



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1977

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HONG KONG BREEDS OPTIMISM SAYS GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID THIS EVENING THAT THE SOONER THE WORLD'S TANKER INDUSTRY, WHICH IS ONE OF THE BAROMETERS OF WORLD TRADE, RETURNS TO +SET FAIR+ THE BETTER FOR ALL OF US.

SPEAKING AT THE INDEPENDENT TANKER OWNERS' ASSOCIATION DINNER, SIR MURRAY POINTED OUT THAT THE PROBLEMS FACING THE INDUSTRY WERE A FACET OF THE SLOW RECOVERY OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE WORLD, AND THE ABSENCE OF THE STRONG POLITICAL LEAD OR THE BUSINESS CONFIDENCE NEEDED TO PROMOTE IT.

BUT SIR MURRAY SAID THAT HONG KONG WAS A PLACE THAT BREEDS OPTIMISM.

+ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL, FLEXIBILITY AND DILIGENCE ARE THE MAIN QUALITIES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

+WHATEVER THE MANY AND VARIED DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAVE CONFRONTED US, WE HAVE MANAGED TO RETAIN AN UNDIMMED OPTIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE.+

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF SIR MURRAY'S SPEECH :

+IT WAS KIND OF YOU TO INVITE ME TO THIS DINNER OF INTERTANKO, AND IT HAS BEEN AN HONOUR AND A PLEASURE TO MEET SO MANY DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE WORLD TANKER INDUSTRY AT THIS MEMORABLE AND ENJOYABLE EVENING.

+MR. PAO HAS SPOKEN OF THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE INDUSTRY.

+MASEFIELD WROTE:

+I MUST GO DOWN TO THE SEA AGAIN, TO THE LONELY SEA
AND SKY

AND ALL I ASK IS A TALL SHIP AND A STAR TO STEER
HER BY+.

+BUT I THINK NOW IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATELY WRITTEN :

+I MUST GO BACK TO THE BANK AGAIN, TO THE CUSTOMER
AND THE YARD

AND ALL I ASK IS A FIXED PRICE AND A LONG-TERM
CHARTER+.

/+BROADLY

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+BROADLY SPEAKING YOUR PROBLEMS ARE A FACET OF THE SLOW RECOVERY OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE WORLD, AND THE ABSENCE OF THE STRONG POLITICAL LEAD OR THE BUSINESS CONFIDENCE NEEDED TO PROMOTE IT.

+ONE CAN ONLY SAY THAT THE DEMAND FOR MEASURES TO ACCELERATE RECOVERY IS BECOMING MORE WIDESPREAD AND MORE AUTHORITATIVE, AND THAT HOPEFULLY MEASURES WILL FOLLOW, BUT WHEN AND OF WHAT DEGREE AND WITH WHAT EFFECT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

+IF I CAN OFFER NO PANACEA, I CAN SAY HOW DELIGHTED I AM THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN HONG KONG FOR YOUR MEETING. IT IS A CITY BUILT ROUND A HARBOUR, BASED ON SEABORNE TRADE, AND WHICH HAS AMONGST ITS RESIDENTS SOME OF THE LARGEST SHIPOWNERS OF THE WORLD. SO I HOPE THAT HERE YOU WILL FEEL AT HOME, AND AMONGST FRIENDS, AND THAT YOU WILL ENJOY YOUR VISIT.

+I ALSO HOPE YOUR DISCUSSIONS WILL PROSPER AND THAT YOU WILL LEAVE HERE WITH MORE HOPE THAN WHEN YOU CAME. PERHAPS YOU WILL, BECAUSE THIS IS A PLACE THAT BREEDS OPTIMISM. ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL, FLEXIBILITY AND DILIGENCE ARE THE MAIN QUALITIES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. WHATEVER THE MANY AND VARIED DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAVE CONFRONTED US, WE HAVE MANAGED TO RETAIN AN UNDIMMED OPTIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE.

+YOU HAVE ALL THESE QUALITIES AND THEREFORE EVERY REASON TO RETAIN THE SAME OPTIMISM.

+THE WORLD'S TANKER INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE BAROMETERS OF WORLD TRADE AND THE SOONER IT RETURNS TO +SET FAIR+ THE BETTER FOR ALL OF US.

+MR. CHAIRMAN, MR. PAO I THANK THE INDEPENDENT TANKER OWNERS' ASSOCIATION FOR THIS EXCELLENT DINNER, I AM GLAD THAT YOU HAVE MET IN HONG KONG, AND I WISH SUCCESS TO YOUR DELIBERATIONS AND THAT A RETURN TO PROSPERITY WILL NOT BE LONG DELAYED.+

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TOY PISTOL CAPS BANNED
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WARNED TODAY THAT PISTOL CAPS WERE CLASSIFIED AS MANUFACTURED FIREWORKS AND THAT ANYONE FOUND IN POSSESSION OF THEM WITHOUT A VALID LICENCE COULD BE PROSECUTED.

THE WARNING FOLLOWS THE DISCOVERY OF TOY PISTOL CAPS BEING SOLD IN THE LOCAL MARKET WITH A VARIETY OF TOY PISTOLS, PARTICULARLY A MINIATURE TYPE ATTACHED TO A KEY RING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID : +THESE PISTOL CAPS ARE ILLEGALLY IMPORTED FROM OVERSEAS AND ARE BEING SOLD AT STREET STALLS AND TOY SHOPS BY HAWKERS. THEY ARE SOLD IN THE FORM OF SMALL PLASTIC CUPS MADE UP IN STRIPS OR DISCS WITH EACH CUP CONTAINING A MINUTE QUANTITY OF EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCE.

+WHEN THE BASE OF THE CUP IS STRUCK THE CAP FIRES WITH A LOUD BANG, THE RESULT OF WHICH COULD BE DANGEROUS TO THE EYES AND EARS OF CHILDREN,+ HE SAID.

+THESE PISTOL CAPS CAN POSE AN EVEN GREATER DANGER WHEN COMBINED IN LARGE QUANTITIES. A SERIOUS RISK OF VIOLENT EXPLOSION COULD OCCUR IF A REALLY LARGE QUANTITY OF THESE CAPS WERE PACKED IN BULK, SAY INSIDE A PACKING CASE.+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN RECALLED A DISASTER WHICH OCCURRED IN KENNEDY TOWN IN 1963 WHEN TWO CASES OF PISTOL CAPS EXPLODED WHEN THEY DROPPED FROM THE BACK OF A TRUCK, KILLING EIGHT PEOPLE AND INJURING 61 OTHERS.

+PEOPLE WHO CAN REMEMBER THE CARNAGE THAT RESULTED FROM THIS DISASTROUS EXPLOSION WILL CERTAINLY NOT WELCOME THE WIDESPREAD RE-APPEARANCE OF THESE PISTOL CAPS IN HONG KONG.

+SHOPKEEPERS, STALLHOLDERS, HAWKERS AND OTHERS WHO ARE IN POSSESSION OF SUCH PISTOL CAPS NO MATTER HOW SMALL THE QUANTITY ARE URGED TO SURRENDER THEM IMMEDIATELY TO THE MINES DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IN THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, TELEPHONE NO. 3-688111 EXT. 302 OR CONTACT THE NEAREST POLICE STATION FOR ADVICE OTHERWISE THEY WILL RISK PROSECUTION.+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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ANNUAL POLICY DEBATE STARTS ON WEDNESDAY
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A TWO-DAY DEBATE ON THE MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS TO BE MOVED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, WILL BEGIN ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 26) IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

NINE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ARE SCHEDULED TO SPEAK ON THE MOTION ON THAT DAY.

LEADING OFF THE DEBATE WILL BE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, DR. THE HON. S.Y. CHUNG, THE HON. Q.W. LEE, THE HON. P.G. WILLIAMS, THE HON. JAMES WU, THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, DR. THE HON. HARRY FANG, THE HON. KWAN KO SIU-WAH, THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN, THE HON. ALEX WU.

ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 27), ANOTHER TEN UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THE MOTION. THEY ARE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT, THE HON. S.L. CHEN, THE HON. LYDIA DUNN, DR. THE HON. HENRY HU, THE HON. T.S. LEUNG, REV. THE HON. PATRICK MCGOVERN, THE HON. PETER C. WONG, THE HON. WONG LAM, DR. THE HON. RAYSON HUANG AND THE HON. CHARLES YEUNG.

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VISITING ENGINEERS PRAISE HK'S ROAD WORKS
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MORE THAN 50 ENGINEERS FROM SWEDEN AND FINLAND, WHO ARE HERE AFTER ATTENDING THE EIGHTH WORLD MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION IN TOKYO, HAD A BUSY DAY TODAY VISITING SOME OF THE MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS IN HONG KONG.

ACCOMPANIED BY ENGINEERS OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, THEY FIRST VISITED THE GASCOIGNE ROAD FLYOVER WHICH FORMS PART OF THE \$300 MILLION WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

FROM THERE, THEY PROCEEDED TO THE INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN TUEN MUN HIGHWAY, THE FIRST STAGE OF WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC EARLY NEXT YEAR.

AMONG OTHER PROJECTS VISITED WERE THE NEW SECOND LION ROCK TUNNEL, FLYOVERS ON LUNG CHEUNG ROAD AND KWUN TONG ROAD, AND THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

AT THE END OF THE VISIT, THE LEADER OF THE SWEDISH GROUP DESCRIBED AS MARVELLOUS THE FACT THAT SO MUCH HAD BEEN BUILT WITHIN SUCH A SMALL PLACE.

HE ALSO FOUND THAT THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN HONG KONG WERE MUCH MORE REASONABLE COMPARED WITH THOSE IN HIS OWN COUNTRY.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, THE VISITORS WERE GIVEN A BRIEFING BY SENIOR STAFF OF THE P.W.D.'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

AFTER AN INTRODUCTION BY THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY ENGINEER, MR. STAN BARDEN, THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE CONSULTANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION, MR. T.S. NG, GAVE DETAILS OF THE PROJECTS THE VISITORS WOULD VISIT WHILE THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SURVEY DIVISION, MR. K.T. KUO, SPOKE ABOUT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING IN HONG KONG.

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OBSERVATORY DIRECTOR ATTENDS TYPHOON MEETING IN TOKYO

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MR. GORDON BELL, DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, WILL BE LEAVING THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON TO ATTEND THE 10TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN TOKYO STARTING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE MEETING, SPONSORED BY THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, WILL REVIEW THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED DURING THE PAST YEAR IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF OBSERVATIONAL AND TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC.

DURING THE WEEK-LONG MEETING, IT WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES IN RESEARCH, TRAINING AND DISASTER PREVENTION AND THEIR POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES SUCH AS THE MONEX (MONSOON EXPERIMENT).

IN ADDITION, DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HELD ON THE OPERATIONAL AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RECEPTION OF DATA FROM THE JAPANESE GEOSTATIONARY METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE (GMS) WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN JULY THIS YEAR AND EXPECTED TO BECOME OPERATIONAL BY EARLY 1978.

DURING THE YEAR HONG KONG HAS BEEN MAKING A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMITTEE BY DISSEMINATING TO ITS MEMBERS RADAR OBSERVATIONS AND OBJECTIVE FORECASTS OF TROPICAL CYCLONES UNDER OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS, WHICH HAVE BEEN WELL RECEIVED.

HONG KONG IS ALSO PLAYING THE LEADING ROLE IN THE COMMITTEE'S REGIONAL JOINT STUDY PROGRAMME ON TROPICAL CYCLONE MOVEMENT PREDICTION.

FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROGRAMME, THE THAI METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT SENT ITS CHIEF RESEARCH OFFICER TO THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY LAST JULY FOR THREE MONTHS UNDER A WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION FELLOWSHIP FOR TRAINING IN THE LATEST FORECASTING TECHNIQUES.

MR. BELL WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY DR. P.C. CHIN OF THE OPERATIONAL DIVISION.

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PROPERTY TAX DEMAND NOTICES FOR NINE AREAS IN N.T.
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THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT PROPERTY TAX DEMAND NOTICES FOR NINE NEW AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHICH BECAME LIABLE TO PROPERTY TAX ON APRIL 1 THIS YEAR, WILL BE ISSUED ON NOVEMBER 30.

THE NINE NEW AREAS ARE PING SHAN, KIU TAU WAI, TAI SHANG WAI, FANLING AND WO HOP SHEK, FANLING (WEST), TIN PING SHAN (NEAR SHEK WU HUI), CLEAR WATER BAY PENINSULA, SAI KUNG, AND HIRAM'S HIGHWAY AND TAI MONG TSAI ROAD AREA.

PROPERTY OWNERS IN THESE AREAS WHO WISH TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THESE DEMAND NOTICES ARE ASKED TO CONTACT THE ASSESSORS IN THE PROPERTY TAX SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE NUMBER 5-761635, EXTENSIONS 30, 31, 32 OR 36, OR TO WRITE TO THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT, P.O. BOX 132, GENERAL POST OFFICE, HONG KONG.

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