



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1987

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FIRE SERVICES SEEKING \$95 MILLION MOBILISING SYSTEM

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INSTALLATION OF A SOPHISTICATED COMPUTER-ASSISTED MOBILISING SYSTEM BY AROUND 1990 WILL IMPROVE THE ABILITY OF THE FIRE SERVICES TO DEAL SPEEDILY AND EFFECTIVELY WITH FIRE OR OTHER EMERGENCIES.

THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY MOBILISING SYSTEM WILL COST AN ESTIMATED \$95 MILLION, AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECENTLY GAVE THE GREEN LIGHT TO FUNDING, ENABLING THE TENDER PROCESS TO GET UNDERWAY.

KNOWN AS THE SECOND GENERATION MOBILISING SYSTEM (SGMS), THE INTEGRATED COMPUTER AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM WILL OPERATE IN THE COMMUNICATION CENTRE AT THE NEW FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

THE CENTRE WILL LINK WITH MORE THAN 70 STATIONS OR DEPOTS LOCATED STRATEGICALLY THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

IT IS VITAL FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO MAINTAIN AN EFFICIENT DESPATCHING OF SOME 700 MODERN OPERATIONAL FIRE APPLIANCES AND AMBULANCES IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING WORKLOAD.

THE INCREASE IN DEMAND HAS BEEN MANIFOLD.

FIRE OR SPECIAL SERVICE CALLS ROSE FROM 9 965 IN 1973 TO 24 326 IN 1985, AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 245 PER CENT.

AMBULANCE CALLS SOARED FROM 95 452 IN 1973 TO 333 905 IN 1985, REPRESENTING A RISE OF ABOUT 350 PER CENT.

SUCH DEMANDS MEAN THAT THE DEPARTMENT -- WITH A STRENGTH OF SOME 6 000 UNIFORMED OFFICERS AND MEN AND 560 NON-UNIFORMED STAFF -- MUST BE READY TO USE THE LATEST EQUIPMENT.

+TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF EQUIPMENT MEANS TO PROVIDE BETTER SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL WHEN SUCH SERVICE IS TO PROTECT PEOPLE'S LIVES AND PROPERTIES,+ SAID THE FIRE SERVICES OFFICER WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROJECT, MR HSU KING-PING.

AS THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S MOBILISING AND COMMUNICATION GROUP, MR HSU PLACES GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE TIME REQUIRED FOR DESPATCHING FIRE ENGINES AND AMBULANCES TO THE SCENE AS SOON AS A CALL IS RECEIVED.

+WE HAVE BEEN TRYING HARD TO ACHIEVE A ONE-MINUTE DESPATCHING TIME - WHICH MEANS THE FIRE ENGINES OR AMBULANCES ARE ON THEIR WAY WITHIN ONE MINUTE OF A CALL BEING RECEIVED,+ HE SAID.

/+THIS HAS .....

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+THIS HAS BEEN THE PRIME OBJECTIVE, THAT THE SHORTER THE TIME IT TAKES TO GET TO SCENE THE BETTER WE ARE ABLE TO CONTAIN A FIRE, AND, OF COURSE, TO CARRY OUT RESCUES MORE QUICKLY.+

MR HSU, A SENIOR DIVISIONAL OFFICER, EXPLAINED THAT THE EXISTING MOBILISING SYSTEM, BEING A MANUAL OPERATION, WAS ABLE TO MEET THE TERRITORY'S NEEDS WHEN INSTALLED IN 1979. HOWEVER, ITS CAPACITY COULD NOT BE FURTHER EXPANDED TO MEET ANTICIPATED NEEDS BEYOND 1990.

THE FAST MOVING TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT IN COMPUTER OFFERED OBVIOUS SOLUTIONS IN UPGRADING THE MOBILISING SYSTEM, MR HSU SAID.

A WORKING GROUP WAS SET UP TWO YEARS AGO TO PLAN AND FORMULATE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NEW SYSTEM. THIS GROUP COMPRISED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FIRE SERVICES, GOVERNMENT DATA PROCESSING AGENCY, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE POST OFFICE.

THE COMPUTER-ASSISTED MOBILISING SYSTEM WOULD PROVIDE GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN MOBILISING FIRE ENGINES AND AMBULANCES IN ORDER TO COPE WITH HONG KONG'S SPECIAL DEMANDS.

MR HSU EXPLAINED THAT THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE CENTRE OPERATORS SUCH AS STATUS OF FIRE AND AMBULANCE RESOURCES, APPROPRIATE FIRE AND AMBULANCE ATTENDANCE, AND THE SHORTEST ROUTE TO THE SCENE.

+THE NEW SYSTEM WILL ALSO INTERFACE WITH OTHER SYSTEMS, SUCH AS TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL AND AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS,+ HE SAID.

+ON OPERATING THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL, KNOWN AS THE +GREEN-WAVE SYSTEM+, ALL RESPONDING FIRE ENGINES WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY TO TRAVEL SPEEDILY WITHOUT DELAY ON THE PRE-SELECTED ROUTE TO THE SCENE WITH 'GREEN' TRAFFIC LIGHTS,+ HE SAID.

THE OPERATION OF THE AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM TRANSMISSION SYSTEM LINKED TO HOTELS, DEPARTMENT STORES, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER PREMISES WILL BE ENHANCED ON INTERFACING WITH THE NEW SYSTEM.

THE MOBILISING SYSTEM CURRENTLY IN USE, WITH 175 UNIFORMED STAFF, IS OPERATING AT THE SIXTH FLOOR AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION COMPLEX IN CANTON ROAD.

+THE EXISTING SYSTEM WILL NOT BE MOVED TO THE NEW HEADQUARTERS AND IS EXPECTED TO BE USED IN THE PRESENT LOCATION UNTIL THE END OF ITS SERVICEABLE LIFE,+ MR HSU SAID.

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TRAVEL SURVEY STARTS NEXT WEEK

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A SURVEY WILL BE CARRIED OUT NEXT MONTH TO IDENTIFY THE TRAVEL NEEDS OF RESIDENTS IN NORTH DISTRICT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY.

THE SURVEY, WHICH COVERS THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS, PURPOSE AND FREQUENCY OF JOURNEY MADE, DESTINATION, JOURNEY TIME AND MODE OF TRANSPORT, WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD.

A WORKING GROUP COMPRISING MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WAS SET UP LAST SEPTEMBER.

A TOTAL OF 1 000 HOUSEHOLDS HAS BEEN SELECTED RANDOMLY FROM BOTH THE NEW TOWN AND RURAL AREAS, REPRESENTING A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A TEAM OF STUDENTS FROM THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC WILL INTERVIEW HOUSEHOLDS FROM FEBRUARY 17 TO 28. RESIDENTS WHO ARE INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY WOULD BE INFORMED IN WRITING A WEEK BEFORE THE EXERCISE STARTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

RESULTS WOULD BE READY BY APRIL AND THE FINDINGS WOULD SERVE AS AN IMPORTANT REFERENCE FOR FUTURE PLANNING ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE IN THE DISTRICT, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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KWUN TONG DFCC SUPPORTS YOUDE FUND

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THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE RECENTLY RECEIVED A CHEQUE FOR THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE FUND FROM MEMBERS OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE.

THE CONTRIBUTION, AMOUNTING TO \$2 200, WAS PRESENTED TO THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDY CHAN, BY CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MR MAU KEI-ON.

THE DFCC, CONSISTING OF 15 UNOFFICIALS AND EIGHT OFFICIALS, HAD ALWAYS DEMONSTRATED THEIR CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY AFFAIRS PARTICULARLY ON CRIME PREVENTION AND WAYS TO COMBAT CRIME.

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NEW ROADS TO BE BUILT ON CHEUNG CHAU  
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A 300-METRE-LONG ROAD IS TO BE BUILT ON A PROPOSED CHEUNG CHAU RECLAMATION.

THE 10-METRE WIDE ROAD, RUNNING FROM TAI SHEK HAU TO SHUI HANG, TOGETHER WITH OTHER PROPOSED DISTRIBUTOR ROADS, WILL SERVE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS ON THE RECLAIMED LAND.

ALSO INCLUDED ARE CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIC LOADING AND UNLOADING AREA, AMENITY AREAS, AND TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN AIDS.

SOME EXISTING ROADS IN THE AREA WILL BE WIDENED AND SOME WILL BE CLOSED PERMANENTLY TO FACILITATE THE RECLAMATION WORK WHICH IS TO BE CARRIED OUT AROUND THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR.

IT WILL PROVIDE THREE HECTARES OF LAND FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL, A BUILDING MATERIALS DEPOT, A PUMPING STATION AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL ARE PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

OBJECTIONS SHOULD REACH THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BY MARCH 29.

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FREE FESTIVAL TICKETS AVAILABLE

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RESIDENTS OF YUEN LONG WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY MOST OF THE PERFORMANCES IN THE COMING DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL FREE OF CHARGE.

TO PROMOTE ART IN THE DISTRICT, ORGANISERS HAD EARMARKED SOME 26 OUT OF 39 EVENTS COVERING A WIDE VARIETY OF ARTS PRESENTATION FOR FREE ADMISSION.

APART FROM THE CHINESE CONCERT BY THE HONG KONG CHINESE ORCHESTRA IN THE OPENING CEREMONY ON FEBRUARY 10, THEY INCLUDE FOUR FILM SHOWS, ARTS EXHIBITIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS, DANCE AND MUSIC SHOWS AS WELL AS TWO PLAYS STAGED BY THE RENOWNED CHUNG YING THEATRE.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THESE PERFORMANCES WILL BE AVAILABLE TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE FROM THE PUBLIC ENQUIRIES COUNTER OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING, THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT, THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL AND THE LUT SAU HALL ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

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WAN CHAI VENUE FOR CHINESE CHESS COMPETITION  
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AN OPEN COMPETITION IN CHINESE CHESS WILL BE HELD IN WAN CHAI DISTRICT NEXT MONTH (FEBRUARY).

IT IS ONE OF THE EVENTS IN THE CHINESE CULTURAL FESTIVAL ORGANISED BY THE CULTURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD.

THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD AT THE HAPPY VALLEY AND CANAL ROAD KAI FONG ASSOCIATION DURING THE FESTIVAL WHICH WILL RUN FROM FEBRUARY 15 TO 22.

WAN CHAI RESIDENTS OVER 12 YEARS OF AGE ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AT 201, HENNESSY ROAD. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-742281.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS FEBRUARY 6.

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EXHIBITION OF STUDENTS' CREATIVE WORK  
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AN EXHIBITION OF THE CREATIVE WORK OF SECONDARY STUDENTS WILL BE HELD AT THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT, STARTING MONDAY (FEBRUARY 2).

ON DISPLAY WILL BE WINNING ENTRIES OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLS IN 1986 INCLUDING PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS.

IN ADDITION, THE EXHIBITION WILL CONSIST OF SELECTED ART WORK BY FORM 1 TO FORM 4 PUPILS AND GARMENTS AND NEEDLEWORK PROJECTS BY FORM 1 AND FORM 5 STUDENTS.

SCHOOL CHILDREN AND TEACHERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE EXHIBITION BETWEEN FEBRUARY 2 TO 14. OPENING HOURS WILL BE FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON WEEKDAYS, AND FROM 9 AM TO NOON ON SATURDAY.

SCHOOLS PLANNING GROUP VISITS TO THE EXHIBITION ARE REQUESTED TO NOTIFY THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE BY TELEPHONE 5-629205 BEFORE HAND FOR CO-ORDINATION PURPOSES.

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ROADS TO BE CLOSED IN SHEUNG WAN  
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TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF A PERMANENT MACAU FERRY BUS TERMINUS IN CENTRAL, TWO LOOP ROADS ADJACENT TO THE EXISTING TEMPORARY MACAU FERRY BUS TERMINUS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 2).

AFFECTED VEHICLES HEADING EAST CAN TRAVEL VIA SHUN TAK CENTRE AND THOSE HEADING WEST CAN PROCEED VIA THE TEMPORARY MACAU FERRY BUS TERMINUS.

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