



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1980

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AUXILIARY FLYERS HAVE BUSY YEAR  
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THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE WENT THROUGH A HECTIC PERIOD LAST YEAR, CONTRIBUTING TO A RECORD TOTAL OF 2 890 HOURS OF ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, EMERGENCY AND RESCUE OPERATIONS, AS WELL AS OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE TASKS.

THE CALL-OUTS REPRESENT AN INCREASE OF 11.6 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH A TOTAL OF 2 590 FLYING HOURS IN 1978.

DURING THE YEAR, THE FORCE CARRIED OUT MORE THAN 571 FLYING HOURS IN ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND VIETNAMESE REFUGEES OPERATIONS OVER THE BORDER AREA AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, SAID STAFF OFFICER OF THE RHKAAF, SQN. LEADER JOHN SHAWCROSS TODAY (SATURDAY).

THESE OPERATIONS, CONDUCTED JOINTLY WITH THE POLICE, WERE TIME-CONSUMING AND DEMANDING.

DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES INFLUX, NON-STOP LONG-RANGE FLIGHTS WERE CARRIED OUT DAILY OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA TO SPOT SUSPECTED HUMAN-CARGO VESSELS APPROACHING HONG KONG.

THE MISSIONS WOULD USUALLY TAKE A WHOLE DAY, COVERING AN AREA AS FAR AS 480 KM FROM HONG KONG. HOWEVER, THEY WERE THE MOST POSITIVE AND MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF SURVEILLANCE.

AS FOR ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OPERATIONS, MR SHAWCROSS SAID DAILY DAWN SEARCHES ALONG HONG KONG'S COASTLINE FOR THE LAST 15 MONTHS HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE ROUNDING UP OF THOUSANDS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

WHILE THESE LARGE-SCALE OPERATIONS WERE GOING ON, THE FORCE CONTINUED TO MAN ROUND-THE-CLOCK EMERGENCY FLIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

A TOTAL OF 140 PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM VARIOUS MEDICAL EMERGENCIES REQUIRING IMMEDIATE HOSPITAL ATTENTION WERE EVACUATED BY RHKAAF FLIGHTS FROM INACCESSIBLE AND OUTLYING ISLANDS.

IN ADDITION, 10 SEARCH AND RESCUE FLIGHTS FOR LOST OR INJURED HIKERS AND PICNICKERS WERE CARRIED OUT. THREE MAJOR OFFSHORE SEARCH AND RESCUE FLIGHTS WERE UNDERTAKEN WITH THE NEW TITAN FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT.

ON ONE OCCASION DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, THE RHKAAF RESPONDED TO FOUR CASUALTY EVACUATION CALLS WITHIN A SINGLE DAY.

THE FORCE ALSO HELPED FIRE SERVICES AND AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES PERSONNEL IN COMBATTING FORESTRY FIRES BY DROPPING +WATER BOMBS+ ON THE BLAZES.

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WITH A FLEET OF SIX AIRCRAFT -- A TWIN-ENGINE CESSNA 404 TITAN, A TWIN-ENGINE BRITTEN-NORMAN ISLANDER, TWO SCOTTISH AVIATION BULLDOG TRAINERS AND TWO ALOUETTE MARK III HELICOPTERS -- RHKAAF PILOTS AND CREWMEN PROVIDED MANY OTHER FLYING TASKS DURING THE YEAR.

THESE INCLUDED ROUTINE SATURDAY MORNING FLYING DOCTOR AND FLYING DENTIST SERVICES, POST-TYPHOON RECONNAISSANCE SERVICES, FLYING TRAINING FOR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, AND AERIAL SURVEYS AND PHOTOGRAPHY FOR MAP-MAKING AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENT PLANNING BY THE CROWN LAND AND SURVEY OFFICE.

LAST YEAR, THE FORCE SAW EXPANSION IN MANY AREAS WITH THE OPENING OF A NEW HEADQUARTERS IN MARCH ON THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION.

THE NEW HEADQUARTERS, WHICH INCORPORATES MODERN SECURITY EQUIPMENT, A HELIPORT, AIRCRAFT SERVICING BAYS AND ADMINISTRATION ACCOMMODATION, MEANS HONG KONG'S OWN +AIR FORCE+ HAS BECOME FULLY INDEPENDENT IN AIR OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.

+UPON RECEIVING AN EMERGENCY CALL DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS, AIRCREW AT THE HEADQUARTERS CAN GET A HELICOPTER AIRBORNE WITHIN FIVE MINUTES AND ARRIVE AT ANY REGULAR LANDING SITE ANYWHERE IN THE TERRITORY WITHIN 20 MINUTES AFTER TAKE-OFF, + MR SHAWCROSS SAID. OVERNIGHT, THIS RESPONSE TIME IS EXTENDED BY ABOUT 20 MINUTES.

IN AUGUST LAST YEAR, WITH THE DELIVERY OF A TWIN-ENGINE TITAN AIRCRAFT, THE FORCE HAS STRENGTHENED ITS AERIAL SURVEILLANCE AS WELL AS SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS AT SEA.

FURTHER ORDERS HAVE BEEN PLACED FOR THREE NEW HELICOPTERS -- 365-C DAUPHIN MARK 2S -- FROM FRANCE TO REPLACE THE ALOUETTE HELICOPTERS NOW BEING USED.

THE NEW HELICOPTERS ARE 14-SEAT, TWIN-ENGINE AIRCRAFT AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE DELIVERED IN JUNE THIS YEAR.

THEY ARE FASTER AND HAVE A MUCH GREATER RANGE THAN THE EXISTING ONES AND THEIR INTRODUCTION WILL WIDEN THE SCOPE OF RHKAAF OPERATIONS.

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IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR STAFF OF MARINE DEPARTMENT

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S NAUTICAL TRAINING SCHOOL WILL HOLD A SERIES OF IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSES FOR COXSWAINS AND LAUNCH MECHANICS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THE IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THIS YEAR INCLUDES 14 NAVIGATION AND 10 ENGINEERING COURSES FOR BOTH DECK HANDS AND ENGINE ROOM RATINGS. EIGHT ARE REFRESHER COURSES AND 16 LEAD TO EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY.

HE SAID COURSES ARE HELD AT SUITABLE INTERVALS TO ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT'S 'FLOATING STAFF' TO UP-DATE THEIR MARITIME KNOWLEDGE SO AS TO ENSURE SAFETY AT SEA, AND TO ATTAIN THE HIGHER STANDARDS REQUIRED FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THEIR GRADES.

IN ADDITION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THE NAUTICAL TRAINING SCHOOL ALSO ORGANISES TALKS ON SPECIAL TOPICS EVERY YEAR.

THE SCHOOL WILL HOLD A ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON MONDAY (MARCH 24) ON A NEW MARITIME BUOYAGE SYSTEM WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN APRIL THIS YEAR.

+THE SEMINAR WILL BE FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR OWN STAFF AS WELL AS WATER-BORNE OPERATION PERSONNEL FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS INCLUDING THE FIRE SERVICES, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE AND PWD'S PORT WORKS DIVISION.+

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KWAI CHUNG GAMES HALL READY IN SEPTEMBER

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THE \$6.4 MILLION KWAI CHUNG INDOOR GAMES HALL, WHICH WILL PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED SPORTS FACILITIES TO RESIDENTS OF TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN, WILL BE READY IN SIX MONTHS.

WORK ON THE SUPERSTRUCTURE OF THE GAMES HALL HAS VIRTUALLY BEEN COMPLETED AND CONTRACTORS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ARE PROCEEDING WITH WORK ON THE STEEL-FRAMED ROOF STRUCTURE.

THE PROJECT, JOINTLY FINANCED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC, MR O.R. SADICK, IS KNOWN AS THE OSMAN RAMJU SADICK MEMORIAL HALL.

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OCCUPYING AN AREA OF SOME 2 400 SQUARE METRES, THE GAMES HALL IS LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF HING FONG ROAD AND KWAI ON ROAD NEAR KWAI FONG ESTATE.

MR JOHN LAINE, PWD'S PROJECT ARCHITECT, SAID THE HALL HAD A CENTRAL GAMES AREA CAPABLE OF ACCOMMODATING TWO BASKETBALL COURTS OR THREE VOLLEYBALL COURTS OR EIGHT BADMINTON COURTS, AND A GRANDSTAND FOR 300 SPECTATORS.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, THERE WOULD BE CHANGING ROOMS AND TOILETS, OFFICES, A SEPARATE GAMES ROOM, TRAINING ROOM AND A TABLE-TENNIS ROOM.

THE HALL WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT ON COMPLETION IN SEPTEMBER.

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FINAL WORK ON TYPHOON SHELTER  
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WORK WILL START SHORTLY ON THE FINAL STAGE OF THE NEW \$40 MILLION CHEUNG CHAU TYPHOON SHELTER.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE PWD CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE.

MR TSANG NAI-LOK, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE PORT WORKS DIVISION, SAID ON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT, A GROSS TYPHOON SHELTER AREA OF SOME 63 HECTARES WOULD BE PROVIDED.

IT WOULD MEET THE DEMAND FOR SHELTERED ANCHORAGE IN THE SOUTHWESTERN APPROACHES TO HONG KONG HARBOUR, HE ADDED.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL BEGIN IN JUNE AND TAKE TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE. IT INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE RUBBLE BREAKWATERS AT CHEUNG CHAU WAN AT THE WEST SIDE OF THE ISLAND.

THESE RUBBLE BREAKWATERS WILL BE ABOUT 600 METRES, 320 METRES AND 230 METRES LONG RESPECTIVELY AND WILL REST ON FOUNDATIONS WHICH ARE NEAR COMPLETION.

MR TSANG POINTED OUT THAT THE POSITION OF THESE BREAKWATERS HAD BEEN DETERMINED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE AND WAS AGREEABLE TO THE LOCAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE FISHERMEN BASED ON CHEUNG CHAU.

ASSOCIATED WORKS UNDER THE CONTRACT WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF 13 MOORING DOLPHINS AND FOUR LIGHT BEACONS WITHIN THE TYPHOON SHELTER.

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GOOD EDUCATION PROSPECTS FOR FISHERMEN'S CHILDREN

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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN PREDICTED TODAY THAT THE STANDARD OF EDUCATION AMONG FISHERMEN'S CHILDREN WILL +MARKEDLY IMPROVE.+

AT AN ANNUAL FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION SCHOOL'S LUNCHEON MR RIDDELL-SWAN SAID THE FUTURE OF THE FISHING COMMUNITY IS TO A GREAT EXTENT IN THE HANDS OF THE FMO TEACHERS +AS ITS DESTINY DEPENDS HEAVILY UPON THE PROVISION OF A SOUND EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN WHO WILL IN TIME BE ITS MEMBERS AND LEADERS.+

MR RIDDELL-SWAN PAID TRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FMO SCHOOLS BY FORMER DIRECTOR, MR TED NICHOLS, AND SPOKE OF THE SCHOOLS' IMPROVEMENT TO THE EDUCATION OF THE FISHING COMMUNITY DURING THE PAST 35 YEARS.

BUT HE ADDED: +WE MUST, HOWEVER, MAINTAIN OUR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS OF OUR STUDENTS.+

TO THIS END, HE SAID, THE SECONDARY SCHOOL AT ABERDEEN EXTENDED ITS COURSE TO FIVE YEARS AND SCHOLARSHIPS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO ENABLE FISHERMEN'S CHILDREN TO CONTINUE TO ATTEND OTHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS BEYOND THE FORM 3 LEVEL.

+ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOW ALSO AVAILABLE TO ALLOW OUTSTANDING STUDENTS, WHO FOR FINANCIAL REASONS MAY BE PRECLUDED FROM FURTHERING THEIR EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITIES AND TERTIARY COLLEGES.

+WITH THESE FACILITIES AND WITH THE PROVISION OF FREE SECONDARY EDUCATION UP TO FORM 3 LEVEL, I FEEL THAT THE STANDARDS OF EDUCATION AMONG FISHERMEN'S CHILDREN WILL MARKEDLY IMPROVE,+ SAID MR RIDDELL-SWAN.

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### NT SCHOOLS RECEIVE BOOKS ON NATURE

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MORE THAN 350 SETS OF THE +OCEAN PARK NATURE SERIES+ OF BOOKS WERE TODAY GIVEN TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES BY THE SHELL COMPANY.

RECEIVING THE BOOKS AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY THIS MORNING, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR KENNETH TOPLEY SAID OVER 700 000 STUDENTS FROM SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS HAD VISITED OCEAN PARK IN GROUPS UNDER THE JOINT ARRANGEMENT OF OCEAN PARK AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

HOWEVER, DUE TO TRANSPORT PROBLEMS, PUPILS OF SOME PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAVE NOT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND THE PRESENTATION OF THE +OCEAN PARK NATURE SERIES+ TO THESE SCHOOLS IS A MOST MEANINGFUL GESTURE, HE SAID.

EACH SET IN THE SERIES CONTAINS FOUR BOOKS ON VARIOUS ANIMALS AND BIRDS. IT PROVIDES VALUABLE INFORMATION ON NATURAL SCIENCE STUDIES, AND HELPS TO AROUSE THE INTEREST OF STUDENTS IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT NATURE.

MR TOPLEY COMMENDED THE SHELL COMPANY FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND THE PROMOTION OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG, SUCH AS THE SETTING UP OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS, AND THE DONATION OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES TO SCHOOLS.

THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY MR S.J. OSMOND, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE COMPANY. SIR KENNETH PING-FAN FUNG, CHAIRMAN OF OCEAN PARK, WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY.

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### FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON THREE DAYS NEXT WEEK.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF PRACTICE.

THE PRACTISING TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
MARCH 24 (MONDAY)	9 AM - 5 PM
MARCH 25 (TUESDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
MARCH 26 (WEDNESDAY)	5 AM - 4 PM

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