ - IS BEING DISTRIBUTED TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS VISITING THE CONSTRUCTION SAFETY EXHIBITION AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE SITE IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE PAPER IS MAINLY IN CHINESE AND WAS SPECIALLY PRODUCED TO COINCIDE WITH THE EXHIBITION.

IT'S CONTENTS ARE DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO SAFETY, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS WHICH CAME INTO FORCE ON MAY 1 LAST YEAR.

THE LABOUR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR. SANISLAUS TSAO, SAID TODAY +SITE SAFETY+ HAS PROVED A GREAT SUCCESS WITH THE VISITORS.

+EVERYTHING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO PEOPLE IN THE INDUSTRY, FROM TOP MANAGEMENT TO THE WORKERS,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS THE SORT OF NEWSPAPER THE INDUSTRY CAN KEEP AS A REFERENCE GUIDE, BECAUSE IT GIVES QUITE SIMPLE EXPLANATIONS OF THE REGULATIONS AND A GREAT NUMBER OF STORIES GIVING EXPERT ADVICE ON HOW TO CUT DOWN ACCIDENTS.

+IT'S THE FIRST NEWSPAPER EVER PRODUCED IN HONG KONG ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, AND PROBABLY IN THE FAR EAST.

+CERTAINLY IT'S THE FIRST PAPER PRODUCED LOCALLY AIMED AT A SAFETY PROBLEM IN A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY,+ HE SAID.

NOTE TO EDITORS: COPIES OF THE NEWSPAPER ARE BOXED FOR COLLECTION.
EDITORS ARE FREE TO USE ANY OF THE MATERIAL IN IT.

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