A Rolex has a winder that seals like a submarine hatch

THE ROLEX CENTRE
Grd. Fl., Orchard Towers, Orchard Road.
Tel: 737 9033.

The Straits Times

Estd. 1845 TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1981 35 CENTS M.C.(P) No. 101/1/81

Polybuilding (S) Pte. Ltd.
Importer & Exporter of full range of Italian Ceramic tiles & marble
Unit 340, 3rd Floor, Plaza Singapura
68, Orchard Road, Singapore 0923
Tel: 3377734 (3 lines)
Cable: Polybuilds Telex: RS33911
Branch: Unit 110, Thomson Plaza
Upper Thomson Road
Singapore 2057 Tel: 4545511

Quote

"I shall have to seek the secondment of other senior members of other banks in Singapore to provide the back-up of bankers experienced in Singapore conditions and practices."

—Dr Goh Keng Swee.

Back-up for MAS, GIC

PUNG HOW GETS TOP GOVT JOB

By AHMAD OSMAN

OCBC vice-chairman, Mr Yong Pung How, has been appointed managing director of the proposed Government Investment Corporation which will take over the management of billions of dollars of the state's assets from the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) and the Board of Commissioners of Currency (BCC).

This was disclosed in a statement yesterday by the First Deputy Prime Minister and MAS chairman, Dr Goh Keng Swee.

The announcement to form the high-powered Investment Corporation, to be headed by the Prime Minister, was made last month.

Key officials

Yesterday, Dr Goh also made three other announcements:

- The appointment of a London merchant bank, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, as consultants for the government corporation;
- The names of two key officials to fill the vacancies in MAS; and
- The secondment of **DR CHUA WEE MENG**, a Singapore economist working with a World Bank subsidiary, to be his special assistant.

Dr Goh said that three banks — Overseas-Chinese Banking Corporation, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company and Overseas Union Bank — have been "very cooperative in making available the services of senior members of their staff."

He shall be seeking the secondment of other senior members of other banks in Singapore "to provide the back-up of bankers experienced in Singapore conditions and practices."

In making the announcements, Dr Goh also disclosed that long-term training programmes for staff of the MAS and the Investment Corporation are receiving special attention.

Review

Rothschild will assist in carrying out the reorganisation of the international department of MAS and review the portfolio held by the authority and BCC.

It will also advise on the organisational structure of the Investment Corporation and provide general investment consultancy service.

The vice-president of Morgan Guaranty Trust, **MR LIM HO KEE**, has been picked as the new head of the MAS international department from April 1.

He replaces Mrs Elizabeth Sam and will be engaged by the Overseas Union Bank and seconded to the MAS for a period of 18 to 24 months.

A staff member of the World Bank, Dr Teh Kok Peng, takes over from Mrs Tan Geok Lin as head of the economics department.

High calibre

He is expected to take up his new post from Aug 1. Mrs Tan and Mrs Sam were among the first of the MAS senior staff who resigned following the departure of its former managing director, Mr Michael Wong Pakshong.

Dr Goh said Mr Yong, who will start work on April 1, has been released on a one-year, no-pay leave from his post as vice-chairman of the OCBC.

He said he will work closely with Dr Chua, an economist seconded to the government for two years from April 1. Dr Chua is currently employed by International Finance Corporation, a subsidiary of the World Bank.

Both Mr Yong and Dr Chua will work closely with Rothschild's assistant director, Miss Kate Mortimer.

She will arrive on April 1 and will stay here for several months.

★ See Back Page: Col. 5

MR YONG . . . year's no-pay leave

City with highest office rents

HONGKONG, Mon. — An international property consultant today that Buenos Aires is the most expensive city in the world for commercial rental.

Richard Ellis Research listed the Argentine capital as the most expensive city after a study was made of 23 major cities in the world.

Second on the list is London, followed by Hongkong, New York, Paris and San Francisco.

A spokesman said the rental rates are calculated on the basis of a 460 sq metre office suite of the "highest standard" with air-conditioning. — AP.

For foreign newsmen

BEIJING, Mon. — A foreign correspondents' club has come into being here following a series of meetings among the 100-odd correspondents based here.

The correspondent of the Yugoslav newspaper Politika, Mr Dragoslav Rancic, was elected the first president of the club. — AFP.

Now you can use URA or HDB coupon

MOTORISTS can now use the parking coupons of either the Urban Redevelopment Authority or the Housing and Development Board for car parks of the two statutory boards.

This will eventually lead to a common parking coupon for both bodies.

A spokesman for the URA said yesterday that the car park staff of both bodies have been notified since the beginning of this month to accept either coupon.

Previously, the coupons, introduced by the URA in February 1980 and by the HDB last September, were not interchangeable.

Complaints

This led to a rash of complaints from motorists who were inconvenienced by having to carry two sets of coupons and to remember which set to use.

The spokesman said the common parking coupon would be issued "as soon as possible."

The move also preempts the queries to be raised in Parliament by Mr Yeo Choo Kok, MP for Delta, as to why a common parking coupon could not be issued by the two boards.

Anti-strike marchers clash with trade unionists

SYDNEY, Monday

TENS of thousands of people demonstrated against strikes in Sydney and Brisbane today, clashing with trade union supporters in the process.

Police said about 30,000 demonstrators marched through the centre of Sydney today. The protestors carried placards condemning strikes and sang patriotic songs.

The march caused major traffic jams and there were several scuffles with pro-union hecklers. One heckler had to be rescued from marchers by police, witnesses said.

In **BRISBANE**, two people were charged with assaulting police officers and resisting arrest after more clashes between union supporters and people attending a 3,000-strong rally in the city.

An old woman attacked a heckler with her umbrella while some of the anti-union demonstrators were pelted with eggs.

The demonstrations were inspired by a march of more than 30,000 people in the New Zealand city of Auckland last week in protest against strikes in that country.

Miss Tania Harris, 22, who organised the Auckland protest, was flown to Sydney by a television station for interviews and several newspapers called for similar demonstrations here.

But several politicians, from both right and left, have warned that such marches would have a divisive effect on Australian society.

Boycott

More marches are planned tonight in Brisbane and on Wednesday in Melbourne. All are organised by women.

The demonstrations follow the end of one of Australia's worst recent industrial confrontations — a three-week strike against the Australian airline Qantas by ground crew which cost millions of dollars and stranded thousands of passengers abroad.

Although services by Qantas have almost returned to normal a continuing boycott by refuellers is causing some problems.

Refuellers and refinery workers have not lifted their action against Qantas because the airline refused to give up its use of volunteer labour from other departments during strikes — the issue at the centre of the dispute.

The refinery workers and refuellers will meet later this week to decide whether to end their boycott. — Reuter.

Chart Thai gives Prem free hand in reshuffle

By LEE KIM CHEW
Our Bangkok Correspondent

BANGKOK, Monday

THE final obstacle blocking Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda's effort to form a new government was cleared today when a key political party backed down from its demands on the allocation of Cabinet seats.

The Chart Thai Party gave Gen Prem a free hand to choose his ministers after being warned that Parliament would be dissolved if it insisted on its demands.

Gen Prem last night served notice through a spokesman that he was prepared to exclude the political parties from a "national" government if they persisted in piling demands on him.

The spokesman, Dr Trirong Suwankhiri, said Gen Prem had military backing to take tough action, even to the extent of dissolving Parliament and forming a "national" government comprised of non-partisan technocrats, with only nominal participation by the parties.

This warning was apparently well taken by the Chart Thai leader, Major-General Pramarn Adirekasan.

Sensitive

He told reporters after an urgent party meeting this morning that he was prepared to let Gen Prem pick his own men.

The Chart Thai Party had earlier demanded that its six ministers retain the Cabinet portfolios they were given a year ago.

Among them were the politically-sensitive Agriculture and Industry ministries. Gen Prem, according to sources, wants non-partisan technocrats to head these two ministries.

Negotiations between Gen Prem and the Chart Thai leader deadlocked over this point yesterday.

Frustrated at the stalemate, Gen Prem then made it clear he was ready to drop all the parties from his new government unless they fell in line with his thinking.

The warning, though

★ See Back Page: Col. 5

Thais declare new zone

BANGKOK, Mon. — Thailand today announced a 200 nautical mile economic zone in what it said was a bid to protect natural resources and explore energy potentials.

A Royal Command announced over Radio Thailand tonight said the declaration would entitle Thailand to prospect for natural sources on land, in the sea and on the continental shelf. — AFP.

French tanks pass tests

JAKARTA, Mon. — Nine French-made amphibious tanks, watched by Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Wahyo Sugito, have been successfully tested at Sukorejo Coast, East Java.

The AMX-10-PAC 90 and AMX-10-P tanks were used in manoeuvres at sea, beach, land and muddy areas last week. Admiral Sugito was satisfied with the tanks, which arrived here two weeks ago to strengthen the Indonesian Marines Corp. — AFP.

Dutch envoy arrives home

AMSTERDAM, Mon. — The Netherlands' ambassador to Beijing, Mr Jan Kneppelhout, expelled by China in retaliation for Dutch plans to sell two submarines to Taiwan, arrived home yesterday.

He declined to talk on the Sino-Dutch row but said he had left Beijing "in a good atmosphere." He had been escorted to the airport by the Chinese Foreign Ministry's Director of Protocol. — Reuter.

Police disperse crowd waiting to book flats

POLICE were called in last night to control more than 70 people milling outside a property developer's office in Merlin Plaza in Beach Road.

The people were there some 11 hours before bookings for new apartments open at 9 a.m. today.

Security guards at the shopping complex had earlier tried to persuade the people to leave the United Overseas Land office and to come back today.

Thrity units of one- and two-bedroom apartments at UOL's Odeon-Katong shopping complex, ranging from $240,000 to $430,000 depending on the floor, will be offered.

Some of the prospective buyers, who were at the building since 10 a.m. yesterday, argued with the guards and refused to leave by 11 p.m. when the complex closed for business.

They asked whether the guards could guarantee them priority in booking the private apartments.

An UOL official told the crowd that they would have to come back today.

But the crowd dispersed only after police from Beach Road station arrived and talked them out of waiting.

It is understood that some of them then checked into the adjoining Merlin Hotel so that they could have an early lead this morning.

'SBS is asking for fantastic hike in fares'

By EDMUND TEO
Transport Reporter

THE Singapore Bus Service is asking for a "fantastic" bus fare increase — and this is holding back the government's decision on by how much to raise fares.

This was disclosed yesterday by the Communications Minister, Mr Ong Teng Cheong, who said a bus fare increase could still take place this month — despite speculation that it would not.

He said what was holding back his ministry from reaching a decision was the "fantastic" fare increase sought by the SBS.

It was something which his ministry officials had to go through thoroughly to satisfy themselves that what the bus company was asking for was "reasonable" before allowing it, he said.

Mr Ong did not elaborate on the proposed increase, but said his ministry hoped to reach a decision on the issue sometime this month.

'Good luck'

Various newspapers had speculated that a fare hike would not take place this month or the next because the SBS had sold its concession passes for March at old prices and will be selling those for April also at old prices from today.

Dismissing the speculation, Mr Ong said a fare increase could still take place even if concession passes were sold at old prices.

This was because those who bought the passes at old prices would simply be allowed to use

★ See Back Page: Col. 4

Ship sinks off Bermuda

HAMILTON, Mon. — A air-and-sea search for 21 missing sailors from a sunken Israeli freighter resumed at dawn today with navy and coast guard aircraft searching an area south-east of Bermuda, officials said.

The search for the crewmen from the 19,547-tonne bulk carrier Mezada was suspended last night for four rescue boats would hit the sailors who clung to lifeboats and debris from the ship in 8-m waves and 100km/h winds. — UPI.

★ See Back Page: Col. 8

Disneyland killing

ANAHEIM (California), Mon.

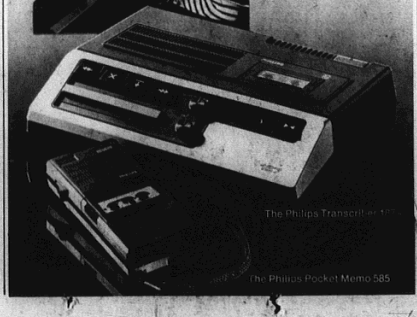
An unidentified man was stabbed to death during a corporation party at Disneyland on Saturday, the first criminal death ever to occur in the famous recreation park. Police said the man was killed during a fight with another man in the Tomorrowland area of the park. — UPI.

PHILIPS

Your secretary's hands needn't leave the typewriter to operate this Philips dictation equipment

With the Philips transcriber, your secretary can operate the start/stop, back space, fast forward and fast rewind functions without using her hands. That's because the machine can be remote controlled via a non-slip foot control. This can save her a lot of inconvenience and time.

The Philips transcriber is built with other thoughtful features. For example, optimum frequency response to provide perfect speech quality, fast forward and fast rewind to assist in speedy location of dictation passages.



The Philips transcriber is compatible with all other Philips Mini-cassette dictation equipment. For a demonstration, please call 2538811.

Ministry to draw up special syllabus

Primary pupils target group in drugs war

By PAUL JACOB

PRIMARY school pupils in the extended and monolingual streams, who may be most vulnerable to drug abuse, will be a special target group in anti-drug efforts in schools.

The Education Ministry, in conjunction with the Central Narcotics Bureau, has drawn up a special drug education syllabus to show these students the "illusions, sufferings and dangers of drug addiction," Home Affairs Minister Chua Sian Chin said yesterday.

He said statistics for last year show that almost 70 per cent of known drug addicts here had only primary education and only 2.2 per cent completed secondary school.

Mr Chua was speaking at the opening of the five-day International Drug Conference at the Singapore Conference Hall.

He said the most challenging and crucial battle in Singapore's war against drug abuse now is to "immunise" the people so that they will reject harmful drugs even if they are available.

The "immunisation" efforts must start in the schools, he added.

Materials

Apart from the special attempts to reach primary pupils in the extended and monolingual streams, drug education for other students will be included under the moral education programme starting from Secondary One.

The Education Ministry is studying the use of Educational Television (ETV) to get the anti-drug message across in a "vivid and interesting" way.

The Central Narcotics Bureau will help to get suitable materials for this. The use of ETV, Mr Chua added, will also minimise "the additional load on heavily taxed teachers."

The bureau is also compiling a handbook for teachers, providing information on drugs commonly abused, their effects

In the other pages

● 40 pages today

EXEMPTIONS ALLOWED IN CPF INSURANCE PLANS — Page 8

JOINT US-Japan defence plans revealed 2
THIRD World angry at US move to stall Sea Law talks 3
DEMO ban in Iran after bloody riots at campus 4
BRITISH Steel seeks help from Japanese 5
MASS bill collection system ready to start on Aug 1 9
FOUR-POINT plan to boost art education 28

Causeway — Page 10

LETTERS 13
EDITORIAL 12
CITY DESK 14
CLASSIFIEDS 17-27
COMICS 28

Sports

Stars in the making — Page 31

Section 2 a pullout today

BILINGUAL One
RADIO AND TV Two
OUTLOOK Six, Seven
CINEMA Eight

Coup attempt: 80 freed

MADRID, Mon. — Some of the 200 members of the paramilitary Civil Guard who stormed the Parliament building two weeks ago in an attempt to overthrow the government have been released, officials said today.

They said 80 were released last Friday. The officials said the 80 had been ordered into the building without knowing about the attempted coup. — AP.

LATEST

50 IN THE QUEUE

EARLY this morning, about 50 people were queueing at the poolside of Merlin Hotel, Beach Road, waiting to book apartments in the UOL complex under the watchful eyes of police, Class cards and UOL officials.

At press time, more people were trekking but police prevented them from joining the queue.

SEE THIS PAGE