



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, JULY 24, 1977

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COMPUTERISED WATER BILLING STARTS ON WEDNESDAY
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THE P.W.D.'S WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN ISSUING THE FIRST OF ITS NEW COMPUTERISED WATER ACCOUNTS ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 27).

COMPUTER BILLS WILL BE ISSUED FIRST TO TRADE CONSUMERS OF WHICH THERE ARE A TOTAL 74,000 IN HONG KONG, WHO ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN 40 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL WATER CONSUMPTION.

COMPUTERISATION WILL BE EXTENDED TO THE REST OF HONG KONG'S 720,000 REGISTERED CONSUMERS OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

ABOUT 5,000 BILLS WILL BE SENT OUT ON WEDNESDAY TO LAUNCH THE COMPUTER ACCOUNTING. THEY WILL COVER TRADE CONSUMERS IN WAN CHAI AND THE EASTERN PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND.

+COMPUTERISATION WILL IMPROVE THE ISSUE OF WATER BILLS AND REMINDER BILLS, PROCESS INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS AND THE CONTROL LEDGERS AND ALSO PROVIDE A QUICKER RESPONSE TO CUSTOMER QUERIES,+ A WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

+COMPUTER BILLS WILL ALSO HAVE A MORE INFORMATIVE FORMAT, PROVIDING SUCH ADDITIONAL DATA AS THE CUSTOMER'S METER NUMBER, DEPOSIT NUMBER AND AMOUNT, PREVIOUS READING DATE AND BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE LAST BILL.

+AN IMPORTANT POINT WHICH TRADE ACCOUNT CONSUMERS SHOULD NOTE IS THAT THEIR ACCOUNT NUMBERS HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY NEW ONES COMPRISING 14 DIGITS.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUING PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND CONSUMER SERVICES HAD PROMPTED THE INTRODUCTION OF COMPUTER ACCOUNTING. A RAPID RISE IN THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED CONSUMERS HAD ALSO MADE COMPUTER BILLING INEVITABLE.

+AT PRESENT, NEW ACCOUNTS ARE COMING IN AT THE RATE OF 4,500 A MONTH,+ HE SAID.

THE BILLING SCHEDULE FOR BOTH TRADE AND DOMESTIC CONSUMERS WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY COMPUTERISATION, AND ALL REGISTERED CONSUMERS SHOULD EXPECT TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THEIR BILLS AT INTERVALS OF ONCE EVERY FOUR MONTHS.

FOR THE TIME BEING, DOMESTIC AND OTHER CONSUMERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE BILLED UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM. THEY WILL BE COMPUTERISED AFTER THE TRADE ACCOUNTS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED AND ARE OPERATING SMOOTHLY.

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ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN TO BE HELD IN SHAM SHUI PO IN NOVEMBER
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A LARGE SCALE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN WILL BE LAUNCHED IN SHAM SHUI PO IN NOVEMBER TO DRIVE THE ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE HOME TO MORE THAN 500,000 PEOPLE LIVING IN THE DISTRICT.

THE CAMPAIGN IS ONE OF A SERIES OF DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR BY THE PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN).

A COMMITTEE, COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM 32 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, SOCIAL WORK AGENCIES, LOCAL KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS AND AREA COMMITTEES, HAS BEEN FORMED TO CARRY OUT PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

THE CAMPAIGN WILL BEGIN ON OCTOBER 30 AND LAST FOR ONE MONTH. IT IS MAINLY AIMED AT EDUCATING YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE AND, AT THE SAME TIME, ENCOURAGING THEM TO DEVELOP A GREATER INTEREST IN HEALTHY ACTIVITIES.

A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTHS, INCLUDING EXHIBITIONS, VARIETY SHOWS, SPORTS COMPETITION, FILM SHOWS, MOBILE THEATRE SHOWS, VISITS TO DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT INSTITUTIONS, A SEMINAR, AND AN OPEN-AIR DRAWING COMPETITION WILL BE ORGANISED DURING THE CAMPAIGN.

INTENSIVE BACK-UP PUBLICITY WILL ALSO BE MOUNTED BY USING TELEVISION, RADIO, NEWSPAPERS, POSTERS AND BANNERS, SO AS TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF THE CAMPAIGN TO OTHER PARTS OF HONG KONG.

COMMENTING ON THE CAMPAIGN, MR. CANICE MAK, SHAM SHUI PO CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE CAMPAIGN WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.

MR. MAK RECALLED THAT A SIMILAR CAMPAIGN HELD IN KOWLOON CITY LAST YEAR ACHIEVED VERY GOOD RESULTS AND HE SAID THAT WITH STRONG SUPPORT AND BACKING FROM ALL KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS AND AREA COMMITTEES IN SHAM SHUI PO, THIS CAMPAIGN WOULD CERTAINLY BE A SUCCESSFUL ONE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SAID SHAM SHUI PO WAS PROBABLY THE MOST CHALLENGING DISTRICT SINCE THE PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF ACAN BEGAN ORGANISING A PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN IN A DIFFERENT DISTRICT OF HONG KONG EACH YEAR.

IT WOULD TAKE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF EFFORT TO REACH MORE THAN 120,000 HOUSEHOLDS SPREAD OVER AN AREA OF 1,600 ACRES IN THE DISTRICT, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF THE CAMPAIGN WAS TO AROUSE PUBLIC SUPPORT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

A LARGE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE WERE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN ORGANISING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CAMPAIGN, HE SAID.

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GOVERNOR VISITS COMPUTER FACTORY

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL PAY A VISIT TO AMPEX FERROTEC LIMITED, MAKERS OF COMPUTER PARTS, AT CHEUNG SHA WAN ON MONDAY (JULY 25).

THIS IS ANOTHER IN THE SERIES OF VISITS THE GOVERNOR MAKES PERIODICALLY TO FACTORIES TO SEE FOR HIMSELF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS.

HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. BILL DORWARD.

AMPEX FERROTEC LIMITED WAS FOUNDED IN HONG KONG IN 1961, AND HAS EXPANDED RAPIDLY TO BECOME ONE OF HONG KONG'S LEADING ELECTRONICS COMPANIES. IT HAS ALSO PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCAL ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY.

THE COMPANY SPECIALISES IN THE DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE OF COMPUTER SUB-ASSEMBLIES AND COMPUTER PERIPHERAL EQUIPMENT INCLUDING MAGNETIC CORE MEMORY PLANES, MAGNETIC CORE MEMORY SYSTEMS AND NUMEROUS OTHER SUB-SYSTEMS.

THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY IS THE SECOND LARGEST INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG TODAY IN TERMS OF VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, EXCEEDED ONLY BY THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY. IN MARCH 1977, THERE WERE OVER 650 ELECTRONICS FACTORIES EMPLOYING MORE THAN 68,000 WORKERS OR ABOUT 9 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE.

THE INDUSTRY STARTED WITH THE ASSEMBLY OF TRANSISTOR RADIOS IN THE LATE 1950'S. SINCE THEN, IT HAS DIVERSIFIED INTO THE MANUFACTURE AND ASSEMBLY OF A WIDE RANGE OF SOPHISTICATED PRODUCTS AND COMPONENTS.

IN 1976, DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS TOTALLED NEARLY \$4,000 MILLION, OR ABOUT 12 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS. IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, EXPORTS ROSE BY OVER 20 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE VISIT. SIR MURRAY WILL ARRIVE AT THE FACTORY AT 3 P.M. ON MONDAY (JULY 25). THE FACTORY IS SITUATED AT NO. 603 TAI NAM WEST STREET, CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVE IS KINDLY ASKED TO BE AT THE FACTORY A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE GOVERNOR.

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COMMUNICATORS VITAL TO AIRCRAFT SAFETY
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WHILE PASSENGERS ARE CHECKING IN AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, A GROUP OF COMMUNICATORS OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT WILL AT THE SAME TIME BE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE THEM A SAFE JOURNEY.

WORKING IN THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE AT THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING, THE COMMUNICATORS COLLECT AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION AND NOTICES TO AIRMEN (NOTAM) FOR DISSEMINATION TO AIRLINES.

+THE INFORMATION IS MOST VITAL TO AIR CREWS WHEN THEY ARE COMPUTING THEIR FLIGHT PLANS,+ SAID MR. CHU HARK-KEUNG, THE SENIOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICER.

+AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION AND NOTAMS, COLLECTED THROUGH GROUND-TO-GROUND FIXED RADIO NETWORKS, CONTAIN THE FULLEST DETAILS OF FACILITIES AVAILABLE FROM THE LATEST SITUATION REPORTS AT AIRPORTS LIKE MANILA, SINGAPORE, BANGKOK, TOKYO, OSAKA, AND EVEN AS FAR AS SYDNEY, + HE EXPLAINED.

+FOR EXAMPLE, THE CANCELLATION OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, REPAIRS BEING CARRIED OUT ON A PARTICULAR RUNWAY, LIMITATION OF RADAR SERVICE, OR NOTIFICATION OF OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AFFECTING OPERATIONS OF AIRPORTS ARE LISTED WITH THE SPECIFIC DATE, TIME AND LOCATION.

+AS FOR THE METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION SUPPLIED TO AIRLINES= THIS INCLUDES WIND DIRECTION AND SPEED, VISIBILITY, CLOUD COVERAGES, TEMPERATURES, DEW POINT, ALTIMETER SETTING AND FUTURE WEATHER FORECASTS,+ MR. CHU WENT ON.

+WITH THE INFORMATION FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE, AIR CREWS CAN DECIDE ON THE PREFERRED TIME OF TAKE OFF, THE ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL AT THEIR DESTINATIONS, THE QUANTITY OF FUEL, THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS TO BE CARRIED, THE BULK OF GOODS THAT CAN BE TRANSPORTED AND THE BEST ROUTES TO TAKE,+ HE ADDED.

+THE FLIGHT PLANS ARE FILED IN THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN FINALIZED BY THE AIRLINE STAFF AND FLIGHT CREWS. THE AIRPORTS LISTED IN THESE FLIGHT PLANS AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE THEN INFORMED OF THE APPROPRIATE DETAILS.+

+THESE FLIGHT PLANS ARE FIRST CONVERTED INTO A FORM SUITABLE FOR THE TRANSMISSION MEDIUM AND THEN DISSEMINATED THROUGH LANDLINE OR RADIO TELEPRINTER CIRCUITS,+ MR. CHU CONTINUED.

HOWEVER THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNICATORS IN PROTECTING AIR TRAVELLERS DOES NOT END AT THIS STAGE.

+AFTER AN AIRLINER TAKES OFF FROM KAI TAK IT REMAINS UNDER AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMUNICATION UNTIL IT IS 200 MILES FROM HONG KONG. THEREAFTER THE AIRCRAFT TRANSFERS TO EN ROUTE CHANNELS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE AEROMOBILE OFFICE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE,+ MR. CHU SAID.

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+AS THE FLIGHT PROGRESSES ALONG THE ROUTE (WHICH IS ALSO KNOWN AS AN AIRWAY), IT REPORTS ITS POSITION AND ALTITUDE OVER A SERIES OF MANDATORY REPORTING POINTS AND ALSO ITS ESTIMATED TIME OVER THE NEXT CHECKPOINT= AFTER RECEIVING A POSITION REPORT, THE COMMUNICATOR WILL DISSEMINATE IT TO THE CONTROL AUTHORITIES AND THE AIRLINE CONCERNED,+ HE ADDED.

THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE ALSO ASSISTS BY RELAYING WEATHER INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM AIRCRAFT AT SPECIFIC REPORTING CHECKPOINTS ALONG THEIR FLIGHT PATH, TO THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE SO THAT OTHER FLIGHTS MAY BE MADE AWARE OF POSSIBLE ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS IF CONSIDERED NECESSARY.

ANOTHER FACILITY PROVIDED BY THE CENTRE IS THE BROADCAST SERVICE. AT 30-MINUTE INTERVALS, COMMUNICATORS BROADCAST WEATHER REPORTS AND FORECASTS CONCERNING HONG KONG AND OTHER REGIONAL AIRPORTS. AIRCRAFT FLYING WITHIN 1,000 MILES OF HONG KONG ARE ABLE TO MONITOR THIS WEATHER INFORMATION.

AT PRESENT, THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE IS MANNED ROUND-THE-CLOCK BY A TOTAL OF 70 QUALIFIED STAFF.

+AS A COMMUNICATOR, ONE HAS TO REMAIN ALERT AT ALL TIMES AND BE QUICK TO RESPOND TO EVENTUALITIES,+ MR. CHU STRESSED.

+THIS CHALLENGING JOB NO LONGER REMAINS THE SOLE PROVINCE OF MEN HOWEVER FOR THE FIRST TIME, FOUR YOUNG WOMEN HAVE RECENTLY COMPLETED THE INITIAL ONE YEAR COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING COURSE. THEY ARE NOW COMPETENTLY PERFORMING IDENTICAL DUTIES TO THOSE OF THEIR MALE COUNTERPARTS,+ HE ADDED.

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SEMINAR FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADMASTERS ON CHINESE CURRICULUM
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ABOUT 600 PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADMASTERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND A SEMINAR ON THE CHINESE CURRICULUM TOMORROW (MONDAY) AT THE HO MAN TIN GOVERNMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL.

THE SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE LANGUAGE SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, WILL BE REPEATED ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY (JULY 26 AND 27).

THE SEMINAR WILL FAMILIARISE THE HEADMASTERS WITH THE CHARACTERISTICS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW CHINESE CURRICULUM AT PRIMARY LEVEL. PLENARY SESSIONS ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TEACHING ASPECTS OF THE CURRICULUM WILL ALSO BE HELD.

SOME OF THE HEADMASTERS AND THE HEADS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF CHINESE OF THE THREE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION WILL GIVE TALKS, FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSIONS.

THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (CHINESE), MR. SO FAI-CHO WILL TAKE THE CHAIR AND SUM UP THE DISCUSSIONS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SEMINAR WHICH WILL LAST FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M. ON EACH OF THE THREE DAYS.

HO MAN TIN GOVERNMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL IS AT PERTH STREET, KOWLOON.

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