



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1975.

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PUBLIC SERVANTS NOT AFFECTED
BY PROPOSED LABOUR RELATIONS BILL
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, TODAY GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE PROPOSED LABOUR RELATIONS BILL DO NOT APPLY TO CIVIL SERVANTS.

HE WAS REPLYING TO COMMENTS MADE YESTERDAY BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRE-AMALGAMATION CO-ORDINATING TEAM (PACT), MR. ANTHONY LUK, WHO CLAIMED THAT THE +COOLING-OFF+ PERIOD IN THE BILL WAS UNFAIR TO WORKERS, +WHETHER THEY ARE GOVERNMENT WORKERS OR WORKERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.+

MR. PRICE SAID: +THE BILL DOES NOT CONTAIN A CLAUSE BINDING THE CROWN, AND ITS PROVISIONS THEREFORE COULD NOT BE USED IN A DISPUTE BETWEEN CIVIL SERVANTS AND THE GOVERNMENT AS AN EMPLOYER.

+IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS TO BE AS IMPARTIAL AS POSSIBLE.

+THIS WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE IF THE BILL WERE TO COVER THE GOVERNMENT'S OWN EMPLOYEES. MOREOVER, ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES ALREADY EXIST GOVERNING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS EMPLOYEES.+

MR. PRICE ADDED THAT WHEN MOVING THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SECOND READING OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS BILL ON MAY 7 IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, HE WOULD REPLY TO OTHER COMMENTS.

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BRAVERY RECOGNISED BY FIRE SERVICES

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THE BRAVERY OF A 45-YEAR-OLD LAUNDRY WORKER, WONG CHEE, WHO RESCUED TWO PEOPLE FROM A FIRE AT LAM TIN ESTATE IN JANUARY, WAS RECOGNISED TODAY BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

MR. WONG, WHO IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE CHILDREN, WAS AT HOME ON THE AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, WHEN HE HEARD A WOMAN'S CRY FOR HELP COMING FROM NEARBY ROOM 573 IN BLOCK 4 OF THE ESTATE. HE RAN FROM HIS ROOM AND SAW SMOKE IN THE CORRIDOR AND ROOM 573 ON FIRE. APPROACHING THE BLAZING ROOM, HE SAW A WOMAN LYING COLLAPSED IN THE DOORWAY AND, DESPITE THE OBVIOUS DANGER, PICKED HER UP AND CARRIED HER TO A NEARBY STAIRCASE. ON LEARNING FROM THE WOMAN THAT HER 10-MONTH-OLD CHILD WAS STILL IN THE ROOM, HE RETURNED, CRAWLED IN THROUGH THE DOORWAY AND LOCATED THE BABY. HE CARRIED IT TO A PLACE OF SAFETY. HE THEN RETURNED TO THE MOTHER AND REMOVED HER TO A STAIRCASE FURTHER AWAY AS THE SMOKE WAS BECOMING UNBEARABLE.

MR. WONG WAS TODAY (MONDAY) PRESENTED WITH A DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION AND A MONETARY AWARD OF \$100 BY THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER KOWLOON, MR. BRIAN FENDER, AT YAU TONG FIRE STATION. PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE FIRE SERVICES OFFICERS, THE CDO KWUN TONG, REPRESENTATIVES OF LAM TIN KAI FONG, KWUN TONG POLICE STATION AND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

THE CITATION STATES THAT MR. WONG, BY HIS EFFORTS, WAS ABLE TO BRING BOTH THE WOMAN AND CHILD TO A PLACE OF SAFETY AND IN SO DOING DISPLAYED +INITIATIVE, COURAGE AND PUBLIC-SPIRITEDNESS.+

NOTE TO EDITORS : COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH ILLUSTRATING THE PRESENTATION ARE BOXED FOR COLLECTION TODAY.

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ROYAL VISIT COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS
TO GO ON SALE ON WEDNESDAY
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THE TWO SPECIAL STAMPS TO MARK THE ROYAL VISIT WILL BE PLACED ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 30), THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY.

A SET OF THE NEW STAMPS, IN \$1.30 AND \$2 DENOMINATIONS, WILL BE PRESENTED TO SIR YUET-KEUNG KAN BY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL AT 8 A.M. ON THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.

THE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS, IN FIVE COLOURS, ARE SUITABLE FOR MINIMUM AIR-MAIL CHARGES TO MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE MAIN FEATURE IS A JOINT PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH. APPEARING ON THE LEFT OF THE DESIGN IS THE HONG KONG COAT OF ARMS.

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE PRESENTATION OF THE SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS TO SIR YUET-KEUNG KAN BY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 30) AT 8 A.M. AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.

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PO LEUNG KUK DISCUSSES WELFARE PLAN WITH
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (MONDAY) ASSURED THE PO LEUNG KUK OF CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR ITS WORK IN THE WELFARE FIELD AND PRAISED THE BOARD FOR ITS INTENTION TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE KUK'S SERVICES DURING THE COMING YEAR.

THE ASSURANCE CAME WHEN THE NEWLY ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LED BY THEIR CHAIRMAN, MR. PETER LI PING-KAM, PAID A COURTESY CALL ON MR. LEE TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

AMONG THE SERVICES WHICH THE KUK HOPED TO EXPAND INTO WAS THAT OF CARE FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW HOSTEL. THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND WOULD BE OPENED IN STAGES. ON THIS PROPOSAL, THE KUK SOUGHT THE DEPARTMENT'S SUPPORT AND ADVICE ON PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

MR. LEE INFORMED THE DIRECTORS THAT A NUMBER OF OTHER WELFARE AGENCIES WERE ALSO INTERESTED IN PROVIDING A SIMILAR SERVICE AND THE MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE LOOKED INTO. HE POINTED OUT THAT DISTANCE MIGHT POSE A PROBLEM FOR THOSE IN THE HOSTEL WHO MIGHT GO OUT TO WORK EITHER IN OPEN EMPLOYMENT OR IN SHELTERED WORKSHOPS. HOWEVER, STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THIS FIELD WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE ANY ADVICE THAT THE KUK WOULD NEED.

IN CHILD CARE SERVICES, THE KUK WANTED TO SET UP ANOTHER ONE OR TWO NURSERIES AND EXPAND ITS PRESENT ONE IN THE KWAI FONG ESTATE.

THE SETTING UP OF NEW NURSERIES, MR. LEE SAID, HAD TO BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT NOT ALL NURSERIES WERE FULL BECAUSE MORE WORKING WOMEN ARE STAYING AT HOME TO CARE FOR THEIR CHILDREN. HE ADVISED THAT BEFORE A NURSERY IS SET UP IN A PARTICULAR AREA, A STUDY SHOULD BE MADE OF THE NEED FOR SUCH PLACES IN THAT AREA. AS REGARDS THE EXPANSION OF THE NURSERY IN KWAI FONG, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WAS PROVIDING THE KUK WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$40,000 SUBVENTION THIS YEAR TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY BY 50 PLACES.

TURNING TO STAFF MATTERS, THE KUK CHAIRMAN, MR. LI, SAID IT WAS PLANNED TO EXPAND THEIR ESTABLISHMENT WITH MORE PROFESSIONAL STAFF SUCH AS AN ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT WHOSE QUALIFICATIONS WOULD BE AS NEAR AS POSSIBLE TO GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE SAID THE KUK WOULD BE ABLE TO FILL THEIR VACANCIES, BUT ANY EXTRA STAFF REQUIREMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE THOROUGHLY STUDIED AND INVESTIGATED ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO FUTURE IMPLICATIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT INSTEAD OF EMPLOYING MORE SOCIAL WORK STAFF, IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE TO STRENGTHEN THE KUK'S CHILD CARE STAFF. THIS COULD BE DONE BY OFFSETTING AGAINST POSTS WHICH BECOME VACANT.

/THE KUK SHOULD

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THE KUK SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM RECRUITING AS PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED PERSONNEL WOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING AND THE BAPTIST COLLEGE.

DURING THE MEETING, THE DIRECTORS ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH MR. LEE THE INCIDENT EARLY THIS MORNING IN WHICH SEVEN GIRLS TRIED TO RUN AWAY FROM THE KUK.

HE WAS TOLD THAT THE GIRLS HAD TRIED TO RUN AWAY BECAUSE THEY WANTED MORE FREEDOM SUCH AS BEING ALLOWED TO GO OUT, AND ACTIVITIES IN WHICH TO OCCUPY THEMSELVES.

MR. LEE EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE INCIDENT, BUT RECOGNISED THAT THE KUK, LIKE OTHER WELFARE ORGANISATIONS, WAS PROVIDING A SERVICE TO THOSE WHO WANTED TO BE HELPED AND TO BENEFIT FROM THE SERVICE. THERE WAS NO WAY IN WHICH AN ORGANISATION COULD IMPOSE HELP ON THOSE WHO PERSISTENTLY REFUSED TO BE HELPED. HE ADVISED THAT THE KUK SHOULD CONSIDER PROVIDING MORE POSITIVE SUPERVISION AND MORE ACTIVE PROGRAMMES FOR THE GIRLS AND CHILDREN IN CARE. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KUK AGREED AND SAID THEY WERE TAKING UP HIS EARLIER SUGGESTION OF PROVIDING MORE SPORTS AND OTHER OUTLETS FOR THE GIRLS.

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WEEKLY WATER SITUATION REPORT

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THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS IN HONG KONG AS AT 9 A.M. THIS (MONDAY) MORNING WAS 42,943 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 63.8 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR, THE STORAGE FIGURE WAS 38,291 MILLION GALLONS.

PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR ALONE HELD 33,621 MILLION GALLONS THIS MORNING. THIS REPRESENTS 66.6 PER CENT OF ITS TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS AND WAS UP SLIGHTLY ON LAST YEAR'S STORAGE WHICH WAS 30,809 MILLION GALLONS.

A TRACE OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE PAST TWENTY FOUR HOURS ENDING AT 9 A.M. TODAY. TOTAL RAINFALL SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 193.1 MM (7.60 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR IS 269.1 MM (10.59 IN).

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HONG KONG NEEDS WORKERS EQUIPPED WITH HIGHER AND NEW SKILLS
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HONG KONG NEEDS TO TRAIN NOT ONLY GREATER NUMBERS OF SKILLED PERSONNEL IN ESTABLISHED FIELDS WITH HIGHER SKILLS THAN BEFORE BUT ALSO TO EQUIP WORKERS WITH NEW SKILLS, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL), MR. ANDREW KINGWELL TOLD A MEETING OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ROTARY CLUB TODAY.

MR. KINGWELL SAID THAT HIS MAIN DIFFICULTY WAS IN CONVINCING THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG THAT TECHNICAL EDUCATION SHOULD BE REGARDED AS MORE AND MORE RELEVANT IN A WORLD WHICH GAVE SO MANY OF ITS RESOURCES TO TECHNOLOGY IN THE BROAD SENSE.

+WE NEED A CHANGE OF PHILOSOPHY IF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IS TO BE REGARDED AS A FIRST CLASS FORM OF EDUCATION IN ITS OWN RIGHT — AN EDUCATION WHICH WILL SHARPEN AND MATURE THE WITS OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AND EQUIP THEM WITH INTERESTS AND STANDARDS AS WELL AS SKILLS WITH WHICH TO SUSTAIN THEM IN A CONSTANTLY CHANGING SOCIETY AND ECONOMY.

+EDUCATION SHOULD ENDEAVOUR TO PROVIDE FOR EACH CHILD THE KIND OF EDUCATION THAT WILL ENABLE HIM TO ENJOY DEVELOPING HIS FULL POTENTIAL AND TO UNDERSTAND A SOCIETY INCREASINGLY INFLUENCED BY CHANGES IN TECHNOLOGY,+ THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR SAID.

SPEAKING ABOUT HIS GENERAL PHILOSOPHY ON THE INTRODUCTION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION INTO THE GENERAL EDUCATION SYSTEM, MR. KINGWELL POINTED OUT THAT +AN EDUCATION FOR TODAY MUST INCLUDE THE ARTS, THE SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGIES SO INTEGRATED THAT THEY PROVIDE A COMPLETE EDUCATION RELATED TO THE DEMANDS OF OUR MODERN SOCIETY.+

HE STRESSED THAT THE PLANS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG WOULD BE FRUSTRATED UNLESS PARENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE WERE PREPARED TO SUPPORT IT.

+IT IS MY BELIEF THAT THERE IS AN ELEMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN ALL EDUCATION. AT THE SCHOOL LEVEL THIS TECHNICAL ELEMENT SHOULD FORM PART OF THE BASIC EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILD IN THE SAME WAY THAT ALL CHILDREN ARE EXPECTED TO LEARN THE THREE R'S -- READING, WRITING AND ARITHMETIC,+ MR. KINGWELL ADDED.

THE CURRICULUM WITHIN SCHOOLS SHOULD PROVIDE AT ALL STAGES A FLEXIBLE FRAME WITHIN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL APTITUDES OF EACH CHILD WERE GRADUALLY DEVELOPED.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR SAID: +ANY DIVISION BETWEEN THE ACADEMIC AND TECHNICAL SIMPLY WEAKENS THE CONTRIBUTION OF EDUCATION TO THE COMMUNITY IN ITS MOST VITAL RESOURCE -- NAMELY THE CREATIVE ABILITY IN ALL YOUNG PEOPLE.

/THIS CREATIVE

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+THIS CREATIVE ABILITY IS THAT CONSTRUCTIVE ENERGY WHICH MAKES AN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY WORK AND IT MUST NOT BE STIFLED. EXPANSION, CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE OUR WATCH WORDS.+

SPEAKING ABOUT THE WORK OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION BRANCH OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MR. KINGWELL SAID THAT HIS BRANCH HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE EXPANSION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

POLICIES AND TARGETS HAVE BEEN REDEFINED IN THE WHITE PAPER AND THE BRANCH CO-ORDINATES THE EFFORTS OF THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOLS TO ENSURE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE POLICY AIMS.

HE SAID THAT A TECHNICAL INSPECTORATE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION BRANCH TO ACT AS AN ADVISORY BODY.

+THIS INSPECTORATE,+ HE SAID, +WILL DEVELOP CLOSE LINKS WITH THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR PROBLEMS AT GRASS ROOTS LEVEL AND THUS HELP TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR CURRICULUM CHANGES AND INNOVATION.+

ON DEVELOPMENT, MR. KINGWELL SAID THAT HIS BRANCH MAINTAINED CLOSE LINKS WITH THE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND SERVICE SECTOR AND WITH VARIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS AND GOVERNMENT UNITS.

AMONG THEM WERE THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL, THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

+IN THIS WAY IT IS POSSIBLE TO GAUGE LOCAL MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS AND TO PLAN FOR A FORM OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING WHICH DIRECTLY RELATES TO COMMUNITY NEEDS,+ HE SAID.

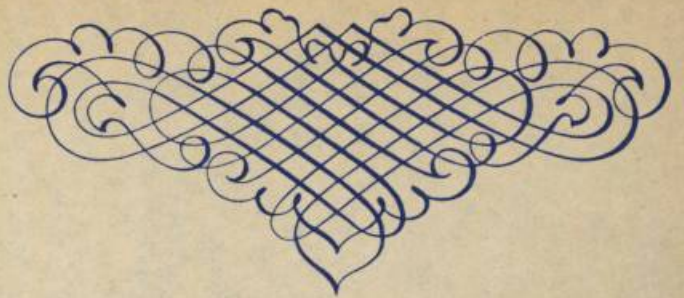
THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION BRANCH WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING, EQUIPPING AND CO-ORDINATING DEVELOPMENT FOR NEW TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND SCHOOLS.

+AT PRESENT THERE IS ONLY THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE LOCATED ON THE HONG KONG SIDE AS A PILOT PROJECT. THIS HAS PROVEN SO SUCCESSFUL HOWEVER THAT TWO NEW TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WILL BE OPENED IN SEPTEMBER.

+THESE WILL BE LOCATED AT KWAI CHUNG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND KWUN TONG IN KOWLOON. FURTHER INSTITUTES ARE PLANNED FOR CHEUNG SHA WAN AND SAN PO KONG AND SITES HAVE BEEN EARMARKED IN THE NEW TOWNS OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN AND TSUEN WAN,+ MR. KINGWELL SAID.

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ROYAL VISIT PRESS RELEASE



Monday, April 28, 1975

ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS)

To Mount Guard Each Day At Government House During Royal Visit

Men of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) will mount guard at Government House each day during the visit of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to Hong Kong next month.

The regiment will also provide a contingent of 36 as part of the British Army's guard of honour which will march past the Royal couple before the beginning of the procession in Nathan Road on the evening of May 6.

The regiment numbers more than 700 volunteers and about 40 permanent staff. It is a light reconnaissance regiment, comprising five reconnaissance squadrons, a headquarters squadron, and a home guard squadron.

There is a junior leaders' squadron of 135 boys. The regiment is based on Hong Kong Island, with a squadron in Kowloon. It is administered by the Hong Kong Government, but comes under the Commander British Forces if called out.

Volunteer soldiering in Hong Kong began in 1854 when 99 civilians volunteered to help bolster the defences at a time when marauding pirates were still a hazard on the China coast, and the garrison had been reduced because of the Crimean war.

/Since then,

Since then, a corps of volunteers has been in existence and has assisted the regular forces in all major wars or disturbances which have affected Hong Kong. In 1920, the first local Chinese volunteer was enlisted, and nowadays the regiment consists mainly of Chinese soldiers.

The severest test which the volunteers have met was in the bitter fighting which preceded the fall of Hong Kong on Christmas day, 1941. The strength of the Hong Kong Defence Corps, as it was then named, was 2,200, of whom 289 were missing or killed, and many others became prisoners of war.

The battle honour 'Hong Kong' was later awarded, and many of the veterans of the battle for Hong Kong still celebrate Liberation Day every year with a short service at the City Hall garden of remembrance.

The regiment became 'The Royal Hong Kong Regiment' in 1970. It now fulfils a number of important roles in support of the regular forces.

Volunteers come from all walks of civilian life in Hong Kong. Some are taxi drivers; others are university graduates; all are similarly motivated, to serve Hong Kong, and to engage in worthwhile outdoor activities which take them away from urban districts at weekends.

Training takes place in the evenings, at weekends, and at a two-week annual camp.

The guards at Government House during the Royal visit will be taken each day from a different squadron of the regiment, and those on parade in Nathan Road will be a representative selection.