



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976.

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HK MAY FACE NEW IMPORT CONTROLS BY BRITAIN	1
NEW CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION APPOINTED	2
NEW THROUGH ROUTE IN KWUN TONG OPENS	3
FIREMEN'S MANY DUTIES	4
MARCH BANKING STATISTICS	5
GOVERNMENT TEAM TO DISCUSS DRUG PROBLEM ON TV	6
CROWN LAND SALE	6
GOVERNOR VISITS ST. JOHN BRIGADE	7
CHINESE DANCES BY STUDENTS	7
WATER CUT	8

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

- 1 -

NOTE TO EDITORS :-

THE FOLLOWING ITEM IS EMBARGOED UNTIL MIDNIGHT TONIGHT
(MAY 3) :-

HK MAY FACE NEW IMPORT CONTROLS BY BRITAIN
* * * * *

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION IN LONDON, MR. JOHN SWIRE, SAID YESTERDAY (MONDAY) THAT IT WOULD BE +GROSSLY UNFAIR+ IF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IMPOSED NEW IMPORT CONTROLS ON HONG KONG.

ADDRESSING THE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN LONDON, HE DESCRIBED LAST YEAR'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE EEC ON TEXTILE IMPORT RESTRAINTS AS HELPFUL.

AT LEAST, IT ENABLED HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS SOME DEGREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE SIZE OF THEIR POTENTIAL MARKET, HE ADDED.

MR. SWIRE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, +THE BRITISH TEXTILE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN PRESSING THE GOVERNMENT FOR MORE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, NOT ONLY AGAINST HONG KONG BUT ALSO AGAINST EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND PORTUGAL.+

AND AT A RECENT DINNER GIVEN TO A FEW LABOUR M.P.S, HE ADDED, THEY WERE QUITE SURE THAT SELECTIVE IMPORT CONTROLS WOULD COME BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

+IF HONG KONG IS TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS, FOLLOWING SO SOON AFTER THE AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE E.E.C. AND HONG KONG LAST JULY,+ HE SAID, +I THINK THAT IT IS GROSSLY UNFAIR AND WOULD DENY MANUFACTURERS THE CHANCE OF REASONABLE PLANNING OF PRODUCTION.+

MR. SWIRE SPOKE OF THE +CHANGE IN HONG KONG'S NORMALLY CONSERVATIVE FINANCIAL PRACTICE+ WITH THE DECISION TO FINANCE A BUDGET DEFICIT BY MEANS OF BORROWING.

+SOME OF YOU,+ HE SAID, +WILL HAVE SEEN THE CONTROVERSY IN THE HONG KONG PRESS ABOUT THIS ACTION ON THE PART OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY.+

PERSONALLY, MR. SWIRE SAID HE AGREED WITH THIS POLICY BECAUSE +IT ENABLES HONG KONG CONTINUE TO IMPROVE ESSENTIAL SOCIAL SERVICES AT A TIME WHEN GOVERNMENT REVENUES ARE NOT AS BUOYANT AS THEY USED TO BE.+

+IN POINT OF FACT,+ HE SAID, +THE RAPID RECOVERY IN EXPORTS SINCE THE LOANS WERE NEGOTIATED HAS PROBABLY MEANT THEY WERE UNNECESSARY, BUT THIS IS A TRIBUTE TO HONG KONG'S POWERS OF RECOVERY, THE THEORY WAS RIGHT.+

/MR. SWIRE

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

- 2 -

MR. SWIRE SAID THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION HAD MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH PARLIAMENT THROUGH THE ANGLO-HONG KONG GROUP AND DINNERS WERE HELD IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS FOR GROUPS OF CONSERVATIVE AND LABOUR M.P.S.

HE THOUGHT THE DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWED THESE DINNERS WAS USEFUL AND SOMETIMES STIMULATING BUT HE STILL DESPAIRED OF SOME OF THE QUESTIONS ASKED IN THE HOUSE.

+MANY OF THEM RESULT IN ANSWERS WHICH GIVE M.P.S USEFUL FACTS ABOUT HONG KONG BUT SOME CAUSE A LOT OF WORK FOR INFORMATION WHICH IS REALLY NOT VERY RELEVANT, AND SOME ARE DOWNRIGHT RUDE,+ HE SAID.

MR. SWIRE SAID THAT SIR MICHAEL HERRIES WOULD NOT BE STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION BECAUSE HIS BUSINESS COMMITMENTS IN SCOTLAND MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO DEVOTE THE TIME HE WOULD WISH TO ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS. MR. WILLIAM LEE, OF WORLD-WIDE SHIPPING, WAS ALSO RESIGNING FROM THE COMMITTEE BECAUSE HE WAS RETURNING TO HONG KONG.

MR. SWIRE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE ASSOCIATION'S SECRETARY, MR. TED BUSH, WHO IS RETIRING SHORTLY, AFTER HOLDING THE OFFICE FOR MORE THAN EIGHT YEARS. AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT HIS SUCCESSOR WILL BE MADE SHORTLY.

SIR MICHAEL HERRIES AND MR. BUSH WERE ELECTED HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION APPOINTED
* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED MR. DONALD LUDDINGTON AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION TO SUCCEED SIR RONALD HOLMES.

MR. LUDDINGTON, AT PRESENT THE GOVERNOR OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS, IS EXPECTED TO ASSUME DUTY IN APRIL NEXT YEAR WHEN SIR RONALD'S TERM OF OFFICE ENDS.

MR. LUDDINGTON, WHO IS 55, GRADUATED FROM ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY AND SERVED IN THE BRITISH ARMY FROM 1940 TO 1946.

HE WAS FIRST APPOINTED TO HONG KONG IN FEBRUARY 1949 AS A CADET OFFICER. AFTER HOLDING A VARIETY OF APPOINTMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE OF NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT COMMISSIONER AND DEFENCE SECRETARY, HE WAS APPOINTED SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS IN MAY 1971.

MR. LUDDINGTON WENT TO THE WESTERN PACIFIC IN 1973 TO BE THE GOVERNOR OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

- 3 -

NEW THROUGH ROUTE IN KWUN TONG OPENS

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S NEW \$22 MILLION WAI YIP STREET EXTENSION AND FLYOVER COMPLEX AT KWUN TONG OPENED TO TRAFFIC THIS (MONDAY) MORNING BRINGING VAST IMPROVEMENTS IN TRAFFIC FLOW THROUGH THE CONGESTED DISTRICT.

THE PROJECT, WHICH WAS COMPLETED OVER THE WEEKEND, TOOK 27 MONTHS TO BUILD.

IT IS DESIGNED TO EASE CONGESTION ALONG KWUN TONG ROAD AND PROVIDE A FAST ALTERNATIVE ROUTE BETWEEN KWUN TONG AND SAU MAU PING, LAM TIN AND LEI YUE MUN.

MR. CHOW CHE-KING, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE P.W.D.'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE CONSULTANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION, SAID TODAY THE NEW COMPLEX WAS PART OF A LONG-TERM SCHEME TO PROVIDE QUICK ACCESS BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIAL AREAS OF KWUN TONG AND KWAI CHUNG.

+BUT THE TIMING OF THIS COMPLEX COULD NOT HAVE BEEN BETTER AS IT WILL INITIALLY ENSURE CONTINUOUS TRAFFIC FLOW BETWEEN THE KWUN TONG AND SAU MAU PING AREAS WHEN KWUN TONG ROAD IS PARTLY CLOSED FOR MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WORKS,+ HE SAID.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT MTR WORKS ALONG KWUN TONG ROAD WILL BEGIN IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS REDUCING A SECTION OF KWUN TONG ROAD TO ONLY ONE LANE IN EACH DIRECTION.

WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW ROUTE, HOWEVER, FOUR EXTRA LANES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR MOTORISTS TRAVELLING THROUGH KWUN TONG.

THE NEW ROUTE IS ABOUT TWO KILOMETRES (6,500 FEET) LONG AND CONSISTS OF AN EXTENSION OF WAI YIP STREET AND A 190-METRE (630-FOOT) OVERSPAN FROM KWUN TONG ROAD.

THE SCHEME INCORPORATES THE WIDEST ROAD SECTION SO FAR IN HONG KONG, WITH 12 LANES FOR TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE JUNCTION OF WAI YIP STREET EXTENSION AND KWUN TONG ROAD TO THE JUNCTION OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AND KWUN TONG ROAD. THIS SECTION IS ABOUT 610 METRES (2,000 FEET LONG).

AS PART OF THE PROJECT, A FOOTBRIDGE HAS BEEN PROVIDED NEAR ST. JOSEPH'S ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOL TO ENABLE PEDESTRIANS TO CROSS THE ROAD IN SAFETY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

- 4 -

FIREMEN'S MANY DUTIES

* * * * *

THE WEEKEND WHICH HAS JUST PASSED IS A TYPICAL ONE FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BUT THE VARIETY OF CALLS RECEIVED MAY SERVE TO HIGHLIGHT THE MANY OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY A MODERN FIRE SERVICE.

DURING THE 48-HOUR PERIOD ENDED AT 7 A.M. TODAY, THE DEPARTMENT HANDLED A TOTAL OF 22 SPECIAL SERVICE CALLS WHICH ARE EMERGENCIES OTHER THAN FIRE IN WHICH HUMAN LIVES MAY BE IMPERILLED OR PUBLIC PROPERTIES OR FACILITIES ENDANGERED.

IN ADDITION, 41 FIRE CALLS AND 713 AMBULANCE CALLS WERE ALSO DEALT WITH.

TO A FIREMAN, A SPECIAL SERVICE CALL IS AN INCIDENT WHERE HIS EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING IS PUT INTO PRACTICAL USE ALTHOUGH NO FIRE HAS OCCURRED.

THIS INCLUDES THE RELEASE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN TRAPPED IN LIFTS DUE TO MECHANICAL DEFECT OR MORE COMMONLY TOO MANY PEOPLE ATTEMPTING TO TRAVEL IN THE LIFT AT THE SAME TIME. FIREMEN ANSWERED 12 SUCH CALLS IN THE WEEKEND.

THERE ARE THE MORE TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE FIRE SERVICES IS CALLED UPON TO HELP, SUCH AS CHILDREN REPORTED MISSING IN THE SEA. OCCASIONALLY, THERE ARE THE CASES WHERE A PERSON DECIDES TO +END IT ALL+ AND DURING THE WEEKEND A CALL WAS DEALT WITH IN EACH OF THESE CATEGORIES.

OTHER SPECIAL SERVICE CALLS USUALLY RECEIVED INCLUDE ANIMAL RESCUE, PERSONS FALL FROM HEIGHT, ELECTRIC SHOCK, OVERCOME BY GAS, TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, LOCK-IN/OUT OF PREMISES, ETC.

THIS AND MANY OTHER INCIDENTS ARE DEALT WITH BY SPECIALLY-TRAINED FIREMEN USING EQUIPMENT DESIGNED TO COPE WITH ALMOST ANY EMERGENCY.

ALTHOUGH SOME OF THESE DUTIES OFTEN INVOLVE PERSONAL DANGER AND DEMAND GREAT COURAGE, THEY SERVE WELL TO INDICATE WHAT A VARIED LIFE A FIREMAN HAS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

- 5 -

MARCH BANKING STATISTICS
* * * *

BANKING DEPOSITS AS AT THE END OF MARCH STOOD AT \$38,010 MILLION, COMPRISING \$9,784 MILLION IN DEMAND DEPOSITS, \$14,755 MILLION IN TIME DEPOSITS AND \$13,471 MILLION IN SAVINGS DEPOSITS.

THERE WERE 74 LICENSED BANKS IN HONG KONG AS AT MARCH 31.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE RELEASED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING TODAY GIVES A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF BANK LIABILITIES AND ASSETS FOR THE MONTH: -

<u>LIABILITIES</u>		<u>\$MILLION</u>
1. DEPOSITS		38,010
2. AMOUNT DUE TO BANKS ABROAD		22,824
3. OTHER LIABILITIES		<u>8,755</u>
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>69,589</u>
 <u>ASSETS</u>		
1. CASH		716
2. AMOUNT DUE FROM BANKS ABROAD:		
(I) DEMAND AND SHORT TERM CLAIMS	19,112	
(II) TIME DEPOSITS	<u>1,531</u>	20,643
3. LOANS AND ADVANCES:		
(I) HONG KONG	26,290	
(II) ABROAD	<u>11,374</u>	37,664
4. INVESTMENTS:		
(I) HONG KONG	2,950	
(II) ABROAD	<u>60</u>	3,010
5. OTHER ASSETS:		
(I) HONG KONG	4,340	
(II) ABROAD	<u>3,216</u>	<u>7,556</u>
	TOTAL ASSETS	<u>69,589</u>
AVERAGE LIQUIDITY DURING MONTH		49.15 PER CENT

- - - - 0 - - - -

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

- 6 -

GOVERNMENT TEAM TO DISCUSS DRUG PROBLEM ON TV

A TEAM OF SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK WILL APPEAR ON THE +NEEDLEPOINT+ TELEVISION PROGRAMME TOMORROW (TUESDAY) EVENING TO DISCUSS THE DRUG PROBLEM IN HONG KONG.

THE TEAM COMPRISES THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. E. I. LEE- THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. K. F. CHAN- THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PREVENTIVE SERVICE, MR. ROY HATTON AND THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF THE NARCOTICS BUREAU OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE, MR. JACK JOHNSTON.

THEY WILL DISCUSS THE RECENT PERFORMANCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING, SUPPLY AND PRICES OF ILLICIT NARCOTICS, AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR DRUG ABUSERS, ESPECIALLY METHADONE MAINTENANCE.

A NUMBER OF GUESTS, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN THE NARCOTICS FIELD, SOCIAL WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN THE PROGRAMME. THE DISCUSSION WILL BE CHAIRED BY MR. WAI KEE SHUN, PUBLISHER OF TIN TIN YAT PAO.

THE 45-MINUTE PROGRAMME, TO BE PRODUCED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, WILL BE TELEVISED LIVE STARTING AT 10.45 P.M. ON THE JADE NETWORK OF HK-TV, AND RTHK ONE AND FOUR. SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION WILL BE PROVIDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CROWN LAND SALE

TWO LOTS OF CROWN LAND WITH A TOTAL AREA OF MORE THAN 52,000 SQUARE FEET WILL BE PUT UP FOR SALE BY AUCTION LATER THIS MONTH.

THE AUCTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 28 (FRIDAY) AT 2.30 P.M. IN THE LECTURE ROOM, 8TH FLOOR, CITY HALL.

ONE LOT, MEASURING 18,500 SQUARE FEET, IS SITUATED AT HORIZON DRIVE, CHUNG HOM KOK, ON HONG KONG ISLAND. IT IS EARMARKED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

THE OTHER LOT AT CHO YUEN STREET, SAM KA TSUEN, KOWLOON IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES. IT MEASURES 34,370 SQUARE FEET.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG AND AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

SALE PLANS CAN ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THESE OFFICES:

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976.

- 7 -

GOVERNOR VISITS ST. JOHN BRIGADE
* * * * *

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL VISIT THE MAINLAND AREA HEADQUARTERS OF THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION AND BRIGADE AT 104, WATERLOO ROAD AT 8 P.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

SIR MURRAY, WHO IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ST. JOHN COUNCIL, HAS KEEN INTEREST IN THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION AND BRIGADE.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT.

THE ST. JOHN MAINLAND AREA HEADQUARTERS IS SITUATED BEHIND BLOCK +F+ OF KOWLOON HOSPITAL. PRESS REPRESENTATIVES CAN ENTER VIA AN UNNAMED STREET OPPOSITE 83, WATERLOO ROAD.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CHINESE DANCES BY STUDENTS
* * * * *

STUDENTS FROM FOUR SCHOOLS WILL SHOW OFF THEIR TALENTS IN CHINESE DANCES IN A PERFORMANCE AT THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL AT 8 P.M. ON MONDAY (MAY 10) TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE HONG KONG CHINESE SCHOOLS' DANCE TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF YOUTH ORCHESTRAS AND PERFORMING ARTS IN ENGLAND THIS AUGUST.

THE PROGRAMME FEATURES CHINESE CLASSICAL AND FOLK DANCES BY STUDENTS OF BISHOP HALL JUBILEE SCHOOL, MANSFIELD COLLEGE, SACRED HEART CANOSSIAN COLLEGE AND TACK CHING GIRLS' MIDDLE SCHOOL.

THE PERFORMANCE WILL BE ATTENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE AND LADY MACLEHOSE, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR. DENIS BRAY AND MRS. BRAY, AND THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY AND MRS. TOPLEY.

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE FROM 9.00 A.M. TO 12.30 P.M. AND FROM 2.00 P.M. TO 4.30 P.M. DAILY EXCEPT SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AT THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, KOWLOON SUB-OFFICE, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, 7TH FLOOR, KOWLOON (TELEPHONE NUMBER 3-884111 EXT. 258). PRICE OF TICKETS : \$100, \$10, \$5.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

- 8 -

WATER CUT
* * *

WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN NORTH POINT WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 5).

THIS IS TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY HOUSE NO. 865-1021 AND NO. 992-1054, KING'S ROAD INCLUDING THE NORTH POINT MODEL HOUSING, FINNIE STREET, HOI TAI STREET, HOI WAN STREET, TONG CHONG STREET, HOI KWONG STREET, PAN HOI STREET AND MOUNT PARKER ROAD.

- - - - 0 - - - -