



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1981

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AIRPORT STUDIES FOR CHEK LAP KOK  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS ENGAGED CONSULTANTS TO CARRY OUT AN AIRPORT MASTER PLANNING STUDY AS PART OF A SERIES OF STUDIES CONNECTED WITH THE REPLACEMENT AIRPORT PROJECT AT CHEK LAP KOK, OFF LANTAU.

AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED WITH THE AMERICAN CONSULTANTS GROUP, R.M.P. INTERNATIONAL LTD., BY MR B.D. KEEP, DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND MR J.N. FEHRER, CONTRACTS MANAGER, FOR THE CONSULTANTS GROUP.

R.M.P. INTERNATIONAL LTD WILL CARRY OUT THE STUDY WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY, THE G.M.W. PARTNERSHIP OF LONDON, AND FOUR HONG KONG-BASED ARCHITECTURAL, CIVIL ENGINEERING, TRANSPORT PLANNING AND DESIGN GROUPS (PRESCOTT STUTELY DESIGN GROUP, WILBUR SMITH AND ASSOCIATES, LEVETT AND BAILEY, AND MOTT HAY AND ANDERSON FAR EAST). EACH OF THE SUB-CONTRACTING GROUPS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SPECIALIST ASPECTS OF THE STUDY.

THE CONSULTANTS ARE TO DEVELOP AN AIRPORT MASTER PLAN WHICH WILL DEFINE THE PHASED DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPLACEMENT AIRPORT IN TERMS OF THE LOCATION OF RUNWAYS AND ALL AIRPORT FACILITIES.

THEY WILL ALSO LOOK INTO THE AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS ASPECTS, INCLUDING ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES AND ASSOCIATED AIRCRAFT NOISE, BUILDING HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS IN THE VICINITY OF THE AIRPORT AND FINALLY UP-DATING THE ORDER OF COSTS FOR CONSTRUCTING THE REPLACEMENT AIRPORT.

THE CONSULTANTS WILL START WORK NEXT MONTH (MARCH) AND COMPLETE THEIR STUDIES TOWARDS THE END OF 1982.

THE RESULTS OF THE AIRPORT MASTER PLANNING STUDY TOGETHER WITH THE FINDINGS OF OTHER STUDIES - INCLUDING CIVIL ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL, FINANCIAL, METEOROLOGICAL AND OCEANOGRAPHIC STUDIES - AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE PROPOSED NORTH LANTAU DEVELOPMENT WILL BE PRESENTED TO GOVERNMENT AT THE END OF 1982.

+THE ENGAGEMENT OF THE CONSULTANTS IS ANOTHER STEP TAKEN TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO BUILD A NEW AIRPORT TO REPLACE KAI TAK,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

+WITH THE PRESENT RATE OF GROWTH IN AIR TRAFFIC, KAI TAK IS EXPECTED TO REACH ITS CAPACITY IN THE MID-1980S AND THEREAFTER THE AIRPORT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUSTAIN THE TRAFFIC DEMAND WITHOUT INTRODUCING CONSTRAINTS ON THE AIRLINES OPERATING TO AND FROM HONG KONG.

+CONSTRUCTION OF A REPLACEMENT AIRPORT IS ONE OF THE ALTERNATIVES TO BE EXAMINED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO MAXIMISE THE BENEFITS OF CIVIL AVIATION TO HONG KONG,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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DRUG SMUGGLERS FACE GREATER RISK  
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A 49-YEAR-OLD MAN HAD JUST ARRIVED AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FROM BANGKOK. AS HE STEPPED INTO THE ARRIVAL HALL, HE WAS IMMEDIATELY STOPPED BY OFFICERS OF THE JOINT POLICE AND CUSTOMS INTELLIGENCE UNIT.

THE MAN WAS NO ORDINARY TOURIST. AFTER HE WAS TAKEN TO THE CUSTOMS OFFICE AND TOLD THAT HE WOULD BE MEDICALLY EXAMINED, THE MAN EXTRACTED ABOUT 38 GRAMS OF HEROIN BASE FROM HIS BODY.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT A NEW TYPE OF DRUG SMUGGLING, KNOWN IN THE BUSINESS AS THE +BODY CAVITY METHOD+, WAS DETECTED AT THE HONG KONG AIRPORT.

THE MAN HAD BEEN SUSPECTED OF BEING A DRUG COURIER FOLLOWING INVESTIGATIONS BASED ON INTELLIGENCE GATHERED BY THE JOINT POLICE AND CUSTOMS INTELLIGENCE UNIT.

THE UNIT, WHOSE MEMBERS INCLUDED POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS, WAS FORMED IN JULY 1979 TO STEP UP PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUG IMPORTS THROUGH THE AIRPORT.

THE UNIT'S HARD WORK HAD LED TO THE SEIZURE OF 0.62 KG OF NO. 3 HEROIN AND 2 KG OF HEROIN BASE LAST YEAR.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF THE INVESTIGATION DIVISION OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE, MR DAVID TONG, SAID THE +BODY CAVITY METHOD+ WAS COPIED FROM AN OLD TRICK USED BY GOLD/DIAMOND SMUGGLERS.

+BUT SMUGGLING DRUGS IN THIS WAY CAN BE LETHAL,+ HE STRESSED.

THIS WAS FORCEFULLY DEMONSTRATED IN MAY 1980 WHEN A COURIER DIED OF OVERDOSE AFTER A PLASTIC BAG CONTAINING HEROIN BURST INSIDE HIS BODY.

ALTHOUGH EIGHT PERSONS WERE ARRESTED FOR EMPLOYING THIS METHOD LAST YEAR, MORE AND MORE COURIERS WERE TURNING TO THE USE OF DIVERSIONARY ROUTES, MR TONG SAID.

COURIERS, AFTER PICKING UP THE DRUGS IN THAILAND OR MALAYSIA, WOULD TRAVEL TO THE PHILIPPINES AND TAIWAN BEFORE COMING TO HONG KONG TO AVOID STRINGENT CUSTOMS CHECKS AT THE AIRPORT.

DESPITE THE MORE SOPHISTICATED METHODS EMPLOYED BY TRAFFICKERS, THEY COULD NOT ESCAPE THE TRAINED EYES OF CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

EIGHT COURIERS USING THE DIVERSIONARY METHOD WERE ARRESTED LAST YEAR AND THE NUMBER OF AIR PASSENGER COURIERS ARRESTED IN 1980 INCREASED BY 250 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1979.

DRUGS SEIZED AT THE AIRPORT WERE COMPARATIVELY SMALL IN QUANTITY AS THE USE OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS IS STILL FAVOURED BY TRAFFICKERS FOR SMUGGLING LARGE QUANTITIES OF DRUGS.

/TWO REMARKABLE .....

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TWO REMARKABLE SEIZURES IN THE HARBOUR TOOK PLACE AT THE END OF LAST YEAR.

ON DECEMBER 15, CUSTOMS OFFICERS FOUND 19.69 KG OF HEROIN BASE IN THE CARGO HATCH OF A POLISH VESSEL FROM BANGKOK. ANOTHER SHIPMENT OF 5.29 KG OF HEROIN BASE WAS SEIZED BY CUSTOMS OFFICERS NINE DAYS LATER ON BOARD ANOTHER VESSEL.

+THE FIRST SEIZURE,+ MR TONG SAID, +WAS THE LARGEST HEROIN BASE IMPORT INTERCEPTED ON BOARD OCEAN-GOING VESSELS IN HONG KONG HISTORY.+

1980 WAS A BUSY YEAR FOR THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE. THEY SEIZED \$73 MILLION WORTH OF DANGEROUS DRUGS, INCLUDING 27.31 KG OF HEROIN, 37.33 KG OF HEROIN BASE, 68.96 KG OF OPIUM, 1.81 KG OF MORPHINE, 5.8 KG OF CANNABIS AND 32.6 KG OF CANNABIS RESIN.

OF THESE, 35.69 KG WERE SEIZED AT THE AIRPORT, 109.3 KG IN THE HARBOUR AND 28.87 KG ON LAND.

THE SERVICE'S ANTI-NARCOTICS OPERATION ALSO LED TO THE ARRESTS OF 767 PERSONS WHO WERE PROSECUTED FOR DRUG OFFENCES.

THE SERVICE ALSO PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ON DRUG SUPPRESSION. VALUABLE INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING WERE EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE SERVICE AND FOREIGN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

THIS RESULTED IN TWO REMARKABLE SEIZURES BY OVERSEAS AGENCIES. ON OCTOBER 16, ACTING ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE SERVICE, THE PHILIPPINES CUSTOMS SEIZED 2.8 KG OF HEROIN BASE AND ARRESTED THREE SUSPECTS. ON NOVEMBER 29, ALSO ACTING ON INFORMATION BY THE SERVICE, THE ROYAL THAI CUSTOMS SEIZED 5.5 KG OF NO. 3 HEROIN AND ARRESTED THREE PEOPLE.

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#### 789 BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN 1980

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A TOTAL OF 789 NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT LAST YEAR, COMPARED WITH 859 IN 1979.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR WAS \$4 674 MILLION, AS AGAINST \$3 268 MILLION IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THE TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED WAS ABOUT 2.60 MILLION SQUARE METRES. IN 1979 IT WAS 2.87 MILLION SQUARE METRES.

IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR, THE BOO APPROVED 68 NEW BUILDING PLANS, COMPARED WITH 70 IN THE SAME MONTH IN 1979.

OF THESE, 27 WERE FOR BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, SEVEN FOR KOWLOON AND 34 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/THEY INCLUDED .....

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THEY INCLUDED PLANS FOR A CHURCH IN HAPPY VALLEY, A PUMPHOUSE ON MOUNT DAVIS, A HOLIDAY CENTRE FOR THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION IN PING SHAN, A SWIMMING POOL IN YUEN LONG AND A BARGE BERTH AND DOCK STRUCTURE IN CASTLE PEAK.

DURING THE MONTH, THE TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED AMOUNTED TO 283 102.4 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 162 760.4 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 120 342 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN DECEMBER AMOUNTED TO \$514.59 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$570.42 MILLION IN DECEMBER 1979.

FIFTY NEW PROJECTS RECEIVED THE GO-AHEAD FOR WORK TO START.

THESE INCLUDED A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG IN VICTORIA ROAD, A TEMPLE IN WONG TAI SIN AND A PETROL FILLING STATION IN CLEARWATER BAY ROAD.

A TOTAL OF 48 NEWLY COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION IN THE MONTH, INCLUDING A SCHOOL IN KENNEDY ROAD, AN ELECTRICITY SUB-STATION IN TUEN MUN AND A KINDERGARTEN AND CHAPEL ON LANTAU ISLAND.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO ASSENTED TO THE DEMOLITION OF 85 BUILDINGS.

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#### SAI KUNG HAS PUBLIC TENNIS COURTS

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WORK ON THE FIRST PUBLIC TENNIS COURTS IN SAI KUNG HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

THE COURTS WERE PREVIOUSLY THE PLAYGROUND OF SUN LUEN PUBLIC SCHOOL AT TAI PING TSUEN, A VILLAGE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF SAI KUNG TOWN.

A PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE PLAYGROUND IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS WAS ACCEPTED BY THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES LAST SUMMER.

SAI KUNG DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD LATER ALLOCATED \$25 000 FROM ITS MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS VOTE TO INSTALL NETS AND POSTS AND ERECT FENCES.

BESIDES A STANDARD-SIZE TENNIS COURT, THERE IS ALSO A HALF-SIZE COURT FOR PRACTICE PURPOSES.

THE COURTS WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM NEXT MONTH OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS.

BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE AT SAI KUNG RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OFFICE, WHICH IS ALSO PLANNING TO MAKE USE OF THE COURTS TO HOLD TRAINING CLASSES AND MATCHES FOR LOCAL YOUNGSTERS.

THEY WILL BE IN USE FOR TWO YEARS UNTIL PERMANENT COURTS ARE BUILT IN THE DISTRICT.

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CENTRAL TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS

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PART OF CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 8) FOR THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL'S LUNAR NEW YEAR ENTERTAINMENT IN STATUE SQUARE.

THE CLOSURES WILL BE ALONG CHATER ROAD BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND JACKSON ROAD AND ICE HOUSE STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

SUBSEQUENT TO THESE CLOSURES, THE FOLLOWING DIVERSIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE PERIOD: TRAFFIC RUNNING NORTHWARD ALONG ICE HOUSE STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD AND DES VOEUX ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA QUEEN'S ROAD, PEDDER STREET AND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL= EASTBOUND BUS ROUTES 23A, 24, 40M AND 103 ALONG ICE HOUSE STREET AND CHATER ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA DES VOEUX ROAD= EASTBOUND CMB ROUTES 5B, 10 AND 20 WILL OPERATE ALL ALONG DES VOEUX ROAD INSTEAD OF CHATER ROAD= AND CROSS HARBOUR ROUTE 200 WILL TERMINATE AT JACKSON ROAD INSTEAD OF ICE HOUSE STREET.

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