



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE	1
INTENSIFIED SAFETY AT WORK PUBLICITY PROGRAMME TO START IMMEDIATELY	2
NEW LOOK FOR ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR	3
DIRECTOR OF MARINE TO PRESENT CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION.....	4
DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED	4
MEETING OF LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD FOR NEW TERRITORIES	5
QUARTERLY BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT SURVEY	5
BLACK'S LINK TRAFFIC	6
SHORT-TERM TENANCY TENDERS INVITED	6
HK-MACAU FERRY TERMINAL PASSES	7
NEW 24-HOUR RESTRICTION ZONE	8
WATER CUT	8

STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE
SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL TODAY (TUESDAY) APPROVED PROVISIONALLY THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMPOSITION OF THE NEW STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, SUBJECT TO THE OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION WITH THE STAFF SIDE.

- THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR. MARTIN ROWLANDS, PUT THE PROPOSALS FOR THE NEW STANDING COMMISSION TO THE THREE MAIN STAFF ASSOCIATIONS THIS EVENING. THE VARIOUS POLICE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS WILL BE CONSULTED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) THROUGH THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE. ALL OTHER HEADS OF DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO CONSULT THE GRADE ASSOCIATIONS WITH WHOM THEY HAVE DEALINGS.

IN GENERAL TERMS, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE COMMISSION'S PRIME TASK SHOULD BE TO ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON THE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE CIVIL SERVICE GRADE AND SALARY STRUCTURE, AND ON WAYS OF CARRYING OUT REGULAR REVIEWS OF INDIVIDUAL GRADES. THE COMMISSION WOULD OVERSEE SUCH REVIEWS, AND, AFTER DISCUSSION BETWEEN STAFF AND MANAGEMENT, ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON POINTS AT ISSUE.

IT IS ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON THE MAIN CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, AND ON PROCEDURES TO ENABLE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS TO REPRESENT THEIR VIEWS TO MANAGEMENT, AND TO THE COMMISSION.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD HAVE A CHAIRMAN AND ABOUT FOUR TO SIX MEMBERS, ALL PART-TIME. ALL WOULD BE NORMALLY RESIDENT IN HONG KONG. NONE WOULD BE CIVIL SERVANTS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +WE ARE ANXIOUS TO GET THE STANDING COMMISSION WORKING JUST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE+. THE COMMISSION'S STAFF ARE NOW BEING ASSEMBLED AND THE TARGET DATE FOR THE COMMISSION TO START WORK IS FEBRUARY, BUT MUCH WILL DEPEND ON THE SPEED WITH WHICH CONSULTATIONS WITH STAFF ASSOCIATIONS CAN BE COMPLETED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ANY NEW PAY CLAIMS MADE BY INDIVIDUAL GRADES, TOGETHER WITH EXISTING CLAIMS WHICH HAVE NOT ALREADY BEEN PROCESSED TO AN ADVANCED STAGE WOULD BE PUT TO THE COMMISSION IN DUE COURSE. +ONE OF THE MAIN AIMS OF ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION IS TO SUBSTITUTE A SYSTEMATIC, REGULAR REVIEW FOR THE PRESENT AD HOC APPROACH. AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME, THE COMMISSION WILL ANNOUNCE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR STAFF WISHING TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION+.

THE SPOKESMAN DESCRIBED THE SETTING UP OF THE COMMISSION AS A MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF STAFF RELATIONS WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE. +FOR THE FIRST TIME A PERMANENT, UNOFFICIAL BODY WILL ENSURE THAT THE SALARY AND STRUCTURE OF INDIVIDUAL GRADES IS REVIEWED REGULARLY AND SYSTEMATICALLY,+ HE SAID. +MOREOVER, WHERE STAFF AND THE OFFICIAL SIDE CANNOT AGREE, THE COMMISSION WILL ADVISE ON PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT THE STAFF CAN REPRESENT THEIR VIEWS TO THE COMMISSION BEFORE IT FORMULATES ITS ADVICE.+

HE SAID IN DUE COURSE AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE CONCERNING THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978

- 2 -

INTENSIFIED SAFETY AT WORK PUBLICITY PROGRAMME
TO START IMMEDIATELY

* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. NEIL HENDERSON, ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT AN INTENSIFIED LONG TERM PUBLICITY PROGRAMME ON SAFETY AT WORK WILL START IMMEDIATELY.

MR. HENDERSON WHO WAS VISITING THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL PROJECT SAID THE PROGRAMME WOULD BE AIMED AT EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE WHOLE OF HONG KONG INDUSTRY.

IT WOULD INVOLVE NEWSPAPERS, TELEVISION, POSTERS, LEAFLETS, AND THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES STREET AND PUPPET THEATRES.

POSTERS WILL BE SENT TO ALL REGISTERED FACTORIES AND THE THEATRES WILL HOLD LUNCH TIME AND EVENING SHOWS IN THE MAIN INDUSTRIAL AREAS TO DRIVE THE SAFETY MESSAGE HOME.

QUOTING LAST YEAR'S FIGURES OF 136 PEOPLE KILLED IN FACTORIES AND ON CONSTRUCTION SITES AND NEARLY 37,000 INJURED SERIOUSLY ENOUGH TO BE AWAY FROM WORK FOR MORE THAN THREE DAYS, MR. HENDERSON SAID HE COULD NOT BE SATISFIED WITH THE SAFETY PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG CONTRACTORS AND INDUSTRIALISTS AS A WHOLE.

HE SAID: +MORE PEOPLE WERE INJURED IN OUR FACTORIES AND ON CONSTRUCTION SITES THAN ON THE ROADS OF HONG KONG.

+THIS PRICE IS UNACCEPTABLE AND LARGELY AVOIDABLE. QUITE APART FROM THE HUMAN SUFFERING INVOLVED IN DEATH AND INJURY, THERE IS A VERY SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL COST IN THE COMMUNITY.

+IT IS OFTEN SAID THAT HONG KONG'S ONLY RESOURCE IS ITS SKILLED WORKER FORCE AND IT MAKES NO ECONOMIC SENSE TO SQUANDER THAT PRECIOUS RESOURCE. IT IS A MARK OF INDUSTRIAL INEFFICIENCY.+

MR. HENDERSON POINTED OUT THAT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORS WERE UNTIRING IN THEIR EFFORTS TO BRING HOME TO INDUSTRY ITS LEGAL AND MORAL OBLIGATIONS TO HALT THIS HEAVY TOLL BUT ADMITTED THAT THE ADVICE THEY COULD GIVE AND THE ENFORCEMENT ACTION THEY COULD TAKE WERE NECESSARILY SPREAD THINLY OVER 42,000 INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS AND 1,500 CONSTRUCTION SITES.

AFTER TOURING THE NORTH AND SOUTH PORTALS OF THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL, MR. HENDERSON PRAISED THE CONTRACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROJECT FOR USING A SAFER EXPLOSIVE - WATERGEL - INSTEAD OF DYNAMITE IN THEIR WORK.

APART FROM THE SIGNIFICANT WIDENING OF SAFETY MARGINS ACHIEVED BY USING THIS NEW EXPLOSIVE, HE SAID, IT WAS ALSO SAFER TO STORE, TRANSPORT AND TO MANUFACTURE.

MR. HENDERSON SAID THAT HE WAS PLEASED TO KNOW THAT THE MANUFACTURE OF CARTRIDGED WATERGEL WOULD START IN HONG KONG SOMETIME NEXT YEAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978

- 3 -

NEW LOOK FOR ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR

* * *

THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY'S 1979 CALENDAR IS NOW ON SALE IN A BIGGER AND BETTER FORMAT WHICH COMBINES HIGHER QUALITY WITH A WIDE RANGE OF FASCINATING INFORMATION ON METEOROLOGICAL MATTERS.

EXTENSIVELY ILLUSTRATED IN FULL COLOUR, THE CALENDAR COSTS \$16 AND IS AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT THE G.P.O. BUILDING, CENTRAL, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND LEADING BOOKSHOPS.

THE BILINGUAL CALENDAR WAS PRODUCED JOINTLY BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WHICH PROVIDED THE DATA, AND THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES WHICH CREATED THE NEW DESIGN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TWO DEPARTMENTS SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) :
+THERE ARE ALREADY MANY PEOPLE WHO MAKE A HABIT OF BUYING THE CALENDAR EVERY YEAR BECAUSE OF ITS INFORMATIVE CONTENT.

+THE NEW EDITION IS EXPECTED TO PROVE EVEN MORE POPULAR IN VIEW OF THE MUCH-IMPROVED FORMAT.

+BESIDES BEING A VERY USEFUL SOURCE OF REFERENCE FOR THOSE WITH A PROFESSIONAL INTEREST IN METEOROLOGICAL MATTERS IT IS JUST AS INTERESTING TO PEOPLE WHO WANT TO ACQUIRE AN EXTRA BIT OF BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE.

+IT FULFILLS ALL THE NORMAL FUNCTIONS OF A CALENDAR AS WELL AS PROVIDING A LOT OF OTHER INFORMATION.+

THERE ARE SEPARATE PAGES FOR EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR CONTAINING ILLUSTRATIONS AND TECHNICAL MATERIAL COVERING TOPICS SUCH AS WEATHER OBSERVATION VIA SATELLITE, RAIN AND AIR POLLUTION MEASUREMENT, SEA BREEZES, TYPHOON WINDS, AND THE 24 SOLAR TERMS.

A HONG KONG ASTRONOMER, MR. JOSEPH H.C. LIU, HAS CONTRIBUTED TWO PHOTOGRAPHS, TAKEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE, OF THE MOON SHOWING SURFACE FEATURES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

----- 0 -----

/4

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978

- 4 -

DIRECTOR OF MARINE TO PRESENT CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION

* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR. M.J. ALEXANDER, WILL PRESENT CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION TO 22 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND 30 GOVERNMENT OFFICERS ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 14) IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR BRAVERY AND PUBLIC SPIRIT IN RESCUING PEOPLE FROM THE SEA.

THE OFFICERS ARE FROM THE MARINE, FIRE SERVICES AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENTS, AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE.

THEY HAVE BEEN COMMENDED FOR RESCUING PEOPLE WHO TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE OR WHO FELL INTO THE HARBOUR DURING THE PAST YEAR. AMONG THE OFFICERS, 25 WERE COMMENDED FOR THEIR RESCUE WORK FOLLOWING A FIRE ON BOARD A FISHING JUNK IN ABERDEEN ON NOVEMBER 30 LAST YEAR.

IN ADDITION TO THE CERTIFICATES, THE 22 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL EACH RECEIVE A \$50 CASH AWARD.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE AT 10.30 A.M. IN THE EXAMINATION HALL OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, 10TH FLOOR, RUMSEY STREET MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK BUILDING, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED

* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON LAU KWOK-KEI ON OCTOBER 14 LAST YEAR BE COMMUTED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT. LAU WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER IN KOWLOON ON DECEMBER 21, 1976, OF TANG WAI-LUEN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978

- 5 -

MEETING OF LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD FOR NEW TERRITORIES
* * * * *

THE FIRST OPEN SESSION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 14) TO DEAL WITH FOUR APPLICATIONS FROM YUEN LONG.

THE BOARD SECRETARY, MR. WILLIAM WONG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THE BOARD WOULD CONSIDER THREE APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF LICENCES AND THE OTHER FOR A NEW LICENCE.

THE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE ROOM, FOURTH FLOOR, HOUSING AUTHORITY BUILDING, 101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, KOWLOON, AT 12 NOON.

INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

- - - - 0 - - - -

QUARTERLY BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT SURVEY
* * * * *

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) APPEALED TO CONTRACTORS OF BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR CO-OPERATION IN A QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SURVEY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

LETTERS AND SURVEY FORMS HAVE BEEN SENT TO CONTRACTORS SEEKING INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS AND STAFF EMPLOYED AS ON DECEMBER 14 THIS YEAR.

THE PREVIOUS SURVEY SHOWED 67,971 MANUAL WORKERS EMPLOYED AT VARIOUS WORK SITES IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS SEPTEMBER, WITH 33,163 INVOLVED IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID SURVEY OFFICERS, EACH BEARING A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD, WOULD VISIT THE SITES FROM DECEMBER 14-16 TO COLLECT THE COMPLETED SURVEY FORMS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTORS OR SITES WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD BE USED SOLELY FOR COMPILING STATISTICAL TABLES.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. CHAN TUNG-WAH, STATISTICIAN (INDUSTRY) AT 5-444674.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6

BLACK'S LINK TRAFFIC

* * * * *

TRAFFIC FROM THE SOUTH SIDE OF HONG KONG ISLAND IS MOVING MORE QUICKLY AND SMOOTHLY SINCE THE OPENING OF BLACK'S LINK LAST WEEK.

A PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT FEEDBACK FROM MOTORISTS INDICATED THE OPENING OF BLACK'S LINK HAS CUT DRIVING TIME FROM THE SOUTH SIDE TO CENTRAL BY ABOUT 15 MINUTES.

HE SAID WELL OVER 150 VEHICLES USE THE NARROW ROAD DURING THE TWO-HOUR +THROUGH+ PERIOD EACH MORNING.

+THE BUSIEST PERIOD,+ HE SAID, +IS BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 9 A.M., EVEN THOUGH IT IS OPEN AT 7.30 A.M. AND THEN CLOSES AGAIN AT 9.30 A.M.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, THE FIRST DAY BLACK'S LINK WAS OPENED TO TRAFFIC, 29 VEHICLES USED THE ROAD DURING THE FIRST HALF HOUR. THIS INCREASED TO 65 DURING THE SECOND HOUR AND THEN TAPERED OFF TO JUST EIGHT DURING THE LAST HALF HOUR.

BUT SINCE THEN, THE NUMBERS HAVE BEEN GRADUALLY RISING. BY FRIDAY LAST WEEK MOST OF THE VEHICLES -- 137 IN ALL -- USED THE ROAD BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 9 A.M. JUST UNDER 200 VEHICLES PASSED ALONG THE ROAD DURING THE TWO-HOUR PERIOD.

+AND, SINCE THEN THE FIGURE HAS BEEN ABOUT THE SAME,+ SAID THE P.W.D. SPOKESMAN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SHORT-TERM TENANCY TENDERS INVITED

* * * * *

THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS BY WAY OF RENT FOR A SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF A PIECE OF CROWN LAND IN YAN WING STREET, YAU TONG, KOWLOON.

THE SITE, MEASURING ABOUT 2,300 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR STORAGE PURPOSES, INCLUDING VEHICLES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE SAID THE TENANCY WAS FOR AN INITIAL TERM OF 12 MONTHS, AND QUARTERLY THEREAFTER.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON. THE TENDER PLAN MAY ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THE SAME OFFICES.

CLOSING DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS IS 12 NOON ON DECEMBER 29, 1978.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-26702899 (ENGLISH) OR 3-884111 EXTENSION 353 (CANTONESE).

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978

- 7 -

HK-MACAU FERRY TERMINAL PASSES

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE ISSUE OF HONG KONG-MACAU FERRY TERMINAL PASSES FOR THE YEAR 1979.

THE PASSES ARE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF STAFF OF HONG KONG-MACAU FERRY AND HYDROFOIL COMPANIES WHO ARE REQUIRED TO PERFORM DUTIES WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREA.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE TO THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE IN WRITING. A FEE OF \$10 WILL BE CHARGED FOR EACH PASS ISSUED.

FURTHER INFORMATION IS OBTAINABLE FROM THE MACAU FERRY WHARF UNIT OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, TEL. 5-450181 EXT. 297.

BOTH THE 1978 AND THE 1979 PASSES WILL BE VALID DURING THE LAST WEEK OF 1978 AND THE FIRST WEEK OF 1979 TO FACILITATE THE CHANGE-OVER.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978

- 8 -

NEW 24-HOUR RESTRICTION ZONE

* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT FROM 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 15) A NEW 24-HOUR RESTRICTION ZONE WILL BE IMPOSED IN HUNG HOM TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

UNDER THE NEW RESTRICTION, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS AND LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS.

THE RESTRICTION ZONE INCLUDES THE SECTION OF HONG TAI PATH BETWEEN CHEONG WAN ROAD AND THE ACCESS ROAD TO THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, AND THE SECTION AT THE NORTH SIDE OF CHEONG WAN ROAD BETWEEN CHATHAM ROAD AND HONG TAI PATH.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

WATER CUT

* * * * *

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT TO 6 A.M. ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 16) TO FACILITATE NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE IN THE AREA BOUNDED BY CHING CHEUNG ROAD, BUTTERFLY VALLEY ROAD, KING LAM STREET, YEE KUK STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YU CHAU STREET, INCLUDING WING HONG STREET, TAI NAM STREET, WING MING STREET AND WAI MAN VILLAGE.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -