



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1974.

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DAILY GUIDE TO WHOLESALE PRICES AND SUPPLY OF BASIC FOOD
COMMODITIES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1974

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AGE-OLD JAPANESE RITES TO MARK START OF WORK ON TUEN MUN ROAD
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A 1,000-YEAR-OLD SHINTO CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE ON A HILLSIDE NEAR TSING LUNG TAU ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 2) TO MARK THE OFFICIAL START OF CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE 9-1/2-MILE TUEN MUN ROAD PROJECT.

GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE CEREMONY, WHICH HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY THE JAPANESE FIRM CARRYING OUT THE MAIN CONTRACT WORK, WILL BE THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. WILLIAM BELL.

HE WILL JOIN THE HEAD OF THE COMPANY, MR. JINICHI MAKITA, PRESIDENT OF KUMAGAI GUMI, IN A RITUAL WITH CONSECRATED TOOLS TO BRING THE BLESSING OF THE GODS ON THE PROJECT.

MR. BELL WILL BE GIVEN A BLESSED HOE WITH WHICH TO TURN THE EARTH ON A SMALL SYMBOLIC MOUND. MR. MAKITA WILL DO LIKEWISE WITH A SIMILARLY CONSECRATED SPADE. A THIRD LEADING PARTICIPANT WILL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONSULTANTS, SCOTT WILSON KIRKPATRICK AND PARTNERS, WHO WILL USE A SACRED SICKLE TO TRIM A SYMBOLIC SHRUB PLANTED ON THE MOUND.

MR. MAKITA, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF KUMAGAI GUMI (H.K.) LTD. AS WELL AS HEADING THE PARENT FIRM IN JAPAN, IS FLYING FROM TOKYO SPECIALLY FOR THE CEREMONY.

ALSO TAKING PART WILL BE A GROUP OF KIMONO-CLAD JAPANESE GIRLS, WHO WILL GREET GUESTS BY PURIFYING THEIR HANDS WITH A SPRINKLING OF "CONSECRATED" WATER.

THE FINAL FEATURE OF THE OCCASION WILL BE THE DETONATION OF AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE ON THE LINE OF THE FIRST CARRIAGEWAY OF THE FUTURE SIX-LANE HIGHWAY TO CLEAR ROCKS AND EARTH FOR THE START OF CONSTRUCTION.

THE PROJECT, STAGE I OF THE TUEN MUN ROAD, IS A KEY PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWNS OF TUEN MUN AND TSUEN WAN, WHICH THE ROAD WILL LINK. INTERNATIONAL TENDERS WERE INVITED FOR THE CONTRACT, WHICH AT \$222 MILLION IS THE LARGEST SINGLE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT EVER HANDLED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

STAGE I OF THE WORK COMPRISES THE FIRST THREE LANES -- OR ONE CARRIAGEWAY -- OF THE HIGHWAY, INCLUDING 16 MAJOR BRIDGES. ABOUT FOUR MILLION CUBIC METRES OF MATERIAL WILL BE EXCAVATED, AND DREDGERS ARE ALREADY AT WORK IN TAI LAM CHUNG BAY ON PREPARATORY OPERATIONS FOR A CAUSEWAY SECTION OF THE ROAD. THE FIRST STAGE WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1977.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED ON JUNE 10. SINCE THEN THE CONTRACTOR'S STAFF AND THE SUPERVISING ENGINEERS OF THE CONSULTANTS AND OF P.W.D. HAVE BEEN HARD AT WORK ORGANISING RESOURCES AND MATERIALS AND PREPARING THE INITIAL WORK SITES.

/THE WEATHER

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THE WEATHER HAS BEEN GENERALLY GOOD AND THESE PREPARATIONS HAVE GONE WELL. AS A P.W.D. SPOKESMAN PUT IT: +WE'VE COME UP TO THE START LINE IN GOOD SHAPE, AND WE'RE KEEN TO GET OFF OUR MARKS.+

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE CEREMONY WHICH STARTS AT 3 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY. TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE THE CAR PARK OUTSIDE THE MAIN RECEPTION LOBBY ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF MURRAY BUILDING AT 1.30 P.M.

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ROAD SAFETY PAINTING COMPETITION

A ROAD SAFETY PAINTING COMPETITION IS BEING HELD BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING SUITABLE PICTURES FOR PRODUCING A CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR 1975.

THE CALENDAR, IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH, IS DESIGNED TO REMIND THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF ROAD SAFETY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. IT WILL BE MADE UP OF TWELVE PICTURES SELECTED FROM THE ENTRIES IN THE COMPETITION.

THE THEME OF THE COMPETITION IS +THINK WHEN YOU CROSS AND THINK WHEN YOU DRIVE+. ENTRIES MAY EITHER DEPICT THE THEME OF CROSSING OR DRIVING OR OF BOTH. THE PICTURES MAY BE PAINTED IN ANY MEDIUM AND STYLE AND THERE IS NO RESTRICTION ON THE NUMBER OF COLOURS USED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID PREFERENCE WOULD BE GIVEN TO PICTURES STRONGLY SUGGESTIVE OF THE SEASONS IN WHICH THE TRAFFIC SCENES ARE SET, FOR EXAMPLE, TRAFFIC TO THE BEACHES IN THE SUMMER MONTHS OR TRAFFIC SCENES RELATED TO ANY FESTIVAL OR TRAFFIC IN THE RAIN.

THE COMPETITION IS DIVIDED INTO PRIMARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTIONS AND THERE WILL BE SIX FIRST PRIZES OF \$200 FOR EACH.

ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED BY A PANEL OF WELL-KNOWN ARTISTS AND ART EDUCATORS.

HEADS OF SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO SEND IN THE ENTRIES FOR THEIR STUDENTS TO THE CULTURAL CRAFTS OFFICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS OCTOBER 18.

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SOCIAL FIELD WORKERS +INVALUABLE+

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY DESCRIBED FIELD WORKERS AS THE MOST IMPORTANT SOCIAL WORK PERSONNEL IN ANY SOCIAL WELFARE SETTING.

HE SAID THE FIELD WORKER, OR +FRONT-LINE WORKER+ AS THEY ARE ALSO KNOWN, ARE THE PEOPLE ACTUALLY RENDERING DIRECT SERVICE OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER TO THE CLIENTS.

ON TOP OF THIS +THEIR DAY-TO-DAY CONTACT WITH THE PUBLIC ENABLES THEM TO BECOME EXCEPTIONALLY WELL CONVERSANT WITH THE RAPIDLY CHANGING SOCIAL CONDITIONS AT THE GRASS ROOT LEVEL. AS A RESULT, THEIR FEEDBACK OR INVOLVEMENT WILL BE INVALUABLE TO ANY SOCIAL POLICYMAKERS OR PLANNERS,+ HE SAID.

MR. LEE WAS SPEAKING AT THE ORIENTATION DAY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING FOR THIS YEAR'S 75 NEW STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE TWO-YEAR COURSE LEADING TO A CERTIFICATE IN SOCIAL WORK.

HE NOTED THAT ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE INSTITUTE, WHICH WAS SET UP FOLLOWING A STUDY OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OF SOCIAL WORK THREE YEARS AGO, WAS TO TRAIN +FRONT LINE+ SOCIAL WORKERS WITH PRACTICAL AND LOCAL EMPHASIS.

ALSO ADDRESSING THE GATHERING WAS MR. L.B. MACQUARRIE, THE PRINCIPAL, WHO SAID THAT 1,000 APPLICATIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED, BUT ONLY 75 COULD BE SELECTED.

HE TOLD THE NEW STUDENTS : +YOU HAVE BEEN THROUGH A RATHER DIFFICULT SELECTION PROCESS WHICH HAS INVOLVED A FORMAL APPLICATION, AN ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AND INDIVIDUAL SELECTION INTERVIEWS. YOU MAY AT TIMES HAVE THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS RATHER A RIGOROUS SCREENING PROCESS, BUT WE DID WANT TO BE CAREFUL AND DO OUR BEST TO SELECT CANDIDATES WE FELT COULD BECOME GOOD SOCIAL WORKERS.+

MR. MACQUARRIE ALSO THANKED THE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS WHO HAD VOLUNTEERED THEIR SHORT SUMMER VACATION TO HELP WITH REGISTERING AND WELCOMING THE NEW STUDENTS, REORGANISING THE INSTITUTE'S LIBRARY AND ASSISTING IN MANY OTHER WAYS.

THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING WAS SET UP LAST OCTOBER UNDER THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN HONG KONG. WITH THIS YEAR'S INTAKE IT NOW HAS 125 STUDENTS UNDER TRAINING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF MR. LEE'S AND MR. MACQUARRIE'S SPEECHES ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE G.I.S. NEWS ROOM, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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WATER SITUATION REPORT

THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 34,596 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 51.4 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR THERE WERE 65,637 MILLION GALLONS IN STORE.

THIS MORNING'S STORAGE AT PLOVER COVE WAS 26,622 MILLION GALLONS, COMPARED WITH 50,143 MILLION GALLONS ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR. PLOVER COVE'S PRESENT STORAGE REPRESENTS 52.7 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 AM TODAY. TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 1,372.7 MM (54.04 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 STANDS AT 1,988.3 MM (78.28 IN), REPRESENTING A SHORTFALL OF 31.0 PER CENT.

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LAMINATED DRIVING LICENCES

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY STARTED ISSUING THE NEW LAMINATED CARD TYPE OF DRIVING LICENCES.

FOR THE TIME BEING, THE NEW LICENCES ARE BEING ISSUED ONLY ON FIRST ISSUE OR RENEWAL.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID : + IT WILL TAKE TIME TO CONVERT ALL BOOKLET LICENCES BECAUSE THERE ARE OVER 450,000 LICENCE HOLDERS.

+LATER WHEN EXTRA STAFF IS AVAILABLE, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO REPLACE THE OLD LICENCES BEFORE THE DATE OF RENEWAL FOR ANYONE WHO WISHES TO HAVE A NEW TYPE LICENCE. MOTORISTS WILL BE INFORMED WHEN OLD LICENCES CAN BE REPLACED.+

THE NEW-STYLE DRIVING LICENCE, THE SIZE OF AN IDENTITY CARD, IS EASIER TO CARRY. IT IS LAMINATED TO REDUCE THE CHANCE OF FRAUD AND DAMAGE.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (MONDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

GRADE OF RICE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) AVERAGE
CHINA RICE		
SEE MEW	GOOD	2.02
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.86
PO NGAI	GOOD	-
CHU CHO	GOOD	-
THAI RICE		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.82
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.74
A1 : SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.70
A1 : SUPER	GOOD	1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.75
U.S. RICE	GOOD	1.92
AUSTRALIAN RICE	GOOD	1.82
PAKISTAN RICE	GOOD	-
TAIWAN RICE	GOOD	-

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(CALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	GOOD
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(FMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	LIMITED	4.00	2.60	3.50
BIG-EYES	LIMITED	2.80	1.70	2.20
SQUID	SCARCE	4.80	1.40	3.00
HAIR-TAILS	SCARCE	0.80	0.40	0.60
LIZARD FISHES	LIMITED	1.00	0.40	0.70
CROAKERS	SCARCE	0.80	0.40	0.60
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	SCARCE	2.90	2.20	2.50
MELON COAT	SCARCE	1.20	0.75	1.00
BREAMS	SCARCE	5.30	1.00	4.00
YELLOW BELLY	LIMITED	1.40	0.90	1.10
MACKERELS	SCARCE	4.50	1.20	2.30
RED GOAT FISH	SCARCE	0.70	0.30	0.40
FORK-TAIL	---		NO SALE	
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	5.50	3.80	4.20
MELON SEED	---		NO SALE	
POMFRETS	LIMITED	6.50	5.50	5.80
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	8.00	7.00	7.60
YELLOW CROAKER	---		NO SALE	

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(VMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.80	0.50	1.20
WHITE CABBAGE	NORMAL	0.80	0.30	0.50
CHINESE LETTUCE	NORMAL	1.20	0.40	0.80
WATER SPINACH	LIMITED	0.50	0.10	0.30
CHINESE KALE	LIMITED	1.80	0.60	1.20
STRING BEANS	LIMITED	1.60	0.30	1.00
SPRING ONION	NORMAL	1.80	0.40	1.20
SPINACH	---			
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	3.80	2.00	3.20
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.60	0.40	1.00
CHINESE SPINACH	NORMAL	0.80	0.20	0.50
TOMATO	SCARCE	4.00	2.00	3.00