



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, November 14, 1972

## NEW RADAR SYSTEM FOR HONG KONG AIRPORT

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A new radar system will be installed at the Hong Kong Airport to ensure continued efficient and safe handling of all the air traffic expected in the foreseeable future.

Called the Secondary Surveillance Radar, this new system is introduced as the final phase of a three-stage development plan.

The first stage involved mainly the rationalization of the workload of the air traffic controllers and improvement of their working conditions and has now been in operation for several months.

The second stage provides for new radio navigational aids and improvements to the existing primary surveillance radar to expand the capability of the present air traffic control system.

Three of the projects of this stage have already been completed and the remaining two are currently in hand.

With the installation of the Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR) and the equipping of the new Air Traffic Control Centre in the final stage, air traffic controllers will be able to handle more safely a greater number of aircraft and obtain more accurate information on the radar position of aircraft at ranges up to and in excess of 200 miles.

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The SSR system operates by sending out an interrogation signal from the ground radar to be received by the aircraft radar beacon, known as a transponder.

The aircraft, in reply, transmits a series of pulses in a number of combinations according to the information required on the ground.

The ground system receives the signals transmitted and automatically decodes them.

Thus the ground controller knows not only the range and bearing of the aircraft, which is supplemented with the help of the existing primary radars, but also additional information on its identity and altitude.

A 1971 survey of 27 airlines operating scheduled services through Hong Kong showed that at least 97 per cent of the aircraft flying in and out during busy periods in the afternoon were equipped with these transponders.

The existing primary radars will have to be retained to provide information on aircraft which either fail to respond to the ground radar, or are not equipped with transponders.

New equipment to be installed will include interrogation and decoding equipment, which will be located on Mount Parker, and processing equipment, which will register information obtained by the new radar with the three existing primary radars.

The cost and installation of this radar system is estimated to be around \$5.5 million.

In order to study the system in actual operation and to foresee any problems that might arise, two officers from the Civil Aviation Department visited a number of manufacturers in May this year, and made recommendations as to the final choice of equipment.

It is expected that the new radar system will be operational by mid-1974.

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WEATHER EXPERTS ATTEND ECAFE CONFERENCE

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The Director of the Royal Observatory, Mr. G.J. Bell, and the Senior Scientific Officer, Dr. P.C. Chin, left today for Bangkok to attend the 5th Session of the ECAFE - World Meteorological Organisation Typhoon Committee.

The six-day session which begins tomorrow will be attended by meteorological and hydrological experts from many countries including Australia, Germany, the United States and the Soviet Union.

Among the important items to be discussed will be disaster planning and community preparedness. It is probable the delegates from the Philippines and America will outline their plans for modifying typhoons during the 1973 session.

The Committee will also study the existing deficiencies in the warning of tropical cyclones and consider steps to accelerate the provision of basic meteorological and telecommunication facilities for the dissemination of information in some countries in the region.

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SPORTS EXHIBITION FOR HONG KONG

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Delegates from Japan, the Philippines and Singapore will attend a sports conference organised by the Amateur Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong in the City Hall on Saturday (November 18) afternoon.

The conference will deal with sports facilities now available in Hong Kong and the uses to which they are put, including sports and recreation programmes which are now carried out for the benefit of the public.

In connection with the conference, the Urban Services Department will stage a small Recreation and Amenities Exhibition in the City Hall's Low Block.

The Chief Justice, Sir Ivo Rigby, will officially open the exhibition which will be on display to the public free of charge from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. of the same day.

A spokesman for the Urban Services Department said today: "The purpose of the exhibition is to give people some idea of the range of sports facilities administered by the Recreation and Amenities Division."

There will be photographs of existing sports facilities, together with a chart illustrating their growth over the past years.

"In addition," he continued, "there will be models of future projects such as the Kai Tak East Indoor Games Hall, the Kowloon Indoor Stadium, the Ho Man Tin Stadium, the Causeway Bay Sports Training Centre and Valodrome and the Kowloon Park Chinese Garden."

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There will also be a model of the Hoi Sum Park and photographs of the Morrison Hill heated swimming pool, the first of its kind in Hong Kong.

The spokesman added that last year alone \$24 million was spent in the urban areas on building new recreational facilities.

It was also announced today that an exhibition of books on sports will be held at the adult lending library of the City Hall from Friday (November 17) till November 29.

Containing some 100 books, the exhibition covers a wide variety of sports and Olympic events.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and photographer to cover the opening ceremony by Sir Ivo Rigby which will take place at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday (November 18).

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### 248 LABOUR PROBLEMS SETTLED

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The Labour Relations Service of the Labour Department helped employers and employees settle 248 labour problems in October.

As a result of agreements reached, 1,285 employees received a total \$663,987.

Of this total 86 per cent was paid by employers as outstanding wages, payment in lieu of notice, statutory holiday pay and bonuses of a contractual nature under the Employment Ordinance and the Industrial Employment (Holidays with Pay and Sickness Allowance) Ordinance respectively.

The remaining 14 per cent or \$92,602 was paid, apart from legal entitlements, as severance pay and other ex gratia payments to employees.

Fresh nominal claims made by employees in the same month amounted to \$1,405,222.

Officers of various district branches of the Labour Relations Service also handled 1,609 consultations and enquiries about labour laws, industrial relations and personnel management. They visited 22 establishments to help employers introduce joint consultative machinery to strengthen communication between labour and management.

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#### HIGH HONG KONG COST SCHEME SUSPENDED

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The Director of Commerce and Industry announced today that the High Hong Kong Cost Content Schemes for finished piece goods and for made-ups and garments to Britain has been suspended for the rest of the year.

In its place, an Export Authorisation Scheme has been introduced to make up the uncommitted balances available to all comers.

Trade associations and companies on the Commerce and Industry Department's notice to exporters, series one (Britain) will receive copies of the notice shortly.

However, people who want advance information are asked to contact Mr. H.T.W. Lau, telephone number H-430719 or Mr. C.K. Ng, H-446789.

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#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

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Thirteen official members of the Legislative Council will speak tomorrow (November 15) when the debate resumes on the motion of thanks for the Governor's address on October 18.

The order of speakers is as follows: Mr. D.R.W. Alexander, Mr. D.C. Bray, Mr. J. Canning, Mr. J. Cater, Mr. D.H. Jordan, Mr. I.M. Lightbody, Mr. J.J. Robson, Mr. G.T. Rowe, Mr. Paul K.C. Tsui, the Secretary for Home Affairs, the Attorney General, the Financial Secretary and the Colonial Secretary.

The day's business includes the committee stage and third reading of the three bills -- Accountants Bill 1972, Magistrates (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 1972 and the Probate and Administration (Amendment) Bill 1972.

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#### WATER INTERRUPTION IN MONG KOK

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Water supply to a number of premises in Mong Kok will be turned off temporarily for five hours from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Thursday (November 16).

This is to enable the Water Works Office to carry out a leakage test.

The area affected is bounded by Canton Road, Shan Tung Street, Nathan Road, Argyle Street and Tong Mei Road.

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#### QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS

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The Port Health Authority announced today that quarantine restrictions have been imposed against arrivals from Bahrain (excluding airport) and Butuan (port), Philippines, because of cholera.

At the same time, quarantine restrictions against arrivals from Delhi (excluding airport), India, because of smallpox have been removed.

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Release time: 6.30 p.m.