



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1977

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

\$1.5 MILLION COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES	1
PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES HANDLED ONE MILLION ENQUIRIES AND CASES IN FIRST TEN MONTHS THIS YEAR	2
SIX YOUNG MUSICIANS AWARDED GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP	3
NEW BUS TERMINUS FOR KWAI CHUNG	3
NEW LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE 'HOT LINE'	4
HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENT FOR MARINE DEPARTMENT	4

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1977

- 1 -

\$1.5 MILLION COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES
*** * * * ***

THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARDS RECEIVED MORE THAN 600 APPLICATIONS DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1977 -- A DECREASE OF 233 CASES OR 27 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

IN ITS FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED TODAY (WEDNESDAY), MR. ROBERT WEI, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS, SAID THAT THE DECREASE WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO A DECLINE IN INCIDENCES OF PERSONAL INJURIES RESULTED FROM VIOLENT CRIME ALONG WITH A GROWING AWARENESS ON CRIME PREVENTION.

WHILE THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS INDICATED A DOWNWARD TREND, THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION DROPPED ONLY SLIGHTLY TO \$1.5 MILLION AS COMPARED WITH \$1.6 MILLION LAST YEAR. THE BIGGEST SINGLE PAYMENT OF \$16,000 WAS MADE TO THE DEPENDANTS OF AN UNLICENSED HAWKER WHO DIED IN A FIGHT OVER A MONEY DISPUTE.

THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR COVERED 17.2 PER CENT OF THE 3,619 CASES OF REPORTED CRIMES OF VIOLENCE INVOLVING PERSONAL INJURIES.

AMONG THE 623 APPLICATIONS, 65 PER CENT OF THE CASES INVOLVED ASSAULT AND WOUNDING, WHILE ROBBERY AND BURGLARY TOOK UP 27 PER CENT.

ALTHOUGH NO APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION WAS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR FOR INJURIES CAUSED BY LAW ENFORCING OFFICERS, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARD CONVENED TWICE TO SETTLE TWO CASES CARRIED OVER FROM THE PRECEDING YEAR.

THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION SCHEME, WHICH GRANTS COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS SUFFERING FROM PERSONAL INJURIES IN CRIMES OF VIOLENCE OR INJURIES CAUSED BY WEAPONS USED BY PUBLIC OFFICERS IN THE EXECUTION OF THEIR DUTIES, HAS BEEN GENERALLY RECOGNISED AS AN EFFICIENT WAY OF PROVIDING CASH ASSISTANCE SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1973.

THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION IS DETERMINED BY A PENAL OF BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND IS PAID OUT FROM PUBLIC FUNDS THROUGH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

IN CASES WHERE THE VICTIM WAS KILLED OR SUFFERED INJURIES AS A RESULT OF CRIME PREVENTION OR MAKING SUCH ATTEMPTS, THE BOARDS ARE EMPOWERED TO INCREASE COMPENSATION UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 100 PER CENT.

/WHEN ASSESSING

- 2 -

WHEN ASSESSING PAYMENT, ACCOUNT IS ALSO TAKEN OF ANY SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY WHICH THE VICTIM HAS TO BEAR FOR HIS INJURY WITH THE POSSIBILITY THAT HIS COMPENSATION WOULD BE REDUCED OR HIS APPLICATION REJECTED ALTOGETHER.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES OF THE SCHEME HAS OFTEN BEEN KEPT UNDER REVIEW TO REDUCE THE TIME REQUIRED FOR PROCESSING AN APPLICATION, AND REVISED SYSTEM OF OBTAINING FACTUAL REPORTS ON INCIDENTS OF CRIME DIRECT FROM POLICE DIVISIONS INSTEAD OF FROM CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS WAS INTRODUCED IN DECEMBER 1976.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION CENTRES HANDLED
A MILLION ENQUIRIES
* * * * *

THE 22 PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES OF THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT HAVE HANDLED NEARLY ONE MILLION ENQUIRIES AND CASES DURING THE 10-MONTH PERIOD FROM JANUARY TO OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

THESE CONCERNED GENERAL ENQUIRIES, STATUTORY DECLARATIONS AND COMPLAINTS. THE CENTRES, WHICH ARE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, ALSO DISTRIBUTED OVER A MILLION FORMS AND BOOKLETS.

DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW, A TOTAL OF 824,185 ENQUIRIES WERE RECEIVED. SOME OF THE POPULAR SUBJECTS CONCERNED GOVERNMENT JOBS OR VACANCIES, APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HOUSING, TECHNICAL EDUCATION, LOCATION OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS AND AIDS.

THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES HANDLED 132,135 CASES, 93.2 PER CENT OF WHICH WERE STATUTORY DECLARATIONS. MATTERS OF STATUTORY DECLARATION CONCERNED APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS, REGISTRATION OR POST REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE, AND EMIGRATION.

THERE WERE ALSO CASES OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS WHICH NEEDED FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS. DURING THE PERIOD, 2,794 COMPLAINTS WERE DEALT WITH.

APART FROM THESE, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES ALSO ATTENDED TO PERSONAL PROBLEMS AND DISPUTES WHICH INVOLVED GIVING ADVICE, THE INTERPRETATION OF GOVERNMENT POLICY OR LEGAL MATTERS AND MEDIATION.

AS REGARDS THE DISTRIBUTION OF FORMS AND BOOKLETS, THERE WAS A GREAT DEMAND FOR ENROLMENT FORMS FOR THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT POSTS.

ANOTHER ENQUIRY SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, WHICH IS MANNED ROUND THE CLOCK DURING TYPHOONS, CONCERNS STORM INFORMATION.

THIS SERVICE WAS IN OPERATION ON EIGHT OCCASIONS DURING THE 10-MONTH PERIOD, AND A TOTAL OF 23,444 ENQUIRIES WERE HANDLED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1977

- 3 -

SIX MUSICIANS GET FIRST GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP
* * * * *

SIX YOUNG MUSICIANS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE FIRST GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP TO RECEIVE TRAINING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THEY WILL LEAVE FOR BRITAIN EARLY IN JANUARY TO STUDY AT THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA.

THE SIX TALENTED YOUNG MUSICIANS COME FROM DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE, SAID MR. GORDON SIU, MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, ANNOUNCING THE SCHOLARSHIPS TODAY.

+THREE ARE YOUNG PLAYERS RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNMENT BY THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY. THE OTHER THREE ARE STUDENTS.+

.....

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER TO COVER A PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT 2.30 P.M. ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 30) IN G.I.S. THEATRE, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, FIFTH FLOOR, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR WILL INTRODUCE THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW BUS TERMINUS FOR KWAI CHUNG
* * * * *

THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE BUILDING OF A NEW BUS TERMINUS IN KWAI CHUNG TO SERVE THE NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA.

MR. ROBIN SAUNDERS, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE HIGHWAYS (N.T.) DIVISION, SAID THAT THE WORK INVOLVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A THREE-BAY BUS TERMINUS, A 300-METRE-LONG SERVICE ROAD AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS.

THE NEW BUS TERMINUS WOULD BE SITUATED NORTH OF THE CONTAINER BERTH IN KWAI CHUNG, HE SAID.

+ON COMPLETION,+ MR. SAUNDERS SAID, +THE BUS TERMINUS WILL SERVE THE NEARBY TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA AS WELL AS THE ADJOINING INDUSTRIAL AREA NOW BEING DEVELOPED.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT NINE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE HIGHWAYS (N.T.) DIVISION ON BEHALF OF THE TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE P.W.D.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1977

- 4 -

NEW LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE +HOT-LINE+
* * * *

THE AFTER OFFICE HOURS TELEPHONE +HOT-LINE+ FOR URGENT CONSULTATIONS WITH THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE ON EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE MATTERS WILL BE CHANGED TO 5-755900 AS FROM JANUARY 1.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (WEDNESDAY), CHIEF LABOUR OFFICER, TSUI TIM-FOOK, SAID THE MAN BEHIND THIS TELEPHONE WILL BE MR. NG PING-TIM WHO WILL TAKE OVER FROM SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER, MR. CHAN SIU-TUNG.

SAID MR. TSUI: +THIS AFTER OFFICE HOURS SERVICE SHOULD BE USED ONLY FOR URGENT CONSULTATIONS ON EMERGENCY MATTERS.

+ORDINARY CONSULTATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE MADE THROUGH DISTRICT LABOUR RELATIONS OFFICES DURING NORMAL HOURS,+ HE SAID.

-----0-----

MARINE DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENT
* * * * *

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE CLOSED ON JANUARY 2 (MONDAY), A GENERAL HOLIDAY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF :

- * WAN CHAI AND YAU MA TEI PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS, AND PORT COMMUNICATION CENTRE WHICH WILL OPEN CONTINUOUSLY=
- * MACAU FERRY WHARF UNIT OFFICES WHICH WILL OPEN FROM 7.30 A.M. TO 1.30 A.M. ON THE NEXT DAY= AND
- * VICTORIA SMALL CRAFT LICENSING OFFICE WHICH WILL OPEN FROM 9 A.M. TO 11 A.M. ON THAT DAY.

-----0-----