HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1974

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1974

APPOINTMENT OF MANAGING DIRECTOR (DESIGNATE)
OF FUTURE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION
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THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY HAS ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. TONY M. RIDLEY AS MANAGING DIRECTOR (DESIGNATE) OF THE FUTURE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION TO BE SET UP BY LEGISLATION TO CONSTRUCT, EQUIP AND RUN THE RAILWAY.

DR. RIDLEY IS CURRENTLY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE TYNE AND WEAR PASSENGER TRANSPORT EXECUTIVE WHICH OPERATES BUSES AND DIRECTS PUBLIC TRANSPORT, INCLUDING BOTH BUS AND RAIL SERVICES, IN THE AREA OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, ENGLAND. THIS EXECUTIVE IS ALSO PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTING FOR ITS AREA A MULTI-MILLION POUND RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM, WHICH WILL INCLUDE AN UNDERGROUND SECTION.

BORN IN 1933, DR. RIDLEY WAS TRAINED AS A CIVIL ENGINEER AND HOLDS A DOCTORATE IN TRANSPORT ENGINEERING. HE HAS LONG EXPERIENCE IN BOTH ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT ENTERPRISES.

BEFORE JOINING THE TYNE AND WEAR PASSENGER TRANSPORT EXECUTIVE IN 1969, HE HAD BEEN CHIEF RESEARCH OFFICER FOR FOUR YEARS WITH THE GREATER LONDON COUNCIL'S DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION. HE WAS RESPONSIBLE, AMONG OTHER MATTERS, FOR STRATEGIC TRANSPORT PLANNING.

BETWEEN 1956 AND 1957, DR. RIDLEY WORKED AS A FOUNDATION ENGINEER IN THE UNITED STATES. THEN HE BECAME A CIVIL ENGINEER WORKING ON THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN ENGLAND UNTIL 1962.

DR. RIDLEY IS AT PRESENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND IS LIKELY TO TAKE UP HIS APPOINTMENT EARLY IN 1975.

HE IS MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN. HIS HOBBIES INCLUDE A VARIETY OF SPORTS AND THE THEATRE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

WE REGRET WE HAVE NO PHOTOGRAPHS OF DR. RIDLEY AT THE MOMENT.

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NEW SURFACE POSTAL SERVICE FOR BULK ITEMS

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A NEW POSTAL SERVICE TO BE KNOWN AS THE +ACCELERATED SURFACE POST+ WILL SOON BE INTRODUCED BY THE POST OFFICE.

THIS SERVICE IS AVAILABLE FOR THE BULK POSTING OF ITEMS ACCEPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINTED PAPER REGULATIONS WHICH ARE THEN DESPATCHED TO THE COUNTRY OF DESTINATION BY AIR USING SPARE AIRCRAFT CARGO CAPACITY.

THE NEW SERVICE WILL START ON NOVEMBER 11 AND INITIALLY WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

HOWEVER, IT IS HOPED THAT SERVICES TO OTHER COUNTRIES MAY FOLLOW AT A LATER DATE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID THE SERVICE WILL BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL FOR POSTING LARGE QUANTITIES OF HONG KONG PRODUCED PUBLICATIONS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

+IT PROVIDES CUSTOMERS WITH A USEFUL ALTERNATIVE TO THE CHEAPER, SLOWER SURFACE CONVEYANCE AND THE FAST BUT MORE EXPENSIVE AIRMAIL SERVICE,+ HE ADDED.

THE COST OF SENDING PRINTED MATTER BY ACCELERATED SURFACE POST IS $4.50 PER LB. GROSS WEIGHT AND A MINIMUM POSTING OF 35 LBS. IS REQUIRED. OTHER CONDITIONS WILL BE THOSE APPLICABLE FOR THE BULK POSTING OF PRINTED PAPER TITEMS.

THE FOLLOWING IS A TABLE SHOWING A COMPARISON OF THE TARIFF FOR ACCELERATED SURFACE POST WITH SECOND CLASS AIRMAIL AND SURFACE MAIL TO THE UNITED KINGDOM :-

	SURFACE	SECOND CLASS AIRMAIL	ASP
COST PER LB.	$1.10 (1 LB.)	$20.80	$4.50
	$1.90 (2 LBS.)		
	$3.20 (4 LBS.)		
	EACH ADDITIONAL TWO LBS. (BOOKS ONLY) $1.60		

CUSTOMERS WISHING TO USE THIS SERVICE SHOULD CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE CONTROLLER OF POSTS, TEL. NO. 5-232516 FOR POSTINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND 3-884111, EXT. 201 FOR POSTIGS IN KOWLOON.

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RAINS KEEP OCTOBER FIRES DOWN

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TYPHOONS CARMEN AND ELAINE BROUGHT ANOTHER BLESSING TO HONG KONG BESIDES MUCH-NEEDED RAIN -- A DROP OF ABOUT A THIRD IN THE NUMBER OF FIRES LAST MONTH COMPARED WITH OCTOBER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THERE WERE AN AVERAGE OF 30 FIRES A DAY IN OCTOBER 1973, BUT THE FIGURE FOR OCTOBER THIS YEAR WAS 21.

+WE VERY MUCH WELCOME THIS REDUCTION,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID. +WHILE WE WOULD LIKE TO ATTRIBUTE SOME OF IT TO FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE TWO TYPHOONS MUST TAKE A LARGE PART OF THE CREDIT. THEY HAVE MADE CONDITIONS MUCH DAMPER THAN USUAL WHICH MEANS THAT THE CHANCES OF STARTING A FIRE BY ACCIDENT ARE LESS.+

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED AGAINST COMPLACENCY HOWEVER. +THE NEXT TWO MONTHS ARE ALWAYS VERY DRY AND ONCE THE HUMIDITY LEVEL DROPS BELOW 60 PER CENT AGAIN, THE FIRE DANGER WILL QUICKLY RETURN,+ HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE FIGURE OF 21 FIRES A DAY IN OCTOBER COMPARED WITH ONLY 1/4 THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE LARGEST NUMBER OF FIRES DURING THE MONTH OCCURRED ON OCTOBER 19 WHEN THERE WERE 50 FIRES. THERE WERE 38 FIRES ON OCTOBER 23, THE CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL.

WEEKENDS ARE THE WORST TIMES FOR FIRES, ESPECIALLY IN THE RURAL AREAS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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WATER SITUATION REPORT

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THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. TODAY (SATURDAY) STOOD AT 53,288 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 79.2 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR THERE WERE 60,866 MILLION GALLONS IN STORE.

THIS MORNING'S STORAGE AT PLOVER COVE WAS 36,703 MILLION GALLONS, COMPARED WITH 47,376 MILLION GALLONS ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR. PLOVER COVE'S PRESENT STORAGE REPRESENTS 72.7 PER CENT OF ITS FULL CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS.

NO RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS ENDING AT 9 A.M. TODAY. TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 2,091.1 MM (82.33 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 STANDS AT 2,099.0 MM (82.64 IN), REPRESENTING A SHORTFALL OF 0.38 PER CENT.

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MORE SYMBOLIC TRAFFIC SIGNS TO BE POSTED

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ANOTHER FOUR SYMBOLIC TRAFFIC SIGNS, INCLUDING ONE WHICH WARNS MOTORISTS OF POSSIBLE ENCOUNTER WITH HORSES ON THE ROAD AHEAD, WILL BE INTRODUCED FAIRLY WIDELY NEXT WEEK.

THE HORSE SIGN INDICATES THAT HORSES HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY. TRIANGULAR IN SHAPE WITH RED BORDER AND BLACK SYMBOL ON WHITE BACKGROUND, IT MAY BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH SUPPLEMENTARY PLATES, AND IS LARGELY FOR USE IN THE HAPPY VALLEY AREA.

THE OTHER THREE SYMBOLIC SIGNS, ALL CIRCULAR IN SHAPE WITH RED BORDER AND DIAGONALS, PROHIBIT EITHER STOPPING OF VEHICLES, ENTRY OF RICKSHAWS AND HANDCARTS, OR PEDESTRIANS AND PEDESTRIAN PROPELLED VEHICLES.

THE +NO STOPPING+ SIGN INDICATES THAT THE STOPPING OF MOTOR VEHICLES IS PROHIBITED UNLESS THE VEHICLE IS PREVENTED FROM PROCEEDING DUE TO TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

THE +RICKSHAWS AND HANDCARTS PROHIBITED+ SIGN HAS, IN ADDITION, BLACK SYMBOL ON WHITE BACKGROUND, WHILE THE FOURTH SIGN INDICATES THAT PEDESTRIANS AND PEDESTRIAN PROPELLED VEHICLES ARE PROHIBITED FROM PASSING BEYOND THE SIGN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE FOUR SYMBOLIC TRAFFIC SIGNS ARE DISTRIBUTED IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOXES.

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KOWLOON TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT THE KWUN TONG CARGO HANDLING AREA ALONG HOI BUN ROAD BETWEEN TSUN YIP STREET AND LAI YIP STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC AS FROM 10 A.M. NEXT MONDAY (NOVEMBER 4) TO FACILITATE CARGO HANDLING IN THE AREA.

ONLY GOODS VEHICLES AND THOSE WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE AUTHORITY WILL BE ALLOWED TO USE THE CLOSED SECTION.

MEANWHILE, AT PAK SHA WAN, THE 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT ZONE ON HIRAM'S HIGHWAY WILL BE EXTENDED ABOUT 120 FEET SOUTHWARDS TO INCLUDE A SHARP BEND, AS FROM 10 A.M. ON NOVEMBER 7 IN A MOVE SO AS TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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LADY MACLEHOSE TO VISIT CHEUNG CHAU WELFARE AGENCIES

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LADY MACLEHOSE WILL VISIT TWO WELFARE AGENCIES ON CHEUNG CHAU ISLAND ON TUESDAY MORNING (NOVEMBER 5) IN HER CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG.

SHE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MISS GAIL DEAKIN, SOCIAL SECRETARY OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, AND MR. GRAHAM A. HENDERSON, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CHEST.

DURING HER TOUR OF GAUDETE HOUSE CARITAS COMMUNITY CENTRE AND THE SALVATION ARMY CHEUNG CHAU HOME FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN, LADY MACLEHOSE WILL SEE FOR HERSELF THE DAILY WORK OF THE WELFARE AGENCIES.

THE GAUDETE HOUSE CARITAS COMMUNITY CENTRE) IS A CAMPSITE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AS WELL AS A YOUTH CENTRE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE ISLAND.

THE SALVATION ARMY CHEUNG CHAU HOME ACCOMMODATES 32 CHILDREN WHOSE I.Q. RANGE FROM 30 TO 50. THEY ARE REFERRED TO THE HOME BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE VISITS. HOWEVER, PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE REQUESTED TO AVOID TAKING FULL VIEW PICTURES OF THE PATIENTS.

TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. MARINE LAUNCH 53, WILL BE WAITING AT QUEEN'S PIER AT 8 A.M. ON TUESDAY TO TAKE PRESS REPRESENTATIVE TO CHEUNG CHAU ISLAND AND BACK.

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PLACES FOR STUDENTS TO STUDY

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NOW THAT SCHOOL HAS STARTED AGAIN MANY CHILDREN MAY BE NEEDING A QUIET PLACE TO STUDY OR DO THEIR HOMEWORK.

IN RECOGNITION OF THIS NEED, SIX COMMUNITY WORK OFFICES AND A YOUTH CENTRE RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ARE MAKING SPACE AVAILABLE OR PROVIDING HOMEWORK GUIDANCE GROUPS FOR STUDENTS WHO MAY BE UNABLE TO STUDY IN THEIR OWN HOME ENVIRONMENT.

THE ESTATE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICES ARE LOCATED IN TSZ WAN SHAN, SAU MAU PING (CENTRAL AND SOUTH), LAM TIN (EAST AND WESTERN) AND SHEK LEI. THE YOUTH CENTRE IS IN SHAM SHUI PO. STAFF OF VOLUNTEERS WILL BE ON HAND TO SUPERVISE THE CHILDREN.

THE FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE EVERYDAY OF THE WEEK IN SOME CENTRES, AND ON CERTAIN DAYS IN OTHERS TO AVOID CLASHING WITH OTHER ACTIVITIES, IN MOST CASES BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 10 P.M., SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION WHICH RUNS THESE OFFICES. HE ADVISED CHILDREN WHO WANTED TO MAKE USE OF THESE FACILITIES TO CHECK WITH THE OFFICE LOCATED IN THEIR DISTRICT.

IN ADDITION, THE LIBRARIES OF THE DIVISION'S COMMUNITY CENTRES IN WESTERN DISTRICT, TAI HANG TUNG, WONG TAI SIN, KWUN TONG AND TSUEN WAN TOGETHER WITH THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL, ARE ALSO OPEN TO STUDENTS DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS, EACH WEEK AS PLACES OF STUDY.

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