

# Hong Kong, Mecca for Discontented, Has No Time To Think About Future

Editor's note: The president of United Press International, Frank H. Bartholomew, is on a tour of the Far East. From Tokyo, where he covered the anti-government riots and coordinated UPI coverage of President Eisenhower's recent trip, he has come to Hong Kong where he now reports on a mecca for the discontented in the surrounding world of Communism.

By FRANK H. BARTHOLOMEW, President United Press International Hong Kong - (UPI) - The

mainland of China will have a thousand million inhabitants by the end of the current century.

This sobering thought for the West, and for the Kremlin in considering the tenure of its present position as boss of world Communism, was presented to United Press International here today by men who guide the destinies of this British crown colony. It is

based upon a mathematical projection of the present rate of population increase in Red China.

The problem of the future of Hong Kong itself, part of it on the mainland of China and all of it under a self-described "benevolent autocracy" which will not tolerate the Communist party in government, or free general elections either for that matter, is

not the primary concern of Hong Kong's head men at this time.

**Concerned With Present**  
"You must have faith in the permanency of this Western city, which seems to exist by sufferance of the Communist world," this correspondent suggested to a high political source.

Estimation of future political developments is not the primary responsibility of the

moment, said the British executive, who declined to be identified by name.

"We have three million people here, among them a million refugees, whose welfare must be looked after today," this official said.

The help extended the million refugees is in the form of housing, employment in new industries coming into being for that purpose, education and medical aid.

**Wealthy Chinese Invest**  
Permanency of Western control of Hong Kong, with its record prosperity and tremendous new skyline of skyscraping modern constructions, was commented upon

succinctly by one British newspaper editor.

"Everything is all right as long as the wealthy Chinese themselves keep on investing," he said. "If they ever stop, then the storm warnings will be flying for all to read."

There is no sign now of diminishment of the intense activity in apartment house construction, the erection of great modern office buildings, nor in the teeming harbor with ships of all nations competing for anchorage.

ment on a contract expiring 26 years hence.

The British blandly deny that they are discriminating against the Communist party even though Communist China is their landlord, by pointing out that while the Communists are not permitted to participate in the government, neither is any other political party.

The governmental system of the crown colony can hardly be described as democratic, since there are no general elections, and individuals can be and are held without trial other than a periodic review by the government of the charges against them.

the administrators point to the fact that there is no civil strife or unrest here comparable to that in Japan, where the Allied occupation powers gave the Communist party legal status for the first time in the history of the empire.

The city remains a mecca for the discontented among the millions in the surrounding world of Communism. Immigration has been drastically curtailed because of overcrowded conditions here; the water supply, for instance, is rationed to 10 hours out of the 24. Still desperate refugees continue to swim the river, tramp across the hills and arrive in numbers averaging 100 each day.

their feet," is the way Sir Robert Black, governor and commander in chief of the colony, puts it. He adds smilingly, "I wish I were sure Lenin hadn't said that first."

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## 'Horse Sense' on Highways Urged

Washington (UPI) - The chairman of the president's committee on employment of the physically handicapped has issued a safety warning well in advance of the three-day Fourth of July holiday.

Maj. Gen. Melvin J. Maas (Ret.) advised persons planning a long weekend trip during the holiday period to use a liberal amount of "horse sense" when on the highways.

He cautioned that a happy holiday can be turned into a lifelong tragedy if vacationers "forget the automobile can be as lethal a weapon as a high-powered rifle and that a small firecracker can be as crippling as any disease."

The retired Marine general said if statistics held true 400 persons will be killed in auto accidents.

But the real tragedy, he said, will be the three persons permanently or severely disabled for every one killed.

Maas urged all citizens to observe the laws and have a "safe and sane Fourth."

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