



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1978

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GOVERNOR ATTENDS CAS ANNUAL DINNER
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID THIS EVENING HE WAS DELIGHTED THAT THE CIVIL AID SERVICES ARE PLANNING THE FURTHER EXTENSION OF THEIR ACTIVITIES AT SHA TIN AND SAI KUNG AND INCREASING THEIR STRENGTH IN THE MORE HEAVILY POPULATED AREAS OF KOWLOON.

SPEAKING AT THE CAS ANNUAL DINNER, SIR MURRAY SAID: +I AM SURE YOU ARE RIGHT TO PLAN THAT WHEREVER THERE IS AN EXPANDING POPULATION OR A NEW TOWN, THERE SHOULD BE A CORRESPONDING CAS PRESENCE.

+THIS YEAR I AM PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LAST YEAR AND BY THE WAY IN WHICH YOU ARE PLANNING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE FUTURE.

+I AM QUITE SURE YOU WILL GIVE AN EQUALLY GOOD ACCOUNT OF YOURSELVES IN THE YEARS AHEAD, AS YOUR RECORD SHOWS YOU HAVE DONE IN THE YEARS GONE BY,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR AT THE CAS ANNUAL DINNER:

+THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMPLIMENTS AND KIND WORDS TO ME PERSONALLY.

+I AM ALWAYS VERY PLEASED TO BE IN YOUR COMPANY AND TO ENJOY YOUR HOSPITALITY.

+THIS YEAR I AM PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LAST YEAR AND BY THE WAY IN WHICH YOU ARE PLANNING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE FUTURE. I AM QUITE SURE YOU WILL GIVE AN EQUALLY GOOD ACCOUNT OF YOURSELVES IN THE YEARS AHEAD, AS YOUR RECORD SHOWS YOU HAVE DONE IN THE YEARS GONE BY.

+LAST YEAR, YOUR 25TH YEAR OF DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY SERVICE, WAS INDEED A BUSY ONE FOR YOU IN BOTH CIVIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. IN ADDITION TO YOUR MANY OPERATIONAL TASKS, SUMMARISED BY YOUR COMMISSIONER, YOU STILL FOUND TIME TO HELP ORGANISE VARIOUS CHARITY ACTIVITIES, HONG KONG'S SILVER JUBILEE PARADE AND PAGEANT AS WELL AS YOUR OWN MOST IMPRESSIVE SILVER JUBILEE PARADE.

+I AM ALSO VERY MUCH AWARE OF THE WORK MEMBERS HAVE PUT INTO YOUR FINE 50-ACRE CAMP SITE AT YUEN TUN, WHICH I HAD THE PLEASURE OF OPENING IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

+I AM DELIGHTED TO LEARN YOU ARE NOW PLANNING THE FURTHER EXTENSION OF YOUR ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AT SHA TIN AND SAI KUNG, AND TO INCREASING YOUR STRENGTH IN THE MORE HEAVILY POPULATED AREAS OF KOWLOON. I AM SURE YOU ARE RIGHT TO PLAN THAT WHEREVER THERE IS AN EXPANDING POPULATION OR A NEW TOWN, THERE SHOULD BE A CORRESPONDING CAS PRESENCE.

+I SHALL ALSO WATCH WITH INTEREST THE DEVELOPMENTS OF YOUR CADET CORPS WATER ACTIVITY CENTRE AT TAI TAN. IF DISCIPLINED TRAINING CAN BE COMBINED WITH FUN AND RECREATION SO MUCH THE BETTER.

/+THE CADET

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+THE CADET CORPS HAS COME A LONG WAY IN THE TEN YEARS SINCE ITS FOUNDATION IN 1968 AND I WISH IT WELL FOR ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY ARCADE AND CELEBRATIONS THIS YEAR.

+LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I ASK YOU NOW TO RISE AND DRINK A TOAST TO THE FUTURE OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES.+

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LADY MACLEHOSE OPENS +POLYDESIGN SHOW+
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LOCAL INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS WILL NEED MORE CREATIVE AND PRACTICAL DESIGNERS TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF OVERSEAS COMPETITION, LADY MACLEHOSE SAID AT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC +POLYDESIGN SHOW+ TODAY.

LADY MACLEHOSE SAID +THE TALENT IS HERE BUT THERE IS NOTHING LIKE TRAVEL AND STUDY ABROAD FOR BROADENING AND ENLARGING THE OUTLOOK. UP UNTIL NOW IN HONG KONG, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE SCOPE FOR DESIGN STUDENTS TO OBSERVE AND COMPARE.

+I FEEL SURE THAT HONG KONG INDUSTRIALISTS WILL AGREE WITH THIS VIEW AND GIVE THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT,+ SHE ADDED.

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF LADY MACLEHOSE'S SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE POLYTECHNIC +POLYDESIGN SHOW+ TODAY.

+I SHOULD LIKE TO THANK THE POLYTECHNIC FOR THE INVITATION TO OPEN THIS YEAR'S POLYDESIGN SHOW. I AM SURE WE ARE GOING TO SEE THINGS OF GREAT INTEREST ON SHOW.

+SINCE LAST VISITING THE DEPARTMENT IN ITS OLD PREMISES IN THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD, IT IS OBVIOUSLY GROWING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH, HERE, IN ITS NEW PREMISES. I FEEL IT MUST BE A STIMULATING PLACE IN WHICH TO TEACH AND BE TAUGHT.

+WHEN I VISIT A FACTORY OR AM ASKED TO PRESENT A DESIGN AWARD, I FIND IT MOST ENCOURAGING TO MEET PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

+DESIGN IS NOT JUST THE ABILITY TO MAKE AN ATTRACTIVE DRAWING BUT TO UNDERSTAND THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF A PRODUCT.

+TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF OVERSEAS COMPETITION, INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS IN HONG KONG WILL NEED MORE CREATIVE AND PRACTICAL DESIGNERS. IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS THE STUDENTS NEED SUPPORT. UP UNTIL NOW IN HONG KONG, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE SCOPE FOR DESIGN STUDENTS TO OBSERVE AND COMPARE. THE TALENT IS HERE BUT THERE IS NOTHING LIKE TRAVEL AND STUDY ABROAD FOR BROADENING AND ENLARGING THE OUTLOOK.

+I FEEL SURE THAT HONG KONG INDUSTRIALISTS WILL AGREE WITH THIS VIEW AND GIVE THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT.

+I NOW HAVE VERY MUCH PLEASURE IN DECLARING THE POLYDESIGN SHOW OPEN.+

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ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT)(NO. 3) BILL
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AMENDING LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY TO ENABLE THE TRANSPORT TRIBUNAL TO ARBITRATE IN ANY DISPUTE OVER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT'S REFUSAL TO REGISTER OR LICENSE A MOTOR VEHICLE, OR HIS DECISION TO REVOKE THE LICENCE.

THE AMENDING LEGISLATION, KNOWN AS THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT)(NO. 3) BILL 1978, IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

AT PRESENT ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO APPEAL AGAINST A DECISION BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO REFUSE TO REGISTER OR LICENSE, OR TO REVOKE, THE LICENCE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE MAY DO SO BY PETITIONING THE GOVERNOR.

UNDER THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, IF THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT REFUSES TO REGISTER OR LICENSE A VEHICLE, THE AGGRIEVED PERSON MAY WITHIN 21 DAYS OF BEING NOTIFIED OF THE DECISION BY THE COMMISSIONER, APPLY IN WRITING TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR A REVIEW OF HIS DECISION BY A TRANSPORT TRIBUNAL.

ANOTHER FEATURE OF THE BILL, IF PASSED, IS THE MANDATORY EXAMINATION OF ALL REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES PRIOR TO LICENSING BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WILL EMPOWER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO CHARGE A FEE FOR THESE EXAMINATIONS IN ORDER TO COVER THEIR COST.

THE FOLLOWING CHARGES ARE PROPOSED:

- * FOR A MOTOR CYCLE OR SCOOTER WITH OR WITHOUT A SIDE CAR -- \$25=
- * OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES NOT EXCEEDING TWO TONS IN WEIGHT UNLADEN, AND TRAILERS OF ALL TYPES AND SIZES EXCEPT TRAILERS TOWED BY PRIVATE CARS WHICH ARE EXEMPTED -- \$60.
- * OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEEDING TWO TONS IN WEIGHT UNLADEN -- \$110.

AT PRESENT ONLY PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES ARE EXAMINED ANNUALLY. WHEN THE KOWLOON BAY MOTOR VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE IS COMPLETED EARLY NEXT YEAR ALL GOODS VEHICLES WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE INSPECTED ANNUALLY.

TWO OTHER EXAMINATION CENTRES ARE PLANNED FOR HONG KONG ISLAND AND TSUEN WAN AND WHEN THESE ARE COMPLETED THE INSPECTION PROGRAMME WILL BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE, INITIALLY, OLDER PRIVATE CARS.

/THE BILL ALSO

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THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE= PROVIDES THAT THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL MAY REGULATE THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES TO BE REGISTERED AT ANY TIME= AND SPECIFIES THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT MAY REFUSE TO REGISTER OR LICENSE OR CANCEL THE LICENCE OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

ALSO PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY IS THE ROAD TRAFFIC (REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES)(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1978.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS IS TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE PRINCIPAL REGULATIONS BY REVOCATION OF THE RELEVANT REGULATIONS AND APPROPRIATE AMENDMENT TO OTHERS.

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HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME TAILOR-MADE FOR HONG KONG

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PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, TODAY STATED THAT THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME IN THE FORM WHICH HAD BEEN EVOLVED SO FAR WAS UNIQUE AND TAILOR-MADE TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HONG KONG.

+WE HAVE HAD EXAMPLES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO PLAGIARISE, BUT TO THE CREDIT OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE HOUSING AUTHORITY SCHEMES ELSEWHERE PROVIDED NO MORE THAN A POINT OF REFERENCE AND CONSULTATION,+ SHE SAID AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED SURVEYORS.

SHE ADDED: +I AM QUITE CONFIDENT THAT THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME WILL BE A GREAT SUCCESS JUDGED BY THE OBJECTIVES GOVERNMENT HAS SET OUT TO ACHIEVE AND THAT THE SCHEME WILL GROW IN THE EARLY 80S TO BE A MAJOR FORCE IN IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG.+

MISS CHUNG SAID THAT, OWING TO ITS SOCIAL PURPOSE, THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME WAS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM PRIVATE SECTOR SCHEMES.

TO START WITH, IT WAS NON-PROFIT MAKING.

+IF GOVERNMENT HAD EVER SET OUT TO BE 'TOP OF THE POPS' INsofar AS SALES ARE CONCERNED, ITS MARKETING POLICIES WOULD HAVE BEEN MARKEDLY DIFFERENT.+

THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN FOR INSTANCE NO MAXIMUM INCOME LIMITS, NO FIVE-YEAR RESTRICTION, NO BAN ON SUB-LETTING, EXCEEDINGLY LOW PRICES AND/OR MORTGAGE TERMS.

BUT WOULD SUCH A SCHEME BE RIGHT FOR HONG KONG IF JUDGED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- * ASSISTING FAMILIES IN NEED OF HOME OWNERSHIP AT A PROPER LEVEL OF SUBSISTENCE=
- * NOT STIFLING THE PRIVATE SECTOR= AND
- * ALL THESE AT A PRICE HONG KONG TAXPAYERS COULD AFFORD?

THE LAST CRITERION WAS STRAIGHTFORWARD AND EASILY UNDERSTOOD, BUT THE FIRST TWO WERE ALMOST CONTRADICTORY TO EACH OTHER AND IT WAS DIFFICULT, AS EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE INDICATED, TO ACHIEVE A FINE BALANCE BETWEEN THESE TWO OBJECTIVES.

+I THINK WE IN HONG KONG HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE THIS,+ MISS CHUNG SAID.

+FAMILIES OTHER THAN PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS EARNING \$3,500 A MONTH WILL BE ABLE TO PURCHASE SELF-CONTAINED FLATS OF 400-600 SQUARE FEET EACH AT PRICES RANGING FROM \$86,000 TO \$170,000, OR APPROXIMATELY \$220 - \$240 PER SQUARE FOOT. THIS IS OF COURSE MUCH LESS THAN OPEN MARKET PRICES WHICH ARE STEADILY ESCALATING.+

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY WAS ABLE TO ACHIEVE THIS BY FOREGOING THE PROFITS EXPECTED BY A REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER.

MISS CHUNG SAID GOVERNMENT HAD THE OPTION OF SELLING HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS AT COST OR BELOW COST. HOWEVER, TO SELL BELOW COST WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE AS THIS WOULD LEAD TO A RAPID DEPRECIATION OF THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO RECYCLE CONSTRUCTION FINANCE FOR THE SCHEME.

+IN VIEW OF THE HIGHER INCOME GROUP THAT WE ARE CATERING TO AND IN VIEW OF THE CAPITAL ADVANTAGE OFFERED UPON SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FOR HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS, IT WOULD BE UNJUSTIFIABLE TO SUBSIDISE ONE SECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY AT THE EXPENSE OF TAXPAYERS.+

A DECISION HAD THEREFORE BEEN MADE THAT FLATS SHOULD BE SOLD AT COST. MORE SPECIFICALLY, THIS MEANT THAT REVENUE FROM SALES WOULD COVER EXPENDITURE ON LAND PREMIUM AND COST OF CONSTRUCTION, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCING INCURRED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

MISS CHUNG ADDED: +BECAUSE THE OPEN MARKET VALUE OF THE FLATS ARE IN ALL CASES CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN THE SALES PRICES RECOMMENDED BY THE AUTHORITY, GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO INTRODUCE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON RESALE IN ORDER TO DISCOURAGE SPECULATION ON THE PART OF BUYERS WHO ARE MORE INTERESTED IN PROPERTY INVESTMENT OR SPECULATION THAN IN HOME OWNERSHIP.+

ACCORDINGLY, THE RULE WAS THAT WITHIN A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE THE BUYER WISHING TO SELL THE FLAT WOULD BE PLACED UNDER AN OBLIGATION TO OFFER THE FLAT TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AT THE PRICE HE ORIGINALLY PAID.

MISS CHUNG SAID THAT A NUMBER OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS HAD SAID THAT THE REASONS FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY NOT BEING EXACTLY SNOWED UNDER BY APPLICATIONS FOR PHASE I OF THE HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS WAS THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON BUYERS AND THE STRICT ELIGIBILITY/DISQUALIFICATION RULES.

HOWEVER, GOVERNMENT WOULD BE FAILING IN ITS DUTY IF IN FACT THE SCHEME ONLY BENEFITED SPECULATORS AND DENIED THE CHANCE OF HOME OWNERSHIP TO GENUINE BUYERS.

+THERE IS NO QUESTION WHATSOEVER OF TRYING TO MAKE THE SCHEME SUPERFICIALLY ATTRACTIVE IF IN FACT THE DEMAND FOR SUCH FLATS FROM THE FAMILIES CONCERNED IS NOT THERE,+ SHE SAID.

+FURTHERMORE, THERE IS NO INTENTION ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENT TO INHIBIT THE PRIVATE SECTOR BECAUSE IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS IT IS ONLY WITH A GREATER SUPPLY OF HOUSING -- BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC -- THAT THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF ACCOMMODATION IN HONG KONG WILL BE IMPROVED AND THE PRICE OF FLATS STABILISED.+

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NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR LANTAU ISLAND

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD FOR THE BUILDING OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK SOUTHERN DISTRICT GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL ON LANTAU ISLAND.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. JOHN TODD, ANNOUNCED THIS TODAY WHEN NEWLY-ELECTED LEADERS OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK PAID HIM A COURTESY VISIT AT THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS.

THE KUK'S DELEGATION, LED BY ITS CHAIRMAN, MR. STEPHEN WONG YUEN-CHEUNG, FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN, MR. LAU WONG-FAT AND SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, MR. PETER YEUNG, INCLUDED THE RECENTLY-ELECTED HEADS OF THE KUK'S SUB-COMMITTEES.

MR. TODD TOLD THE KUK LEADERS THAT GOVERNMENT HAD APPROVED PLANS FOR A \$7.5 MILLION SECONDARY SCHOOL PARTLY FINANCED BY THE KUK -- CARRYING ITS NAME -- AT PAK KUNG AU NEAR MUI WO.

IT WILL BE THE SECOND SECONDARY SCHOOL ON THE ISLAND, THE OTHER BEING AT TAI O.

MR. TODD SAID THE NEW SCHOOL WOULD NOT ONLY BE FOR CHILDREN FROM LANTAU, BUT THOSE FROM OTHER ISLANDS SUCH AS PENG CHAU AND CHEUNG CHAU.

+WHEN COMPLETED, CHILDREN FROM LANTAU AND THE OTHER NEARBY ISLANDS WILL NOT HAVE TO MAKE THE LONG JOURNEY TO HONG KONG ISLAND EVERY DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL,+ HE SAID.

MR. TODD ADDED THAT DETAILED PLANS FOR THE SCHOOL WERE BEING DRAWN UP AND THAT WORK ON THE PROJECT WOULD BEGIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

MR. TODD ALSO TOLD THE DELEGATION THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED TO INCREASE THE KUK'S ANNUAL SUBVENTION TO \$198,000.

HE CONGRATULATED ALL THE LEADERS ON THEIR SUCCESS IN THE KUK'S RECENT ELECTION AND SAID THAT THE ADMINISTRATION LOOKED FORWARD TO CONTINUING FRUITFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE KUK ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE OFFICIAL INAUGURATION OF THE 23RD TERM OF THE KUK WILL BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL ON AUGUST 31 AND WILL BE PRESIDED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE.

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DIRECTOR OF AUDIT GIVEN RIGHT OF ACCESS TO SCHOOL ACCOUNTS
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THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT HAS BEEN GIVEN THE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS RECEIVING GOVERNMENT FUNDS UNDER THE TERMS OF THE CODES OF AID.

THIS FOLLOWS AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODES MADE BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY.

THE AMENDMENT, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, IS EXPLAINED IN AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR ISSUED TO THE SUPERVISORS AND/OR HEADS OF ALL AIDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

THE AMENDMENT ALSO GIVES THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT THE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS OF ANY SCHOOL SPONSORING BODY DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH THE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY OR SPECIAL FUNDS ESTABLISHED FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DERIVED FROM SCHOOL INCOME OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT GRANTS.

IN ADDITION, THE STAFF OF A SCHOOL OR A SPONSORING BODY WILL BE OBLIGED TO EXPLAIN TO THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT ANY MATTER RELATING TO THE RECEIPT, EXPENDITURE OR CUSTODY OF MONEY FOR WHICH A SCHOOL OR ITS SPONSORING BODY OR BOTH ARE ACCOUNTABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE CODES OF AID WERE BEING REVIEWED GENERALLY. FURTHER AMENDMENTS WOULD BE MADE IF NECESSARY.

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PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE
OUT INSURANCE
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OWNERS OF PLEASURE CRAFT WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE OUT THIRD PARTY INSURANCE COVERING DEATH AND PERSONAL INJURY WHEN A BILL PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY BECOMES LAW.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1978, WHICH IS TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY, WILL REQUIRE OWNERS TO TAKE OUT THIRD PARTY INSURANCE COVERING LIABILITY UP TO \$600,000.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID INCREASING MARINE TRAFFIC IN HONG KONG WATERS HAD GIVEN RISE TO AN INCREASING NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING MECHANISED LOCAL CRAFT AND IT HAD BECOME DESIRABLE THEREFORE TO REQUIRE LOCAL CRAFT TO BE COVERED BY THIRD PARTY INSURANCE.

HE SAID ATTENTION WAS AT FIRST BEING CONCENTRATED ON PLEASURE VESSELS BECAUSE STATISTICS SHOWED THEY WERE MORE LIKELY TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS THAN VESSELS IN OTHER GROUPS.

+THE PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE COMPULSORY THIRD PARTY INSURANCE FOR PLEASURE VESSELS ORIGINATED FROM A RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOATING AND YACHTING,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID A VALID THIRD PARTY INSURANCE POLICY WILL HAVE TO BE PRODUCED WHEN APPLYING FOR A NEW LICENCE OR WHEN RENEWING A LICENCE. HE ADDED THAT ADEQUATE NOTICE WOULD BE GIVEN BEFORE THE REQUIREMENT COMES INTO EFFECT.

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LOANS AVAILABLE FOR NEEDY STUDENTS
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TWO WELL-ESTABLISHED STUDENT LOAN FUNDS ARE BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO NEEDY STUDENTS TO COMPLETE COURSES OF STUDY IN 1978-9.

THEY ARE THE HONG KONG ROTARY CLUB STUDENTS' LOAN FUND AND THE STANDARD/SING TAO FAT CHOY DRIVE STUDENTS' LOAN FUND.

THE HONG KONG ROTARY CLUB FUND PROVIDES INTEREST-FREE LOANS OF UP TO \$1,400 A YEAR FOR STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

THE STANDARD/SING TAO FUND PROVIDES INTEREST-FREE LOANS FOR STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

MAXIMUM LOANS VARY FROM \$1,400 A YEAR FOR A POST-SECONDARY STUDENT TO \$1,000 A YEAR FOR A SECONDARY STUDENT. PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO APPLICANTS NEARING THE END OF THEIR STUDIES.

ALL THE LOANS ARE MADE ON A YEARLY BASIS. SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN AN UNDERTAKING TO REPAY THEIR LOANS BY INSTALMENTS OF AT LEAST 10 PER CENT OF THEIR MONTHLY SALARY FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES.

THE LOANS ARE THEN PAID INTO STUDENTS' CURRENT OR SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS.

APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE ARE CONSIDERED BY A JOINT COMMITTEE FOR BOTH FUNDS. APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SUB-OFFICE, 15TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG. COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SUB-OFFICE BY AUGUST 1.

APPLICANTS WHO INTEND TO ENTER OR ARE ALREADY ATTENDING THE TWO LOCAL UNIVERSITIES OR THE POLYTECHNIC SHOULD APPLY TO THE DEAN OF STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STUDENTS' AFFAIRS AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG OR THE STUDENT WELFARE OFFICER AT THE POLYTECHNIC. COMPLETED APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE RESPECTIVE INSTITUTIONS BEFORE OCTOBER 18.

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BILL TO AMEND MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY
(LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE
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A BILL TO AMEND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE WAS GAZETTED TODAY AND WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE BILL CONTAINS THREE AMENDMENTS. THE FIRST OF WHICH WAS TO ALLOW PROPERTY OWNERS AFFECTED BY THE EXTENSION OF THE RAILWAY TO TSUEN WAN TO SEEK COMPENSATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE.

THE SECOND AMENDMENT, HE SAID, ALLOWS MORE TIME FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND NEGOTIATION OF CLAIMS FOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE WHICH OFTEN INVOLVE TECHNICAL COMPLICATIONS. HOWEVER, HE STRESSED, THIS AMENDMENT IN NO WAY ALTERED EXISTING PROCEDURES WHEREBY THE CLAIMANT RETAINED HIS RIGHT TO REFER HIS CLAIM DIRECTLY TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL, SHOULD HE SO DESIRE.

THE THIRD AMENDMENT AUTHORIZES THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, TO APPOINT EXPERTS NOT READILY AVAILABLE IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE, TO ASSIST IN THE ASSESSMENT OF CLAIMS.

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RECLAMATION PROPOSED AT JOSS HOUSE BAY
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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO RECLAIM ABOUT 4.8 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED AND TO BUILD A PIER AT JOSS HOUSE BAY TO IMPROVE LANDING FACILITIES THERE.

THE PROPOSED WORK WILL ALSO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION AREA FOR THE LARGE CROWDS ATTENDING THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED INVOLVED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

ANYONE WHO HAS OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH OBJECTIONS IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN TWO MONTHS FROM TODAY.

THE NOTICE, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN SHOWING THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED INVOLVED MAY ALSO BE SEEN AT THE PORT WORKS DIVISION, FIRST FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG= THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING OR THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, SAN PO KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, FIRST FLOOR, 692 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

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PAK SHA WAN SEA BED FOR LEASE

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO GRANT A LEASE OF ABOUT 1,124 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES AT PAK SHA WAN, SAI KUNG.

THIS AREA FORMS PART OF A TOTAL GRANT OF ABOUT 1,895 SQUARE METRES OF LAND WHICH WILL BE USED TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL CENTRE FOR THE AREA.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED INVOLVED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE PUBLISHED LAST FRIDAY (JUNE 16).

ANYONE WHO HAS OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH OBJECTIONS IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN A PERIOD OF TWO MONTHS, FROM THE DATE OF THE NOTICE.

THE NOTICE (IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE) WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN SHOWING THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED INVOLVED MAY ALSO BE SEEN AT THE PORT WORKS DIVISION, FIRST FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG OR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, OR THE DISTRICT OFFICE SAI KUNG, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 692 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, 1ST FLOOR, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1978

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GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH +SAFETY IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS+ CAMPAIGN
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A PRESS CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH THE +SAFETY IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS+ CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY (JUNE 26) AT 3 P.M. IN THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONFIELD HOUSE.

OFFICIATING AT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE MR. CHAM SIU-LEUN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SAFETY IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WILL BE THE CHAIRMEN OF THE VARIOUS WORKING PARTIES, INCLUDING MR. ALAN PYRKE, SENIOR SURVEYOR OF SHIPS, MARINE DEPARTMENT, ON CANOEING AND ROWING= MR. JOHN FORTUNE, CHIEF STAFF OFFICER, CIVIL AID SERVICES, ON UNDERWATER DIVING= MR. JACK TUCKER, PRINCIPAL, OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL, ON MOUNTAINEERING= MR. WONG HING-WAH, PRESIDENT, ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, ON CYCLING= MR. NIGEL FRENCH, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, HOME AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION BRANCH, ON SKATEBOARDING= AND MR. HOWARD YOUNG, URBAN COUNCILLOR, ON CAMPING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH THE +SAFETY IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS+ CAMPAIGN ON MONDAY, (JUNE 26) AT 3 P.M. IN THE GIS THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONFIELD HOUSE.

TELEVISION CREWS ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE EARLY TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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RTHK SPECIAL ON THE SCREEN
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RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG HAS PRODUCED A SPECIAL TELEVISION PROGRAMME DEPICTING THE DEVELOPMENTS OF RTHK IN THE PAST 50 YEARS.

THE HALF-HOURLY CHINESE PROGRAMME WILL BE SCREENED ON RTV-1 AT 6 P.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AND ON TVB-JADE AT 7 P.M. ON SUNDAY.

THE PROGRAMME RECORDS THE MAJOR EVENTS OF RTHK FROM THE DAY IT STARTED RADIO BROADCAST ON JUNE 28, 1928. AMONG THE EVENTS THAT WILL BE RE-CONSTRUCTED ON THE SCREEN WILL BE ITS CHARITABLE FUND-RAISING SHOWS, AND THE ROUND-THE-CLOCK BROADCAST DURING THE PASSAGE OF A TYPHOON.

EXISTING STAFF OF RTHK WILL ALSO APPEAR IN THE PROGRAMME.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1978

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PRECAUTIONS AGAINST TROPICAL CYCLONES

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THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR. JOHN PEACOCK SAID TODAY THAT IT IS TIME NOW TO TAKE SOME PRELIMINARY PRECAUTIONS TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE READY TO MINIMIZE THE DANGERS AND FINANCIAL LOSSES CAUSED BY HIGH WINDS, LANDSLIPS AND FLOODING DUE TO TROPICAL CYCLONES.

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS IS THE KEYNOTE FOR MINIMIZING THE DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, INJURIES AND LOSS OF LIFE WHICH CAN RESULT FROM THESE STORMS.

THOSE WHO HAVE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES DURING STORMS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR INSTRUCTIONS, INCLUDING RELEVANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS, ARE UP-TO-DATE. GUTTERS AND DRAINS SHOULD BE CLEARED AND CHECKED FOR DAMAGE. WINDOWS AND DOOR FASTENINGS SHOULD BE CHECKED AND, IF NECESSARY, REPAIRED. OWNERS OF SMALL CRAFT SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR MOORINGS ARE IN GOOD CONDITION.

ON THE HOISTING OF A NUMBER 8 TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNAL OR DURING PERIODS OF PROLONGED HEAVY RAIN, TEMPORARY REFUGE CENTRES WILL BE OPENED FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES TEMPORARILY FOR SAFETY REASONS.

ANYONE IN ANY DOUBT AS TO WHERE TO GO SHOULD CONTACT THE NEAREST CITY DISTRICT OFFICE OR POLICE STATION.

CARDS AND LEAFLETS EXPLAINING THE TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICES.

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION RETIRING

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MR. W.P. MCFADZEAN, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, WILL RETIRE FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE SHORTLY AFTER SERVING IN THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT FOR 18 YEARS.

HE WILL PROCEED ON PRE-RETIREMENT LEAVE FROM MONDAY (JUNE 26).

MR. MCFADZEAN FIRST JOINED THE GOVERNMENT AS A RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR IN 1960. HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR IN 1968, TO PRINCIPAL RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR IN 1971 AND TO HIS PRESENT POST IN 1973.

AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY TODAY, THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, MR. C.M. STEWARD PRESENTED TO MR. MCFADZEAN A PAIR OF IVORY HORSES AS A FAREWELL GIFT ON BEHALF OF HIS COLLEAGUES.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1978

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FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 19 DAYS NEXT MONTH (JULY).

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
JULY 5 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
JULY 6 (THURSDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
JULY 7 (FRIDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
JULY 10 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 11 (TUESDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.
JULY 12 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 13 (THURSDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.
JULY 14 (FRIDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
JULY 17 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
JULY 18 (TUESDAY)	9 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.
JULY 19 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 20 (THURSDAY)	9 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.
JULY 21 (FRIDAY)	9 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 24 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
JULY 25 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.
JULY 26 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.
JULY 27 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
JULY 28 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 5.30 P.M.
JULY 31 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 6 P.M.

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