



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1978

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OCTOBER RAINFALL WAS FIVE TIMES MORE THAN NORMAL

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THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY RECORDED 501.4 MM OF RAIN LAST MONTH — FIVE TIMES MORE THAN NORMAL AND THE FOURTH HIGHEST FOR OCTOBER.

OF THIS FIGURE MORE THAN HALF (284.8 MM) WAS RECORDED ON OCTOBER 17, THE HIGHEST DAILY RAINFALL FOR ANY OCTOBER SINCE 1923.

THE TOTAL RAINFALL FROM THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR TO THE END OF LAST MONTH AMOUNTED TO 2,521.9 MM COMPARED WITH THE NORMAL FIGURE OF 2,182.3 MM FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE OBSERVATORY ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE RAINFALL OF 2,102 MM BETWEEN MAY AND OCTOBER LIES WITHIN THE RANGE OF 1,800 - 2,200 MM AS PREDICTED IN ITS WEATHER BULLETIN AT THE BEGINNING OF MAY.

THE MONTH WAS ALSO THE MOST WINDY IN RECENT YEARS BECAUSE OF THE INTENSE CONTINENTAL ANTICYCLONE OVER CHINA COMBINED WITH THREE TROPICAL CYCLONES OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 13.5 DEGREES CELSIUS ON OCTOBER 30 WAS THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE EVER RECORDED IN OCTOBER.

DURING THE MONTH THERE WERE EIGHT TROPICAL CYCLONES OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC. FOR THREE OF THEM — TYPHOON LOLA, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM NINA AND TYPHOON RITA — TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE HOISTED IN HONG KONG.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH THERE WERE HEAVY SHOWERS AND STRONG EASTERLIES ASSOCIATED WITH TYPHOON LOLA. HOWEVER, THE WEATHER GRADUALLY IMPROVED AS LOLA WEAKENED AND CROSSED HAINAN ON OCTOBER 2. A COLD FRONT PASSED HONG KONG IN THE EARLY MORNING OF OCTOBER 5 AND THE WEATHER BECAME CLOUDY WITH SHOWERS AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS. CONDITIONS IMPROVED ON OCTOBER 7 AND THE FOLLOWING SEVEN DAYS WERE FINE AND DRY.

ON CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL, OCTOBER 10, A TOTAL OF 150 FIRES WERE REPORTED DESPITE THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNINGS ISSUED BY THE OBSERVATORY.

THE APPROACH OF NINA ENDED THE FINE AND DRY WEATHER AND CONDITIONS BECAME CLOUDY ON OCTOBER 15. HEAVY RAIN SET IN DURING THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON AND PERSISTED UNTIL THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 17. THE HEAVIEST DOWNPOUR OCCURRED BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 3 A.M. ON OCTOBER 17 WHEN THE OBSERVATORY RECORDED 105.2 MM OF RAINFALL. CONDITIONS BEGAN TO IMPROVE ON OCTOBER 18 AND MAINLY FINE WEATHER WAS AGAIN EXPERIENCED FROM OCTOBER 21 UNTIL OCTOBER 27. VERY DRY CONDITIONS WERE EXPERIENCED FROM OCTOBER 28 UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH AND THE LAST TWO DAYS WERE BRILLIANTLY FINE.

DURING THE MONTH 19 AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS. A THUNDERSTORM WARNING WAS ISSUED ON OCTOBER 5 AND A HEAVY RAIN WARNING ON OCTOBER 17.

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TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF
AP LEI CHAU RESERVOIRS

WORK IS TO BEGIN SHORTLY ON THE AP LEI CHAU FRESH AND SALT WATER SERVICE RESERVOIRS TO COPE WITH DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ISLAND.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK WERE INVITED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

A P.W.D. SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PROJECT INVOLVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 20,000 CUBIC METRE RESERVOIR, A 1,500 CUBIC METRE SALT WATER RESERVOIR AND A 680-METRE-LONG ACCESS ROAD AT THE WESTERN PART OF AP LEI CHAU.

IT ALSO INCLUDED THE LAYING OF ABOUT 4,000 METRES OF FRESH AND SALT WATER MAINS, HE ADDED.

THE PROJECT IS PART OF A SCHEME, WHICH ALSO INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SALT WATER PUMPING STATION, TO PROVIDE FRESH AND SALT WATER SUPPLY TO THE NORTHERN PART OF THE ISLAND WHERE INTENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IS TAKING PLACE.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 19 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR AUGUST

THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1978, SHOW A SURPLUS OF \$28.3 MILLION, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$168.7 MILLION IN AUGUST LAST YEAR. THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED SURPLUS OF \$2.9 MILLION FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$222.5 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE, AT \$761.5 MILLION, WAS \$90.7 MILLION MORE THAN IN AUGUST, 1977.

TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS, AT \$789.8 MILLION, WERE \$287.7 MILLION MORE THAN FOR THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

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SUBMARINE OUTFALL PLANNED FOR KWUN TONG

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PLANS TO BUILD A SUBMARINE OUTFALL FOR THE PROPOSED NEW SCREENING PLANT IN KWUN TONG AND TO ENABLE EFFLUENT TO BE DISCHARGED INTO THE HARBOUR'S TIDAL STREAM FOR DISPERSION.

THE SUBMARINE OUTFALL, SAID A P.W.D. SPOKESMAN, WOULD BE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF AN AREA OF ABOUT 12.8 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED OFF WING YIP STREET, KWUN TONG.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED INVOLVED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTIFICATION IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

THE NOTICE CALLS ON ANYONE HAVING OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL, OR ANY CLAIMS OF PRIVATE RIGHT, TO SUBMIT THEM IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

THIS MUST BE DONE WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE GAZETTE NOTIFICATION.

THE NOTICE IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, WITH THE RELATED PLAN, CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN SHOWING THE AREA INVOLVED ALSO CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- * PORT WORKS DIVISION, FIRST FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG-
- * CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG- AND
- * CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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LEI MUK SHUE FIRE STATION,
AMBULANCE DEPOT OPENED
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MR. FRANCIS TIEN, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, DESCRIBED THE PROVISION OF A NEW FIRE STATION AND AMBULANCE DEPOT IN KWAI CHUNG AS +A FURTHER STAGE IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENTAL FACILITIES IN THIS AREA.+

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE LEI MUK SHUE FIRE STATION AND AMBULANCE DEPOT TODAY.

+THESE PREMISES SERVE TO INDICATE THAT GOVERNMENT IS NOT NEGLECTING THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES WHICH EVERY MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY HAS A RIGHT TO EXPECT, THAT THE SAFETY AND CONCERN OF OUR PEOPLE IS KEPT TO THE FORE AND IN TIMES OF NEED AND EMERGENCY PROPERLY TRAINED PERSONNEL AND ESSENTIAL APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT ARE READY TO PROVIDE AID AND ASSISTANCE,+ MR. TIEN SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE BUILDINGS ARE UNIQUE AS THEY ARE THE FIRST COMBINED FIRE STATION AND AMBULANCE DEPOT THAT HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND BUILT IN HONG KONG.

THE TOTAL COST OF THE BUILDINGS AND THE EQUIPMENT IS \$6.2 MILLION AND IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE ANNUAL RECURRENT COST WILL BE \$2.4 MILLION.

MR. TIEN SAID THESE COSTS SERVED TO EMPHASISE THE INCREASING FINANCIAL EXPENDITURE WHICH THE PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY SERVICES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG REQUIRED.

+WHEN WE SEE THE CONSTANTLY EXPANDING RATE OF DEVELOPMENT NOW TAKING PLACE WE CAN READILY APPRECIATE WHY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURE NOW TOTALS \$140 MILLION PER ANNUM,+ MR. TIEN ADDED.

THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES) MR. ALAN JONES, WHO ALSO SPOKE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY SAID THE PREMISES HAD BEEN PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE FIRE AND AMBULANCE SERVICE TO THE AREA FOR ALMOST FIVE MONTHS.

+THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THESE PREMISES HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION IN ENABLING FIRE APPLIANCES AND AMBULANCES TO REACH SOME LOCATIONS WITHOUT TOO MUCH DELAY,+ HE SAID.

DUE TO VERY SERIOUS TRAFFIC CONGESTION PROBLEMS, MR. JONES NOTED, FIRE APPLIANCES AND AMBULANCES ARE STILL BEING DELAYED IN ARRIVING AT INCIDENTS WHEN HAVING TO TRAVERSE LEI MUK SHUE ROAD AND WO YI HOP ROAD DURING DAY TIME.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED: +BE ASSURED, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO OVERCOME THESE DIFFICULTIES AND WE SHALL MEET OUR COMMITMENT AND DUTY TO BRING AID AND COMFORT TO THE COMMUNITY.+

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AMENDMENT TO TWO ORDINANCES PROPOSED

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A BILL WHICH SEEKS TO UPDATE THE LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE ADJOURNMENT OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS DURING THE THREAT OF A TROPICAL STORM WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS (ADJOURNMENT DURING GALE WARNINGS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978 SEEKS TO MAKE THE DURATION OF A GALE WARNING DEPEND UPON THE TIMES AT WHICH THE DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY ISSUES OR CANCELS SUCH WARNING RATHER THAN UPON THE VISUAL DISPLAY OF A TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNAL.

IT ALSO ENABLES THE INTRODUCTION OF TECHNICALLY CORRECT TERMINOLOGY TO DESCRIBE GALE WARNING SIGNALS.

ANOTHER BILL WHICH AMENDS THE PARTITION ORDINANCE IS ALSO PROPOSED.

THE AMENDMENTS SEEK TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR CONSENT OF MORTGAGEES WHERE COURT PROCEEDINGS ARE INSTITUTED IN RESPECT OF A PROPERTY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +SUCH A RESTRICTION WHICH IS OPEN TO ABUSE IS UNNECESSARY BECAUSE ADEQUATE PROTECTION IS ALREADY GIVEN TO MORTGAGEES BY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE.+

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RESTRICTIONS ON GOODS VEHICLES ALONG CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 19) TWO SECTIONS OF THE CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL GOODS VEHICLES FOR FIVE HOURS ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

THE SECTION OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD (EASTBOUND) BETWEEN KWUN TONG ROAD AND FEI NGO SHAN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO THESE VEHICLES FROM 9 A.M. TO 2 P.M., WHILE THE WESTBOUND SECTION BETWEEN HIRAM'S HIGHWAY AND ANDERSON ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 2 P.M. TO 7 P.M.

GOODS VEHICLE DRIVERS WHO WISH TO USE THESE SECTIONS OF THE ROAD DURING THE SPECIFIED PERIODS MUST OBTAIN THE RELEVANT CLOSED ROAD PERMITS FROM THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE PERMITS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AT GUARDIAN HOUSE, 32 01 KWAN ROAD, FIFTH FLOOR, HONG KONG.

SAI KUNG RESIDENTS MAY APPLY FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE (SAI KUNG) AT SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE AREA.

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FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON EIGHT DAYS NEXT MONTH (DECEMBER).

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
DECEMBER 1 (FRIDAY)	8.30 A.M. -- 5 P.M.
DECEMBER 6 (WEDNESDAY)	9 A.M. -- 4.30 P.M.
DECEMBER 8 (FRIDAY)	9 A.M. -- 4.30 P.M.
DECEMBER 11 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. -- 4 P.M.
DECEMBER 13 (WEDNESDAY)	9 A.M. -- 4.30 P.M.
DECEMBER 14 (THURSDAY)	9 A.M. -- 4.30 P.M.
DECEMBER 20 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 A.M. -- 5 P.M.
DECEMBER 21 (THURSDAY)	8.30 A.M. -- 5 P.M.
