



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
REPORT OF MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY INTO COLLISION OF HYDROFOIL AND FERRY	1
HK-EEC TEXTILE DEAL +COULD HAVE BEEN A LOT WORSE+	4
WARMEST DECEMBER IN TEN YEARS	5
STAMPS TO MARK YEAR OF THE HORSE ON SALE SOON	5
BUSIEST CHRISTMAS FOR POST OFFICE	7
WARNING AGAINST BOGUS LABOUR OFFICER	7
SECRETARY FOR HOUSING TO OPEN NURSERY AT OI MAN ESTATE ...	8
AUTHOR TO AUTOGRAPH COPIES OF NEW BOOK	9

REPORT OF MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY INTO
COLLISION OF HYDROFOIL AND FERRY

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SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS ARE MADE IN THE REPORT OF THE MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY INTO THE COLLISION BETWEEN THE FERRY +MAN TACK+ AND THE HYDROFOIL +FLYING ALBATROSS+ WHICH OCCURRED OFF HEI LING CHAU IN THICK FOG ON MARCH 2 LAST YEAR.

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS +PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE TYPE OF VESSEL CONCERNED IN THIS COLLISION+ INCLUDE:

- (I) ALL HYDROFOILS OPERATING OUT OF HONG KONG SHOULD BE FITTED - AND RETRO-FITTED WHERE NECESSARY - WITH A COMPASS STABILISED RADAR=
- (II) ALL MASTERS AND DECK OFFICERS IN HYDROFOILS OPERATING OUT OF HONG KONG SHOULD HOLD A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE AT A RADAR SIMULATOR COURSE=
- (III) THE RADAR SET PRESENTLY FITTED ON +FLYING ALBATROSS+ SHOULD BE RE-SITED=
- (IV) CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO FITTING HEAD-SETS AT THE MASTER'S, CHIEF ENGINEER'S AND CHIEF OFFICER'S POSITIONS= AND
- (V) THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND OPERATORS OF HYDROFOILS SHOULD RE-EXAMINE THEIR SCHEDULES TO ALLOW A REASONABLE MID-DAY BREAK OF 30-45 MINUTES FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE CREW WITH PROPER FACILITIES FOR LUNCHEON PROVIDED, PENDING THE OUTCOME OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE EXAMINING ALL ASPECTS OF THE OPERATION OF DYNAMICALLY SUPPORTED CRAFT.

REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF THE +MAN TACK+ AND SIMILAR VESSELS, THE COURT LISTED TWO REQUIREMENTS : THE NECESSITY OF PROVIDING, AS FAR AS IS POSSIBLE, POSITIVE STABILITY AT ALL ANGLES OF HEEL RESULTING FROM THE FLOODING OF ANY TWO ADJACENT COMPARTMENTS= AND NO PASSENGER SHOULD BE CARRIED IN HOLDS, ALTHOUGH THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PASSENGERS NEED NOT BE REDUCED.

IT IS ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT NO BUOYANT APPARATUS SHOULD BE CARRIED ON THE SUN DECK ROOF OF THE +MAN TACK+ CLASS OF FERRIES AS DROPPING LIFE RAFTS FROM THE ROOF OF A THREE-DECK FERRY MIGHT KILL OR INJURE PERSONS ALREADY IN THE WATER ALONGSIDE.

FURTHER, THE SUPPORTS IN WHICH THE BUOYANT APPARATUS ON THE MAIN DECK REST SHOULD BE IMPROVED TO FACILITATE EASIER LAUNCHING PARTICULARLY WHEN THE VESSEL IS HEELING.

EACH MEMBER OF THE CREW OF THE +MAN TACK+ CLASS OF FERRIES SHOULD UNDERTAKE TRAINING IN THE BEST METHOD OF ASSISTING PASSENGERS TO LEAVE A SINKING VESSEL WITH EACH MEMBER OF THE CREW BEING ALLOCATED A SPECIFIC TASK IN THE EVENT OF A CASUALTY.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 2 -

THE REPORT SAYS THAT IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT, FOLLOWING THIS CASUALTY, CERTAIN PROPOSALS WERE MADE FOR SOME FORM OF MANDATORY TRAFFIC SEPARATION FOR OUTLYING ISLAND AND HONG KONG/MACAU FERRIES TO OPERATE ONLY AT THAT TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN POOR VISIBILITY WAS TO BE EXPECTED.

+IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THESE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE PUT BEFORE THE RELATIVE PORT COMMITTEES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION BEFORE THE NEXT SEASON DURING WHICH FOG IS NORMALLY TO BE EXPECTED,+ THE REPORT STATES.

THE COURT SAT FOR 13 DAYS LAST OCTOBER BEFORE JUDGE COLLIER, WHO WAS ASSISTED BY TWO MASTER MARINERS, CAPTAIN MAURICE BURBIDGE AND CAPTAIN PETER GRAY, AND A NAVAL ARCHITECT, DR. BRIAN BAXTER.

IT FOUND THAT THE COLLISION WAS CAUSED BY EXCESSIVE SPEED ON THE PART OF BOTH VESSELS IN FOG. NO FAULT IN DESIGN OF EITHER VESSEL CONTRIBUTED TO THE CASUALTY +SAVE THAT THE RADAR SET IN THE BRIDGE OF THE 'FLYING ALBATROSS' COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER SITED.+

THE COURT CENSURED THE MASTERS OF BOTH VESSELS.

A TOTAL OF 92 QUESTIONS WERE ASKED, OF WHICH 31 RELATED TO THE +MAN TACK+, 33 TO THE +FLYING ALBATROSS+ AND THE REMAINDER WERE GENERAL QUESTIONS.

A WOMAN OF 70 DIED AS A RESULT OF CATCHING PNEUMONIA CAUSED BY BEING IMMERSSED IN THE WATER AFTER THE +MAN TACK+ CAPSIZED.

IN A +RELATIVE ASSESSMENT OF BLAME FOR THE COLLISION+, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE +FLYING ALBATROSS+ MUST TAKE A GREATER SHARE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- * IT WAS AWARE, BY RADAR, OF THE PRESENCE OF ANOTHER VESSEL, BUT CONTINUED AT AN +IMMODERATE SPEED+ OF SOME 34 KNOTS ON THE FOILS=
- * +FLYING ALBATROSS+ HAD THE ADVANTAGE OF KNOWING OF THE PRESENCE OF ANOTHER VESSEL, BUT THERE WAS NOT A PROPER RADAR WATCH KEPT NOR WAS INTELLIGENT AND REASONABLE USE MADE OF SUCH REPORTS THAT THE RADAR WATCH PRODUCED= AND
- * +FLYING ALBATROSS+ DID NOT TAKE EARLY AND SUBSTANTIAL ACTION.

THE +FLYING ALBATROSS+ IS CRITICISED FOR EXCESSIVE SPEED IN REDUCED VISIBILITY DESPITE WARNING OF APPROACHING TARGETS ON RADAR= FOR INADEQUATE RADAR WATCHKEEPING= AND FOR LACK OF POSITIVE ACTION TO AVOID THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CLOSE QUARTER SITUATION.

/THE +MAN TACK+

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 3 -

THE +MAN TACK+ IS CRITICISED FOR NOT SLOWING DOWN OR STOPPING ENGINES OR NAVIGATING WITH CAUTION WHEN A FOG SIGNAL FROM ANOTHER VESSEL, THE +MAN TO+, WAS HEARD= FOR NOT MAKING SUFFICIENT FOG SIGNALS EARLY ENOUGH= AND FOR NOT MAKING ANY REDUCTION OF SPEED AFTER AVOIDING +MAN TO+.

THE MASTER OF THE +FLYING ALBATROSS+ IS CRITICISED FOR HIS +LACK OF DECISION+ IN THE FACE OF A RAPIDLY DEVELOPING CLOSE QUARTER SITUATION. +DESPITE THE INFORMATION THAT HIS DECK OFFICER RELAYED TO HIM HE STOOD ON AT AN UNREASONABLE SPEED INTO WHAT SHOULD HAVE SEEMED TO HIM A RISKY SITUATION,+ THE REPORT STATES.

+HE WAS CONTENT TO RELY ON HIS SUPPOSED ABILITY TO STOP HIS VESSEL IN HALF THE RANGE OF VISIBILITY, EVEN THOUGH THE ACTUAL RANGE OF VISIBILITY HAD NEVER BEEN ACCURATELY ESTABLISHED.+

THE REPORT SAYS: +THE COLLISION WAS CAUSED OR CONTRIBUTED TO BY EXCESSIVE SPEED OF 'MAN TACK' IN FOG AND EXCESSIVE SPEED OF 'FLYING ALBATROSS' IN FOG UNTIL OR SHORTLY BEFORE THE MOMENT OF SIGHTING 'MAN TACK'.+

IN CONCLUSION, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE COURT WAS NOT ASKED TO DEAL WITH THE CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY OF THE MASTERS OF EITHER VESSEL AND THE COURT +SEES NO REASON TO DO SO.+

IT GOES ON TO STATE: +HOWEVER, BOTH MASTERS SHOULD BE CENSURED FOR PROCEEDING AT EXCESSIVE SPEED IN FOG, THE WORD 'EXCESSIVE' BEING RELATIVE TO THE EQUIPMENT CARRIED ON EACH VESSEL.+

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/4.....

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 4 -

HK-EEC TEXTILE DEAL +COULD HAVE BEEN A LOT WORSE+
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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. DAVID JORDAN, SAID TODAY THAT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED TEXTILES AGREEMENT WITH THE EEC +IS A BAD AGREEMENT BUT THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN A LOT WORSE+.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON HOSTED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MR. JORDAN TOLD THE 400 GUESTS THAT HIS DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS WITH QUOTAS FOR 1978 ENABLING THEM TO SHIP AS MUCH AS THEY DID IN 1977 APART FROM A VERY FEW CATEGORIES.

IT WAS HONG KONG'S FUTURE POTENTIAL FOR TRADE THAT HAD BEEN REDUCED.

MR. JORDAN EXPLAINED THAT, BECAUSE 1977 WAS NOT A GOOD YEAR FOR HONG KONG'S TEXTILES EXPORTS TO THE COMMUNITY, THE IMMEDIATE EFFECT WOULD BE SMALL.

+BUT OUR EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE, IF AND WHEN DEMAND SHOULD REVIVE, HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY REDUCED.+

NONETHELESS, MR. JORDAN BELIEVED THAT THE MANY WEEKS OF TALKS IN BRUSSELS HAD NOT BEEN WASTED AS THE TERMS OF THE FINAL AGREEMENT WERE +A GOOD DEAL BETTER THAN WHAT THE COMMUNITY WAS ORIGINALLY SEEKING FROM US.+

HE SAID THAT THE EEC'S ORIGINAL DEMANDS INCLUDED RESTRAINTS ON FIBRES OTHER THAN COTTON, WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBRES, SUCH AS FLAX.

+THEY STARTED WITH ABOUT 140 CATEGORIES AND WE FINISHED UP WITH 41 CATEGORIES WITH SPECIFIC LIMITS AND NO OVERALL LIMIT AND WITH RESTRAINTS COVERING ONLY COTTON, WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBRE.+

MR. JORDAN POINTED OUT THAT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF CATEGORIES FROM THE PREVIOUS 24 TO 41 WILL REDUCE THE FLEXIBILITY OF MANUFACTURERS AND TRADERS. BUT EVEN SO HE SAID THIS STILL COMPARES QUITE FAVOURABLY WITH THE 37 LIMITS IN THE U.S. AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED IN JULY, +AND THAT AGREEMENT INCLUDES AN OVERALL LIMIT AND INDIVIDUAL GROUP LIMITS.+

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RESULTS OF THE EEC NEGOTIATIONS WAS THAT HONG KONG SECURED 'EXPORT CONTROL' OF QUOTAS, DESPITE THE COMMUNITY HAVING ORIGINALLY PRESENTED THE HONG KONG NEGOTIATING TEAM WITH WHAT AMOUNTED TO AN +IMPORT CONTROL AGREEMENT WITH SLIGHT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT THE EXPORT END.+

BUT, MR. JORDAN TOLD THE CROWDED LUNCHEON MEETING, +IT TOOK WEEKS TO SECURE WHAT SHOULD MORALLY BE OUR RIGHT IN THE FIRST PLACE.+

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/5

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 5 -

WARMEST DECEMBER IN TEN YEARS

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HONG KONG EXPERIENCED THE WARMEST DECEMBER SINCE 1968 WITH THE MONTH'S MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 19.4 DEGREES CELSIUS -- TWO DEGREES ABOVE AVERAGE AND THE SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

LAST MONTH WAS ALSO SUNNIER AND DRIER THAN USUAL. AS IN NOVEMBER, VERY LITTLE RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AND DECEMBER'S RAINFALL OF 7.9 MM REPRESENTED ONLY 32 PER CENT OF THE AVERAGE.

TWO TYPHOONS WERE REPORTED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC DURING THE MONTH BUT NEITHER OF THEM CAME NEAR HONG KONG.

THE FIRST 24 DAYS OF THE MONTH WERE SUNNY AND MILD. HOWEVER, COOLER CONDITIONS WERE EXPERIENCED AFTER THE PASSAGE OF A COLD FRONT ON THE NIGHT OF DECEMBER 24 AND THE WEATHER BECAME CLOUDY WITH SOME LIGHT RAIN.

ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 26, TEMPERATURES FELL TO A MINIMUM OF 13.6 DEGREES CELSIUS WHICH WAS THE LOWEST RECORDED IN THE MONTH.

THE REST OF THE MONTH REMAINED CLOUDY WITH SOME LIGHT RAIN, AND THE WEATHER GRADUALLY BECAME WARMER AND MORE HUMID.

ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 30, VISIBILITY WAS REDUCED TO 300 METRES AT WAGLAN ISLAND AND IN THE AFTERNOON, THE FOLLOWING DAY, TEMPERATURES ROSE TO AN UNSEASONABLE MAXIMUM OF 24.9 DEGREES CELSIUS, WHICH WAS THE HIGHEST RECORDED IN THE MONTH.

NO AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS LAST MONTH.

DURING THE MONTH, FIRE DANGER WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON 17 DAYS.

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STAMPS TO MARK YEAR OF THE HORSE ON SALE SOON

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THE TWO COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS TO MARK THE FORTHCOMING LUNAR YEAR OF THE HORSE WILL BE PUT ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES ON JANUARY 26.

THE TWO NEW STAMPS IN 20 CENTS AND \$1.30 DENOMINATIONS, EACH DEPICTING A HORSE IN AN ANCIENT CHINESE STONE CARVING, WERE DESIGNED BY GRAPHIC ATELIER LTD OF HONG KONG.

IT WILL BE THE TWELFTH AND THE LAST IN THE SERIES OF LUNAR YEAR COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS ISSUED BY THE POST OFFICE. THE FIRST IN THE SERIES WAS ISSUED IN 1967 TO MARK THE YEAR OF THE RAM.

/THE NEW

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 6 -

THE NEW STAMPS WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE PUBLIC COUNTER ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF NEW GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. ON JANUARY 19.

SPECIAL FIRST DAY COVERS FOR THE NEW STAMPS WILL BE PLACED ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES AT 20 CENTS EACH FROM THURSDAY (JANUARY 12).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE TODAY URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO OBTAIN THEIR REQUIREMENTS EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

HE SAID ADVANCE ORDERS FOR SERVICING OF FIRST DAY COVERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, CONNAUGHT PLACE- KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE, NATHAN ROAD- AND TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE, SALISBURY ROAD WHERE THE ORDER FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THURSDAY.

FOR THIS SERVICE, ADDRESSED FIRST DAY COVERS MUST BE HANDED IN WITH AN ORDER FORM TOGETHER WITH A REMITTANCE TO COVER THE COST.

THE CHARGE WILL BE \$1.70 PER COVER INCLUDING THE COST OF THE TWO STAMPS TOGETHER WITH A SERVICE FEE OF 20 CENTS.

THE COVERS MUST BE FULLY ADDRESSED BY THE APPLICANT, AND NO LESS THAN 10 COVERS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITH EACH ORDER.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ANY PERSON ORDERING SERVICED COVERS ADDRESSED TO A LOCAL DESTINATION MAY COLLECT THEM ON JANUARY 27 FROM THE OFFICE WHERE THE ORDER WAS PLACED. HE POINTED OUT THAT COVERS ADDRESSED OVERSEAS WILL BE SENT BY SURFACE MAIL, UNLESS SUFFICIENT STAMPS ARE AFFIXED TO COVER AIRMAIL OR REGISTRATION CHARGES.

THE LATEST ACCEPTANCE DATE FOR ADVANCE ORDERS OF SERVICED COVERS WILL BE 5 P.M. ON JANUARY 23.

IN ADDITION, A SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED ON JANUARY 26 AT ALL POST OFFICES WHEREBY FIRST DAY COVERS WILL BE ACCEPTED OVER THE COUNTER, IMPRESSED WITH NORMAL POST OFFICE DATE STAMP AND HANDED BACK TO THE PERSON PRESENTING THEM.

NO TIME TYPE WILL APPEAR IN THE POSTMARK.

THIS SERVICE IS ONLY FOR UNREGISTERED ARTICLES WITH A LOCAL ADDRESS, MARKED +FIRST DAY COVER+ AND NOT BEARING ANY CANCELLATION.

SPECIAL POSTING BOXES WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE AND TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE ON JANUARY 26 FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO HAVE FIRST DAY COVERS CAREFULLY HAND-POSTMARKED BEFORE DESPATCH TO THE ADDRESS ON THE COVERS.

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/7

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 7 -

BUSIEST CHRISTMAS FOR POST OFFICE
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THE POST OFFICE LAST MONTH EXPERIENCED THE BUSIEST CHRISTMAS EVER.

IN THE 12 DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS ABOUT 19 MILLION LETTERS WERE POSTED — TWO MILLION MORE THAN THAT IN THE SAME PERIOD OF THE PREVIOUS CHRISTMAS.

SENIOR CONTROLLER OF POSTS, MR. ARTHUR DICKSON, COMMENTED :
+THIS IS EQUAL TO A PILE OF LETTERS THIRTY TIMES THE HEIGHT OF VICTORIA PEAK.+

INCOMING MAIL WAS AT AN ALL TIME RECORD TOO WITH 18 CONTAINERS OF SURFACE MAIL, AND 70 TONS OF LETTERS ARRIVING BY AIR FOR DELIVERY DURING THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD.

+SOME AIRMAIL FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM WAS DELAYED DUE TO FOG AT LONDON AIRPORT BUT IT FINALLY ARRIVED JUST IN TIME FOR DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS,+ MR. DICKSON SAID.

HE ADDED : +OUR SORTERS AND POSTMEN HAVE DONE A MAGNIFICENT JOB IN HANDLING THIS LARGE QUANTITY OF MAIL EFFICIENTLY AND DELIVERING IT IN GOOD TIME.+

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WARNING AGAINST BOGUS LABOUR OFFICERS
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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. M.C. LAO, TODAY AGAIN WARNED FACTORY OWNERS TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST BOGUS LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

HE SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED SEVERAL COMPLAINTS FROM FACTORY PROPRIETORS OF A MAN IMPERSONATING AN OFFICER OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, AND WHO THREATENED TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THEM UNLESS HE WAS PAID A SUM OF MONEY.

THE IMPERSONATOR, CALLING HIMSELF INSPECTOR CHAN KWOK-WAH OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, WAS IN HIS LATE TWENTIES, AND ABOUT 5 FT. 7 IN. TALL.

+NO OFFICER OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN AUTHORISED TO ASK FOR OR ACCEPT MONEY FROM THE PUBLIC.+ MR. LAO STRESSED.

+MEMBERS OF THE INSPECTORATE HAVE WITH THEM GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARDS AND WARRANTS WHICH CARRY THE PHOTOGRAPH AND NAME OF THE HOLDER. THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES BY PRODUCING THEIR WARRANTS WHEN VISITING FACTORIES.+

MR. LAO ADVISED FACTORY PROPRIETORS TO CHECK THE IDENTITY OF VISITORS CLAIMING TO BE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND NOTIFY THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY IF THEY ARE IN DOUBT. WHEN THEY FEEL CERTAIN THAT THEIR OWN SAFETY WILL NOT BE ENDANGERED, THEY SHOULD TRY, IF POSSIBLE, TO DELAY THE DEPARTURE OF SUCH SUSPECTED PERSONS PENDING THE ARRIVAL OF THE POLICE.

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/8

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 8 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

SECRETARY FOR HOUSING TO OPEN
NURSERY IN OI MAN ESTATE
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THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MR. ALAN SCOTT WILL PERFORM THE
OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TUNG WAH OI MAN DAY NURSERY AT ROOMS 425-
434, PO MAN HOUSE, OI MAN ESTATE AT NOON ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11).

MR. SCOTT WILL ALSO ADDRESS THE GATHERING.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE CEREMONY SHOULD
ENTER PO MAN HOUSE FROM THE SHOPPERS' CAR PARK OF THE OI MAN
COMMERCIAL COMPLEX.

OFFICERS FROM THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION
WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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/9

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1978

- 9 -

AUTHOR TO SIGN COPIES OF NEW BOOK

VISITORS TO THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET JOYCE SAVIDGE, AUTHOR OF THE NEW BOOK ON HONG KONG TEMPLES ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11).

MRS. SAVIDGE WILL BE AT THE CENTRE WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, FROM NOON - 2 P.M., TO AUTOGRAPH COPIES SOLD TO CUSTOMERS.

THE BOOK ON TEMPLES IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES UNDER THE +THIS IS HONG KONG+ TITLE. IT IS ON SALE IN HARDBACK AT \$20.

+THIS IS HONG KONG: TEMPLES+ PROVIDES A FASCINATING GUIDE TO THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF CHINESE TEMPLES FOUND IN HONG KONG. IT ALSO DEALS WITH THE ACT OF WORSHIPPING, THE DUTIES OF THE TEMPLE KEEPERS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING THE RIGHT +FUNG SHUI+ WHEN BUILDING A NEW TEMPLE.

THE BOOK CONTAINS MORE THAN 100 COLOUR PICTURES OF TEMPLES, DEITIES AND MYTHICAL CHARACTERS.

SALES HAVE ALREADY PASSED THE 1,000 MARK. OTHER OUTLETS WHERE IT CAN BE OBTAINED INCLUDE LEADING BOOKSHOPS, CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE NEXT BOOK IN THE SERIES, +THE STORY OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE,+ WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY.

+NOW IS THE TIME FOR BOOK LOVERS TO START THEIR COLLECTION BY PURCHASING A COPY OF THE TEMPLES BOOK,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE AUTOGRAPH SIGNING BY MRS. JOYCE SAVIDGE, AUTHOR OF THE BOOK +THIS IS HONG KONG: TEMPLES+, FROM NOON TO 2 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11) AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR.

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