



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, November 26, 1973

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SHIPMASTERS MUST REPORT BUNKER FUELS

Ships entering Hong Kong will be required to inform the Marine Department of their bunker fuel position from this Thursday (November 29).

In a notice issued by the department today, a spokesman said that masters of vessels would have to state the quantity and type of bunker fuel for both the main and auxiliary engines on board.

They would also have to report on the estimated consumption of fuels while here, the estimated consumption to the next port of call and such further information which might be required by the Director of Marine.

"Besides", the spokesman added, "if the shipmaster wants to take on board main or auxiliary bunkers while in Hong Kong, he will have to declare in addition the name of the bunker fuels supplier and the quantities he requires."

Introduction of these new measures follow an announcement on conservation of oil stocks by the Deputy Colonial Secretary and Chairman of the Oil Policy Committee, Mr. M.D.A. Clinton last week.

In the announcement, Mr. Clinton had asked that the amount of bunker oil for ships should now be determined by the future supply situation, as a measure to maintain adequate stocks so that essential supplies could be available for ships calling at Hong Kong.

The requirement of ships to report on their fuel position is made by the Director of Marine under Regulation 4 of the Merchant Shipping (Control of Ports) Regulations, which gives him such powers.

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Owners or agents of ships may provisionally submit the information on behalf of their shipmasters, prior to the arrival of the ships.

However their statements will have to be confirmed by the masters immediately upon their arrival.

Forms for supplying the information are available at the Entry and Clearance Office of the Marine Department at Rumsey Street Multi-Storey Carpark, 10th floor, Hong Kong.

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WATER CUT

Water supply to a number of premises in Fanling, New Territories, will be interrupted for eight hours starting from 10 p.m. on Thursday (November 29).

The temporary stoppage is to facilitate fire hydrant installation work in the area by Waterworks Office staff.

All premises at On Lok Tsuen will be affected, including Shung Him Tong Tsuen and Au Wai Lam Laundry, Fanling.

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MAJOR KOWLOON ROAD PROJECTS TO BEGIN SOON

Work on two major road projects in Kowloon -- the Canton Road Duplication and the Jordan Road Intersection and Ferry Concourse -- is expected to start in January. Tenders for the two projects are about to be invited.

Together with the Tong Mi Road Extension, they will form part of an improved road system that will run along the western side of Kowloon from Tsim Sha Tsui to Lai Chi Kok.

They will also provide an alternative route for motorists when Nathan Road is partly closed to vehicular traffic during the construction of the Mass Transit Railway Stations.

The new road running alongside Canton Road will be about 2,200 feet in length. It will start from the Canton Road Fire Station in the north, cut across the south-western corner of Kowloon Park, the eastern portion of the existing Container Freight Station, and pass to the east of the Tsim Sha Tsui Police Station main building before joining Salisbury Road near Ashley Road.

The project, which also includes the construction of a 360-foot elevated road over Haiphong Road, will take about 20 months to complete.

Stage I of the Jordan Road Intersection and Ferry Concourse will include the re-alignment of the central divider and resurfacing of sections of Jordan Road (from Ferry Street to Battery Street) and Ferry Street (from Man Yuen Street to Jordan Road).

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The project, which will take about 11 months to complete, also includes realignment of Canton Road (Canton Road Government Offices to Ferry Street), and modifications to the Jordan Road Bus Terminus.

At the same time, tenders are also about to be invited for nine single-storey semi-permanent buildings to be built inside the existing Tsim Sha Tsui Police Station Compound.

They are to provide barrack accommodation and canteen and laundry facilities for marine and police rank and file officers, who are affected by the Canton Road Duplication project.

Construction of these buildings will begin towards the end of next month and will take about five months to complete.

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SHAUKIWAN FIRE VICTIMS OFFERED RE-HOUSING

More than 50 people who lost their homes in the squatter fire in Shaukiwan last Saturday morning will get either public housing or resite accommodation.

Six huts were destroyed in the early morning fire and 15 families, comprising 71 people, were registered with the Social Welfare Department for emergency relief.

A routine site identification was conducted by Housing Department staff several hours after the outbreak of the fire and blankets and cooking utensils were distributed to the victims on the spot.

Further checks against the records kept by the Housing Department showed that four families, comprising 14 people, have alternative accommodation and are not in need of re-housing facilities.

Today, nine families consisting of 43 people were helped by staff of the Squatters Control Office (Hong Kong) to fill in applications for licensed area sites.

These families will be informed as soon as possible the location of the site where they could rebuild their huts. The other cases are still being investigated.

A spokesman for the Housing Department said that cash grants from the Emergency Relief Fund will be distributed to them as soon as final processing has been completed.

Each family of five members or under will get \$1,250 rebuilding allowance, and \$250 will be paid to each additional head over five.

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GCE A-LEVEL CLASSICAL CHINESE EXAM TO BE DROPPED

The London University Entrance and School Examinations Council has informed the Education Department of its decision to discontinue the overseas G.C.E. Advanced Level Classical Chinese Examination after 1975.

"A major factor contributing to this decision has been the difficulty of obtaining sufficient suitable markers to cope with the big entry that this subject has attracted from Hong Kong," a spokesman for the Education Department said today.

He added that this decision had been taken with reluctance by the Council which at the request of the Education Department had delayed taking this step as long as possible.

He recalled that this year's result of the London G.C.E. A-level Classical Chinese examination were delayed several weeks because of marking difficulties.

In a letter to principals of secondary schools informing them of the London University's decision, the Assistant Director of Education (Examinations) told them that they would be able to enter candidates for A-level Classical Chinese for the examinations to be held next June and in June 1975.

London University has no intention at present to discontinue the overseas Ordinary Level examination in Chinese.

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DANGEROUS BUILDING

A four-storey pre-war building at No. 257 Des Voeux Road West was today declared to be in a dangerous condition by the Building Authority.

The Principal Government Building Surveyor said a detailed investigation of the building had been made after the demolition of the verandah which had been the subject of an emergency closure order.

Indications of further defects were noted during the investigation, he said. "Removal of plaster exposed crushed and fractured brickwork which was considered to be in such a condition that there is a risk of failure leading to collapse."

The reinforced concrete portions of the building, he added, were also in poor condition.

Notice of intention to apply for a closure order was posted on the building today. The application will be heard in Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on January 2.

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Release time: 7.00 p.m.