



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1974

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1974

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RESTRAINTS ON TEXTILE EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA FINALISED

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AN ESTIMATED 80 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TEXTILE EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA WILL BE UNAFFECTED BY THE RESTRAINT ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE NOW BEING APPLIED.

THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT THE RESTRAINTS - BACKDATED TO JULY 1 - HAVE NOW BEEN FINALISED AFTER CONSIDERATION BY THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD.

THEY ARE LIMITED TO FIVE GROUPS IN THE GARMENT SECTOR INSTEAD OF THE NINE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT.

THE INTRODUCTION OF VOLUNTARY RESTRAINTS FOLLOWS LAST MONTH'S TOUGH BARGAINING WITH THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH CONTENDED THAT GARMENT EXPORTS FROM VARIOUS ASIAN COUNTRIES - INCLUDING HONG KONG - WERE DISRUPTING THE AUSTRALIAN MARKET.

+THERE WAS GREAT RELUCTANCE ON OUR PART TO AGREE TO ANY RESTRAINTS AT ALL,+ SAID MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, +BUT THERE WAS NO OTHER COURSE TO TAKE IN VIEW OF THE STRONG EVIDENCE OF DISRUPTION WHICH THE AUSTRALIANS WERE ABLE TO PRODUCE.

+UNDER THE TERMS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT COVERING WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES WE WERE OBLIGED TO ACCEPT THAT SOME QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS WERE NECESSARY.+

MR. MILLS SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO MODIFY THE ORIGINAL PROPOSALS IN HONG KONG'S FAVOUR.

+THE AUSTRALIANS WANTED RESTRAINTS ON NINE GROUPS OF OUR CLOTHING EXPORTS, BUT THROUGH HARD CONSULTATION WE HAVE MANAGED TO REDUCE THESE TO FIVE.+

THE REMAINING FOUR GROUPS, HE SAID, WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SURVEILLANCE MEASURES.

MR. MILLS SAID THAT THE ITEMS NOW UNDER RESTRAINT ACCOUNTED FOR NEARLY 20 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

THE FIVE GROUPS OF CLOTHING UNDER RESTRAINT ARE : COTTON, MAN-MADE FIBRE AND WOOL KNIT CASUAL SHIRTS, JACKETS AND SWEATERS= MAN-MADE FIBRE, COTTON KNIT AND WOVEN DRESSES= CHILDREN'S COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRE KNIT PLAYSUITS AND TRACKSUITS= COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRE WOVEN COATS= AND MAN-MADE FIBRE BLOUSES.

THE RESTRAINT ARRANGEMENT GIVES HONG KONG THE RIGHT TO TRANSFER YARDAGE FROM ONE ITEM TO ANOTHER UP TO SEVEN AND A HALF PER CENT, PROVIDED THERE IS NO OVERALL INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF RESTRAINED GARMENTS.

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THE FOUR ITEMS SUBJECT TO SURVEILLANCE MEASURES ARE : COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRE KNIT BLOUSES= ADULT'S COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRE KNIT PLAYSUITS AND TRACKSUITS= COTTON WOVEN BLOUSES= AND COTTON, MAN-MADE FIBRE AND WOOL KNIT BUSINESS SHIRTS.

THE SURVEILLANCE MEASURES SERVE A DUAL PURPOSE - TO PROVIDE AN ACCURATE FORWARD PICTURE OF EXPORT TRENDS FOR THE AUSTRALIAN AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS, AND TO GIVE EXPORTERS AN ASSURANCE THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN EXPORT LICENCES FOR CONTRACTED SHIPMENTS.

THERE IS PROVISION FOR EITHER GOVERNMENT TO REQUEST CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OTHER REGARDING ANY MATTER ARISING FROM THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS.

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GOVERNOR TO RESUME FACTORY VISITS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL BE RESUMING A PROGRAMME OF FACTORY VISITS TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11) TO SEE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS IN PROGRESS.

HE WILL BE MAKING A SHOP-FLOOR TOUR OF STELUX MANUFACTURING CO LTD., WHOSE FACTORY IS SITUATED AT 98 KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG. THE FIRM PRODUCES WATCH BRACELETS AND DIALS AND EMPLOYS MORE THAN 1,000 WORKERS.

SIR MURRAY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. DAVID JORDAN, AND THE PRINCIPAL TRADE OFFICER, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, MR. K.H. YEUNG. THEY WILL BE MET AT THE FACTORY BY THE FIRM'S CHAIRMAN, MR. NG CHUE MENG= THE DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER, MR. ALBERT GAZELEY= AND THE FINANCIAL CONTROLLER, MR. STANLEY HOON.

THE GOVERNOR WILL BE VISITING SEVERAL OTHER MANUFACTURING CONCERNS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, CONTINUING A SERIES OF FACTORY VISITS WHICH HE HAS BEEN MAKING SINCE MARCH. THERE HAS BEEN A BREAK IN THE PROGRAMME DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS AS HE HAS BEEN AWAY FROM HONG KONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE GOVERNOR'S FACTORY VISIT TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11). HE WILL BE ARRIVING AT THE STELUX FACTORY, 98 KING FUK ST., SAN PO KONG, AT 4 P.M. A G.I.S. OFFICER WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST NEWS REPRESENTATIVES. THE FIRM'S PRESS LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE VISIT IS MR. H.K. SO.

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SMOKE CONTROL AREA IN N.T.

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THE COMBINED AREA OF YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES CAME UNDER OFFICIAL AIR POLLUTION CONTROL REGULATIONS TODAY.

THE NEW SMOKE CONTROL AREA, COVERING ABOUT 85 SQUARE MILES, IS MOSTLY RURAL BUT HAS BEEN EARMARKED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR FUTURE RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS, SINCE THE NEW SMOKE CONTROL AREA WAS GAZETTED, OFFICERS FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S AIR POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT HAVE CONTACTED AND GIVEN ADVICE TO EVERY KNOWN FUEL USER IN THE AREA.

THEY HAVE CAREFULLY EXPLAINED THE TIGHTER LIMITS ON SMOKE EMISSION THAT WILL APPLY FROM TODAY.

THESE VISITS WILL BE INTENSIFIED OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS TO ENSURE THAT EXISTING AND NEW FUEL USERS ARE GIVEN THE BEST ADVICE ON HOW TO AVOID AIR POLLUTION.

UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ORDINANCE, AN OCCUPIER OF ANY PREMISES WITHIN A SMOKE CONTROL AREA WHO OPERATES A FURNACE, OVEN OR CHIMNEY EMITTING DARK SMOKE FOR SIX MINUTES IN A FOUR-HOUR PERIOD, OR MORE THAN THREE MINUTES AT ANY ONE TIME, IS LIABLE TO A \$2,000 FINE.

HE CAN ALSO BE FINED \$50 FOR EVERY 15 MINUTES DURING WHICH THE OFFENCE CONTINUES.

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER, MR. DAVID NEWBURY, SAID TODAY HIS OFFICERS WOULD BE MAINTAINING A CONSTANT CHECK IN THE YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN AREA.

+THE AREA IS QUITE EXTENSIVE AND IT MAY WELL BE THAT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE THE FIRST TO NOTICE A PERSISTENT OFFENDER+.

+WE WILL BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR FROM THEM+.

+IT IS IN EVERYBODY'S INTEREST, BOTH IN TERMS OF HEALTH AND CROP DAMAGE THAT AIR POLLUTION SHOULD BE REDUCED TO AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL+.

THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT CAN BE CONTACTED ON 3-688924 (ENGLISH) AND 3-688954 (CANTONESE).

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AUGUST WEATHER DRIER THAN USUAL

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THE WEATHER LAST MONTH WAS AGAIN DRIER THAN USUAL WITH ONLY 226.6 MM, OR ONLY ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF THE AVERAGE RAINFALL FOR AUGUST RECORDED.

UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH, THE ACCUMULATED TOTAL RAINFALL THIS YEAR WAS 1,241.5 MM. THIS IS ABOUT 28 PER CENT LESS THAN THE AVERAGE FIGURE FOR THE SAME PERIOD AND IS THE LOWEST SINCE 1963.

ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT ISSUED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, IT WAS THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1969 THAT NO TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE HOISTED IN AUGUST.

ALTHOUGH SEVERAL TROPICAL CYCLONES FORMED IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC DURING THE MONTH, NONE OF THEM AFFECTED HONG KONG.

HONG KONG EXPERIENCED SOME FINE AND HOT WEATHER IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH, AND THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 34.3 DEGREES, THE HIGHEST SO FAR THIS YEAR, WAS RECORDED ON AUGUST 20.

A TOTAL OF 10 THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED DURING THE MONTH UNDER REVIEW. HOWEVER, NO AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A FULL WEATHER REPORT FOR AUGUST PREPARED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WILL BE BOXED FOR COLLECTION THIS EVENING.

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REGISTRATION FACILITIES IN WONG TAI SIN ESTATE

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A TEAM FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT WILL OPERATE IN THE LOWER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE NEXT WEEK FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF RESIDENTS IN THE AREA.

PARENTS ARE URGED TO MAKE USE OF THE SPECIAL FACILITY AND REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN, WHO HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF 11, FOR JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS. THOSE WHO HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF 18 SHOULD REGISTER FOR ADULT IDENTITY CARDS.

THE REGISTRATION TEAM WILL OPERATE FROM THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. FROM SEPTEMBER 16 TO 20.

CHANGES IN REGISTERED PARTICULARS SHOULD ALSO BE REPORTED.

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**MORE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION CLINICS INTEGRATED
SEVEN ADDED TO FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES**

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SEVEN MORE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION CLINICS WERE INTEGRATED INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES ON SEPTEMBER 1 - BRINGING THE TOTAL OF FPA CLINICS NOW ABSORBED TO 24.

THIS COMPLETED THE THIRD STAGE OF THE LAST PHASE OF THE INTEGRATION SCHEME WHICH BEGAN IN OCTOBER 1973, AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THIS YEAR WHEN ALL 28 FPA CLINICS IN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS WILL HAVE BEEN ABSORBED.

THE SEVEN CLINICS, IN THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES, COMPRISE ONE IN STANLEY ON HONG KONG ISLAND, ONE IN SHEK KIP MEI IN KOWLOON, AND ONE EACH IN CHEUNG CHAU, TAI O, SILVER MINE BAY, NORTH LAMMA ISLAND, AND PENG CHAU.

ELIGIBLE WOMEN MAY MAKE USE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE IN ALL THE 24 CLINICS NOW INTEGRATED AT A COST OF \$1 A VISIT.

A SPOKESMAN DESCRIBES THE PROGRESS OF THE INTEGRATION SCHEME AS +VERY SATISFACTORY.+ HE SAYS ATTENDANCES ARE +GOOD AND GROWING.+

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON WATER STORAGE POSITION

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. BILL KNIGHT, WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON IN THE 35 MM THEATRE, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, 5TH FLOOR.

THE CONFERENCE WILL START AT 4.30 P.M. AND MR. KNIGHT WILL DISCUSS THE WATER STORAGE POSITION.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE
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THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (TUESDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) AVERAGE</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE MEW	GOOD	2.02
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.86
PO NGAI	GOOD	NO SALE
CHU CHO	GOOD	NO SALE
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.75
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.74
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.70
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.75
U.S. RICE	GOOD	NO SALE
AUSTRALIAN RICE	GOOD	1.74
PAKISTAN RICE	GOOD	NO SALE
TAIWAN RICE	GOOD	NO SALE

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(CALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	GOOD
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(CFMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	LIMITED	5.00	2.00	4.00
BIG-EYES	GOOD	3.00	1.20	2.00
SQUID	GOOD	3.50	0.80	1.60
HAIR-TAILS	LIMITED	2.20	0.80	1.20
LIZARD FISHES	NORMAL	3.00	0.40	1.60
CROAKERS	LIMITED	2.40	0.90	2.00
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	NORMAL	2.40	0.90	2.00
MELON COAT	SCARCE	1.90	0.80	1.40
BREAMS	SCARCE	5.50	2.50	3.70
YELLOW BELLY	NORMAL	1.90	1.00	1.30
MACKERELS	SCARCE	5.50	2.40	3.80
RED GOAT FISH	LIMITED	1.60	0.70	1.20
FORK-TAIL	---		NO SALE	
HORSE-HEAD	NORMAL	6.30	2.40	4.20
MELON SEED	LIMITED	2.20	0.90	1.60
POMFRETS	SCARCE	8.00	6.00	7.80
GARROUPAS	NORMAL	9.50	6.20	8.00
YELLOW CROAKER	SCARCE	6.80	4.50	5.40

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(CFMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.80	0.60	1.20
WHITE CABBAGE	LIMITED	0.80	0.30	0.60
CHINESE LETTUCE	SCARCE	1.50	0.60	1.20
WATER SPINACH	NORMAL	0.60	0.20	0.40
CHINESE KALE	SCARCE	1.80	0.80	1.40
STRING BEANS	LIMITED	2.00	0.60	1.40
SPRING ONION	NORMAL	1.50	0.40	1.00
SPINACH	---			
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	3.50	1.50	2.50
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.00	0.30	0.70
CHINESE SPINACH	NORMAL	0.80	0.20	0.50
TOMATO	SCARCE	5.00	3.00	4.00