



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, May 19, 1973

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ABNORMALLY WARM WEATHER CONTINUES

The abnormally warm weather during February and March continued into April and the mean temperature 24°C was the highest on record for April.

The Royal Observatory said this figure had been equalled only once before in April 1964.

The mean maximum temperature (26.8°C) and the mean minimum (21.8°C) were both the third highest on record for the month.

At the beginning of April, Hong Kong was in a southerly air-stream and the weather was cloudy and warm.

Late on April 3, a cold front passed Hong Kong and scattered showers were reported. Winds strengthened from the north and the Strong Monsoon Signal was hoisted that evening and lowered the next morning.

The sky cleared rapidly after the cold front and the mean relative humidity fell to 60 per cent on April 4 and 5 when a Red Fire Danger Warning was issued.

However, the next two days were cloudy and some rain and isolated thunderstorms were reported.

From April 7 to 11, a trough of low pressure remained almost stationary along the south China coast and showers and isolated thunderstorms were reported on each day throughout the entire period.

A hailstorm with hailstones as big as garden peas occurred over the northwestern part of the New Territories on April 7. The following day the southwest monsoon intensified over the South China Sea and the Strong Monsoon Signal was hoisted for about nine hours.

/The weather

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The weather remained cloudy with light rain or drizzle patches until April 14 when a warm and humid airstream arrived from the southeast.

Continuous fog or mist was reported around Waglan Island from the night of April 14 to the morning of April 16 and during this time the lowest visibility recorded was 200 metres.

Elsewhere the weather was fine apart from morning mist or fog patches. Late on April 17, winds freshened from the east again and conditions became cloudy with light rain and showers. Isolated thunderstorms were also reported on April 20.

On April 22, an active upper-air disturbance brought widespread thunderstorms to south China and at the Royal Observatory, 43.3 millimetres of rain was recorded in 24 hours. The maximum instantaneous intensity of rainfall recorded at the King's Park Meteorological Station was 199 millimetres per hour.

After this disturbance, the Pacific ridge began to extend westwards to west China and the following five days were fine apart from morning mist or fog patches. The maximum temperature of the month, 31.3°C, occurred on April 26 and was the highest recorded so far this year.

On April 27, pressure rose over China and strong easterly winds blew for several hours in Hong Kong. The Strong Monsoon Signal was hoisted for the third time in the month. The weather improved towards the end of the month with long sunny periods on April 30.

/Twenty-three

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Twenty-three aircraft were diverted due to adverse weather conditions during the month.

Nine thunderstorm or heavy rain warnings were issued during April.

The month's figures and departures from normal were:

Sunshine	86.1 hours; 28.5 hours below normal
Rainfall	104.3 mm ; 31.5 mm below normal
Cloudiness	83% : 3% above normal
Relative Humidity	87 : 2% above normal
Mean Maximum Temperature	26.8°C ; 2.9°C above normal
Mean Temperature	24.0°C ; 2.7°C above normal
Mean Minimum Temperature	21.8°C ; 2.3°C above normal
Mean Dew Point	21.5°C ; 2.7°C above normal
Total Evaporation	97.0 mm ; 27.5 mm below normal

Maximum Temperature of 31.3°C was recorded on April 26.

Minimum Temperature of 15.2°C was recorded on April 4.

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EXPANSION OF WO HOP SHEK CEMETERY

The Wo Hop Shek cemetery in Fanling will have about 6,000 more urn burial spaces by April next year.

These additional spaces are provided to meet the yearly additional requirement of some 5,000 burial spaces.

Annual expansion has been carried out since 1966 and the latest project should begin in July.

Terraces for the 6,000 urns and a 1,100 ft. access road will be constructed.

The road will have a 20 ft. wide carriageway and the entire plan involves earth excavation and filling, construction of retaining walls, drainage works and road surfacing.

The project is estimated to cost \$1 million.

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WATER CUT IN TO KWA WAN

Water supply to a number of premises in To Kwa Wan will be interrupted for five hours from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Tuesday (May 22).

The temporary stoppage is to enable Waterworks Office staff to carry out leakage tests.

The area affected is bounded by Lok Shan Road, Kowloon City Road, Ma Tau Wei Road, Bailey Street, the seafront, Ngan Hon Street and To Kwa Wan Road.

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GOVT. STRUCTURAL ENGINEER RETIRES

A senior officer with the Public Works Department, Mr. Au Silo-ling, is retiring from government service after working in the department for over 25 years.

Mr. Au, who holds the post of Government Structural Engineer, will be presented with an electronic calculator to mark his retirement.

The presentation will be made by the Director of Public Works, Mr. J.J. Robson, on Tuesday (May 22).

Mr. Au was first appointed Assistant Structural Engineer in 1947, and promoted to Structural Engineer in 1954. In 1960 he was promoted to Senior Structural Engineer and again to his present post in 1965.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the presentation ceremony. It will be held at 4.45 p.m. in the P.W.D. Conference Room, Murray Building 21st floor.

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UNCLAIMED ID CARDS

More than 400 lost identity cards are now lying at the Registration of Persons Office waiting to be reclaimed.

The Registration of Persons Department stressed today that these could easily have been returned if the owners had notified the office of changes in their registered particulars.

A list of cards, with names and numbers, are now being displayed at City District Offices. Lists with only card numbers are also available for inspection at Kai Fong Associations.

Owners may collect their lost cards in person at the head office of the department on the 4th floor of the Causeway Bay Magistracy.

Identity cards unclaimed after a period of over three months will be cancelled.

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ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN 1973

A total of 1,033 doses of anti-measles vaccine was administered during the week ending May 12.

Of these, 215 doses were given to children on Hong Kong Island, 590 doses in Kowloon and 228 in the New Territories.

Since the beginning of the campaign on April 2, a total of 5,029 doses of the vaccine has been administered.

Free vaccine is available on a year-round basis at all government maternal and child health centres.

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Release Time: 2.30 p.m.