



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1977

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TEXTILE TALKS BETWEEN HK, NORWAY AND SWEDEN SUSPENDED

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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, SAID TODAY THAT THE TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN TWO HONG KONG TEAMS AND DELEGATIONS FROM NORWAY AND SWEDEN HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED. THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE CONCERNED WITH THE FUTURE OF THE CURRENT TEXTILE AGREEMENTS WHICH EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31 OF THIS YEAR.

+THIS SUSPENSION HAS COME ABOUT BECAUSE THE NORWEGIAN AND SWEDISH DELEGATIONS WERE DEMANDING LARGE REDUCTIONS - IN ONE CASE BY 76 PER CENT - ON CURRENT RESTRAINT AND TRADE LEVELS FOR 1978. THE AVERAGE REDUCTIONS THEY ARE SEEKING VARY BETWEEN 20 PER CENT AND 40 PER CENT,+ MR. MILLS SAID.

MR. MILLS EXPLAINED THAT THE MFA DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR REDUCTIONS IN RESTRAINT LEVELS AND ALTHOUGH THE GENEVA DOCUMENT AGREED IN JULY OF THIS YEAR PROVIDES FOR REASONABLE DEPARTURES FROM PARTICULAR ELEMENTS OF THE MFA IN PARTICULAR CASES, +THE NORWEGIAN AND SWEDISH DEMANDS ARE SO FAR FROM REASONABLE AS TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS STAGE+.

+PREVIOUS NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND NORWAY AND SWEDEN HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HELD IN A SPIRIT OF EQUITY WITH GIVE AND TAKE ON BOTH SIDES BUT THE PRINCIPLES OF THE MFA HAVE ALWAYS BEEN STRICTLY ADHERED TO+, MR. MILLS ADDED.

+I AM THEREFORE EXTREMELY SORRY TO SEE OUR TRADING PARTNERS IN SCANDINAVIA ASKING FOR SUCH EXTREMELY PROTECTIONIST MEASURES+.

+AS THINGS NOW STAND, THE POSSIBILITY OF UNILATERAL IMPORT MEASURES BY NORWAY AND SWEDEN CANNOT BE RULED OUT+, MR. MILLS SAID.

+WE JUST CANNOT AGREE TO NEGOTIATE RESTRAINTS BELOW CURRENT LEVELS OF TRADE WHICH WOULD SET PRECEDENTS FAR WORSE THAN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED HONG KONG/EEC TEXTILE AGREEMENT.+

THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD HAS BEEN KEPT FULLY INFORMED OF THE SITUATION. IT HAS ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT THAT HONG KONG SHOULD NOT CONSIDER NEGOTIATING WITH NORWAY AND SWEDEN ON THE BASIS OF THESE REQUESTED REDUCTIONS.

+WE HAVE PROPOSED BOTH TO NORWAY AND TO SWEDEN A TEMPORARY THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS IN AN EFFORT TO MINIMISE DISRUPTION TO THE TRADE AND TO GIVE THE TWO NORDIC COUNTRIES A PERIOD FOR FURTHER REFLECTION UPON THE IMPLICATIONS OF UNILATERAL ACTION ON THEIR PART NOT JUST IN THE CONTEXT OF TEXTILES BUT IN RESPECT OF WORLD TRADE AS A WHOLE.

+WE HAVE ALSO MADE CLEAR THAT THE TWO HONG KONG TEAMS ARE READY TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WITH NORWAY AND SWEDEN AT ANY TIME EITHER IN HONG KONG OR IN EUROPE+, MR. MILLS EMPHASISED.

THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION LEFT HONG KONG THIS EVENING TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER SUPPLIERS IN THE REGION. THE SWEDISH DELEGATION IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE AT THE END OF THE WEEK.

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OVERALL EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
SERVICES FOR YOUTH TO CONTINUE
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ALTHOUGH THE GREEN PAPER ON PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE FOCUSED ONLY ON YOUNG PEOPLE 'AT RISK' OR 'POTENTIALLY DELINQUENT', THE GOVERNMENT IS CONTINUING THE OVERALL EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR YOUTH GENERALLY, SAID THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE PAST AND PRESENT DIRECTORS OF TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, MR. LEE SAID THAT SUCH SERVICES HAVE EXPANDED RAPIDLY IN RECENT YEARS AND THERE IS NO SUGGESTION THAT THIS EXPANSION WILL NOT CONTINUE.

+THE VERY FACT THAT THERE HAS BEEN SUCH SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION IN THIS FIELD MAKES IT NECESSARY TO CONSIDER PROVIDING SERVICES FOR THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE MOST UNLIKELY TO BENEFIT FROM THE PRESENT SERVICES. THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DO NOT COME FORWARD TO ENJOY SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COMMUNITY ARE IN FACT THOSE WHO NEED SUCH SERVICES MOST.+

THEREFORE, HE CONTINUED, THE GREEN PAPER PROPOSES THE USE OF 'REACHING OUT' APPROACH IN WHICH A SOCIAL WORKER IDENTIFIES THE INDIVIDUALS WHO NEED TO BE HELPED, OFFERS THEM SPECIAL ASSISTANCE, AND INTERESTS THEM IN COMING FORWARD TO ENJOY WITH THEIR PEERS IN THE COMMUNITY ALL THE FACILITIES AND SERVICES WHICH EXIST FOR THEIR BENEFIT.

THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF ALL YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AGE RANGE OF SIX TO 20 YEARS ARE TAKING PART IN SOME FORM OF ORGANISED YOUTH OR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THEIR SPARE TIME, AND IT IS HOPED THAT THIS PROPORTION WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE IN FUTURE YEARS THROUGH THE CONCERTED EFFORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR.

QUOTING EXAMPLES ON THE INCREASING PROVISION OF ORGANISED YOUTH AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, MR. LEE SAID THAT MEMBERSHIP OF BOY SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES HAD INCREASED, SINCE 1973, BY 48 PER CENT AND 44 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY TO 37,000 AND 11,500= THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL HAD DOUBLED ITS MEMBERSHIP FROM 100,000 TO OVER 200,000 IN TWO YEARS= AND YOUTH GROUPS ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAD INCREASED THEIR MEMBERSHIP BY 47 PER CENT SINCE 1973 FROM 9,000 TO NEARLY 13,000 IN JULY THIS YEAR.

SINCE THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1974, HE ADDED, IT HAD CATERED FOR INCREASING NUMBERS OF PEOPLE YEAR BY YEAR FROM 57,000 IN 1974/75 TO 192,000 LAST YEAR WITH +EVERY EXPECTATION OF DOUBLING OR EVEN TREBLING THAT NUMBER THIS YEAR AND NEXT.+

/+THE SUMMER

+THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IS NOW ATTRACTING SOME TWO MILLION PARTICIPANTS OVER ITS THREE-MONTH PROGRAMME EVERY YEAR AND IT IS EXPECTED TO EXPAND THESE ACTIVITIES IN THE COMING YEARS. ALSO, THE SOCIAL WELFARE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ORGANISED ACTIVITIES FOR OVER 70,000 YOUNG PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS EACH YEAR,+ HE ADDED.

TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, MR. LEE POINTED OUT THAT 150 ACRES MORE OPEN SPACE HAD BEEN DEVELOPED SINCE 1973 INTO PARKS, RECREATION GROUNDS AND AMENITY AREAS, MAKING A TOTAL OF SOME 1,250 ACRES FOR HONG KONG AS A WHOLE.

IN THE SAME PERIOD, 135 NEW FOOTBALL PITCHES, COURTS AND GAMES AREAS HAVE BEEN OPENED, AND A TOTAL OF THREE OUTDOOR STADIA, FIVE INDOOR GAMES HALLS AND TEN SWIMMING POOLS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE.

HOWEVER, DESPITE ALL THESE, THE DIRECTOR SAID THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A PROPORTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHOSE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND PROBLEMS CANNOT, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, BE FULLY MET BY THE BASIC SERVICES.

+THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD REQUIRE PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK WHICH AIMS TO PROVIDE TIMELY GUIDANCE AND HELP SPECIFICALLY TO THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE PROBLEMS OF VARIOUS KINDS IN THEIR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TO REDUCE THEIR CHANCE OF TURNING DELINQUENT.+

MR. LEE SAID THAT THE MAIN PROPOSALS DRAWN UP BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ON PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE CONCENTRATED ON SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, SOCIAL WORK AMONG UNATTACHED YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION.

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COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUBS

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THE +CLEAN YOUR CITY/COUNTRYSIDE+ GROUPS WHO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR HELPING TO REDUCE THE LITTER PROBLEM IN HONG KONG WILL EXTEND THEIR SCOPE OF WORK TO COVER A WIDE RANGE OF COMMUNITY-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES AND THEY HAVE ADOPTED A NEW NAME - +COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUBS+ (CYC'S).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANISING THE CLUBS' ACTIVITIES SAID NEARLY 10,000 STUDENTS HAD APPLIED TO JOIN THE CYC'S SINCE THE RECRUITMENT DRIVE BEGAN IN MID-NOVEMBER.

THE AIM OF THE CYC'S IS TO STIMULATE YOUNG PEOPLE TO IMPROVE THEIR ENVIRONMENT BY KEEPING HONG KONG CLEAN= BECOMING WELL INFORMED IN COMMUNITY MATTERS= CONTRIBUTING TO VARIOUS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS= CO-OPERATING WITH OTHER CIVIC GROUPS IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY= AROUSING CIVIC CONSCIOUSNESS AMONG FELLOW CITIZENS AND SETTING AN EXAMPLE BY THEIR OWN ACTIONS.

THE CYC'S WILL BE INVOLVED IN SUCH COMMUNITY WORK AS HELPING FIRE VICTIMS= LOOKING OUT FOR FIRE HAZARDS= DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS AND REPORTING COMMUNITY PROBLEMS.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANISING A WIDE RANGE OF COMMUNITY-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES INCLUDING EXHIBITIONS, DISPLAYS, ENTERTAINMENT, PLAYS, COMPETITIONS, TALKS, AND VISITS TO FACTORIES, CIVIC ORGANISATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

STUDENTS FROM PRIMARY 4 TO FORM 3 CAN BECOME MEMBERS OF THE CYC'S. ALL STUDENTS HAVE TO DO IS TO ENROL WITH THEIR FORM MASTERS, OR TO FORM A GROUP OF ELEVEN FROM AMONG THEIR FRIENDS IN CLASS AND THEN ELECT A GROUP LEADER WHO WILL ASK THEIR FORM MASTER TO COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM AND RETURN IT WITH COPIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS, TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, CYC UNIT, ROOM 515G, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

AFTER REGISTRATION, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL ISSUE TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE CYC'S A BADGE AND A MEMBERSHIP CARD BEARING A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE HOLDER AND THE MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.

IN ADDITION TO THE FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE LIONS CLUBS HAVE SHOWN KEEN INTEREST IN THE NEW CYC'S BY DONATING \$250,000 TO GET THE NEW MOVEMENT OFF TO A GOOD START.

MR. F.K. LI, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, SAID IN THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE C.Y.C. MAGAZINE: +YOUNG PEOPLE IN HONG KONG ARE NOW TAKING A KEEN INTEREST IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND IT IS GOOD TO HAVE YET ANOTHER AVENUE BY WHICH THIS INTEREST CAN BE EXPRESSED.

+I BELIEVE THAT WHILE THE CLUBS WILL CATER FOR STUDENTS OF WIDELY DIFFERENT INTERESTS, THERE WILL BE ONE FUNDAMENTAL GOAL - TO GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A CHANCE TO BECOME WELL INFORMED ABOUT THEIR COMMUNITY AND ALSO TO GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE IT.+

AND MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, SAID: +IT IS VERY GRATIFYING THAT IN RECENT YEARS SO MANY YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE RECOGNISED THAT THEY HAVE A PART TO PLAY IN THE COMMUNITY AND THAT THEIR EDUCATION IS NOT CONFINED TO SCHOOL LEARNING.

+IT IS GOOD THAT YET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR FURTHER INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS IS BEING PROVIDED AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL FIND THAT HELPING THE COMMUNITY IS FUN.+

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NEW TYPHOON SHELTER FOR CHEUNG CHAU

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A NEW \$40 MILLION TYPHOON SHELTER AT CHEUNG CHAU, ACCEPTABLE TO THE LOCAL PEOPLE, WILL SOON BE CONSTRUCTED, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

THE TYPHOON SHELTER WILL CONSIST OF THREE BREAKWATERS OF ABOUT 600 METRES, 320 METRES AND 230 METRES LONG RESPECTIVELY.

ASSOCIATED WORKS WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIRTEEN MOORING DOLPHINS TO STABILISE CRAFT SHELTERING DURING TYPHOONS AND FOUR LIGHT BEACONS TO MARK THE FAIRWAY TO THE FERRY PIER.

THE SHELTER WILL MEET THE GROWING DEMAND FOR SHELTERED ANCHORAGE IN THE SOUTH-WESTERN APPROACHES TO HONG KONG HARBOUR.

THE ORIGINAL PROPOSED TYPHOON SHELTER, WHEN FIRST GAZETTED, WAS CONSIDERED TOO SMALL BY THE CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN THE RURAL COMMITTEE'S VIEWS INTO CONSIDERATION AND AFTER FURTHER SITE INVESTIGATION AND DESIGN WORK, HAS AMENDED THE LAYOUT OF THE BREAKWATERS IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE GROSS AREA OF SHELTERED ANCHORAGE FROM 46.5 HECTARES TO ABOUT 63 HECTARES.

WORKS ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN APRIL NEXT YEAR AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1981.

THE PROJECT WILL CONSIST OF TWO SEPARATE CONTRACTS. THE FIRST IS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE THREE BREAKWATERS AND WILL TAKE TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE. THE SECOND WILL ENABLE RUBBLE MOUNDS TO BE CONSTRUCTED AND WILL TAKE 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND THE CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE PORT WORKS DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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REMINDER ON WORKERS HOLIDAY
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. PETER WILLIAMS, TODAY REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, THE DAY OF THE CHINESE WINTER SOLSTICE FESTIVAL (WHICH FALLS ON DECEMBER 22 THIS YEAR), AND CHRISTMAS DAY (DECEMBER 25) HAS ALTERNATIVELY BEEN APPOINTED AS ONE OF THE TEN STATUTORY HOLIDAYS AND WORKERS MUST BE GIVEN EITHER ONE OF THESE TWO DAYS OFF.

MR. WILLIAMS EMPHASISED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE APPLIED TO ALL EMPLOYEES WHEREVER THEY WORK.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES WITHOUT DISTINCTION, INCLUDING DOMESTIC SERVANTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY. THEY MUST ALSO BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THEIR EMPLOYERS FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF THE EMPLOYER REQUIRES AN EMPLOYEE TO WORK ON THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST GIVE HIM AT LEAST 48 HOURS' NOTICE, AND HE MUST GIVE THE EMPLOYEE AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF THE EMPLOYER INTENDS TO GIVE HIS EMPLOYEE AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST NOTIFY HIM 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE BEFORE GIVING HIM AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY. AND IF AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY IS TO BE GIVEN AFTER THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYER MUST INFORM HIS EMPLOYEE OF THE ARRANGEMENT AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF THE EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE AGREE, ANY DAY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY OR ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY MAY BE TAKEN BY THE EMPLOYEE AS A SUBSTITUTED HOLIDAY.

COMPLAINTS OR ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE. THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE: FOR KOWLOON EAST 3-205638= KOWLOON WEST 3-201652= KWUN TONG 3-898520= TSUEN WAN 12-422096= TUEN MUN 12-818443 EXT. 82 AND HONG KONG ISLAND 5-282523 EXT. 60.

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TOPLEY TO OPEN NEW OFFICE OF MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY WILL OPEN THE NEW OFFICE OF THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR ON THE NINTH FLOOR, ARTS CENTRE, IN WAN CHAI TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A CONCERT GIVEN BY YOUNG MUSICIANS.

THE NEW OFFICE WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR AND HIS STAFF. IN ADDITION THERE WILL BE A NUMBER OF REHEARSAL ROOMS WHICH WILL BE USED FOR ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS, MASTER CLASSES, MUSIC SEMINARS AND OTHER TRAINING PURPOSES.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE NEW OFFICE IS 5-283257.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 3 P.M. TOMORROW ON THE NINTH FLOOR OF THE ARTS CENTRE AND THE SPECIAL CONCERT AT 4 P.M. IN THE RECITAL HALL, UPPER BASEMENT, ARTS CENTRE.

THE FIRST TWO ROWS OF SEATS IN THE RECITAL HALL HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ISLANDS DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD TO HOLD FIRST MEETING
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THIRTEEN RURAL AND COMMUNITY LEADERS FROM LANTAU AND LAMMA ISLANDS, CHEUNG CHAU AND PENG CHAU WILL SIT TOGETHER AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEWLY-CREATED ISLANDS DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 16).

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES WILL SPEAK AT THE MEETING - THE FIFTH IN A SERIES OF INAUGURAL MEETINGS OF THE SEVEN NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS.

THE 13 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD HAVE BEEN APPOINTED FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SETTING UP THE SEVEN BOARDS BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS ANNUAL ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN OCTOBER.

THE MEETING TO BE CHAIRED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. VICTOR YUNG WILL TAKE PLACE AT 11.15 A.M. AT THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR, INTERNATIONAL BUILDING, CENTRAL.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE MEETING.

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PASSING-OUT PARADE OF CUSTOMS INSPECTORS
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THE NEWLY APPOINTED DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF CONTROLS AND CUSTOMS, MR. DOUGLAS JORDAN, WILL TAKE THE SALUTE AT A PASSING-OUT PARADE OF CUSTOMS INSPECTORS ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 17).

MR. JORDAN, WHO HAS 40 YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN THE BRITISH CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE, BEGAN A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT LAST MONTH.

A TOTAL OF 18 PROBATIONARY INSPECTORS WILL TAKE PART IN THE PARADE AFTER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE THREE-MONTH TRAINING COURSE.

THE PARADE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE TRAINING SCHOOL AT TAI LAM CHUNG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. AMONG THE 150 GUESTS WILL BE THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, THE COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, OTHER HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND OVERSEAS CONSULATES.

THE PARADE MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY A GURKHA BAND OF THE QUEEN'S GURKHA ENGINEERS.

THIS IS THE THIRD PASSING-OUT PARADE OF INSPECTORS HELD SINCE THE TITLE WAS CHANGED FROM PREVENTIVE SERVICE TO CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE EARLIER THIS YEAR.

THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TRAINING COURSES ARE DESIGNED TO GIVE RECRUITS A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW IN RELATION TO SMUGGLING, NARCOTICS AND REVENUE PROTECTION, AND INCLUDE TRAINING IN JUDO, THE USE OF FIRE-ARMS AND METHODS OF SEARCHING ON LAND AND SEA AND AT HONG KONG'S INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE PARADE WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 11.15 A.M. ON SATURDAY.

A GOVERNMENT COACH AM 5606 WILL BE AVAILABLE AT KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER BETWEEN 8.45 A.M. AND 9 A.M. ON SATURDAY TO TAKE GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PRESS TO THE TRAINING SCHOOL, AND LATER RETURN THE PARTY TO KOWLOON.

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TSUEN WAN M.A.C. REPRESENTATIVES VISIT FIRE STATION
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REPRESENTATIVES OF FOUR TSUEN WAN MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES TODAY GAINED AN INSIGHT INTO THE BASIC PROCEDURES OF PREVENTING FIRE IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AND HOW TO USE FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT MORE EFFICIENTLY DURING THEIR VISIT TO TSUEN WAN FIRE STATION.

IN THE HOUR-LONG VISIT, FIRE OFFICERS GAVE THEM COMPREHENSIVE TALKS WHICH EMPHASISED THE FACT THAT FIRE HAZARDS COULD ARISE SIMPLY THROUGH CARELESSNESS AND THOUGHTLESSNESS BOTH IN THE ORDINARY HOUSEHOLD AND THE PUBLIC AREAS WITHIN BUILDINGS.

LATER, THE M.A.C. REPRESENTATIVES WATCHED A DEMONSTRATION ON THE EFFECTIVE USE OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND RUBBER HOSES, AND OTHER SAFETY PROCEDURES THAT SHOULD BE ADOPTED IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE BREAKING OUT.

THEY WERE GIVEN FIRE-PREVENTION POSTERS AND PAMPHLETS WHICH THEY WOULD HELP DISTRIBUTE WITHIN THEIR BUILDINGS.

THE REPRESENTATIVES WILL ALSO PASS ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE TO FELLOW COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS WELL AS TO ENLIST THE CO-OPERATION OF ALL RESIDENTS IN MAKING THE BUILDINGS A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE IN.

TODAY'S VISIT WAS ONE OF A SERIES ARRANGED BY VARIOUS DISTRICT OFFICES FOR M.A.C. REPRESENTATIVES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO LEARN FIRE PREVENTION PROCEDURES FROM THEIR LOCAL FIRE STATIONS.

THE VISITS FORM PART OF THE CURRENT HONG KONG-WIDE CAMPAIGN WHICH AIMS AT PROMOTING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THEIR VULNERABILITY TO FIRE IN A CROWDED MULTI-STOREY BUILDING.

THE REPRESENTATIVES ON TODAY'S VISIT CAME FROM THE M.A.C.S OF YAU LUEN LAU, DANG FAT MANSION, WING TING LAU AND WING LUNG LAU IN CENTRAL TSUEN WAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

+CHRISTMAS GIFTS+ FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS
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EIGHT VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WILL BE RECEIVING +CHRISTMAS DONATIONS+ AMOUNTING TO MORE THAN \$100,000 FROM THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 16).

THIS SUM, A RECORD, WAS RAISED LAST MONTH DURING THE DEPARTMENT'S +JUBILEE+ AUTUMN FAIR AT STANLEY, WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

THE RECIPIENTS WILL BE THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR REHABILITATION, CARITAS LOK HEEP CLUB, HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL, HONG KONG SEA CADET CORPS, SALVATION ARMY, HONG KONG DISCHARGED PRISONERS' AID SOCIETY, PRISONS DEPARTMENT'S WELFARE FUND AND THE PRISONERS' WELFARE DONATION ACCOUNT.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 3 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AT 32, 01 KWAN ROAD, TENTH FLOOR, WAN CHAI.

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MINI-BUS BAN ON SECTION OF TAI WAI RD
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THE SECTION OF TAI WAI ROAD IN SHA TIN FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TAI PO ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 125 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST WILL BE DESIGNATED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE 24 HOURS DAILY FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 17).

PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING ON THIS SECTION OF ROAD FOR PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC FLOW AT THE JUNCTION.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO INDICATE THE RESTRICTION.

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