



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

GOVT INVITES PUBLIC TO TAKE PART IN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS	1
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JULY 1981	2
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION WELL KNOWN IN TSUEN WAN	5
NEW GAMES HALL FOR KWAI CHUNG	5
AGREEMENT TO SELL UNESCO BOOKS	6
WEEKDAY CAMPS FOR SPECIAL SCHOOL STUDENTS	7
HOPES FOR LOCAL GUIDING ASSOCIATION IN SAI KUNG	8
SQUASH COURTS TO OPEN IN FANLING	9
YAU MA TEI CAR PARK TO BE EXTENDED	9
LASER SHOW TO CELEBRATE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL	10
OFFICIAL OPENING OF SWD'S KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE	11
KMB ROUTE 5A TO PASS THROUGH TSIM SHA TSUI EAST	11

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

- 1 -

GOVT INVITES PUBLIC TO TAKE PART IN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS

THE GOVERNMENT'S INVITATION TO THE PUBLIC TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN THE WORK OF THEIR DISTRICT BOARDS WILL BE OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED ON TUESDAY (SEPTEMBER 1).

REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS FOR DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND THE URBAN AREA AND FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 12.

ALL THAT IS REQUIRED OF ANYONE TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION IS TO FILL IN A FEW PERSONAL DETAILS IN AN APPLICATION FORM AND HAVE IT RETURNED TO THE REGISTRATION OFFICER BY PRE-PAID POST OR BY HANDING IT IN AT THE DISTRICT OFFICES.

ANYONE WHO IS OVER 21 AND HOLDS AN ID CARD AND WHO IS EITHER A HONG KONG BELONGER OR HAS BEEN ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN HONG KONG FOR SEVEN YEARS IS QUALIFIED TO APPLY. HOWEVER THERE IS NO NEED FOR EXISTING URBAN COUNCIL ELECTORS TO APPLY AS THEY WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED.

THE REGISTRATION FORM, AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH OR CHINESE, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT OVER 500 PLACES. BESIDES NT DISTRICT OFFICES, CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND POST OFFICES, THE FORMS WILL BE OBTAINABLE AT ALL MTR STATIONS AS WELL AS BRANCH OFFICES OF THE HK AND SHANGHAI BANK, CHARTERED BANK AND HANG SENG BANK.

A LARGE NUMBER OF COMMUNITY ORGANISERS, SPECIALLY RECRUITED FOR THE JOB, WILL ALSO BE GOING OUT TO VILLAGES, PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND OTHER PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES TO DISTRIBUTE FORMS AND TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC ON COMPLETING THEM.

DIRECT TELEPHONE LINES (NOS. 5-270380 AND 5-270369) WILL ALSO BE OPERATED TO ANSWER QUERIES ON THE APPLICATION FORM AND ON REGISTRATION MATTERS.

FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF REGISTRATION, A PROVISIONAL REGISTER WILL BE COMPILED AND PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER. EVEN THEN, HOWEVER, APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION WILL STILL BE CONSIDERED THOUGH THIS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE IN PERSON TO THE REGISTRATION OFFICER TO BEAT THE DEADLINE FOR THE FINAL REGISTER.

ONLY THOSE PEOPLE WHOSE NAMES ARE ON THIS FINAL REGISTER WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE NT DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN MARCH NEXT YEAR. EACH PERSON ON THIS REGISTER WILL BE SENT A POLLING CARD ADVISING HIM AT WHICH POLLING STATION HE SHOULD CAST HIS VOTE.

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/2

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

- 2 -

PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JULY 1981

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY PUBLISHED THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE IN JULY 1981. THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR JULY WAS \$10 744 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$7 362 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$3 382 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT \$12 314 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR JULY WAS \$1 570 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH JULY 1980, THERE WERE THE FOLLOWING INCREASES BY VALUE: \$1 275 MILLION OR 20.9 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$959 MILLION OR 39.6 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, \$2 233 MILLION OR 26.2 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND \$3 121 MILLION OR 33.9 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS.

THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WAS 12.7 PER CENT IN JULY THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 7.4 PER CENT IN JULY 1980.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DOMESTIC EXPORT SECTOR IN JULY WAS REMARKABLE. AS THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAVE INCREASED ONLY MODERATELY SINCE OCTOBER 1980, THE GROWTH RATE IN MONEY TERMS AT 21 PER CENT OVER JULY 1980 IMPLIES THAT THE GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS WAS PROBABLY GREATER THAN 10 PER CENT. BUT HE CAUTIONED THAT TOO MUCH SHOULD NOT BE READ INTO ONE MONTH'S FIGURES.

CONCERNING THE RAPID GROWTH IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN JULY THIS YEAR (33.9 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH JULY 1980), THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THIS WAS PARTLY A REFLECTION OF THE CONTINUING RAPID GROWTH IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS (UP BY 39.6 PER CENT, FOR JULY THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH JULY 1980).

BUT, HE ADDED, THE FACT THAT THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS GROWING FASTER THAN THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS SUGGESTED THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC DEMAND HAD PROBABLY BEEN SUBSTANTIAL.

PUTTING THE MONTH'S FIGURE INTO CONTEXT, THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT COMPARING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1981 WITH THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1980, THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS, AT 27.5 PER CENT, WAS FASTER THAN THE GROWTH RATE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT 24.6 PER CENT.

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AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WIDENED FROM 13.5 PER CENT IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1980 TO 15.5 PER CENT IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1981.

FOLLOWING ARE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR JULY RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

MERCHANDISE :	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$	7 362 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$	3 382 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$	10 744 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	\$	12 314 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$	1 570 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	<u>MAY-JULY 1981</u>	<u>MAY-JULY 1980</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21 063	18 109	+ 2 954	+16.3
RE-EXPORTS	10 067	7 320	+ 2 748	+37.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	31 130	25 429	+ 5 701	+22.4
IMPORTS	35 466	27 404	+ 8 062	+29.4
TRADE BALANCE	- 4 336	- 1 975	- 2 361	

<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	<u>JULY 1981</u>	<u>JULY 1980</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7 362 (68.5%)	6 087 (71.5%)	+ 1 275	+20.9
RE-EXPORTS	3 382	2 423	+ 959	+39.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	10 744	8 510	+ 2 233	+26.2
IMPORTS	12 314	9 193	+ 3 121	+33.9
TRADE BALANCE	- 1 570	- 683	- 887	

- 4 -

<u>LAST MONTH</u>	JULY 1981	JUNE 1981	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7 362 (68.5%)	6 831 (67.7%)	+ 531	+ 7.8
RE-EXPORTS	3 382	3 266	+ 116	+ 3.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	10 744	10 097	+ 647	+ 6.4
IMPORTS	12 314	11 441	+ 873	+ 7.6
TRADE BALANCE	- 1 570	- 1 344	- 226	

<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE</u>	JANUARY-JULY 1981	JANUARY-JULY 1980	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	42 966 (65.2%)	37 201 (70.4%)	+ 5 765	+15.5
RE-EXPORTS	22 918	15 656	+ 7 261	+46.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	65 884	52 858	+ 13 026	+24.6
IMPORTS	77 934	61 130	+ 16 804	+27.5
TRADE BALANCE	-12 050	- 8 272	- 3 778	

<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	AUGUST 1980 TO JULY 1981	AUGUST 1979 TO JULY 1980	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	73 936	64 537	+ 9 399	+14.6
RE-EXPORTS	37 333	24 830	+ 12 504	+50.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	111 269	89 366	+ 21 903	+24.5
IMPORTS	128 454	100 914	+ 27 540	+27.3
TRADE BALANCE	-17 185	-11 548	- 5 637	

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION WELL KNOWN IN TSUEN WAN

ABOUT SIX OUT OF 10 TSUEN WAN RESIDENTS ARE AWARE OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, ACCORDING TO A SURVEY CONDUCTED RECENTLY.

AND MORE THAN 20 PER CENT OF THOSE WHO KNOW OF THE SCHEME SAY THEY WILL REGISTER AS VOTERS FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS. REGISTRATION STARTS ON TUESDAY (SEPTEMBER 1) AND CONTINUES UNTIL OCTOBER 12.

THE SURVEY WAS THE LAST OF THREE CONDUCTED BY TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE TO FIND OUT RESIDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND DISTRICT BOARDS.

ABOUT 2 000 RESIDENTS WERE INTERVIEWED, OF WHOM 1 183 (OR 59 PER CENT) SAID THEY KNEW OF THE SCHEME.

OF THESE, 864 (OR 73 PER CENT) SAID THEY BELIEVED THE SCHEME COULD HELP IMPROVE THEIR LIVING ENVIRONMENT= 842 (OR 71 PER CENT) AGREED DISTRICT BOARDS COULD REFLECT PUBLIC OPINION= AND 259 (OR 22 PER CENT) SAID THEY WOULD REGISTER AS VOTERS.

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE LATEST SURVEY WAS ON A LARGER SCALE AND WAS MORE COMPREHENSIVE.

+DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION IS STILL A RELATIVELY NEW CONCEPT BUT THE RESPONSE SO FAR, AS SHOWN FROM THE SURVEY, IS QUITE PROMISING.

+OF COURSE IT TAKES TIME TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC,+ HE SAID.

SURVEYS CONDUCTED IN MAY AND JUNE WHEN A TOTAL OF 1 200 RESIDENTS WERE INTERVIEWED SHOWED THAT ABOUT 40 TO 60 PER CENT OF TSUEN WAN PEOPLE WERE AWARE OF THE SCHEME.

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NEW GAMES HALL FOR KWAI CHUNG

ANOTHER INDOOR GAMES HALL WILL SHORTLY BE BUILT AT KWAI CHUNG TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL VENUE FOR RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AREA.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SITE FORMATION AND PILING WORKS FOR THE PROJECT.

A PWD SPOKESMAN SAID THE HALL, TO BE BUILT ON A 2 800-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT WO HOP ROAD, WOULD HAVE A GAMES AREA MEASURING 36 METRES BY 36 METRES, THREE SQUASH COURTS, TWO GAMES ROOMS, A SPECTATOR STAND AND CHANGING FACILITIES.

WORK ON THE SITE FORMATION AND PILING WILL BEGIN IN OCTOBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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AGREEMENT TO SELL UNESCO BOOKS

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THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES HAS ENTERED INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH UNESCO (UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANISATION) FOR THE SALE OF ITS PUBLICATIONS IN HONG KONG.

UNESCO PRODUCES PUBLICATIONS ON SUBJECTS WHICH INCLUDE ART, EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE, COMMUNICATION, DOCUMENTATION, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS ARE ALSO PUBLISHED ON MATTERS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO UNESCO SUCH AS: THE RIGHTS OF MAN, PEACE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, POPULATION CONTROL, STIMULATION OF ARTISTIC AND INTELLECTUAL CREATIVITY, SCIENCE CO-OPERATION, BROADENING THE ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND INFORMATION, PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND IMPROVED KNOWLEDGE OF MAN'S PLACE IN THE BIOSPHERE.

A SELECTION OF UNESCO PUBLICATIONS IS PRESENTLY ON DISPLAY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AND CATALOGUES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. ORDERS CAN BE PLACED AT THE CENTRE, AND ALSO AT THE HEAD OFFICE OF THE GIS PUBLISHING SUB-DIVISION IN BASKERVILLE HOUSE, SECOND FLOOR, 22 ICE HOUSE STREET.

A GIS SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW AGREEMENT REFLECTED A DESIRE TO PROVIDE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WITH ACCESS TO INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS OF A SIGNIFICANT NATURE.

+WE ALREADY HAVE AGREEMENTS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS LIKE WHO (WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION) AND OECD (ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT), HMSO (HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE) IN LONDON AND THE UNIVERSAL MEDIA CORPORATION IN TOKYO FOR THE SALE OF THEIR PUBLICATIONS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+OUR AGREEMENT WITH UNESCO WILL ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO OBTAIN MANY NEW PUBLICATIONS NOT AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG UNTIL NOW.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PUBLISHING SUB-DIVISION OF GIS HAVE EXPANDED GREATLY IN RECENT YEARS.

+THIS FAST GROWTH IN DEMAND FOR EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATIONS SERVICES CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO MANY FACTORS,+ HE SAID.

+INCREASED DEMAND FROM THE PUBLIC FOR A VARIETY OF PRINTED MATERIALS, EXPANSION OF SALES OUTLETS FOR GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS, AND THE SUCCESSFUL INTRODUCTION OF NEW TITLES ARE AMONG THE MANY FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS EXPANSION.+

REVENUE FROM THE SALE OF GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS HAS RISEN FROM ABOUT \$4.3 MILLION IN 1976 TO MORE THAN \$10.4 MILLION IN 1981.

THIS INCREASE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, REFLECTED KEENER PUBLIC INTEREST IN FINDING OUT ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE WIDE RANGE OF PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOOKS OF GENERAL INTEREST ALSO PROVES A SUCCESSFUL VENTURE. THESE ARE ON SUBJECTS SUCH AS HONG KONG'S ANIMALS, BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, TEMPLES, THE STORY OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE AND RURAL ARCHITECTURE.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

- 7 -

WEEKDAY CAMPS FOR SPECIAL SCHOOL STUDENTS

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STUDENTS OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE USE OF EIGHT CAMPSITES ON WEEKDAYS BETWEEN NOW AND JANUARY 1982 FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMPS.

+THE CAMPS WILL PROVIDE SPECIAL SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH EXPERIENCE OF LIVING IN A NATURAL OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTEGRATION OF SCHOOL SUBJECTS UNDER CAMPING SITUATIONS,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE CAMPSITES ARE GAUDETE HOUSE, WU KAI SHA, SILVERMINE BAY, Y.W.C.A. CAMP, PAK TAM CHUNG, MA WAN, SUEN DOUH AND PHAB CENTRE.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

CHARGES WILL RANGE FROM \$26 TO \$65 PER CAMPER, AND SUBSIDY FROM THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET 60 PER CENT OF THE FEES FOR CAMPERS AND THE TOTAL FEES FOR APPROVED ACCOMPANYING STAFF, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ALL CAMPS ARE OF THREE DAYS' DURATION, LASTING EITHER FROM MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY OR FROM WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY.

IN THE MORNING, ADAPTED SCHOOL LESSONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE ACCOMPANYING TEACHERS, AND THERE WILL BE EXCURSIONS, EDUCATIONAL VISITS, BALL GAMES AND SWIMMING IN THE AFTERNOON.

FOLK DANCING, RECREATIONAL GAMES, CAMP FIRES AND FILM SHOWS WILL BE ORGANISED IN THE EVENING.

HOWEVER, NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND ANY CAMP WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THEIR PARENTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

BUNKS, BLANKETS, BED SHEETS AND PILLOWS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE CAMPS.

CAMPERS SHOULD BRING SUITABLE CLOTHING, PERSONAL HYGIENE KITS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION KITS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MISS CHAU SAU-LING OF THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION ON 3-884111 EXT. 278.

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/8

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

- 8 -

HOPES FOR LOCAL GUIDING ASSOCIATION IN SAI KUNG

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IT IS HOPED TO FORM A DISTRICT LOCAL ASSOCIATION TO FURTHER GUIDING IN SAI KUNG, THE DEPUTY CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, MRS JANE AKERS-JONES SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

MRS AKERS-JONES WAS SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING OF THE SAI KUNG AND HANG HAU SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME.

AT PRESENT THERE ARE FOUR GUIDE UNITS WHICH ARE SUPPORTED BY THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD AND TWO OTHER UNITS IN SAI KUNG.

+HOWEVER WE ARE HOPING TO FORM A DISTRICT LOCAL ASSOCIATION HERE TO GIVE A WIDER-BASED SUPPORT TO FURTHERING GUIDING IN THIS AREA,+ SHE SAID.

+FROM ONE LOCAL ASSOCIATION ON HONG KONG ISLAND WE WILL NOW HAVE FIVE- FROM TWO LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS IN KOWLOON THERE WILL SOON BE SEVEN- AND TO THE FIVE DISTRICT LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS ALREADY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE ADDED THREE MORE.

+WE VERY MUCH HOPE THAT BEFORE LONG THERE WILL BE ANOTHER ONE FORMED SOON IN THIS DISTRICT TO TAKE A CLOSE INTEREST IN YOUR OWN LOCAL GUIDES.

+THROUGHOUT HONG KONG THERE ARE NOW 18 000 GIRL GUIDES AND WE HOPE THAT WITHIN FIVE YEARS GUIDING WILL BE ENJOYED BY 50 000 GIRLS,+ MRS AKERS-JONES SAID.

THE SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME STARTED ON JULY 19, SINCE WHEN, WITH THE HELP OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS, MORE THAN 70 ACTIVITIES HAVE TAKEN PLACE. THIS YEAR, OVER 7 000 YOUNG PEOPLE TOOK PART IN TRAINING CAMPS, SPORTS COMPETITIONS, GAMES AND VISITS.

THE CLOSING CEREMONY WAS FOLLOWED BY A FUN FAIR ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION (EAST KOWLOON REGION), ATTENDED BY 5 000 CHILDREN.

ALSO ATTENDING THE CEREMONY WERE MR LEE YUN-SAU, JP- MR JOSEPH KONG, JP- THE REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (EAST KOWLOON), MR ALEXANDER FUNG- THE CHAIRMAN OF SAI KUNG RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHUNG PUN- THE CHAIRMAN OF HANG HAU RURAL COMMITTEE, MR YAU KEI- THE CHAIRMAN OF SAI KUNG AND HANG HAU DISTRICT YOUTH RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, REV FR N. RUGGIERO- AND THE ACTING DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS RITA LAU.

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/9

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

- 9 -

SQUASH COURTS TO OPEN IN FANLING

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SQUASH PLAYERS WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE FIRST AIR-CONDITIONED COURTS WHEN THEY OPEN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

COSTING MORE THAN \$1.1 MILLION AND FUNDED BY A COMMUNITY LEADER, THE SQUASH COURTS ARE LOCATED NEXT TO THE FANLING SWIMMING POOL AND RECREATION GROUND IN TAI PO ROAD, FANLING.

THE TWO 62-SQUARE-METRE COURTS ARE OF LIGHT MAPLE FLOORING, WITH REAR GLASS WALL IN ONE OF THE COURTS TO FACILITATE COACHING AND VIEWING, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

+THERE ARE OTHER FACILITIES SUCH AS SPECTATOR GALLERY, CHANGING ROOMS AND LOCKERS FOR PLAYERS' USE,+ HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, ONE OF THE TWO SQUASH COURTS AT KWAI SHING WILL BE CLOSED FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO OCTOBER 31 TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORK, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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YAU MA TEI CAR PARK TO BE EXTENDED

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STAGE II OF A MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK IN YAU MA TEI.

A SPOKESMAN SAID THE PROJECT INVOLVED A 12-STOREY EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING CAR PARK.

IT WILL INCLUDE EIGHT FLOORS FOR CAR PARKS, PROVIDING A TOTAL OF 400 PARKING SPACES, AND THE GROUND AND MEZZANINE AND THE NINTH AND TENTH FLOORS FOR OFFICES, WITH A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 6 500 SQUARE METRES.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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/10

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

- 10 -

LASER SHOW TO CELEBRATE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

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THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL BE ABLE TO SEE AND EXPERIENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME AN OUTDOOR LASER SHOW ON SEPTEMBER 12, 13 AND 14 AT SHA TIN RACECOURSE.

AS PART OF AN ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME PRESENTED TO CELEBRATE THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL, THE LASER LIGHTS WILL GIVE A SPECTACULAR PERFORMANCE UTILISING THE SKY, THE SURROUNDING HILLS, SCREENS AND MIRRORS.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE EVENING'S PROGRAMME WILL BE 230 GIRLS FROM SIX SCHOOLS WHO WILL PRESENT A LANTERN DANCE DEPICTING THE HAPPY ATMOSPHERE OF THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL.

THE PROGRAMME ALSO FEATURES A MASSED LION DANCE, MILITARY BAND MUSIC AND A VARIETY SHOW WITH FAMOUS TV ARTISTES, PRODUCED BY HKTVB.

TICKETS FOR THE FESTIVAL PRICED AT \$5 EACH, ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT 20 ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRES, ALL BRANCHES OF TOM LEE PIANO COMPANY LIMITED AND ALL TV WEEK CONSUMER SERVICE CENTRES AT MTR STATIONS.

A LIMITED NUMBER OF PARKING PERMITS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT A COST OF \$20 EACH FROM THE OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRES AT THE STAR FERRY- AUSTIN ROAD, KOWLOON- AND TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY ON THE FIRST EVENING.

IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL SERVICES, FIVE SOUTHBOUND AND SIX NORTHBOUND SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICES WILL BE ARRANGED BEFORE AND AFTER THE EVENT. EXTRA BUS ROUTES, NUMBERED 870M, 872 AND 888 WILL ALSO PROVIDE SERVICES TO THE AUDIENCE BEFORE AND AFTER THE EVENT.

THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL AT SHA TIN RACECOURSE IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, THE ARMED FORCES, THE NEW TERRITORIES HEUNG YEE KUK AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.

THE EVENT WILL COST A TOTAL OF \$850 000 TO STAGE, OF WHICH \$150 000 IS BEING DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND \$400 000 BY PRIVATE DONATIONS.

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/11

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 , 1981

- 11 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

OFFICIAL OPENING OF SWD'S KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, WILL ON TUESDAY (SEPTEMBER 1) OFFICIALLY OPEN THE NEW PREMISES FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND SOME OF ITS SERVICE UNITS.

THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICE IS ACCOMMODATED ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF HIU KWONG COURT, 26-38, HIU KWONG STREET, SAU MAU PING, KOWLOON.

ALSO ACCOMMODATED IN THE SAME BUILDING ARE SUPPORTING UNITS FOR KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE -- THE FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE, THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT, THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE AND THE REHABILITATION OFFICE.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 3 PM ON TUESDAY ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF HIU KWONG COURT, 26-38, HIU KWONG STREET, SAU MAU PING, KOWLOON.

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KMB ROUTE 5A TO PASS THROUGH TSIM SHA TSUI EAST
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KMB ROUTE 5A BETWEEN SHING TAK STREET, KOWLOON CITY, AND STAR FERRY WILL BE ROUTED TO OPERATE VIA SALISBURY ROAD EXTENSION FROM TUESDAY (SEPTEMBER 1) TO COPE WITH THE NEW DEVELOPMENT IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

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