



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1975

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TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1975

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\$136 MILLION CASH AID FOR NEEDY THIS YEAR

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS TO SPEND \$136 MILLION THIS YEAR TO PROVIDE CASH AID FOR THE NEEDY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THIS IS AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 33 PER CENT OVER THE \$103 MILLION PAID OUT IN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE LAST YEAR, HE TOLD MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST AT THEIR REGULAR LUNCHEON MEETING.

IN ADDITION TO THIS, THE DEPARTMENT EXPECTS TO PAY OUT ANOTHER \$80 MILLION IN DISABILITY AND INFIRMITY ALLOWANCES FROM WHICH OVER 55,000 PEOPLE WILL BENEFIT.

MR. LEE WAS SPEAKING ABOUT THE SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES WHICH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT OPERATES. TOUCHING FIRST ON THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME, HE SAID IT HAS BROUGHT CONSIDERABLE HELP TO THE POOREST MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY BY BRINGING THE INCOME OF AN ELIGIBLE SINGLE PERSON OR A FAMILY UP TO A LEVEL WHERE ESSENTIAL NEEDS SUCH AS FOOD, CLOTHING, FUEL AND POWER CAN BE MET WITHOUT HARDSHIP.

+IN GENERAL, I THINK I CAN FAIRLY CLAIM THAT THE SCHEME HAS WORKED WELL AND, WITHOUT DOUBT, IS CURRENTLY PROVIDING ESSENTIAL HELP FOR A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF POOR, ELDERLY, SICK AND DISABLED PEOPLE, TOGETHER WITH WIDOWS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, WHO WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE TO FEND FOR THEMSELVES,+ MR. LEE SAID.

+HOWEVER, IT IS TRUE THAT WHAT WE ARE DOING IS NOT TO EVERYONE'S SATISFACTION AND WE ARE AT THE RECEIVING END OF CRITICISM WHICH IS NOT ALWAYS AS WELL-INFORMED OR, INDEED, AS FAIR AS WE MIGHT REASONABLY EXPECT.+

IN RECENT MONTHS, HE NOTED, THERE HAD BEEN A FAIR AMOUNT OF COMMENTS ABOUT WHAT THE SCHEME SHOULD DO OR NOT DO IN THE PRESENT TIGHT ECONOMIC SITUATION IN WHICH WE FIND OURSELVES. MUCH OF THE CURRENT CRITICISM, HE SAID, WAS CENTRED AROUND THE SCOPE OF THE SCHEME, AND, IN PARTICULAR, IT HAS BEEN ARGUED, THAT IT SHOULD DIRECTLY CATER FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

+THERE CAN BE A GREAT DEAL OF SYMPATHY FOR THE VIEW THAT THEY SHOULD NOT SUFFER SERIOUS HARDSHIP WHEN THEY ARE UNEMPLOYED, BUT IT IS QUITE ANOTHER THING TO SUGGEST THE SOLUTION MUST INEVITABLY BE TO COVER THE UNEMPLOYED DIRECTLY BY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.+

HE SAID THE PROBLEM AROSE BECAUSE UNDER THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, THOSE ABLE-BODIED BETWEEN THE AGES OF 15 AND 55 DO NOT QUALIFY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

+IT IS IMPORTANT WHEN DISCUSSING THIS TO KEEP IN MIND THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IS INTENDED. THE AIM IS TO PROVIDE CASH HELP AT A DECENT LEVEL FOR THOSE WHO, AS A RESULT OF AGE, ILLNESS, DISABILITY, OR THROUGH FAMILY COMMITMENTS, ARE NOT AVAILABLE OR WHO ARE UNABLE TO WORK AND SO CANNOT SUPPORT THEMSELVES BY THEIR EARNINGS.+

THIS, HE POINTED OUT, WAS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE SITUATION FACED BY THE UNEMPLOYED WHO ARE AVAILABLE FOR AND CAN WORK. THE SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEM, HE SAID, WAS ONE OF WORK OPPORTUNITY.

MR. LEE SAID THAT EVEN THOUGH AN UNEMPLOYED PERSON COULD NOT DIRECTLY RECEIVE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, THE ELIGIBLE MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY COULD +SO IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE, PARTICULARLY IN THE LARGER FAMILY, FOR HIM TO SHARE THE HELP PROVIDED BY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE JUST AS IN THE SAME WAY AS THE FAMILY SHARE HIS EARNINGS WHEN HE IS IN WORK.+

+AT THE SAME TIME, IF A PERSON EXPERIENCES HARDSHIP BECAUSE HE IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE UNDER THE EXISTING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, WE WILL DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO HELP HIM, SUCH AS GRANTING HIM TEMPORARY RELIEF.+

+I DO APPRECIATE THAT ALL THIS IS FAR FROM EASY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED PERSON, BUT THE HELP GIVEN DOES AFFORD SOME PROTECTION,+ HE SAID.

DEALING WITH THE QUESTION OF TIME TAKEN TO MAKE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, WHICH HAD BROUGHT CRITICISM, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE SAID UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, PAYMENTS ARE MADE, ON AVERAGE, THREE WEEKS FROM THE DATE OF APPLICATION, PROVIDING, OF COURSE, THAT THE APPLICANT SUPPLIES ALL THE RELEVANT DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO VERIFY CIRCUMSTANCES.

+I THINK I SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT BECAUSE THE SCHEME IS MEANS-TESTED, IT INEVITABLY TAKES TIME TO CHECK ALL THE FACTS TO ENABLE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO BE PAID TO BE CALCULATED. INDEED, IF ONLY SUPERFICIAL ENQUIRIES WERE MADE LEADING TO ON-THE-SPOT PAYMENTS AS A GENERAL RULE, THERE WOULD SOON BE COMPLAINTS THAT NEEDS WERE BEING OVERLOOKED.+

ANOTHER FACTOR THAT COULD ACCOUNT FOR DELAYS WAS LACK OF CO-OPERATION BY APPLICANTS.

MR. LEE SAID THERE HAD BEEN A PERIOD TOWARDS THE END OF LAST YEAR WHEN PEOPLE HAD TO WAIT A RATHER LONGER PERIOD BECAUSE A BACKLOG HAD BUILT UP OF CASES AWAITING THE PREPARATION OF CASH ORDER BOOKS.

HOWEVER, THE SITUATION WAS CORRECTED THROUGH REDEPLOYING OF STAFF FROM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE INTRODUCTION OF SHIFT DUTY UP TO 10 P.M.

/ON OCCASIONS

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ON OCCASIONS WHERE ACTION CANNOT BE COMPLETED AND HARDSHIP WOULD ARISE, FIELD UNITS HAVE ARRANGEMENTS TO MAKE IMMEDIATE CASH PAYMENTS ON THE SPOT. EACH FIELD UNIT HAD A SUM OF MONEY FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND TOGETHER MAKE ABOUT 350 SUCH PAYMENTS EACH MONTH.

THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY HAS A CASELOAD OF ABOUT 46,000 CASES, 60 PER CENT OF WHOM ARE SINGLE PEOPLE, MOSTLY ELDERLY. THE OTHERS FALL INTO DIFFERENT CATEGORIES SUCH AS WIDOWS WITH DEPENDANT CHILDREN, ILL HEALTH, DISABILITY OR FAMILIES WITH LOW EARNINGS. CASES DIRECTLY RELATED TO UNEMPLOYMENT ACCOUNT FOR ONLY ABOUT FIVE PER CENT.

IN ADDITION TO THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME, MR. LEE SAID THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ALSO OPERATES A DISABILITY AND INFIRMITY ALLOWANCES SCHEME WHICH PROVIDES EXTRA CASH FOR THE TOTALLY DISABLED AND THE ELDERLY AGED 75 YEARS OR MORE. THIS ALLOWANCE IS NOT MEANT AS A SUBSISTANCE ALLOWANCE, BUT IS PAID ON TOP OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

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HONG KONG -- AUSTRALIA TEXTILES TALKS COMMENCE
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CONSULTATIONS HAVE COMMENCED HERE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS REGARDING THE CONTINUATION OF RESTRAINTS ON EXPORTS OF CERTAIN APPAREL ITEMS FROM HONG KONG TO AUSTRALIA. HONG KONG HAS ALSO BEEN REQUESTED TO RESTRAIN EXPORTS OF THREE OTHER APPAREL ITEMS.

THE CONSULTATIONS ARE BEING HELD UNDER THE ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES.

AT THE REQUEST OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAS SUSPENDED WITH EFFECT FROM TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1975, THE ISSUE OF FURTHER EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS FOR EXPORT TO AUSTRALIA OF KNITTED BLOUSES OF COTTON OR MAN-MADE FIBRES (WOMEN'S AND GIRLS') AND WOVEN BLOUSES OF COTTON (WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' AND INFANTS') PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATIONS.

DETAILS HAVE BEEN RELEASED TO THE TRADE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S NOTICE TO EXPORTERS, SERIES 4, NO. 10/75 DATED APRIL 29, 1975.

TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AND COMPANIES ON THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S MAILING LIST FOR NOTICE TO EXPORTERS, SERIES 4 WILL RECEIVE COPIES OF THE ABOVE NOTICE SHORTLY. COPIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE RECEPTIONIST COUNTER ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, 46 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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JOINT CONSULTATION IN PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT ADVOCATED

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, TODAY ADVOCATED JOINT CONSULTATION AS A MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD BY WHICH EMPLOYERS CAN INSPIRE CONFIDENCE IN THEIR WORKERS.

MR. PRICE'S REMARK CAME AFTER ONE OF HIS REGULAR VISITS TO INDUSTRY -- TO THE HONG KONG UNITED DOCKYARDS LIMITED AND THE WHAMPOA TERMINALS LIMITED IN HUNG HOM. JOINTLY THEY PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FOR NEARLY 6,000 WORKERS.

+JOINT CONSULTATION IS ONE OF THE MOST USEFUL ELEMENTS IN PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT,+ HE SAID. +USED PROPERLY IT CAN PREVENT MANY PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE DAILY OPERATION OF AN ESTABLISHMENT FROM ESCALATING INTO SERIOUS UNREST.+

FOLLOWING HIS TOUR, THE COMMISSIONER SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE SOUND SYSTEM OF JOINT CONSULTATION OPERATING BETWEEN THE HUD MANAGMENT AND ITS WORKERS.

HE SAID SUCH MEETINGS BROUGHT ABOUT MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MANagements AND EMPLOYEES, AND PROVIDED EMPLOYERS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT FORWARD IDEAS AND EXPLAIN PLANS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THEIR ORGANISATIONS. EMPLOYEES WERE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO EXPLAIN DIFFICULTIES WHICH MIGHT ARISE, ENABLING MANagements TO TRY TO AVOID A SUBSEQUENT CONFLICT OF INTERESTS.

MR. PRICE ADDED THAT EVERY LARGE EMPLOYER SHOULD HAVE SOUND AND HEALTHY JOINT CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURES.

THE COMMISSIONER ALSO PRAISED THE WHAMPOA TERMINALS LIMITED FOR ITS SAFETY MEASURES TO PREVENT WORK ACCIDENTS.

HE SAID THAT DESPITE THE CONTINUOUS HANDLING OF LARGE CONTAINERS AT THE TERMINAL SINCE ITS OPENING IN 1972, THERE HAD BEEN NO MAJOR ACCIDENTS.

THIS WAS LARGELY DUE TO THE MANAGEMENT'S STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF A PLANNED SAFETY POLICY.

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TREE PLANTING EXERCISE FOR NON-SCHOOL CHILDREN
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A GROUP OF WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT CHILDREN AGED 12 AND 13 WHO ARE NEITHER AT SCHOOL NOR AT WORK WILL PLANT 55 TREE SAMPLINGS IN LOK FU AND WANG TAU HOM ESTATES TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

THIS IS ONE OF THE MANY PROGRAMME SPECIALLY ORGANISED FOR THIS GROUP OF CHILDREN BY THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE UNDER THE WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE TREE PLANTING EXERCISE, LIKE THE OTHER PROGRAMMES, IS TO GET THESE YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN THIS EXERCISE HAD ALREADY RECEIVED TRAINING ON TREE PLANTING TECHNIQUES FROM THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT DURING AN OUTING TO SHING MUN FORESTRY PLANTATION LAST WEEK. THE TREE SAMPLINGS, FERTILIZERS AND ESSENTIAL MATERIAL FOR THE EXERCISE ARE ALSO PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

OTHER PROGRAMMES WHICH HAVE BEEN RECENTLY ORGANISED FOR THESE YOUNG PEOPLE INCLUDED A FURNITURE PAINTING EXERCISE FOR OUR LADY OF MARYKNOLL HOSPITAL AND PICNICS TO THE NEW TERRITORIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT. THE EXERCISE WILL START AT 10. A.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) NEAR BLOCK 23 OF LOK FU ESTATE.

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MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR HOLIDAY-MAKERS
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WORK IS FORGING AHEAD TO PROVIDE MORE AND BETTER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE FOR HOLIDAY-MAKERS IN HONG KONG.

AN AREA OF VACANT LAND IN PUI O ON SOUTHERN LANTAU HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS A PROTOTYPE CAMPSITE AND WORK HAS ALREADY BEGUN ON THE PROJECT.

THE CAMPSITE, EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED LATER THIS SUMMER, WILL PROVIDE 20 CAMPING PLACES FOR THE PUBLIC ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST SERVED BASIS. EACH CAMPING PLACE WILL HAVE A BARBECUE PIT, A TABLE AND BENCH UNIT AS WELL AS WATER SUPPLY. HOWEVER, THE CAMPERS WILL HAVE TO BRING ALONG THEIR OWN TENTS.

A SMALL SITE OFFICE WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE CAMP SITE. THIS WILL BE MANNED BY A FORESTRY WARDEN DURING WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS SO AS TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO CAMPERS. FIRST AID KITS WILL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE IF NECESSARY.

+IF THIS PROJECT PROVES TO BE SUCCESSFUL, WE HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR MORE CAMPSITES TO BE BUILT AT PLACES LIKE SAI KUNG AND IN OTHER PARTS OF LANTAU,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAID.

FOLLOWING THE APPROVAL OF THE FIVE-YEAR RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN 1972, THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY EMBARKED ON THE TASK OF DEVELOPING SEVERAL MAJOR RECREATIONAL AREAS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE. THESE AREAS ARE LOCATED AT SHING MUN RESERVOIR, KOWLOON RESERVOIR, TYTAM RESERVOIR AND ABERDEEN RESERVOIR -- ALL WITHIN EASY REACH OF URBAN DWELLERS.

AT THE SAME TIME, FUNDS HAVE ALSO BEEN PROVIDED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIMILAR FACILITIES IN THE BRIDE'S POOL AREA AND PAT HEUNG NEAR SEK KONG. THE NEXT TO BE DEVELOPED IS SOUTHERN LANTAU AND IT IS PLANNED THAT EVENTUALLY SAI KUNG TOO, WILL BE TURNED INTO A WELL-EQUIPPED RECREATIONAL GROUND.

AT PRESENT, A TOTAL OF 145 RECREATION SITES COVERING AN AREA OF ABOUT 55 ACRES TOGETHER WITH ABOUT 190 MILES OF FOOTPATHS ARE MANAGED BY THE CONSERVATION AND FORESTS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AND HONG KONG ISLAND.

OF THE 145 SITES, 71 ARE FOR BARBECUE USE WHERE MORE THAN 630 BARBECUE PITS ARE INSTALLED, WHILE THE REMAINDER ARE PICNIC PLACES. ALL THE PICNIC SITES ARE PROVIDED WITH TABLE AND BENCH UNITS, BENCH SEATS AND LITTER BINS.

TYPICAL COUNTRY-STYLE RAIN SHELTERS ARE ALSO FOUND AT THE ABERDEEN RESERVOIR, SHING MUN AND BRIDE'S POOL RECREATIONAL AREAS. AND PLANS ARE ALREADY IN HAND TO CONSTRUCT MORE IN OTHER LOCATIONS.

ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS KEPT BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE RECREATIONAL AREAS RECENTLY ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT HAS INCREASED TREMENDOUSLY. IN THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH THIS YEAR, NEARLY 1.5 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE VISITED THE TEN MAJOR FORESTRY AND RECREATIONAL AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. THIS IS AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 100 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

+THE MOST POPULAR RECREATION AREAS ARE BRIDE'S POOL AND SHING MUN,+ THE SPOKESMAN REMARKED.

IN BRIDE'S POOL, A TOTAL OF 556,020 VISITORS WERE RECORDED DURING THIS 12-MONTH PERIOD, WHICH IS FOUR TIMES MORE THAN 120,385 RECORDED IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. THE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO SHING MUN ALSO INCREASED FROM 254,171 TO 453,397 OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

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NEW CITY DISTRICT OFFICER APPOINTED
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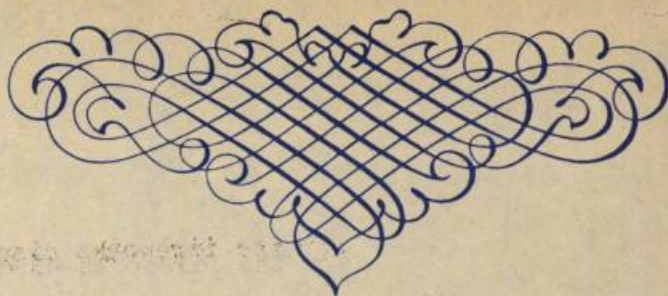
THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THE APPOINTMENT OF MRS. MABEL HAYES AS CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (EASTERN) WITH EFFECT FROM MAY 1, 1975.

MRS. HAYES WILL REPLACE MR. STEPHEN HO YUM-SUEN, WHO WILL ASSUME THE DUTIES OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER IN HEADQUARTERS.

MRS. HAYES, SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND HAS BEEN IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE FOR TEN YEARS. WHEN FIRST APPOINTED SHE SERVED IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND WAS LATER TRANSFERRED TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT AS AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY. SHE WAS PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN JULY 1972.

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ROYAL VISIT PRESS RELEASE



Tuesday, April 29, 1975

MARINE DEPARTMENT SEEKS PUBLIC CO-OPERATION

Advice On Three Harbour Events During Royal Visit

The Marine Department today urged members of the public to co-operate with it on three occasions during the Royal visit when portions of the harbour will be affected by the programme prepared for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

"We have made every effort to keep harbour activity continuing as normal as possible on all three occasions, but we hope the public will understand that a minimum of restrictions for a limited time are necessary," a spokesman explained.

The first occasion will be the ceremonial harbour crossing on May 4 soon after the arrival of the Royal visitors at Hong Kong International Airport. Between 5.30 and 6.30 p.m. on that afternoon, the harbour will not be closed, but the spokesman urged operators of small craft to navigate with "extreme caution" between Kowloon Public Pier and Queen's pier in the central harbour area.

He urged owners of all sight-seeing boats, and tourist and pleasure craft to keep to the east of the line joining Holt's Wharf, the naval buoy No. 1, and Fenwick Pier during the ceremonial crossing.

Ocean-going vessels wishing either to enter or leave Hong Kong between the crossing should use the western approaches. Marine Department and police launches will be in the area to direct waterborne traffic.

/For the

For the fireworks display on the following evening, May 5, the spokesman said the portion of the harbour area between the line joining the Cust Rock Light Beacon at Hung Hom and the light beacon on the eastern arm of the Causeway Bay typhoon shelter, on the east, and the line between Holt's wharf and the Wan Chai Ferry on the west, would be completely closed to marine traffic between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m.

In addition, no movement either in or out of both the Causeway Bay typhoon shelter and the Wan Chai public cargo working area would be permitted.

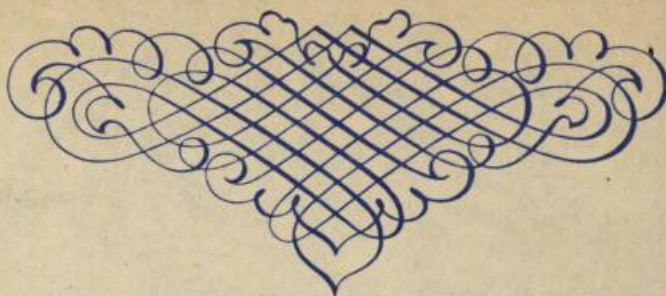
"All owners of sight-seeing boats, yachts, and pleasure craft wishing to see the fireworks display at sea should be in position east of the eastern boundary (the line joining the Cust Rock Light Beacon at Hung Hom and the light beacon on the eastern arm of the Causeway Bay typhoon shelter) before 8 p.m. Again, Marine Department and police launches will be in the area to direct traffic," the spokesman said.

For the water pageant on May 6, the spokesman regretted that since all fishing craft normally berthed in Aberdeen harbour would have returned for the Tin Hau festival, no space would be available for visiting craft of any kind.

"In these circumstances, it would not be possible for the pageant to be observed from a position at sea, and intending owners of pleasure craft and watertour operators are requested to keep clear of the Aberdeen Harbour area," the spokesman said.

Vessels wishing to get to or move out from their moorings in the area should do so before 2.30 p.m. when the harbour will be closed. It will be reopened again after the festivities are over at about 6 p.m.

ROYAL VISIT PRESS RELEASE



Tuesday, April 29, 1975

Queen To Watch Procession From 'Chinese' Pavilion

The Queen is to view the Nathan Road procession, on the evening of May 6, from a pavilion specially designed to suggest traditional Chinese architecture.

The pavilion, now constructed at the perimeter of Whitfield Barracks by the Public Works Department, will have vermilion pillars and a gold-painted roof.

Behind the pavilion will be a tiered stand to accommodate 100 guests, including Members of the Executive Council, and this will be flanked by further stands for some 2,000 guests.

On her way to the pavilion, for the start of the procession at 9 p.m., the Queen will see something of the neon lights of Kowloon's 'Golden Mile'.

The Royal limousine, in which she and the Duke of Edinburgh will be accompanied by the Governor and Lady MacLehose, will cross the harbour on a vehicular ferry to Jordan Road, and then proceed via Tong Mei Road and Argyle Street to Nathan Road.

It is anticipated that the sector of Nathan Road from Argyle Street to Kowloon Park will be closed to traffic from 7.30 p.m., to allow for the build up of spectators lining the route.

/On their arrival

On their arrival at the viewing area, the Queen and the Duke will be received by Mr. A. de O. Sales, Chairman of the organising committee, who will present Mr. Liu Lit-mo, Vice-chairman, and the following committee members: The Hon. Wilson Wang, Mr. Cham Siu-leun, Mr. Chan Hon-chung, Mr. Kong Wing-on, Mr. Lai Sze-nuen, Col. H.M. Tillotson, Mr. Yeung Muk-shing, Mr. Yu Look-yau, Mr. J.A. Fortune, Mr. G.S. Blundell and Superintendent Lee Cheung-on.

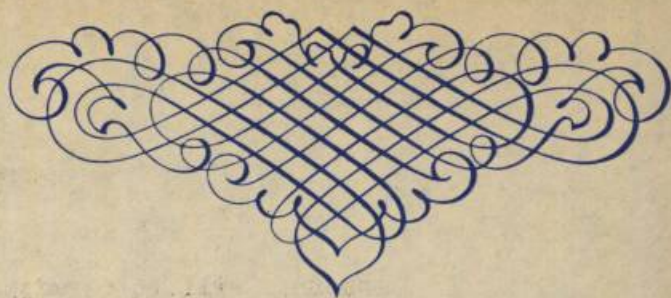
The procession itself is expected to take about half an hour to pass the Royal Box, with each item carefully clocked to the last second to ensure as much colour and variety as possible in this space of time.

At 9.30 p.m. the Royal Party will depart by car for Government House, travelling via Salisbury Road and Chatham Road to the Cross-Harbour Tunnel.

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ROYAL VISIT PRESS RELEASE



Tuesday, April 29, 1975

FACILITIES FOR PUBLIC TO SEE FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Reclamation Sites On Both Sides Of Harbour To Be Cleared

Two large reclaimed sites on both sides of the harbour will be cleared to enable members of the public to make use of them to watch the fireworks display on Monday May 5 in honour of the Queen.

The fireworks will be launched from a pontoon located in the eastern part of the harbour between Hung Hom and the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, beginning at 8.30 p.m. , and continuing for about 25 minutes.

The display will be visible from many high-rise vantage points, but the two reclaimed sites are being cleared as a facility for residents who would not normally have access to more convenient viewing spots.

On Hong Kong Island, the area will extend along reclaimed land facing the waterfront from the Wan Chai ferry pier to the flyover just before the entry to the cross harbour tunnel.

At present, this area is sub-divided into three, one being the former site of the Chinese Manufacturers' Association's annual exhibition, and the other two continuing eastwards. All three will be cleared and opened.

In Kowloon, the whole portion of the Hung Hom reclamation beginning on the right side of the Kowloon approach to the cross harbour tunnel opposite the new Hung Hom railway terminal, and stretching towards Tsim Sha Tsui, will be available. Access will be by the last Kowloon Motor Bus stop before entry to the tunnel to Hong Kong. A special bus service will be provided by the KMB from the Jordan Road terminal to the site beginning at 7.30 p.m., and the cost will be 50 cents a person.

/Hawkers

Hawkers will be permitted to set up stands in the early afternoon without having to apply for a licence. Soft drinks, fruit, ice cream and other refreshments will be allowed to be sold.

The reclaimed sites will be able comfortably to accommodate as many as 20,000 people who will be able to enjoy themselves, and it is hoped that a carnival atmosphere will prevail -- in keeping with the festive mood generated by the Queen's historic visit to Hong Kong.

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HEAVY DEMAND FOR ROYAL VISIT GOLD COINS

Balloting To Be Done By Computer

Applications for more than 30,000 Royal Visit commemorative gold coins have been received from Hong Kong residents -- far more than the maximum 20,000 to be minted, a government spokesman disclosed today.

"There are also indications that there will be a good overseas demand for the commemorative coin, and it is in the general interest of Hong Kong that an attempt be made to meet a substantial part of this demand," he added.

The spokesman said it had not yet been decided how many of the 20,000 gold coins would be issued in Hong Kong. "This will be decided in the course of discussions now taking place with the Royal Mint, which is responsible for overseas sales."

It would not be possible, he said, to supply a coin to every applicant because it would be a breach of faith to mint more than the 20,000 coins mentioned in the sales notice.

Those who were unlucky in the ballot for the initial deliveries, he said, would be invited to take part in a second ballot after the Royal Visit when additional coins would arrive.

The spokesman said balloting would be done on one of the government's computers, using a special random number computer programme.

"Because of the very large volume of applications, it is not possible at this time to say when notifications will be issued," he said.