



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, September 1, 1973

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SECRETARY FOR SECURITY COMMENTS ON THE USE OF MORSE PARK

The Secretary for Security, Mr. Peter Lloyd, said today there were very sound reasons for rejecting an application to hold a public meeting at Morse Park tomorrow (Sunday).

Morse Park was immediately adjacent to a densely populated area where a large public gathering would cause traffic congestion, pose serious problems of crowd control and result in grave inconvenience to residents.

"Moreover, experience has shown there is always a danger that, in such circumstances, demonstrations can lead to disturbances, regardless of the intentions of the organisers," he added.

"This is why Morse Park is not a designated area for public meetings - and why permission cannot be given.

"However, we have offered the organisers an alternative by suggesting that the meeting be held at the Boundary Street Stadium.

"We have four other sites available for public meetings of this kind, including the Victoria Park grounds which provided the venue last Sunday.

"Their motives in rejecting these authorised sites are difficult to understand.

"The reasons for the demonstration are fully understood; corruption is a matter of public interest and concern. The government has constantly stressed its determination to eradicate this problem. It is ironical that those intent on demonstrating against someone who is alleged to have broken the law are prepared, to break it themselves."

Mr. Lloyd expressed the hope that good sense would prevail and that the organisers would accept the alternative site at Boundary Street which, even at this late stage, was still available to them.

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GOVERNOR SPEAKS AT LAUNCHING CEREMONY IN GLASGOW

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, has attributed Hong Kong's achievement to its people, whom he described as magnificent, and to the sheer energy and dynamism of the place.

He was speaking during the launching by Lady MacLehose of a bulk carrier, Golden Oriole, in Glasgow earlier this week.

The 26,000-ton vessel is built for Worldwide Shipping Group, Hong Kong, by Govan Shipbuilders Limited of Scotland.

Sir Murray pointed out that many stories printed about Hong Kong were so often about things that were bad, such as the increase in crime rate and the decline of the stock market.

"But this is not Hong Kong," said Sir Murray.

Hong Kong, he said, is one of the most beautiful as well as one of the greatest cities in the world -- a centre of manufacture, commerce, of finance and communications and of tourism.

"It has achieved this not through aid, but from its own resources -- a superb natural harbour and its people of all races," he said.

The Governor stressed that it is the population, the capacity for hard work, for commercial enterprise, for resilience and determination to survive that has made Hong Kong one of the largest trading units in the world.

Sir Murray went on to say that though Hong Kong is well known in the United Kingdom for its manufacture it is not yet so well known for its shipping.

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However, he said, the tonnage owned by Hong Kong is in fact extraordinary, now amounting to a rough estimate of about 25 million tons afloat or ordered.

This, said Sir Murray, is a comparatively new phenomenon and is the result of the skill, acumen and sheer courage of a very few men in the shipping industry and their financial backers.

The Governor said the significance of this concentration of ownership in Hong Kong must progressively be recognised in the years ahead, so that the owners of so great a fleet may have a commensurate voice in international shipping circles.

In her speech during the launching ceremony, Lady MacLehose said to launch a ship and see it take the water is a thrilling and moving experience.

She said she hoped that this feminine privilege would never be removed by the progress of women's lib.

Lady MacLehose said: "It is an added pleasure that the owners are of Hong Kong, the city of our adoption, and the builders are of Glasgow, the city of our home country."

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FEMALE EMPLOYEES' ROLE IN NON-INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

Female employees are playing a significant role in non-industrial employment in Hong Kong.

This was the finding of a survey, conducted in May by the Census and Statistics Department, on employment in selected trades in the private non-industrial sector.

The survey showed that of the 271,431 persons employed in 13,578 establishments covered by the survey, 87,533 or 31 per cent were female.

There were 74,429 persons employed in restaurants, cafes and bars, 45,281 in import and export businesses, 44,804 in education services, 36,085 in ocean and coastal water transport, 22,040 in banks and money changers, 15,233 in hotels and boarding houses and 14,331 in medical and health services.

The main increases in employment, as compared with November last year, were 2,573 in restaurants and cafes, 1,652 in import and export businesses and 1,076 in banks.

A spokesman for the department said that department stores, solicitors' firms, accounting and auditing firms and advertising companies and agencies were included in the survey for the first time.

The respective work force of these four trades were 8,996, 2,227, 2,705 and 1,432.

The spokesman said a total of 3,264 vacancies were reported from the establishments surveyed.

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Of these, restaurants and cafes accounted for 679, import and export businesses 627, medical and health services 625 and accounting and auditing firms 268.

During the survey it was found that 4,869 employees were under the age of 18. Of these, 3,074 worked in restaurants and cafes.

The spokesman said the survey had succeeded in getting response from 99.9 per cent of the establishments covered.

He described the response rate as encouraging and thanked the managements concerned for their assistance and co-operation.

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FLYOVER AND ACCESS ROADS IN KWAI CHUNG

The Commissioner for Transport announced today that the access roads and the two-way flyover connecting Kwai Chung Container Terminal and Kwai Chung Road will be officially opened to pedestrian and vehicular traffic at 10 a.m. on Tuesday (September 4).

The flyover will enable vehicles to travel to and from the Container Terminal.

Appropriate traffic signs will be erected to guide motorists.

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ADDITIONAL SHIPMENT OF COTTON GLOVES FOR U.S.

The United States has agreed to an additional shipment of 75,000 dozen pairs of cotton gloves during the remainder of the current textile year which ends on September 30.

Announcing this today, the Director of Commerce and Industry said that the agreement was reached after consultations between the Hong Kong and American governments.

The quantity will be made available to all comers between September 6 and 29.

The detailed arrangements are set out in Notice to Exporters: Series 2 (U.S.A.) No. 24/73 issued today.

Trade associations and exporters on the Department's mailing list for Notice to Exporters will receive copies of the above notice shortly.

Anyone wishing to seek further information is invited to contact the following officers of the Commerce and Industry Department:-

Miss C.M.Y. Chung - Assistant Trade Officer

Tel. No. 5-257791

Mr. Y.K. Tong - Industry Assistant

Tel. No. 5-239625.

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RETIREMENT OF ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

Mr. Liu Tsu-yen, Assistant Registrar Class I in the Registrar General's Department, is retiring after more than 22 years service in the government.

He joined the civil service in 1951 as a Certificated Master in the Education Department and became Assistant Master in 1956.

In 1962, he joined the Registrar General's Department as Assistant Registrar Class II.

Six years later he was promoted to Assistant Registrar Class I, a post he held until his retirement.

To mark his retirement, a farewell presentation will be made by the Acting Registrar General on Monday (September 3).

The presentation will be held at the departmental conference room, Central Government Offices (West Wing), 13th floor.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the ceremony covered.
It will begin at 4.30 p.m.

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MR. LEE CEASES TO BE TEMPORARY EXCO MEMBER

The Hon. Lee Que-wei, an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council ceased to be temporarily an Unofficial Member of the Executive Council, with effect from August 30, 1973, on the return to Hong Kong of the Hon. Szeto Wai.

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WARNING CARD TO CURB DRUG TRAFFICKING

A small, red and white card that will be seen by more than three million people each year could help stem the flow of dangerous drugs into Hong Kong.

The card, printed in Chinese and English, warns that people who attempt to traffick in drugs such as heroin, morphine and opium risk a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a HK\$100,000 fine.

A spokesman for the Action Committee Against Narcotics, which devised the warning, said today that Immigration Department officials would begin issuing the card on Monday, September 3, to travellers entering the territory through Hong Kong International Airport and the Macau Ferry Terminal.

More than 2.8 million people passed through these two immigration control points last year.

The spokesman said the warning cards also would be given to the crews of ships and planes entering Hong Kong.

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Note to Editors: Copies of a picture of the government's message to drug traffickers will be distributed separately in the press boxes this afternoon.

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URBAN COUNCILLOR TO PRESENT PROFICIENCY AWARDS

The second and last series of learn-to-swim courses, organised by the Urban Council this summer, has ended.

A presentation of proficiency awards will be held at Kowloon Tsai Swimming Pool tomorrow (Sunday).

Mr. Ambrose K.C. Choi, Member of the Entertainment and Advertising Select Committee of the Urban Council, will present the awards to successful candidates.

Attendance certificates will also be issued to all those who completed the courses.

The presentation will be followed by swimming competitions among advance and intermediate course trainees and beginners.

There will also be a demonstration of four swimming strokes -- the crawl, breast stroke, back stroke and butterfly.

Prizes will be presented to the winners after the competition.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the ceremony covered.
It will begin at 6 p.m. tomorrow (Sunday).

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Release Time: 3.00 p.m.