



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1978

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HIGHER COST OF LIVING IN OCTOBER

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES A AND B FOR LAST MONTH (OCTOBER) WERE BOTH 129, UP THREE POINTS AND TWO POINTS RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS ADVANCED BY FIVE POINTS IN C.P.I. (A) AND BY FOUR POINTS IN C.P.I. (B).

THE HOISTING OF TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS THREE TIMES DURING THE MONTH CAUSED THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SALT-WATER FISH, FRESH-WATER FISH AND FRESH VEGETABLES TO GO UP.

AS SOME RESTAURANTS AND EATING-PLACES RAISED THEIR PRICES, THE AVERAGE CHARGES FOR MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME ALSO WENT UP. HOWEVER, MOVEMENTS IN RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE INDEX FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO INCREASED BY FOUR POINTS AND THAT FOR DURABLE GOODS, BY TWO POINTS IN BOTH C.P.I. (A) AND (B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES FOR CIGARETTES AND FOR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, CAMERAS AND OPTICAL GOODS.

A RISE OF ONE POINT WAS RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR IN BOTH C.P.I. (A) AND (B) DUE TO HIGHER PRICES FOR SOME ITEMS OF MEN'S AND WOMEN'S UNDERCLOTHING. THE INDEXES FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES EACH WENT UP BY ONE POINT IN C.P.I. (B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES FOR MEDICINES AND HIGHER CHARGES FOR PUBLIC LIGHT BUS FARES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FREE EDUCATION SCHEME FOR FORMS 1 TO 3 STUDENTS BROUGHT THE INDEX FOR SCHOOL FEES DOWN. AS A RESULT, THE INDEX FOR SERVICES DECREASED BY ONE POINT IN C.P.I. (A).

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER COMMODITY SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE C.P.I. (A) IS BASED ON WEIGHTS DERIVED FROM HOUSEHOLD SPENDING BETWEEN \$400 - \$1,499 A MONTH AND THE C.P.I. (B), BETWEEN \$1,500 - \$2,999 A MONTH IN THE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY IN 1973/74.

/THE SECTION.....

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THE SECTION INDEXES FOR OCTOBER 1978, COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH AND THE CORRESPONDING MONTH IN 1977, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>SECTIONS</u>	<u>C.P.I. (A)</u>			<u>C.P.I. (B)</u>		
	<u>OCT.78</u>	<u>SEPT.78</u>	<u>OCT.77</u>	<u>OCT.78</u>	<u>SEPT.78</u>	<u>OCT.77</u>
FOODSTUFFS	128	123	116	128	124	116
HOUSING	132	132	126	131	131	125
FUEL AND LIGHT	134	134	136	133	133	135
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO	146	142	137	142	138	133
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	104	103	100	103	102	99
DURABLE GOODS	118	116	110	115	113	107
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	136	136	125	133	132	121
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	124	124	116	128	127	121
SERVICES	138	139	133	140	140	133
ALL ITEMS	129	126	120	129	127	120

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THE GOVERNOR INAUGURATES HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY (MONDAY) DESCRIBED THE HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME AS AN EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT BY PEOPLE OF MANY RACES.

SIR MURRAY WAS ADDRESSING A GATHERING OF SOME 400 DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AT THE FORMAL OPENING OF THE \$1,350 MILLION WATER SCHEME.

HE SAID THAT HONG KONG'S STORY WAS ONE OF IMPROBABILITIES THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE HAD MADE COME TRUE, BUT THIS IS EXCEPTIONAL EVEN FOR HONG KONG.

+THE SITE OF THIS RESERVOIR DAMS NO NOTABLE RIVER= IS NOT IN THE CENTRE OF A NATURAL CATCHMENT AREA= HAS NOT EVEN ONE END CLOSED BY A NATURAL FEATURE - AND YET IT HAS BEEN MADE INTO THE GREATEST RESERVOIR IN HONG KONG NEARLY DOUBLING OUR STORAGE CAPACITY,+ HE ADDED.

ALL THAT IS BEST IN HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR SAID, RESULTED FROM THE COLLABORATION OF PEOPLE OF MANY RACES.

+WE ARE INAUGURATING TODAY THE WORK OF CHINESE AND EUROPEANS= THE CANTONESE, HAKKA AND HOKLO, ITALIANS AND BRITISH AND SWEDES AND GERMANS AND FRENCH. THEY ALL WORKED TOGETHER, AND WE SEE THEIR SUCCESS,+ HE ADDED.

SIR MURRAY SAID THAT THE RESULT COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED WITHOUT THE PROFESSIONALISM AND IMAGINATION AND DETERMINATION OF THE ENGINEERS, AND THE EXPERTISE AND HARD WORK OF THE CONTRACTORS AND THEIR WORKFORCE.

+BUT WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THE SIX MILLION CUBIC METRES (15 MILLION TONS) OF SOIL AND ROCK EXCAVATED OR MOVED TO MAKE AND EFFECT THIS COMPLEX, THE 40 KILOMETRES OF TUNNELS COMPLETED AND THE 36 MILLION TONS OF ROCKFILL PLACED= THE NINE PUMPING STATIONS WITH A COMBINED POWER THAT COULD PROPEL A 15,000-TON LINER - WHEN ONE CONSIDERS ALL THIS AND SEES THE RESULT BEFORE US IT SEEMS TO ME YET ANOTHER PROOF, IF PROOF WERE NEEDED, THAT HONG KONG CAN DO IT,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT THE PROJECT EXHAUSTED THE MAJOR NATURAL WATER POTENTIAL OF HONG KONG.

+THE KWANGTUNG AUTHORITIES HAVE AGREED TO INCREASE THEIR SUPPLY BY 30 PER CENT BY 1981/82 AND WE ARE BUSY CONSTRUCTING WORKS TO TAKE THIS INCREASED SUPPLY. THE AGREEMENT FOR THE INCREASE WILL BE SIGNED OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS IN CANTON,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

+THE KWANGTUNG AUTHORITIES HAVE ALSO AGREED TO CONSIDER WHAT THEY CAN DO TO MEET OUR LONG-TERM REQUIREMENTS.

/+FOR OUR.....

+FOR OUR PART WE ARE COMPLETING A STUDY OF WHAT ADDITIONAL MINOR CATCHMENT SCHEMES MIGHT BE PRACTICAL.

+IN A YEAR OR TWO WE SHOULD THEREFORE BE ABLE TO SEE OUR WAY MORE CLEARLY.

+MEANWHILE, IF LOCAL RAIN FAILS, LAST WINTER PROVED HOW USEFUL THE DESALTER CAN BE.+

EARLIER, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. DAVID MCDONALD, IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH SAID THAT FRESH WATER WILL BE STORED IN THE RESERVOIR BETWEEN THE DAMS TO A HEIGHT OF 61 METRES ABOVE THE SEA.

THE DAMS, MADE OF ROCKFILL, WITH WATERPROOF MEMBRANES OF ASPHALTIC CONCRETE INSIDE TO KEEP THE WATER IN THE RESERVOIR, WERE THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD OF THEIR KIND.

+UNLIKE THE PLOVER COVE DAM THESE DAMS HAVE HAD TO BE BUILT IN THE DRY ON HARD ROCK FOUNDATIONS, SO THE SEA BED AT EACH DAM SITE HAD TO BE ENCLOSED BY COFFERDAMS TO KEEP THE SEA OUT, PUMPED DRY OF SEA WATER AND EXCAVATED THROUGH SAND AND CLAY DOWN TO BED ROCK, IN PLACES AS MUCH AS 41 METRES BELOW SEA LEVEL, BEFORE WORK ON THE DAM ITSELF COULD BE STARTED,+ HE SAID.

+AN UNUSUAL FEATURE OF THIS PROJECT IS THE COFFERDAM ON THE SEAWARD SIDE OF THE EAST DAM WHICH HAD TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT THE EXCAVATION THERE FROM THE WORST WAVES AND TIDES THAT TYPHOONS COULD PRODUCE IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. THE SEAWARD COFFERDAMS AT BOTH ENDS STILL REMAIN SO THAT THEY CAN PROTECT THE DAMS PERMANENTLY FROM THE SEA.+

THE WATER COLLECTED BY THIS SPECTACULAR NEW RESERVOIR, MR. MCDONALD SAID, CAME NOT ONLY FROM THE HILLS IMMEDIATELY AROUND IT, BUT ALSO FROM VALLEYS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE PENINSULA.

HE SAID THAT STREAMS ON THEIR WAY TO THE SEA ARE INTERCEPTED AND WATER SURPLUS TO THE NEEDS OF THE FARMERS AND VILLAGERS WAS DIVERTED THROUGH TUNNELS INTO THE RESERVOIR.

+FROM THE RESERVOIR, THE WATER TRAVELS THROUGH A MAIN TUNNEL 22 KILOMETRES LONG BENEATH THE HILLS OF THE SAI KUNG PENINSULA TO THE TREATMENT WORKS AT SHA TIN AND FROM THERE THE TREATED WATER IS PUMPED ALONG PIPES BENEATH THE ROAD THROUGH THE LION ROCK TUNNELS AND INTO THE SUPPLY SYSTEM,+ MR. MCDONALD SAID.

+AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED IN A PROJECT WHERE SO MUCH WAS BEING DONE FOR THE FIRST TIME, DIFFICULTIES HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED, BUT WITH THE INGENUITY WHICH HAS BECOME THE HALLMARK OF OUR ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS, THESE HAVE BEEN OVERCOME.+

MORE COMPENSATION AWARDED TO INJURED WORKERS

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THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SUCCEEDED IN RECOVERING \$23.5 MILLION IN COMPENSATION LAST YEAR FOR WORKERS INJURED AT WORK OR FOR DEPENDANTS OF THOSE KILLED IN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE COMPENSATION WAS AWARDED IN 33,675 CASES COMPLETED BY THE UNIT LAST YEAR AS AGAINST \$21,791,393 IN 35,111 CASES IN 1976.

ON AVERAGE THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION AWARDED IN A CASE WENT UP FROM \$620 IN 1976 TO \$700 IN 1977, AN INCREASE OF 13 PER CENT.

OF THE NUMBER OF CASES COMPLETED, THERE WERE 84 FATAL ONES IN 1977 AS AGAINST 93 IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

LAST YEAR THERE WERE 49,854 INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, INCLUDING 265 FATAL ONES REPORTED TO THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT COMPARED WITH 45,057 CASES (249 FATAL) IN 1976.

A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ACCOUNTED FOR THE LARGEST NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS (11,916) LAST YEAR, FOLLOWED BY TEXTILE (4,805) AND METAL PRODUCTS (4,177).

ACCIDENTS BY CAUSE AT PLACE OF WORK SHOWED THAT POWER-DRIVEN MACHINERY WAS AGAIN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LARGEST NUMBER OF ALL REPORTED INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, ACCOUNTING FOR 9,376 CASES. THE OTHER CAUSES INCLUDED TRANSPORT, EXPLOSION OR FIRE, HOT OR CORROSIVE SUBSTANCES, ELECTRICITY AND FALLING OBJECTS.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND CALLED ON BOTH THE MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS TO CONSTANTLY CHECK THEIR MACHINERY. HE POINTED OUT THAT AN INVESTIGATION OF 105 FATAL ACCIDENTS DURING 1977 REVEALED THAT THEY COULD ALL HAVE BEEN AVOIDED HAD THE MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS INVOLVED TAKEN APPROPRIATE MEASURES.

IN ITS CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE WORKMEN'S SAFETY, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE PAID 32,540 VISITS TO INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS LAST YEAR IN RESPECT OF THE ENFORCEMENT OF SAFETY, HEALTH AND RELATED REGULATIONS PROVIDED IN THE LABOUR LEGISLATION.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE OFFERED 214 TRAINING COURSES ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TO 5,679 PEOPLE FREE OF CHARGE. A SIX-WEEK TRAINING COURSE FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY OFFICERS WAS ALSO HELD.

IN ADDITION, THE CENTRE ORGANISED 27 SAFETY TRAINING COURSES FOR THREE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES. INDUSTRIAL SAFETY LECTURES WERE GIVEN TO 250 SCHOOL STUDENTS.

THE CENTRE ALSO WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION AND THE RED CROSS SOCIETY TO PROVIDE FIRST-AID TRAINING COURSES TO WORKERS. DURING THE YEAR, A TOTAL OF 181 PEOPLE WERE QUALIFIED AS FIRST-AIDERS IN SUCH COURSES.

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GO-AHEAD FOR YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

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SITE FORMATION WORK IS SCHEDULED TO START NEXT MONTH ON YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, THE SECOND IN HONG KONG.

THE \$467 MILLION PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN THREE YEARS AND, WHEN FULLY OCCUPIED WILL PROVIDE JOBS FOR 10,000 WORKERS.

THE ESTATE IS TO BE BUILT ON A 98-HECTARE SITE AT WANG CHAU, NORTH OF THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING MARKET TOWN OF YUEN LONG.

THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. MICHAEL CARTLAND, TODAY (MONDAY) DESCRIBED THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AS A KEY FACTOR IN THE TOWN'S PLANNED GROWTH FROM ITS PRESENT POPULATION OF 40,000 PEOPLE TO NEARLY 100,000 BY MID-80'S.

+THE ESTATE AND THE MANY NEW AND EXPANDED FACILITIES IN THE TOWN WILL BE DEVELOPED IN TANDEM TO CONTRIBUTE TO A BALANCED TOWNSHIP WITH ALL THE MODERN FACILITIES.+

THE ESTATE WOULD BE DEVELOPED BY THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION, AND MR. CARTLAND POINTED OUT THAT A MAJOR PORTION OF THE FUNDS WOULD BE PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND.

HE SAID AFTER PROVIDING FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE, THE ESTATE WOULD HAVE ABOUT 72 HECTARES FOR INDUSTRIAL USE.

+WORK ON THE FIRST PHASE OF THE ESTATE WILL START EARLY NEXT MONTH. IT WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SERVICE RESERVOIR AND AN ACCESS ROAD, A SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, A SECOND ACCESS ROAD TO THE ESTATE AND SOME INDUSTRIAL LAND,+ HE SAID.

MR. CARTLAND SAID THESE WORKS WOULD REQUIRE THE RESUMPTION OF 220,161 SQUARE METRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND BY DECEMBER 14 THIS YEAR AND OWNERS AFFECTED WOULD BE OFFERED COMPENSATION UNDER CURRENT RATES AND LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENTS.

EIGHTEEN TEMPORARY DOMESTIC STRUCTURES WILL BE CLEARED AND THE FAMILIES OCCUPYING THEM WILL BE OFFERED PUBLIC OR TEMPORARY PUBLIC HOUSING PROVIDED THEY ARE FOUND ELIGIBLE.

+GENUINE CULTIVATOR FAMILIES MAY OPT FOR A RESITE AND AN EX-GRATIA REHABILITATION ALLOWANCE OF \$5,000,+ MR. CARTLAND SAID.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, THE FOUR LANES OF POK FU LAM ROAD OPPOSITE CHI FU FA YUEN HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO ONE LANE DURING 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. AND 8 P.M. TO 8 A.M. DAILY TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW INTERCHANGE AT THE ESTATE.

HOWEVER, TWO LANES, ONE NORTHBOUND AND ONE SOUTHBOUND, WILL BE MAINTAINED FOR TRAFFIC DURING PEAK HOURS -- 8 A.M. TO 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M. TO 8 P.M. DAILY.

NORMAL TRAFFIC WILL RESUME FROM 4 P.M. ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 1).

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT HARBOUR VIEW STREET WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7 A.M. TO 10 P.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO FACILITATE PILING WORK FOR THE CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FOOTBRIDGE SYSTEM.

DURING THE CLOSURE, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING HARBOUR VIEW STREET FROM CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND ALL DISEMBARKING VEHICLES FROM THE JUBILEE STREET FERRY PIER MUST PROCEED TO CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL VIA GILMAN STREET. AT THE SAME TIME, THE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS TERMINUS ADJACENT TO JUBILEE STREET FERRY PIER WILL BE SUSPENDED.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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CAREERS EXHIBITION CLOSES

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FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN SUCCESSION, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL CAREERS EXHIBITION ATTRACTED ABOUT 110,000 PEOPLE.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. NEIL HENDERSON, SAID AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY TODAY (MONDAY) THE REPEATED SUCCESS OF THE CAREERS EXHIBITION REFLECTED ITS GROWING POPULARITY.

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, HE SAID, WOULD CONTINUE TO ORGANISE THE EVENT AND HOPED TO MAKE IT EVEN MORE INFORMATIVE.

DURING A CLOSING CEREMONY, THE 100,000TH VISITOR WAS PRESENTED WITH A SOUVENIR GIFT BY MRS. HENDERSON.

SHE WAS 15-YEAR-OLD LISA CHEUNG SUK-CHING, FROM THE HOI PING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SECONDARY SCHOOL, HO MAN TIN. LISA PLANS TO TAKE UP COURSES AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC IN THE BUILDING TRADE AFTER COMPLETING HER SECONDARY SCHOOLING.

MR. HENDERSON ALSO PRESENTED SOUVENIR PENNANTS TO PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS.

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MR. JOHN WALDEN TO VISIT TUNG WAH SCHOOL

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THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. JOHN WALDEN, WILL PAY AN INSPECTION VISIT TO THE WONG FUNG LING COLLEGE TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE WONG FUNG LING COLLEGE, OPERATED BY TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, WAS CONVERTED FROM THE FORMER HOLLYWOOD ROAD GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 109 HOLLYWOOD ROAD. THE COLLEGE HAS BEEN NAMED IN HONOUR OF MADAM WONG FUNG LING FOR HER GENEROUS DONATION TOWARDS THE CONVERSION AND EQUIPMENT FUND OF THE COLLEGE.

MR. WALDEN WILL TOUR THE SCHOOL PREMISES AND SEE SOME OF THE CLASSES IN SESSION. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MR. DAKCHISON C.L. YIU, CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND MR. RICKY FUNG, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (CENTRAL AND WESTERN).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER MR. JOHN WALDEN'S VISIT TO WONG FUNG LING COLLEGE AT 11 A.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 109 HOLLYWOOD ROAD, CENTRAL.

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BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY HAS DECLARED STRUCTURES ON THE ROOF OF 40-42 TAI NAN STREET, SHAM SHUI PO LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BUILDING AUTHORITY SAID THAT THESE STRUCTURES ERECTED ON THE ROOF OF THIS BUILDING WERE UNAUTHORISED AND THEY NOT ONLY LACK ADEQUATE MEANS OF ESCAPE BUT ALSO OBSTRUCT THE MEANS OF ESCAPE FOR THE MAIN BUILDING, IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN THE VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 A.M. ON DECEMBER 28 WAS POSTED ON NOVEMBER 16.

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**WATER CUT
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CHAI WAN AND SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE STOPPED FOR SEVERAL HOURS ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 29) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.

IN CHAI WAN, THE AREA BOUNDED BY THE SECTION OF CHAI WAN ROAD FROM A KUNG NGAM ROAD TO WAN TSUI ROAD INCLUDING HONG MAN STREET, CHEUNG LEE STREET, KUT SHING STREET, LEE CHUNG STREET, NING FOO STREET AND CHAI WAN HILL RESITE AREA SECTION A WILL BE WITHOUT WATER FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY.

THE AREA IN SHAM SHUI PO, BOUNDED BY CHING CHEUNG ROAD, BUTTERFLY VALLEY ROAD, KING LAM STREET, YEE KUK STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YU CHAU STREET INCLUDING WING HONG STREET, TAI NAN STREET, WING MING STREET AND WAI MAN VILLAGE WILL HAVE NO WATER SUPPLY FOR SIX HOURS FROM WEDNESDAY MIDNIGHT TO THURSDAY 6 A.M.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUPPLEMENT

SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, GBE, KCMG, KCVO,
AT THE HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME INAUGURATION CEREMONY, NOVEMBER 27, 1978

We are here to celebrate an extraordinary achievement. Hong Kong's story is one of improbabilities that Hong Kong people have made come true, but this is exceptional even for Hong Kong.

The site of this reservoir dams no notable river; is not in the centre of a natural catchment area; has not even one end closed by a natural feature - and yet it has been made into the greatest reservoir in Hong Kong nearly doubling our storage capacity.

All that is best in Hong Kong results from the collaboration of people of many races. We are inaugurating today the work of Chinese and Europeans: the Cantonese, Hakka and Hoklo, Italians, British, Swedes, Germans and French. They all worked together and we see their success.

The result could never have been achieved without the professionalism and imagination and determination of the engineers, and the expertise and hard work of the contractors and their workforce.

But when one considers the 15 million tons of soil and rock excavated or moved to make and effect this complex, the 40 kilometres of tunnels completed; and 36 million tons of rockfill placed; the nine pumping stations with a combined power that could propel a 15,000 ton liner - when one considers all this and sees the result before us it seems to me yet another proof, if proof were needed, that Hong Kong can do it.

/Transformation.....

Transformation is the stuff of Hong Kong's daily life. Here this centuries-old anchorage, these valleys settled in the early days of the Ching dynasty, have in their turn been transformed not into something better or worse, but into something completely new, and something essential to the life of Hong Kong.

It is for us to see that the reservoir and its surroundings remain beautiful as well as efficient, and are cared for and protected as the Lees, the Chows, the Mans and the other original settlers cared for their villages, fields and boats.

We wish their descendants prosperity and continuing happiness in the estate built for them in Sai Kung.

This project exhausts the major natural water potential of Hong Kong. The Kwangtung authorities have agreed to increase their supply by 30 per cent by 1981/82 and we are busy constructing works to take this increased supply.

The agreement for the increase will be signed over the next couple of days in Canton. The Kwangtung authorities have also agreed to consider what they can do to meet our long-term requirements. For this we are most grateful.

For our part we are completing a study of what additional minor catchment schemes might be practical. In a year or two we should therefore be able to see our way more clearly. Meanwhile if local rain fails, last winter proved how useful the desalter can be.

In conclusion I would like to congratulate all those who have worked on this project.

Though they are too numerous to mention I would like to say a special word to the Italians at what I am sure will be eventually known as Vianini village. They have been most welcome guests and have left a great monument behind them.

I have now great pleasure in declaring this scheme open.