



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, September 9, 1972

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME CONTINUES TO EXPAND

The total number of active cases in the Public Assistance Scheme reached 16,207 at the end of August.

New applications received during the month numbered 943, including 60 referred from voluntary agencies. A total of 110 cases was reactivated in August, and at the same time, 632 cases were closed.

Cash payments during the month totalled \$2,479,334 bringing to \$23,736,883 the grand total spent so far since the expanded Scheme was implemented on April 1, 1971.

Commenting on these figures, Mr. Tsau Tsor-yan, Senior Principal Social Welfare Officer and head of the Public Assistance Division, says: "They suggest that the Scheme is widely known, and that people for whom it is intended are coming forward.

"If one takes into account the individuals who have been helped to stand on their own feet again, and who are accordingly no longer beneficiaries, the grand total is about 22,290."

To cope with these numbers, 15 field units have been set up in various districts, and the 16th, to serve the Castle Peak area, is being planned and is expected to be opened in October.

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REMOVAL OF OIL FROM "SEAWISE UNIVERSITY" FULLY UNDERWAY

Nearly 700 tons of fuel oil have already been removed from the wreck of the "Seawise University" which sank on January 9 this year following a severe fire.

The oil removal operation is being carried out by the Fukada Salvage Co. Ltd., a leading Japanese salvage company.

The operation to remove the 3,070 tons of oil began on August 24 immediately after the salvage equipment arrived.

The team formed by the Japanese company is headed by a salvage master and three salvage engineers.

Their equipment comprises one salvage tug, one hotel ship, two oil storage barges and several small working and diving boats.

The method being used for the removal of the oil is considered safe and is basically simple.

A Marine Department spokesman said today: "The operation consists of the fixing of an outlet and an inlet valve to the vessel's hull and holes are then drilled into the oil storage tanks.

"Seawater is pumped into the tank to float up the oil which is sucked from the vessel and into one of the storage barges alongside."

Oil skimming work is carried out continuously and anti-pollution precautions are rigidly observed during the oil removal operation.

The whole project is expected to be completed by mid-December.

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LOTTERY RESULTS

The first prize of \$426,000 for the 54th Government Lottery was won by ticket No. 486933.

This and other winning numbers were drawn this morning at the City Hall Concert Hall by four HK-TVB personalities -- Miss Pearl Au, Miss Gigi Wong, Mr. Fung Shui-fan and Mr. Leung Tin.

The five second prizes of \$28,400 each went to ticket Nos. 311850, 372560, 567493, 567619, 586795.

The three-digit number drawn for the special prize was 267. Holders of 710 tickets ending with this number won \$100 each.

Winning numbers for the 50 third prizes of \$4,260 each are as follows:

755	3566	5284	27593	28315	29189	53765	65191	69496
71100	88382	94477	125011	143084	157954	187615	216364	
222258	255199	286197	303635	305851	330079	357684		
359613	384178	399756	413646	423233	430906	435531		
441842	458642	473798	473846	479976	503214	503495		
534658	560192	575913	618731	643943	647010	663014		
663911	679397	680296	695473	704068				

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NEW CENTRAL BUS TERMINUS TO OPEN

The new Central bus terminus, the biggest ever built by the Government, will come into operation from 6 a.m. on Monday (September 11).

The terminus occupies an area of 55,000 square feet on the Central reclamation between the vehicular ferry pier and the new Connaught Centre building.

It replaces the existing terminus outside the vehicular ferry pier.

The Acting Commissioner for Transport, Mr. R. Butler, said that altogether there will be about 140 departures an hour from the new terminus.

With the opening on Monday, all traffic leaving the vehicular ferries will be directed to a new link road on the northern side of the new bus station and to the west of Connaught Centre for exit onto Connaught Road Central.

Appropriate traffic signs will be posted.

The bus services departing from the new terminus will be:

Route 3A (Felix Villas)

Route 4 (Wah Fu Estate)

Route 4 Express (Wah Fu Estate)

Route 6 (Stanley Prison)

Route 6A (Repulse Bay)

Route 7 (Aberdeen)

Route 7B (Wong Chuk Hang Estate)

Route 12 (Robinson Road)

Route 12A (Macdonnell Road)

Route 15 (Upper Peak Tram Station), and supplementary journeys on Route 101 via the Cross Harbour Tunnel to Kwun Tong.

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GOVERNOR VISITS HONG KONG STUDENTS' CENTRE IN LONDON

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, paid a visit to the Hong Kong Students' Centre in London on Thursday evening. He was accompanied by Mr. A.M.J. Wright, Commissioner for Hong Kong.

Sir Murray was met by the Warden, Mr. R. Irvine and the Chairman of the Members' Committee, Mr. Tony Chan, who introduced him to other members of the committee.

About 50 residents and members of the Students' Centre had gathered in the common room to greet the Governor who spent about an hour chatting informally with them.

Among those present were a number of government employees who are in Britain on postgraduate or training courses and former Hong Kong students who now work in London but still maintain their contact with the Students' Centre.

After Sir Murray left, several students expressed their appreciation at the visit which was made at the end of a busy day of official talks.

It was Sir Murray's second visit to the Students' Centre - the first was shortly before he left to take up his appointment in Hong Kong.

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HOLIDAY FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

Industrial workers will be able to enjoy one day's holiday on September 23 (Saturday), the day following Mid-Autumn Festival.

The Commissioner of Labour, Mr. Paul Tsui, today reminded employers that it is one of the six statutory holidays to which workers are entitled under the Industrial Employment (Holiday with Pay and Sickness Allowance) Ordinance.

This applies to all industrial workers paid on a monthly, daily or piece-rate basis, and non-industrial workers in industrial undertakings earning not more than \$700 a day.

To qualify for this paid holiday a worker must have worked at least 180 days during a period of 12 months, and at least 20 days in the 28 days preceding September 23.

A worker who does not qualify must also be given a holiday but has no statutory entitlement to be paid although the employer may voluntarily agree to pay him.

An employer may grant a holiday on another day, provided it is within 60 days after September 23, and he must post a notice of his intention at least 48 hours in advance.

An employer who grants more than six paid holidays a year is still required to comply with the Ordinance but, by agreement with a worker, he is allowed to substitute one of the paid holidays for the statutory holidays.

Workers or employers who have doubts about their rights or obligations regarding statutory holidays may obtain the advice of the Senior Labour Inspector in charge of the Women and Young Persons Unit.

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ABERDEEN'S OLD FIRE STATION TO BE DEMOLISHED

The old fire station and post office in Old Main Street, Aberdeen, Hong Kong will be demolished.

The two-storey building is in a poor condition and beyond economical repair.

A Government spokesman said today that the area will be better served by the demolition of the building as it will open up the approach to the Royal Hong Kong Police C.I.D. School. At present the school is located on a bad bend adjacent to the old building.

The demolition is expected to begin in October and the site should be cleared within about two months.

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SALT WATER INTERRUPTION IN CHAI WAN

The supply of salt water to all premises in the Chai Wan area will be interrupted for seven hours beginning from 9 a.m. on Monday (September 11).

The temporary salt water stoppage is to enable the Waterworks Office to repair a delivery valve for the No. 2 pumpset at the Chai Wan salt water pumping station.

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ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOME

Note to Editors: Mrs. G.T. Rowe, wife of the Director of Social Welfare, will visit St. Christopher's Home, 13½ milestone, Tai Po Road, New Territories, on Monday (September 11) at about 11 a.m. She will be accompanied by Mrs. Evelyn Doe, Principal Social Welfare Officer. The home is run by the Church Body of the Chinese Anglican Church, and was founded in 1935. It was previously known as the Tai Po Rural Home and Orphanage until 1953 when the name was changed to St. Christopher's Home. It takes in 340 children from birth up to the age of 18. The home is a Chinese diocesan orphanage, administered by a committee with the Bishop of Hong Kong as chairman. It is financially supported by the Hong Kong Government, the Christian Children's Fund Incorporated, and voluntary donations. You are invited to have the visit covered, and your news team should arrive by 10:45 a.m.

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Release time: 2.30 p.m.