



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1979

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GOVT DEPTS ADOPT SAVE FUEL MEASURES
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GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE TAKING ALL POSSIBLE STEPS TO SAVE FUEL.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT THERMOSTATS HAVE BEEN SET AT 26 DEGREES CELSIUS OR ABOVE AND ALL NON-ESSENTIAL LIGHTING SWITCHED OFF.

+IN SOME CASES LIGHT BULBS OR FLUORESCENT TUBES ARE BEING REMOVED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SOME DEPARTMENTS HAVE APPOINTED OFFICERS TO MONITOR THE USE OF ELECTRICITY FOR LIGHTING AND THE OPERATION OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT INCLUDING COPYING AND ADDING MACHINES.

LIGHTING AT THE CITY HALL HAS BEEN REDUCED AND FLOODLIGHTING OF URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT INDOOR GAMES HALLS, PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS HAS BEEN CURTAILED OR SWITCHED OFF.

AT KAI TAK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FLOODLIGHTS HAVE BEEN SWITCHED OFF AND LIGHTING IN OFFICES, CORRIDORS, STAIRWAYS AND PUBLIC AREAS HAS BEEN REDUCED.

PERIMETER LIGHTING AND FLOODLIGHTING AT RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG'S BROADCAST DRIVE HEADQUARTERS HAS BEEN SWITCHED OFF AND STRICT ECONOMY MEASURES ARE IN FORCE IN STUDIOS.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY HAS APPOINTED FUEL WARDENS TO ENSURE MAXIMUM ECONOMY IN THE USE OF LIGHTING AND AIR CONDITIONING.

IN ADDITION TO CAREFUL MONITORING OF REQUESTS FOR EXTRA TRAINS INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO DRIVERS TO ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY IDLING OF DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES.

+MANY DEPARTMENTS ARE URGING THOSE STAFF WHO WOULD NORMALLY DRIVE PRIVATE CARS TO MAKE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID THAT DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS SOCIAL WELFARE WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF STAFF WORKING CLOSELY WITH MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY HAVE URGED STAFF TO TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY OF ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC TO SAVE FUEL.

+IN VIEW OF THE ADJUSTMENT TO AIR-CONDITIONER THERMOSTATS STAFF ARE BEING ENCOURAGED TO DRESS CASUALLY AND EVEN MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY ARE BEING ASKED TO DISCARD JACKETS AND TIES AS CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT,+ HE ADDED.

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**OUTGOING FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY
EXTENDS BEST WISHES TO PEOPLE OF HONG KONG**

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THE OUTGOING SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, DR. DAVID OWEN, HAS EXTENDED HIS BEST WISHES TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG FOR THEIR PEACE AND PROSPERITY IN THE FUTURE.

HE ALSO THANKED THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, PERSONALLY FOR HIS ADVICE AND SUPPORT THROUGHOUT HIS (DR. OWEN'S) PERIOD OF OFFICE.

IN A MESSAGE TO THE GOVERNOR, DR. OWEN SAID:

+I AM VERY SORRY THAT I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO VISIT YOU DURING MY TIME AS FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY.

+I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THIS COUNTRY SHOULD DEMONSTRATE ITS RESOLVE TO LIVE UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE DEPENDENT TERRITORIES, WHOSE LOYALTY AND FRIENDSHIP WE CHERISH.

+I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU PERSONALLY FOR YOUR ADVICE AND SUPPORT THROUGHOUT MY PERIOD OF OFFICE. PLEASE CONVEY TO THOSE YOU ADMINISTER MY BEST WISHES FOR THEIR PEACE AND PROSPERITY IN THE FUTURE.+

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LORD CARRINGTON SENDS GOOD WISHES TO PEOPLE OF HK

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THE NEW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, LORD CARRINGTON, HAS SENT HIS WARM GOOD WISHES TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

IN A MESSAGE FROM THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, LORD CARRINGTON SAID:

+THE WELL-BEING OF THE DEPENDENT TERRITORIES IS A MAJOR PART OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I SHALL ALWAYS GIVE THE MOST CAREFUL ATTENTION TO YOUR INTEREST.

+I HOPE I MAY BE ABLE TO VISIT SOME OF THE DEPENDENT TERRITORIES BEFORE TOO LONG, TO MEET YOU AND THOSE UNDER YOUR CARE.

+IN THE MEANTIME PLEASE PASS MY GOOD WISHES TO THEM AND ASSURE THEM THAT I SHALL HAVE THEIR CONCERNS VERY MUCH IN MIND DURING MY PERIOD IN OFFICE.+

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QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS COMPILED A REPORT ON A QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY HELD LAST (APRIL) MONTH.

ABOUT 750 FIRMS FROM VARIOUS INDUSTRIES, FORMING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, WERE ASKED ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS EXPERIENCE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, AND THEIR BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER.

RESPONDENTS TO THE SURVEY, ON BALANCE, CONSIDERED THAT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, BUSINESS WAS SOMEWHAT BETTER THAN HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN EXPECTED WHILE THE SECOND QUARTER SHOULD SHOW FURTHER IMPROVEMENT ON THE FIRST QUARTER.

THE MANUFACTURING SECTORS --- FOOD, BEVERAGE, TOBACCO, WATCHES AND CLOCKS AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES --- REPORTED AN IMPROVED FIRST QUARTER AND ARE CONFIDENT OF FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO COME IN THE SECOND QUARTER. ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO IMPROVEMENTS ARE THE ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES AND ELECTRONICS SECTORS WHICH REPORTED A FAIRLY STEADY FIRST QUARTER.

THE REMAINING MANUFACTURING SECTORS --- PLASTICS, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, TEXTILES, WEARING APPAREL AND PRINTING --- EXPERIENCED DETERIORATIONS IN THE FIRST QUARTER BUT EXPECT APPRECIABLE UPTURNS IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

AS A WHOLE, THE MANUFACTURING DIVISION REPORTED MARGINAL DETERIORATION IN THE FIRST QUARTER, AND ANTICIPATES A GENERAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR SHOWED A CONTINUING DECREASE IN THE DEGREE OF OPTIMISM SINCE THE LATTER PART OF 1978.

+FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE TWO YEARS COVERED BY THIS SERIES OF SURVEYS, THERE IS A SMALL NEGATIVE BALANCE OF 'UPS OVER DOWNS' IN EXPECTATIONS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR REGARDING THE GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION,+ HE SAID.

AFTER EXPERIENCING APPRECIABLE IMPROVEMENTS QUARTER AFTER QUARTER, THE SECTOR REPORTED ONLY A VERY SMALL IMPROVEMENT IN PERFORMANCE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1978, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SERVICES SECTORS -- HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS -- BOTH HAD A GOOD FIRST QUARTER, QUITE CONTRARY TO PREVIOUS EXPECTATIONS.

+THE HOTELS SECTOR IS CONFIDENT OF FURTHER ADVANCES WHILE THE RESTAURANTS SECTOR IN GENERAL PREDICTS DETERIORATION, HE SAID.

THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE SECTOR REPORTED SOME DETERIORATION IN THE FIRST QUARTER AND EXPECTS FURTHER DETERIORATION IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

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FOR OTHER SERVICES, THE SECTORS --- BANKS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS SERVICES --- BOTH ENJOYED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER AND EXPECT THEIR GOOD PERFORMANCES TO CARRY FORWARD INTO THE SECOND QUARTER.

THE TRANSPORTATION SECTOR DID WELL AND EXPECTS MILD IMPROVEMENTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DATA, OBTAINED WITH A MINIMUM TIME LAG, WERE BASICALLY INTENDED TO FACILITATE A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION IN HONG KONG.

APART FROM A LIMITED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS REQUIRING ANSWERS IN QUANTITATIVE TERMS, FIRMS WERE ASKED TO COMPARE THE QUARTER JUST PAST WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND SIMILARLY FOR THE FORTHCOMING ONE, AND ONLY HAD TO INDICATE WHETHER, IN THEIR OPINION, A CERTAIN VARIABLE WAS +UP,+ +SAME+ OR +DOWN.+

THE SPOKESMAN CAUTIONED THAT IN A SURVEY OF THIS NATURE, CONSIDERABLE RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS, AS IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE ACCORDS WITH THE UNDERLYING TRENDS, AND THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE PROBABLY AFFECTED CONSIDERABLY BY SEASONALITY.

COPIES OF THE REPORT, CONTAINING AN ANALYSIS OF AND STATISTICAL TABLES ON VARIOUS ECONOMIC VARIABLES, HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO FIRMS TAKING PART IN THE SURVEY AND OTHER BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS.

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STUDENT WINS HONOUR IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS EXAMINATION

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FOR THE SECOND TIME IN TWO YEARS A GRADUATE OF THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE'S ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING COURSE TOOK FIRST PRIZE IN AN EXAMINATION RUN BY THE CITY AND GUILDS OF THE LONDON INSTITUTE.

THE GRADUATE, MR. HO KAM-WAI, WON A SILVER MEDAL FOR HIS PERFORMANCE IN THE RADIO AND LINE TRANSMISSION B COURSE EXAMINATION HELD AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC IN MAY AND JUNE LAST YEAR.

MR. HO PURSUED A TECHNICIAN DIPLOMA COURSE IN ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING IN THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FROM SEPTEMBER, 1976, TO JULY, LAST YEAR. HE IS NOW STUDYING FOR THE HIGHER DIPLOMA IN THE SAME SUBJECT IN THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

A TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN IN THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, MR. FUNG YUEN-KWONG, ALSO RECEIVED FIRST PRIZE IN A TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN PRINCIPLES B COURSE EXAMINATION CONDUCTED IN DECEMBER, 1976.

THEIR REMARKABLE RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED IN COMPETITION WITH CANDIDATES FROM ALL OVER BRITAIN AND THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH.

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NEW SYLLABUSES FOR CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY EXAMS

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) ANNOUNCED A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS WISHING TO SIT VARIOUS EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY IN THE MERCHANT NAVY FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW SYLLABUSES.

THE NEW SYLLABUSES, TO BE INTRODUCED NEXT MARCH, ARE CONTAINED IN THE +EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY IN THE MERCHANT NAVY= DECK SYLLABUSES WITH SPECIMEN PAPERS.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID EXAMINATIONS BASED ON THE EXISTING SYLLABUSES WILL CONTINUE TO BE HELD UNTIL THE END OF APRIL NEXT YEAR FOR THE BENEFIT OF CANDIDATES MAKING A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT ATTEMPT ONLY.

FROM APRIL 30 NEXT YEAR, CANDIDATES FOR THE FIRST MATE (CLASS 2) EXAMINATION ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE AN 18-MONTH WATCHKEEPING SERVICE INSTEAD OF THE EXISTING 12 MONTHS, A RADAR SIMULATOR COURSE ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE AND A SHIP CAPTAIN'S MEDICAL TRAINING CERTIFICATE.

+THE TOTAL PERIOD OF SERVICE AS A WATCHKEEPING OFFICER REQUIRED BETWEEN THE DATE OF QUALIFYING FOR A SECOND MATE (CLASS 3) CERTIFICATE AND BECOMING ELIGIBLE FOR THE ISSUE OF A MASTER MARINER (CLASS 1) CERTIFICATE REMAINS UNCHANGED AT 3-1/2 YEARS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FROM SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR, CANDIDATES FOR THE SECOND MATE (CLASS 3) EXAMINATIONS MUST HAVE A FIRST AID AT SEA CERTIFICATE, AN ELECTRONIC NAVIGATIONAL AIDS (OPERATION) CERTIFICATE, A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AS LIFEBOATMAN AND HAVE PASSED THE QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AS ABLE SEAMAN.

FOR THOSE WISHING TO SIT THE MASTER MARINER (CLASS 1) EXAMINATIONS, THEY MUST HAVE A SHIP CAPTAIN'S MEDICAL TRAINING CERTIFICATE BEFORE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY IS ISSUED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THESE NEW REQUIREMENTS ARE SPECIFIED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM'S DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND WILL BE CONTAINED IN AN AMENDED VERSION OF +EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY IN THE MERCHANT NAVY: DECK OFFICER REQUIREMENTS+ IN DUE COURSE.

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FACTORY PROPRIETOR FINED FOR FAILING TO
KEEP EXITS CLEAR OF OBSTRUCTION

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THE PROPRIETOR OF A KNITTING FACTORY IN KOWLOON WAS TODAY (TUESDAY) FINED \$5,000 IN THE NORTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY FOR FAILING TO MAINTAIN FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION THE EXITS OF THE FACTORY AS REQUIRED BY THE FACTORY AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS REGULATIONS. THE FINE WAS THE MAXIMUM FOR SUCH AN OFFENCE.

COMMENTING ON THE COURT CASE, MR. J.P. WOOD, CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT REMINDED FACTORY PROPRIETORS THAT THEY COULD FACE PROSECUTION AND HEAVY FINES IF THEY FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF LABOUR LEGISLATIONS ON INDUSTRIAL HEALTH AND SAFETY.

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WATER CUTS

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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 12.01 A.M. TO 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY FOR NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY SHA TSUI ROAD, KWAN MUN HAU STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND TAI HO ROAD INCLUDING CHUEN LUNG STREET, HOI PA STREET, TSUEN WAN MARKET STREET, SHIU WO STREET, CHUNG ON STREET AND HAM TIN STREET.

MEANWHILE WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CHAI WAN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 P.M. ON THURSDAY TO 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY ALSO FOR NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY BLOCKS 1-15, CHAI WAN ESTATE, SAN HA STREET, TAI PING STREET, TAI PING VILLAGE, CHAI WAN AND CALTEX PETROL FILLING STATION AND SUN YIP STREET.

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