



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1975

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

NEW GENERAL POST OFFICE WILL GET MODERN MAIL HANDLING SYSTEM	1
SHEUNG SHUI TANNERY OPERATORS MUST STICK TO REMOVAL TIMETABLE	2
NEW MAXI-CAB SERVICE FOR SHOUSON HILL RESIDENTS	2
HOUSING DEPARTMENT CLEARS ILLEGAL HUTS IMPEDING STREAM FLOW	3
LICENSED AREA RESIDENTS MOVE TO NEW HOMES IN TSUEN WAN	4
BUSY YEAR FOR FIRE PREVENTION OFFICERS	5
WATER STOPPAGE IN ABERDEEN	5

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1975

NEW GENERAL POST OFFICE WILL GET MODERN

X X X X

THE NEW GENERAL POST OFFICE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON THE CENTRAL RECLAMATION WILL HAVE ONE OF THE MOST ADVANCED MAIL HANDLING SYSTEMS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA WHEN IT OPENS NEXT YEAR.

WORK ON INSTALLING A MODERN POSTAL MECHANISATION SYSTEM, WHICH COST \$12 MILLION, WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH. THE EQUIPMENT IS NOW ON ITS WAY FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE LAST BATCH IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN NOVEMBER. THE WHOLE SYSTEM SHOULD BE FULLY OPERATIONAL WHEN THE NEW G.P.O. BUILDING IS COMPLETED IN APRIL NEXT YEAR.

THE NEW POSTAL MECHANISATION SYSTEM WILL INCORPORATE A WIDE RANGE OF MAIL HANDLING EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING CHAIN CONVEYORS TO LINK THE G.P.O. WITH ADJACENT SEA BERTHS TO PROVIDE EASIER LOADING AND UNLOADING FACILITIES FOR OUTGOING AND INCOMING SEABORNE MAIL.

IT WILL FURTHER ENHANCE MAIL HANDLING EFFICIENCY AND GREATLY ASSIST POST OFFICE STAFF IN COPING WITH THEIR EVER INCREASING WORKLOAD.

MEANWHILE, CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE BUILDING, WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, IS PROGRESSING SMOOTHLY AND TWO FLOORS OF THE FIVE-STOREY BUILDING ARE NEARING COMPLETION.

THE NEW BUILDING, LOCATED ON A 40,000 SQUARE-FOOT SITE BETWEEN THE STAR FERRY PIER AND BLAKE PIER, WILL HAVE A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF ABOUT 135,000 SQUARE FEET. IT WILL HAVE MORE SPACE THAN THE OLD G.P.O. BUILDING TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF POSTAL FACILITIES.

THE GROUND FLOOR WILL HOUSE THE MAIN PARCEL ACCEPTANCE AND DELIVERY OFFICES, AND VEHICLE LOADING AND UNLOADING FACILITIES.

THE MAIN PUBLIC OFFICE PROVIDING A FULL RANGE OF COUNTER FACILITIES (EXCEPT PARCELS) WILL BE LOCATED ON THE FIRST FLOOR, TOGETHER WITH SPACE ON A TWO LEVEL BASIS FOR 12,600 POST OFFICE BOXES. THIS FLOOR WILL BE LINKED WITH OTHER BUILDINGS IN THE AREA BY ELEVATED PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS.

THE MAIN MAIL SORTING OFFICE WILL BE LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR WHILE THE THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS WILL BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES.

THE NEW BUILDING HAS BEEN DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY SO THAT ADDITIONAL FLOORS CAN BE ADDED ON TOP SHOULD SUCH A NEED ARISE. WHEN COMPLETED AND COMMISSIONED FOR USE, IT WILL BECOME THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS FOR THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT AND THE MAIN POST OFFICE FOR CENTRAL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1975

- 2 -

SHEUNG SHUI TANNERY OPERATORS MUST STICK TO
REMOVAL TIME TABLE
* * * * *

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS INFORMED THE OPERATORS OF THE SHEUNG SHUI TANNERIES THAT THEIR REQUEST FOR A ONE YEAR EXTENSION TO THE PERIOD ALLOWED FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE TANNERIES TO KWAI CHUNG CANNOT BE GRANTED.

IN HIS LETTER INFORMING THE TANNERY OPERATORS OF THIS DECISION, THE SECRETARY REMINDED THE TANNERY OPERATORS THAT WHEN IT WAS AGREED IN 1972 TO ALLOW THE TANNERIES TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE TEMPORARILY AT SHEUNG SHUI, IT WAS CLEARLY STATED THAT THIS WAS SUBJECT TO THEIR MOVING TO KWAI CHUNG IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TIMEABLE LAID DOWN.

THIS TIMEABLE REQUIRES THE TANNERIES TO COMPLETE THE MOVE TO THEIR NEW PREMISES NOT LATER THAN JULY 31, 1976.

THE LETTER ALSO OFFERED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TANNERY OPERATORS TO MEET THE OFFICERS CONCERNED IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO ENABLE THEM TO OBTAIN EXPERT ADVICE ON THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW TANNERIES.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, TAI PO, WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO ADVISE THE OPERATORS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO COMPLY WITH THE TIMEABLE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW MAXI-CAB SERVICE FOR SHOUSON HILL RESIDENTS

x x x x

ABOUT 2,500 RESIDENTS OF YAU MA HOM LICENSED AREA HAVE MOVED INTO PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN TSUEN WAN TO MAKE WAY FOR THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE INTO AN IMPROVED-TYPE LICENSED AREA.

ANOTHER 1,000 PEOPLE THERE HAVE BEEN OFFERED LICENSED AREA SITES AT SHEK YAM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT SAID THAT ABOUT 95 PER CENT OF THE 3,500 RESIDENTS THERE HAVE ALREADY MOVED OUT.

+THE SMALL NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO STILL REMAIN ARE TRYING TO GET A BETTER OFFER FROM THE DEPARTMENT,+ HE SAID.

+HOWEVER,+ HE ADDED, +WE CANNOT ACCEDE TO THEIR DEMANDS BECAUSE OUR OFFERS ARE REASONABLE AND FAIR.

+ALL GENUINE OCCUPANTS OF AUTHORISED STRUCTURES HAD BEEN OFFERED PUBLIC HOUSING AND THOSE WHO LIVED IN ILLEGAL HUTS HAD BEEN ALLOCATED LICENSED AREA SITES.

+THIS MINORITY GROUP OF PEOPLE PRESSING FOR THEIR DEMANDS ARE EITHER OCCUPANTS OF ILLEGAL HUTS OR NON-RESIDENTS OF THE AREA.+

THE YAU MA HOM LICENSED AREA WAS OPENED IN JANUARY 1971 AND IS DUE TO BE CLEARED IN A WEEK'S TIME FOR THE RE-DEVELOPMENT SCHEME.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT STAFF CARRIED OUT A DETAILED SCREENING OF THE AREA IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH THIS YEAR AND THE RESIDENTS WERE INFORMED OF THE DEPARTMENT'S INTENTION TO CLEAR THE PLACE LAST MAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1975

- 3 -

HOUSING DEPARTMENT CLEARS ILLEGAL HUTS IMPEDING STREAM FLOW

XXXXX

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT TODAY CLEARED 19 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES WHICH IMPEDED THE FLOW OF A STREAM IN LYEMUN AND CAUSED SERIOUS FLOODING DURING PERIODS OF HEAVY RAIN.

MORE THAN 50 PEOPLE AFFECTED IN THE OPERATION AT LING NAM SUN TSUEN, LYEMUN HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED SITES AT SAM KAR TSUEN LICENSED AREA TO BUILD NEW HUTS.

THESE STRUCTURES WHICH WERE ERECTED ON THE COURSE OF A STREAM RUNNING THROUGH A NEARBY SQUATTER AREA, CAUSED SERIOUS FLOODING DURING HEAVY RAIN IN MAY AND JUNE THIS YEAR.

A JOINT SURVEY CARRIED OUT AFTERWARDS BY OFFICERS OF THE SQUATTER CONTROL OFFICE AND THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT THE FLOODING HAD BEEN CAUSED BY THESE ILEGAL HUTS WHICH ALMOST COMPLETELY BLOCKED THE STREAM AND IMPEDED THE NATURAL WATER FLOW.

THE DECISION TO CLEAR THE STRUCTURES WAS MADE ON THE ADVICE OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE ENGINEERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT SAID: +TODAY'S OPERATION HAS ELIMINATED THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER FLOODINGS WHICH COULD CAUSE INJURIES OR EVEN DEATH TO THE NEARBY SQUATTERS.+

----- 0 -----

/4

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1975

- 4 -

EXTRA MAXI-CAB SERVICE FOR SHOUSON HILL RESIDENTS
* * * * *

ANOTHER +MAXI-CAB+ SERVICE WILL START NEXT WEEK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS OF SHOUSON HILL AREA DURING THE MORNING PEAK PERIOD, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY.

FROM NEXT MONDAY (JULY 14), THE NEW PUBLIC LIGHT BUS FEEDER SERVICE WILL RUN BETWEEN SHOUSON HILL ROAD AND PEDDER STREET IN CENTRAL BETWEEN 7.45 A.M. AND 9.05 A.M. FROM MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ADDITIONAL SERVICE WAS INTENDED TO SUPPLEMENT THE TWO MAXI-CAB SERVICES INTRODUCED LAST WEEK BETWEEN ABERDEEN AND CENTRAL AND CAUSEWAY BAY VIA SHOUSON HILL.

THE TWO ABERDEEN ROUTES HAVE PROVED SO POPULAR THAT PLBS ON OUTWARD JOURNEYS FROM ABERDEEN INVARIABLY HAVE FEW OR NO SEATS LEFT FOR INTENDING PASSENGERS AT SHOUSON HILL DURING PEAK HOUR, HE SAID.

+ARRANGEMENTS HAVE NOW BEEN MADE WITH THE OPERATOR TO INTRODUCE THE MORNING-PEAK-HOUR SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICE WHICH WILL START AT SHOUSON HILL ROAD NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, OBSERVING EN ROUTE TO CENTRAL THE SAME STOPPING PLACES AS THOSE FOR THE TWO ABERDEEN SERVICES,+ HE SAID.

THE FIRST RUN WILL LEAVE AT 7.45 A.M. FROM SHOUSON HILL, AND AT 8.05 A.M. FROM PEDDER STREET, WHILE THE LAST JOURNEY WILL LEAVE AT 9.05 A.M. FROM SHOUSON HILL, AND AT 8.45 A.M. FROM CENTRAL.

THE NEW SERVICE WILL OPERATE AT A FREQUENCY OF 20 MINUTES. THE FARE IS \$1, SAME AS FOR THE TWO OTHER ROUTES.

THE ABERDEEN-CENTRAL ROUTE WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE, AT A REVISED FLAT FREQUENCY OF 15 MINUTES, FROM 6.15 A.M. TO 9.30 A.M. AND FROM 4.15 P.M. TO 7.30 P.M. THROUGHOUT THE WEEK, EXCEPT THAT THE EVENING-HOUR JOURNEYS ARE NOT OPERATED ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS OR PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THERE ARE NO CHANGES FOR THE ABERDEEN-CAUSEWAY BAY SERVICE WHICH RUNS FROM 9.15 A.M. TO 12 MIDNIGHT THROUGHOUT THE WEEK AT A PEAK FREQUENCY OF 15 MINUTES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1975.

- 5 -

FIRE PREVENTION OFFICERS KEPT BUSY

THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU INVESTIGATED 67,126 COMPLAINTS RELATING TO MEANS OF ESCAPE FROM BUILDINGS DURING THE 1974/75 FINANCIAL YEAR - AN AVERAGE OF NEARLY 5,600 A MONTH.

IN ADDITION, ANOTHER 16,254 GENERAL COMPLAINTS WERE LOOKED INTO, THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES SAYS IN HIS ANNUAL REPORT WHICH IS TO BE PUBLISHED SOON.

THE REPORT STATES THAT WHILE THE UNDERLYING TREND OF FIRES IS UPWARDS, A WORSE STATE OF AFFAIRS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY EXIST BUT FOR THE WORK OF THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU.

MORE THAN 50,000 FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIES WERE INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR AND THERE WERE ALMOST 11,000 ROUTINE INSPECTIONS OF MEANS OF ESCAPE TO SEE THAT THEY WERE FREE OF OBSTRUCTIONS.

INSPECTIONS RELATING TO THE STORAGE OR MANUFACTURE OF DANGEROUS GOODS NUMBERED 8,064. THERE WERE CLOSE TO 11,000 INSPECTIONS OF SCHOOLS, RESTAURANTS, NIGHTCLUBS AND OTHER PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT, AND 11,269 INSPECTIONS OF VENTILATION SYSTEMS.

----- 0 -----

WATER CUT IN ABERDEEN

A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN ABERDEEN WILL BE WITHOUT TAP WATER BETWEEN 1 A.M. AND 6 A.M. ON SATURDAY (JULY 12) WHEN A TEST FOR NIGHT LEAKAGE WILL BE MADE IN THE AREA.

AFFECTED WILL BE PREMISES BOUNDED BY ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD, THE JUNCTION OF TUNG SING ROAD TO THE END OF SHEK PAI WAN ROAD, YUE KWOK STREET, YUE LEI STREET, TIN WAN STREET, TANG FUNG STREET, KA WO STREET AND TIN WAN ESTATE.

----- 0 -----