



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

### CONTENTS

### PAGE NO.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:

SUFFICIENT DETAILS PROVIDED FOR HK'S SYSTEMS -- SIR PHILIP	1
FIRM BASE FOR HK TO MOVE AHEAD - AG SAYS .....	4
LAND ISSUES WILL NOT AFFECT FISCAL POLICY -- SIR JOHN ....	7
CONFIDENCE EXPRESSED IN SAR PASSPORT .....	9
'SOUND BASIS FOR LAND POLICY DEVELOPMENT' .....	11
FEARS, WORRIES RESPONSIBLY REFLECTED, LOBO SAYS .....	12
MORE VIEWS ON WHITE PAPER .....	14
HK CONTINUES FIGHT AGAINST U.S. ORIGIN RULES .....	14
300 NEW CAS RECRUITS TO PARADE .....	15
YUEN LONG SPORTS FORTNIGHT STARTS .....	16
STATISTICS ON ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL OUT ....	17
ROAD SAFETY DAY IN TAI PO .....	20
FOUR-STOREY SPORTS CENTRE FOR POLICE .....	20
ENTRIES INVITED FOR SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL .....	21

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 1 -

SUFFICIENT DETAILS PROVIDED FOR HK'S SYSTEMS -- SIR PHILIP  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE SINO-BRITISH DRAFT AGREEMENT PROVIDED IN SUFFICIENT DETAIL AND IN FAMILIAR LANGUAGE FOR CONTINUITY OF HONG KONG'S SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, MONETARY, LEGAL, JUDICIAL AND OTHER SYSTEMS, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, SIR PHILIP SAID, +AND IT CONTAINS A BINDING COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF BOTH THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS TO IMPLEMENT ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT.+

THE GREAT MAJORITY OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS HAD SEEN THE AGREEMENT IN THIS LIGHT, HE SAID, ADDING THAT RESERVATIONS HAD BEEN EXPRESSED ABOUT PARTICULAR POINTS AND THIS WAS ENTIRELY NATURAL.

+AS YOU, SIR, HAVE RECOGNISED, IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE AN AGREEMENT WHICH WAS REGARDED AS COMPLETELY SATISFACTORY BY ALL THOSE WHOM IT AFFECTS,+ HE SAID.

SIR PHILIP SAID HE RESPECTED THE HON JOHN SWAINE'S AND THE HON K.C. CHAN'S PROFOUND SINCERITY IN CONCLUDING THAT THEIR RESERVATIONS WERE SUCH THAT THEY COULD NOT COMMEND THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

+BUT I CANNOT AGREE WITH MR SWAINE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DID NOT DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER FOR HONG KONG DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

+THOSE NEGOTIATIONS WERE PROTRACTED AND INTENSIVE. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THEM, AND TO THE TASK OF ACHIEVING THE BEST POSSIBLE SET OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR HONG KONG, IS AMPLY DEMONSTRATED BY THE CLOSE PERSONAL ATTENTION WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER, THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND OTHER MINISTERS DEVOTED TO THE TALKS AT EVERY STAGE DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS.

+THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT'S EFFORTS ON HONG KONG'S BEHALF WERE FULLY RECOGNISED BY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, AS EVIDENCED BY THEIR ADVICE THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT SHOULD BE INITIALLED AND COMMENDED TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

ON THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S CONCEPT OF +ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS+, HE CONCEDED THIS WAS A +UNIQUE AND UNTRIED+ CONCEPT.

+BUT, AS MR PETER WONG ARGUED, THE UNTRIED IS NOT NECESSARILY UNRELIABLE AND, AS MR S.L. CHEN SAID, THE CONVICTION AND COMMITMENT OF THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP TO THIS CONCEPT IS, IN ITSELF, GROUNDS FOR CONFIDENCE.

+HONG KONG IS A UNIQUE PLACE WHOSE SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND GROWTH MOMENTUM ARE PRODUCTS OF A UNIQUE COMBINATION OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

/+IT IS .....

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 2 -

+IT IS NO SURPRISE TO ME, THEREFORE, THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS SHOULD HAVE FOUND A UNIQUE WAY OF ENSURING HONG KONG'S CONTINUED SOCIAL STABILITY AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY,+ SIR PHILIP STATED.

REFERRING TO QUESTIONS RAISED ON THE FUTURE STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT BY THE HON WONG LAM, THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG AND THE HON SELINA CHOW, HE SAID.

+I WOULD SAY ONLY THAT THE AGREEMENT LAYS DOWN THE ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE FUTURE STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG. IT PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THAT STRUCTURE WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AS THE YEARS PROGRESS.

+I ENTIRELY AGREE WITH MISS (LYDIA) DUNN'S AND MR ALLEN LEE'S VIEW THAT WE WILL NEED TO ERECT A SUITABLE (I.E. A CREDIBLE AND ACCEPTABLE) STRUCTURE TO REPLACE THE PRESENT STRUCTURE WELL BEFORE 1997.

+THAT NEW STRUCTURE MUST BE AT LEAST AS OPERATIONALLY EFFICIENT AS THE PRESENT STRUCTURE AND THE AIM SHOULD BE TO PROVIDE A SMOOTH TRANSITION THROUGH HONG KONG'S CHANGE OF STATUS IN 1997,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

ON PUBLIC SERVICE, THE DRAFT AGREEMENT PROVIDED IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL FOR CONTINUITY IN THIS +VITAL AREA+.

SIR PHILIP POINTED OUT THAT IT CONTAINED THE PROVISION THAT +HONG KONG'S PREVIOUS SYSTEM OF RECRUITMENT, EMPLOYMENT, ASSESSMENT, DISCIPLINE, TRAINING AND MANAGEMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE (INCLUDING SPECIAL BODIES FOR APPOINTMENT, PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) SHALL ..... BE MAINTAINED.+

IT ALSO CONTAINED THE PROVISION THAT +THE APPOINTMENT AND PROMOTION OF PUBLIC SERVANTS SHALL BE ON THE BASIS OF QUALIFICATION, EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY+.

ON THE HON PETER WONG'S REFERENCE TO THE CAREER PROSPECTS OF SOME EXPATRIATE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE, SIR PHILIP ASSURED THESE MEMBERS THAT THEIR SPECIAL CONCERNS WERE UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD BE RECOGNISED.

ON THE VOLUNTARY AND SUBVENTED SECTORS, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE, HE SAID, +WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THESE AGENCIES, AND THOSE WHO WORK IN THEM, ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, I THINK MEMBERS WILL RECOGNISE THAT THE AGREEMENT COULD NOT DEAL IN DETAIL WITH EVERY ASPECT OF OUR COMPLEX SOCIETY,

+BUT PROVISION IS MADE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PREVAILING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND ALSO, AS STATED IN SECTION V OF ANNEX 1, FOR THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION TO 'DEAL ON ITS OWN WITH FINANCIAL MATTERS, INCLUDING DISPOSING OF ITS FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND DRAWING UP ITS BUDGETS AND FINAL ACCOUNTS'+ HE POINTED OUT.

/SOME UNOFFICIAL .....

SOME UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, HE SAID, REFERRED TO THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP TO BE ESTABLISHED AFTER THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT.

THE HON CHAN YING-LUN HAD STRESSED THE NEED FOR THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GROUP TO BE CLEARLY DEFINED WHILE THE HON DR HENRIETTA IP HAD MENTIONED THAT ANXIETIES WERE BEING EXPRESSED THAT THE GROUP MIGHT ACQUIRE EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS.

TO THESE CONCERNS, SIR PHILIP SAID, +I THINK A CLOSE STUDY OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP AS SET OUT IN DETAIL IN ANNEX II WILL REASSURE THEM. THAT ANNEX STATES EXPLICITLY THAT 'THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP SHALL BE AN ORGAN FOR LIAISON AND NOT AN ORGAN OF POWER. IT SHALL PLAY NO PART IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG OR THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION. NOR SHALL IT HAVE ANY SUPERVISORY ROLE OVER THAT ADMINISTRATION'.

+IT IS IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS EXPLICIT DESCRIPTION OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP THAT I SEE IT PLAYING A USEFUL ROLE RIGHT UP TO THE YEAR 2000.+

ON THE SUGGESTION BY THE HON SELINA CHOW, THE HON FRANCIS TIEN AND THE HON CARL TONG THAT THE GROUP SHOULD INCLUDE HONG KONG MEMBERS, SIR PHILIP DREW MEMBERS' ATTENTION TO THE PROVISION IN ANNEX II THAT EACH GOVERNMENT SHOULD DETERMINE THE COMPOSITION OF ITS DELEGATION TO PARTICULAR MEETINGS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP OR SUB-GROUPS.

ON THE QUESTIONS OF DEFENCE AND THE STATIONING OF CHINESE TROOPS IN THE HONG KONG SAR AFTER 1997, HE SAID THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS STAGE FOR DETAILED ANSWERS TO BE PROVIDED TO ALL THE POINTS RAISED.

HE ADDED IT WAS +VERY HELPFUL+ THAT MEMBERS' CONCERN SHOULD BE CLEARLY ON THE RECORD AND THAT HE WAS SURE THEY WOULD BE NOTED.

BUT HE ALSO POINTED TO THE FOLLOWING TWO POINTS: THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER OF THE SAR WOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ITS GOVERNMENT AND THAT MILITARY FORCES STATIONED HERE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFENCE WOULD NOT INTERFERE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

+THESE ARE VERY CLEAR AND SPECIFIC STATEMENTS AND SHOULD HELP TO MEET THE CONCERNS WHICH HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED, BOTH IN THIS CHAMBER AND OUTSIDE IT,+ HE SAID.

HAVING REGARD TO ALL THAT HAD BEEN SAID IN THE DEBATE EARLIER THIS WEEK AND BY OFFICIAL MEMBERS TODAY, SIR PHILIP SAID IT WAS HIS VIEW THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT +IS NOT ONLY THE BEST THAT COULD BE NEGOTIATED, BUT IT IS A GOOD AGREEMENT.+

+YET, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, THE FACT THAT A GOOD AGREEMENT HAS BEEN NEGOTIATED NOTWITHSTANDING, THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG CANNOT BE ACHIEVED BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS -- OF BRITAIN AND CHINA -- BY DECREE.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 4 -

+THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, AS DR IP AND MR SO AMONG MANY OTHERS HAVE RECOGNISED, DEPENDS ON THE ATTITUDES AND EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

+IN APPROACHING THE AGREEMENT IN A POSITIVE SPIRIT AND WITH DETERMINATION TO MAKE IT WORK, I BELIEVE MEMBERS HAVE REFLECTED THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

ON THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE, HE BELIEVED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG SHOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THEIR VIEWS ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT KNOWN AND THAT THOSE VIEWS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY RECORDED AND ASSESSED.

+THIS IS NO COSMETIC EXERCISE. IT IS A GENUINE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH THE REACTION OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO THE AGREEMENT -- AND MR WONG LAM RECOGNISED THAT PARLIAMENT DID NEED TO KNOW THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

+IT ALSO IS VERY MUCH IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG THAT THEIR VIEWS ON THE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE SET OUT TO BE STUDIED AT LEISURE BY ALL THOSE CONCERNED WITH ITS IMPLEMENTATION,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FIRM BASE FOR HK TO MOVE AHEAD - AG SAYS  
\* \* \* \* \*

WITH THE INITIALLING OF THE SINO-BRITISH DRAFT AGREEMENT, HONG KONG NOW HAD THE FIRMEST POSSIBLE BASE FROM WHICH TO MOVE FORWARD, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

+DOUBTS ABOUT THE TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION ARE NOTHING COMPARED WITH THE FEARS THIS TERRITORY WOULD HAVE INCREASINGLY IF BRITAIN AND CHINA HAD FAILED TO REACH AGREEMENT,+ MR THOMAS SAID, SPEAKING ON THE MOTION ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

+THIS AGREEMENT IS EVEN BETTER THAN THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG EXPECTED. I AM SURE THAT THIS COUNCIL WOULD BE RIGHT TO COMMEND IT TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS TERRITORY,+ HE SAID.

HE STATED THAT IF HONG KONG WAS TO CONTINUE TO BE PROSPEROUS AND STABLE, IT WAS 'OF PRIME IMPORTANCE' THAT ITS LEGAL SYSTEM SHOULD BE MAINTAINED SO FAR AS PRACTICABLE IN THE FUTURE.

AND MR THOMAS SAID THAT PROVISIONS IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT DEALING WITH THE LAW AND THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM PROVIDED 'IN A MOST SIGNIFICANT WAY' FOR THE CONTINUATION OF HONG KONG'S FAMILIAR SYSTEM OF JUSTICE.

/HE ADDED .....

HE ADDED THAT THE PROVISIONS ILLUSTRATED THE 'THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING' OF THE HONG KONG LEGAL SYSTEM THAT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED BY THE NEGOTIATORS ON BOTH SIDES PRIOR TO THE INITIALLING OF THE DOCUMENT AND THE COMMITMENT OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO THE MAINTENANCE OF THIS SYSTEM.

+IT IS PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE THAT THEY HAVE RECOGNISED THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG SHARING IN THE ORGANIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMON LAW SYSTEM, WHICH IS APPLIED IN MANY COURTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,+ MR THOMAS POINTED OUT.

TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE HON WONG LAM AND THE HON KEITH LAM ABOUT THE FUTURE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LAWS OF HONG KONG, THE BASIC LAW AND THE CONSTITUTION OF CHINA, MR THOMAS SAID, +THIS IS, OF COURSE, AN IMPORTANT MATTER AND IN THE FULLNESS OF TIME WILL NEED TO BE WORKED OUT IN A WAY THAT FULFILS BOTH THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF THE JOINT DECLARATION.

+IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE AT THIS STAGE TO RESOLVE ALL THESE QUESTIONS IN DETAIL, 13 YEARS IN ADVANCE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, AND BEFORE THE BASIC LAW IS DRAFTED.+

BUT HE ADDED THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT DID PROVIDE FOR THE FUTURE CONSTITUTIONAL STATUS OF THE SAR, WHICH WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 31 OF CHINA'S CONSTITUTION.

+THE BASIC LAW WILL STIPULATE THAT THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM AND SOCIALIST POLICIES WILL NOT BE PRACTISED IN THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION AND THAT HONG KONG'S CAPITALIST SYSTEM AND LIFESTYLE WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR 50 YEARS.

+THE LAWS PREVIOUSLY IN FORCE IN HONG KONG WILL BE MAINTAINED EXCEPT FOR ANY THAT CONTRAVENE THE BASIC LAW, AND SUBJECT OF COURSE TO FUTURE AMENDMENT BY THE ELECTED LEGISLATURE OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION.

+FINALLY, AND FUNDAMENTALLY, THE POLICIES SET OUT IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND ELABORATED IN ANNEX I MUST BE STIPULATED IN THE BASIC LAW.

+THE AGREEMENT THUS PROVIDES A CLEAR FRAMEWORK AND SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

THE MOST IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, HE SAID, WAS THAT IT CONTAINED VERY EXPLICIT PROVISION ABOUT THE SUBJECT MATTER AND THE DURATION OF THE BASIC LAW UNDER WHICH HONG KONG WOULD ENJOY ITS FUTURE BEYOND 1997.

MR THOMAS SAID HE RECOGNISED THE HON JOHN SWAINE'S RESERVATIONS AROSE FROM OTHER ASPECTS OF THE AGREEMENT AND NOT ITS LEGAL PROVISIONS.

BUT HE POINTED OUT THAT IN HIS SPEECH OF JUNE 27, MR SWAINE HAD IDENTIFIED THE PRINCIPLES WHICH, IN HIS OWN WORKS, MUST BE TRANSLATED INTO PRACTICAL MEASURES FOR INCLUSION IN THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FUTURE.

MR THOMAS THEN PROCEEDED TO TEST THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF ANNEX I AGAINST THOSE REQUIREMENTS:

- (1) THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS AND RIGHTS OF PROPERTY MUST BE SAFEGUARDED.

SEE NOW SECTION XIII OF ANNEX I WITH ITS DETAILED PROVISIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, AND THE IMPORTANT PROVISION AT THE BEGINNING OF SECTION VI ABOUT PROPERTY RIGHTS.

- (2) THE GOVERNMENT MUST BE SUBJECTED TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE ORDINARY COURTS AT THE INSTANCE OF THE ORDINARY CITIZEN.

THAT IS PROVIDED EXPRESSLY IN SECTION XIII. +EVERY PERSON SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHALLENGE THE ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE IN THE COURTS+.

- (3) THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION SHOULD BE SAFEGUARDED.

SECTION III PROVIDES FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM, WITH DETAILED PROVISIONS TO SAFEGUARD THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY, AND FOR THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSIONS.

- (4) AN INDEPENDENT, PROFESSIONAL PROSECUTING AUTHORITY SHOULD BE ENSURED.

SECTION III EXPRESSLY PROVIDES THAT A PROSECUTING AUTHORITY OF THE HONG KONG SAR WILL CONTROL CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS FREE FROM ANY INTERFERENCE.

- (5) AN INDEPENDENT BODY, SIMILAR TO THE JUDICIAL SERVICES COMMISSION, SHOULD EXIST TO ADVISE ON JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS. APPOINTMENTS TO THE JUDICIARY SHOULD BE ON THE BASIS OF MERIT, FREE OF EXTERNAL INFLUENCE AND NON-POLITICAL.

THESE IMPORTANT POINTS ARE SECURED IN SECTION III, WHICH PROVIDES FOR AN INDEPENDENT COMMISSION TO ADVISE ON APPOINTMENTS, WHICH ARE TO BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF 'JUDICIAL' QUALITIES.

- (6) REMOVAL OF JUDGES SHOULD ONLY BE ON THE GROUNDS OF INABILITY OR MISBEHAVIOUR, AND ONLY ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF AN INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL.

THIS IS SECURED IN SECTION III, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRIBUNAL OF LOCAL JUDGES TO DECIDE WHETHER THESE GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL EXIST.

- 7 -

- (7) MEMBERS OF THE ENGLISH BENCH SHOULD BE INVITED TO SIT IN THE COURTS.

SECTION III PROVIDES THAT JUDGES MAY BE RECRUITED FROM OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS; AND THAT JUDGES FROM OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS MAY BE INVITED TO SIT ON THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL.

- (8) OUR LAW MUST KEEP PACE WITH THAT OF OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS.

SECTION III PROVIDES THAT THE COURTS OF THE SAR MAY REFER TO PRECEDENTS IN OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS, JUDGES FROM OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS MAY BE RECRUITED. THERE IS ALSO PROVISION FOR FOREIGN LAWYERS TO PRACTISE IN THE SAR.

- (9) THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE SHOULD BE ACCORDED LEGAL STATUS IN THE COURTS.

SECTION II PROVIDES THAT ENGLISH MAY BE USED IN THE COURTS.

- (10) THE FINAL COURT OF APPEAL SHOULD BE IN HONG KONG AND NOT PEKING.

SECTION III PROVIDES FOR THAT, AND FOR IT TO INVITE JUDGES TO SIT ON IT FROM OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LAND ISSUES WILL NOT AFFECT FISCAL POLICY -- SIR JOHN  
\* \* \*

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY HE DID NOT BELIEVE FUTURE COMMITMENTS ABOUT LAND LEASES AND THE SHARING OF CAPITAL LAND REVENUE WITH THE FUTURE SAR WOULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT HONG KONG'S FISCAL OR BUDGETARY POLICY.

SPEAKING ON THE MOTION ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON HONG KONG, SIR JOHN SAID, +THE PREMIUM INCOME TO BE DIVIDED IS NET OF THE AVERAGE COST OF PRODUCTION, WHILE THE 50 HECTARE LIMIT SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDES GRANTS TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING.

+MOREOVER, THE LIMIT APPLIES TO LAND GRANTED UNDER LEASE, AND NOT TO LAND MADE AVAILABLE BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES, FOR INSTANCE ROADS, WITHOUT A LEASE.+

SIR JOHN BELIEVED THAT THE ACTUAL PREMIUM INCOME RESERVED FOR THE FUTURE SAR BY THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT BE LARGE IN PROPORTION TO TOTAL ANNUAL REVENUE.

+THE ACTUAL SUMS WILL SEEM BIG, BUT I DOUBT IF THEY WILL BE SIGNIFICANT IN TERMS OF OVERALL BUDGETARY POLICY.

/+MOREOVER, WHILE .....

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 8 -

+MOREOVER, WHILE A RETURN TO THE BOOM CONDITIONS OF THE EARLY 1980'S IS NEITHER EXPECTED NOR WANTED, THE LIKELY IMPROVEMENT IN LAND PRICES WILL HELP TO OFFSET THE EFFECT OF SHARING PREMIUM INCOME,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THERE WAS ALSO SPECIFIC PROVISION FOR THE LAND COMMISSION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CHINESE SIDE AFTER EXAMINATION OF PROPOSALS FOR DRAWING ON THE SAR'S SHARE OF PREMIUM INCOME, AND TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO EXCEED THE ANNUAL 50 HECTARE LIMIT.

SIR JOHN TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT ONE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP'S FIRST TASKS WOULD BE TO CONSIDER ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS TO ENSURE THE MAINTENANCE OF HONG KONG'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE, THE MULTI-FIBRE AGREEMENT AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

REFERRING TO THE HON FRANCIS TIEN'S, THE HON P.Y. WONG'S AND THE HON CHAN YING-LUN'S CONCERNS OVER THESE TRADE ISSUES, SIR JOHN SAID THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WAS QUITE SPECIFIC, ADDING, +THE SAR GOVERNMENT WILL BE IN A POSITION TO REPRESENT AND REFLECT THE ECONOMIC INTERESTS OF THE TERRITORY AFTER 1997 AND TO DO SO ON ITS OWN.+

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT UNDER SECTION VI OF ANNEX I OF THE DOCUMENT, EXPORT QUOTAS, TARIFF PREFERENCES AND OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS OBTAINED BY HONG KONG WOULD BE ENJOYED EXCLUSIVELY BY THE SAR.

ON THE ROLE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE EXCHANGE FUND, SIR JOHN STRESSED THAT THE EXERCISE OF PRUDENCE AND WISDOM WAS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE.

+SAFE AND HIGHLY LIQUID INVESTMENTS, SENSIBLE MATURITIES, A PROPER SPREAD OF HARD CURRENCIES, ARE EVER PRESENT CONSIDERATIONS OF THE FUND MANAGEMENT, CONDUCTED BOTH DIRECTLY AND THROUGH OVERSEAS AGENTS,+ HE SAID.

REPLYING TO THE HON KIM CHAM'S COMMENTS ON THE SUBJECT, SIR JOHN POINTED OUT THE EXCHANGE FUND'S OPERATIONS WERE SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM THE FISCAL SYSTEM.

+THE SIZE OF THE FUND AND THE REGULAR CRITICAL ASSESSMENTS OF ITS MANAGEMENT ARE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL, BUT I CAN AT LEAST ASSURE MR CHAM THAT OUR CURRENCY IS FAR MORE THAN FULLY BACKED BY HIGH QUALITY ASSETS. THE DRAFT AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR CONTINUITY IN OUR EXISTING SYSTEMS,+ HE SAID.

ON TRADE, SIR JOHN SAID A MAJOR FOCUS OF GOVERNMENT POLICY HAD LONG BEEN THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF EXPORTS.

+WE ACCEPT ALSO AS A MAJOR COMMITMENT THE PROVISION OF A BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING LOW TAXATION, WHICH IS FRIENDLY AND SUPPORTIVE TO ENTREPRENEURS. THIS DOES NOT AND WILL NOT INCLUDE ANY ELEMENT OF SUBSIDY OR SPECIAL TREATMENT. ALL MUST STAND ON THEIR OWN FEET,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/9 .....

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 9 -

CONFIDENCE EXPRESSED IN SAR PASSPORT  
\*\*\*\*\*

THERE WAS EVERY REASON TO BE CONFIDENT THAT INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF SAR PASSPORTS AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON DAVID JEAFFRESON, SAID TODAY.

AND AS FOR THE FUTURE OF BDTC'S, - BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS - THEY WOULD ALL, INCLUDING NON-CHINESE, ACQUIRE A NEW STATUS UNDER THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT, AS STIPULATED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM MEMORANDUM, MR JEAFFRESON SAID.

SPEAKING ON THE MOTION ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, MR JEAFFRESON SAID THAT UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS HAD MADE A NUMBER OF POINTS ON NATIONALITY AND ON DEFENCE AND LAW AND ORDER, AND THAT MOST OF THE POINTS WOULD BE FIRMLY BORNE IN MIND IN THE COMING YEARS.

BUT HE WOULD BE COMMENTING, HE SAID, ON TWO ISSUES IN RESPECT OF NATIONALITY, NAMELY THE ACCEPTABILITY INTERNATIONALLY OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE SAR AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS, AND THE POSITION OF NON-CHINESE FORMER BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS WITH A HONG KONG CONNECTION - NON-CHINESE BDTC'S.

ON THE QUESTION OF SAR PASSPORTS AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, HE SAID A FRAMEWORK EXISTED FOR ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE TO SECURE A HIGH DEGREE OF INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF THEM AFTER 1997.

MR JEAFFRESON SAID THAT THE UK AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS HAD ACHIEVED RECOGNITION BY ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD OF THE PRESENT PASSPORTS FOR BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES (HONG KONG) CITIZENS AND CERTIFICATES OF IDENTITY FOR CHINESE RESIDENTS ORDINARILY RESIDENT FOR AT LEAST SEVEN YEARS WHO HAD NOT ACQUIRED BRITISH NATIONALITY.

+BOTH DOCUMENTS HAVE A HIGH REPUTATION AMONG IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES OVERSEAS,+ HE SAID.

+THEY SEE A TRAVEL DOCUMENT AS RELIABLE IF THE RETURNABILITY OF THE HOLDER OF THE DOCUMENT IS GUARANTEED BY THE AUTHORITY WHICH HAS ISSUED IT,+ HE SAID.

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAD OVER THE YEARS HELPED TO MAKE THESE DOCUMENTS WIDELY ACCEPTABLE BY MAKING THEM VALID FOR A LONG PERIOD -- OF TEN YEARS - AND, MORE IMPORTANT, BY GUARANTEEING THE RETURNABILITY OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS HOLDING THEM.

ANNEX I (SECTION XIV) TO THE JOINT DECLARATION PROVIDES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FUTURE HONG KONG SAR TO ISSUE PASSPORTS AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OF THE SAR TO PERSONS LAWFULLY RESIDING IN THE SAR. THESE PASSPORTS AND DOCUMENTS WOULD BE VALID FOR ALL STATES AND REGIONS.

+MOST IMPORTANT IN TERMS OF THEIR ACCEPTABILITY OVERSEAS THEY WILL RECORD THE HOLDER'S RIGHT OF RETURN TO THE SAR,+ HE SAID.

/IT WAS .....

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 10 -

IT WAS ALSO MADE CLEAR IN THE EXCHANGE OF MEMORANDA ASSOCIATED WITH THE JOINT DECLARATION AND ITS ANNEXES THAT HONG KONG BDTC'S WHO HELD BRITISH PASSPORTS ISSUED BEFORE JULY 1, 1997 WOULD AFTER THAT DATE RETAIN AN APPROPRIATE STATUS WHICH WOULD ENTITLE THEM TO CONTINUE TO USE BRITISH PASSPORTS.

+THE BRITISH AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SECURE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THESE BRITISH PASSPORTS THE SAME ACCESS TO OTHER COUNTRIES AS THEY ENJOY AT PRESENT,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO CONCERN EXPRESSED BY THE HON MARIA TAM AND THE HON CARL TONG OVER THE FUTURE OF NON-CHINESE BDTC'S, OF WHOM THERE WERE 10 000 AT PRESENT, HE SAID THAT UNDER THE TERMS OF ANNEX I TO THE JOINT DECLARATION, NON-CHINESE BDTC'S WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN THE HONG KONG SAR IF THEY HAD ORDINARILY RESIDED IN HK FOR A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS, OR MORE, AND HAD TAKEN HONG KONG AS THEIR PLACE OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

THE CHILDREN BORN IN THE SAR AFTER 1997 TO SUCH NON-CHINESE BDTC'S WOULD ALSO HAVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE WHILE THEY WERE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE THAT RIGHT AFTER THE AGE OF 21 IF THEY THEMSELVES HAD LIVED IN HK FOR SEVEN YEARS, AND HAD MADE HK THEIR PLACE OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE, HE SAID.

THE ONLY PROBLEM WHICH COULD ARISE IN RESPECT OF NON-CHINESE BDTC'S CONCERNED THE NATIONALITY OF THE CHILDREN BORN TO THEM AFTER 1997, MR JEAFFRESON SAID.

THE NEW STATUS UNDER THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT WOULD NOT BE TRANSMISSABLE BY DESCENT.

+THUS, A CHILD BORN AFTER 1997 TO A NON-CHINESE HOLDER OF THE NEW STATUS WOULD BE STATELESS -- WOULD HAVE NO NATIONALITY -- UNLESS EITHER PARENT HAD SOME OTHER NATIONALITY AND WAS ABLE UNDER THE LAW OF THE COUNTRY CONCERNED, TO TRANSMIT THAT NATIONALITY TO THE CHILD, OR UNLESS THE CHILD ACQUIRED AUTOMATICALLY THE NATIONALITY OF THE COUNTRY OF HIS BIRTH.

+BEARING IN MIND HMG'S INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS TO REDUCE STATELESSNESS, IT IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S FIRM INTENTION TO MAKE PROVISION, IN THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION, FOR SUCH CHILDREN TO ACQUIRE BRITISH NATIONALITY AT BIRTH IF THEY WOULD OTHERWISE BE STATELESS,+ MR JEAFFRESON SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11 .....

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 11 -

'SOUND BASIS FOR LAND POLICY DEVELOPMENT'

\* \* \* \*

THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR CHAN NAI-KEONG, TODAY COMMENDED ANNEX III TO THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AS +A SOUND BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF LAND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN THE FUTURE+.

SPEAKING ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, HE SAID THERE WOULD INEVITABLY BE MATTERS OF DETAIL OR INDIVIDUAL CONCERN WHICH WOULD REQUIRE FURTHER EXAMINATION AND EXPLANATION, BUT THESE WOULD BE DEALT WITH AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

+THE MOST IMPORTANT FEATURE OF ANNEX III IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH IT PROVIDES FOR CONTINUITY,+ HE SAID.

RIGHTS UNDER EXISTING LEASES GRANTED OUTSIDE THE NEW TERRITORIES AND NEW KOWLOON (MAINLY 75 YEARS RENEWABLE FOR 75 YEARS AND 999-YEAR LEASES) WERE RECOGNISED IN THE ANNEX AND WOULD BE PROTECTED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION.

+ALL LEASES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING NEW KOWLOON, WHICH EXPIRE IN JUNE 1997 WILL BE EXTENDED FOR 50 YEARS UP TO JUNE 2047. THIS WILL ALSO NORMALLY APPLY TO 75-YEAR NON-RENEWABLE LEASES ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON WHICH EXPIRE NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 1997.

+NEW LEASES MAY ALSO BE ISSUED TO EXPIRE NOT LATER THAN 2047 AND THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF GRANTING MODIFICATIONS OF LEASE CONDITIONS WILL CONTINUE,+ HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE ANNEX ALSO PROVIDED CLARITY AND AS MUCH CERTAINTY AS POSSIBLE SO FAR IN ADVANCE AS TO THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR MOST LESSEES BEYOND 1997.

HE SAID THAT NO NEW OBLIGATIONS WERE IMPOSED IN THE CASE OF LEASES WHICH EXTENDED BEYOND JUNE 1997. RENEWABLE LEASES WOULD BE RENEWED AT A FIXED ANNUAL RENT OF THREE PER CENT OF THE RATEABLE VALUE AT THE DATE OF RENEWAL.

+NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING NEW KOWLOON, LEASES AND 75-YEAR NON-RENEWABLE LEASES EXPIRING NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30, 1997 WILL NORMALLY BE EXTENDED AT AN ANNUAL RENT OF THREE PER CENT OF CURRENT RATEABLE VALUE, THAT IS A RENT WHICH WILL CHANGE AS RATEABLE VALUES CHANGE,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE HON MR F.K. HU'S QUESTION OF NON-RENEWABLE LEASES WHICH EXPIRE AFTER JUNE 30, 1997, HE SAID WHILE ANNEX III PROVIDED FOR THE RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION OF RIGHTS GRANTED BEFORE JUNE 30, 1997 BEYOND THAT DATE, IT DID NOT LAY DOWN ANY PROVISIONS FOR THE GRANTING OF NEW RIGHTS AFTER IT, AS THIS WOULD BE A MATTER FOR THE FUTURE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION GOVERNMENT, ADDING: +THE CONCERN EXPRESSED ON THIS MATTER IS UNDERSTOOD AND IT WILL NEED TO BE CONSIDERED IN DUE COURSE.+

/ON EXTENSION .....

ON EXTENSION OF NON-RENEWABLE LEASES FOR LAND ZONED FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY USE OR OPEN SPACE ON TOWN PLANS, HE SAID: +I BELIEVE THE MOVE TOWARDS ALLOWING FOR THE EXTENSION OF LEASES ON A RENTAL RATHER THAN A PREMIUM BASIS WILL PROVIDE FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY IN DEALING WITH LAND REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

+I AM THEREFORE SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS MR HU'S APPROACH AND WE WILL BE CONSIDERING CAREFULLY HOW BEST TO USE THIS FLEXIBILITY. HOWEVER, AS I HAVE ALREADY INDICATED, WE CAN ONLY BE CONCERNED AT THIS STAGE WITH LEASES EXPIRING NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30, 1997.+

AS REGARDS LEASES FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES SUCH AS THOSE FOR RECREATION AND FOR PETROL FILLING STATIONS, MR CHAN SAID THEY REQUIRED A VARIETY OF SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF GRANT AND THAT THEY WERE NOW BEING GIVEN FURTHER CONSIDERATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT.

TURNING TO MR STEPHEN CHEONG'S QUESTION ON REDEMPTION OF OUTSTANDING LETTERS B, MR CHAN SAID IT WAS THE INTENTION TO CLEAR THIS COMMITMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND CERTAINLY BEFORE 1997.

AND TO MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG'S QUESTION ABOUT THE POSITION OF THOSE WHO HAD BOUGHT LAND HELD BY OR GRANTED TO INDIGENOUS VILLAGERS, HE SAID: +I CAN CONFIRM THAT HIS CONCLUSION IS CORRECT, THAT IS RENT WILL ONLY REMAIN UNCHANGED WHERE A LOT CONTINUES TO BE HELD BY THE ORIGINAL INDIGENOUS OWNER OR HIS SUCCESSORS THROUGH THE MALE LINE.+

- - - - 0 - - - -

FEARS, WORRIES RESPONSIBLY REFLECTED, LOBO SAYS  
\* \* \* \* \*

WINDING UP THE MOTION ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, THE HON ROGER LOBO SAID MANY OF HIS COLLEAGUES HAD SPOKEN OF THEIR UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUTURE AND HE WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO SUMMARISE THE WIDE-RANGING AND DIVERSE VIEWS HEARD.

+OF COURSE, THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THIS COUNCIL HAVE NO COMMON POSITION NOR PLATFORM- WE PARTICIPATE IN THESE PROCEEDINGS AS INDIVIDUALS, DRAWN FROM A WIDE SPECTRUM OF SOCIETY, AND THE VIEWS WE EXPRESS ARE OUR OWN IN FURTHERANCE OF HOW WE, INDIVIDUALLY, PERCEIVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST,+ MR LOBO SAID.

+I BELIEVE THIS DEBATE HAS RESPONSIBLY REFLECTED THE RESERVATIONS, FEARS AND WORRIES WHICH TROUBLE MANY HONG KONG PEOPLE ABOUT THE FUTURE.

+NO DOUBT THEY WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BOTH BY THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE HERE IN HONG KONG AND PARLIAMENT IN THE U.K.+

/MR LOBO .....

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 13 -

MR LOBO SAID WE WOULD BE A STRANGE COMMUNITY IF WE WERE NOT APPREHENSIVE ABOUT OUR FUTURE.

WE WERE TO PARTICIPATE IN AN UNPRECEDENTED EXPERIMENT WHICH WOULD SEE THE ABSORPTION OF OUR FREE ENTERPRISE SOCIETY INTO A COMMUNIST STATE.

+NO AMOUNT OF PADDING CAN DISGUISE THIS HARD FACT, NOR THE UNCERTAINTY THAT ATTACHES TO THIS STEP INTO THE UNKNOWN,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID HE WAS GRATEFUL TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY AND HIS OFFICIAL COLLEAGUES WHO HAD REVIEWED POINT BY POINT THE MAJOR ISSUES THE UNOFFICIALS HAD RAISED.

BUT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS WE WERE BEING AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY OF APPROACHING THIS GREAT EXPERIMENT WITH A PLAN TO PRESERVE OUR STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OR WE COULD APPROACH THE GREAT EXPERIMENT WITHOUT SUCH A PLAN.

MR LOBO RECALLED THE WORDS OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON SEPTEMBER 26 THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT TOOK ACCOUNT OF HONG KONG'S NEEDS AND THE REALITIES OF HISTORY. IT FORESAW THAT CHANGE MUST COME, BUT IN PROVIDING FOR THAT CHANGE IT PROVIDED ALSO FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN OUR SOCIETY. IN AS FAR AS IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR GOVERNMENTS TODAY TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUTURE, IT REMOVED THE UNCERTAINTY WHICH EXISTED BECAUSE OF THE 1997 DEADLINE. IT CONSTITUTED A BLUEPRINT FOR A NEW STAGE IN HONG KONG'S DEVELOPMENT.

+ALL BUT TWO UNOFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE MOTION BEFORE THIS COUNCIL AND ONLY TIME AND HISTORY WILL TELL WHETHER OUR HIGH HOPES FOR THE AGREEMENT ARE JUSTIFIED AND WHETHER WE HAVE DISCHARGED OUR DUTIES ADEQUATELY,+ MR LOBO CONCLUDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/14 .....

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 14 -

MORE VIEWS ON WHITE PAPER

\* \* \* \*

SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE WHITE PAPER ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE AT TOMORROW'S (FRIDAY) MEETING.

ONE OF THE MONITORS OF THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE, MR JUSTICE SIMON LI WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO HEAR VIEWS FROM BOARD MEMBERS. THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY, HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR ALBERT LAM WILL ALSO BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

PROGRESS REPORTS ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SEMINARS RECENTLY ORGANISED WITH THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF THE DISTRICT WILL BE SUBMITTED AT THE MEETING.

ALSO TABLED FOR DISCUSSION WILL BE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HK CONTINUES FIGHT AGAINST U.S. ORIGIN RULES

\* \* \*

HONG KONG'S DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, IN THE GATT'S TEXTILES COMMITTEE MEETING IN GENEVA ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 17) REFERRED TO THE WIDESPREAD AND GENUINE CONCERN ABOUT THE NEW AMERICAN RULES OF ORIGIN EXPRESSED IN THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RULES, IT WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY APPARENT THAT THEIR COMPLEXITY AND AMBIGUITY MADE THEM EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND FOR EXPORTERS, IMPORTERS, AND FOR U.S. OFFICIALS THEMSELVES.

+PARTLY BECAUSE OF THIS UNCERTAINTY, ORDERS HAVE BEEN HELD UP OR CANCELLED= THIS IS BUT ONE EXAMPLE OF THE WAY IN WHICH THE REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN A HARASSMENT OF LEGITIMATE TRADE,+ HE SAID.

IN THE TEXTILES SECTOR, WHERE TRADE WAS GOVERNED BY THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GATT, THE MFA AND THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT, +IT IS CLEAR THAT THE RULES OF ORIGIN CANNOT BE UNILATERALLY CHANGED AS A PROTECTIVE MEASURE BY ONE PARTY, SO SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGING THE FRAMEWORK OF RULES GOVERNING THE TEXTILES TRADE, AND IN SOME CASES RESULTING IN SUBSTANTIAL TRADE LOSS BY OTHER PARTIES,+ HE SAID.

+ACCORDINGLY, IT IS MORE THAN EVER CLEAR THAT THE ONLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION IS FOR THESE REGULATIONS TO BE RESCINDED,+ HE SAID.

/+I STILL .....

+I STILL HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES' LONG COMMITMENT TO COMBATTING PROTECTIONISM WILL PREVAIL IN THIS CASE. I STILL HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE A RECOGNITION THAT THE PRINCIPLES INVOLVED HERE ARE IMPORTANT NOT JUST TO THOSE AFFECTED, BUT TO THE U.S. ITSELF: IN THE LONG RUN NONE OF US GAIN, IF FAITH IN THE SYSTEM OF MUTUAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IS WEAKENED.

+I TRUST THAT EVENTS WILL NOT PROVE MY HOPE TO BE MISPLACED AND THAT THE REGULATIONS WILL BE WITHDRAWN,+ MR MACLEOD SAID.

MR MACLEOD EXPRESSED HONG KONG'S FULL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATEMENT MADE BY MR DELGADO OF MEXICO ON BEHALF OF DEVELOPING EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

THESE COUNTRIES CONTINUED TO BREAK WITH ONE VOICE, ATTACKING THE U.S. FOR ITS POSITION ON THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN RULES AND THE COUNTERVAILING DUTY PETITIONS.

THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY REMAINED CRITICAL OF THE U.S. POSITION AND SAID THAT ITS VIEWS REMAINED UNCHANGED FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE. OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SOUGHT IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE NEW REGULATIONS.

SWEDEN SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE NORDICS AND MALAYSIA ON BEHALF OF THE ASEAN COUNTRIES.

OTHER DELEGATES WHO SPOKE WERE FROM CHINA, BRAZIL, INDIA, KOREA, POLAND, JAPAN, URUGUAY, TURKEY, CANADA, EGYPT, YUGOSLAVIA, HUNGARY, AUSTRIA, PAKISTAN, COLOMBIA, PERU, NORWAY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE MEETS AGAIN ON MONDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 22.

- - - - 0 - - - -

300 NEW CAS RECRUITS TO PARADE  
\* \* \* \*

OVER 300 MEN AND WOMEN CIVIL AID SERVICES ADULT RECRUITS WILL TAKE PART IN A PASSING-OUT PARADE ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 20) AT THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG AT 7.30 PM.

THE RECRUITS HAVE JUST COMPLETED BASIC TRAINING IN FOOT DRILL, DISCIPLINE, FIRST AID, LIGHT RESCUE, FOREST FIRE FIGHTING, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND TYPHOON DUTIES.

THEY WILL BE POSTED TO VARIOUS CAS UNITS IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

/THE SECRETARY .....

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON, WILL INSPECT AND ADDRESS THE PARADE, AND PRESENT SPECIAL CERTIFICATES TO THREE OUTSTANDING RECRUITS.

MR JEAFFRESON WILL ALSO PRESENT CIVIL DEFENCE LONG SERVICE CLASPS TO 23 OTHER CAS MEMBERS.

MOREOVER, THE CAS COMMISSIONER, MR ROGER LOBO, WILL PRESENT, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE COMMISSIONER'S COMMENDATION CERTIFICATES TO SIX CAS VOLUNTEER OFFICERS FOR THEIR MERITORIOUS SERVICES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

YUEN LONG SPORTS FORTNIGHT STARTS  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES TODAY OFFICIALLY OPENED THE YUEN LONG SPORTS FORTNIGHT WHICH FEATURES A WIDE RANGE OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

EVENTS IN THE TWO-WEEK PROGRAMME, THE FIRST MAJOR SPORTS FESTIVAL IN THE DISTRICT, INCLUDE COMPETITIVE SPORTS ACTIVITIES LIKE TRACK AND FIELD, CROSS COUNTRY RACES, FENCING, CYCLING AND ARCHERY. THERE WILL ALSO BE A CARNIVAL, BALL-GAME COMPETITIONS, WATER SPORTS AND DANCES.

+I HOPE THAT OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS MANY YOUNG PEOPLE WILL BE INTRODUCED TO NEW LEISURE PURSUITS, AND WILL BE ENCOURAGED BY THE PROGRAMME OF EVENTS TO TAKE PART IN THE SPORTS ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE BEEN ORGANISED,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPORTS FORTNIGHT ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR TANG TAK-KAU SAID THE DISTRICT BOARD HAD ALWAYS PROMOTED AND SPONSORED VARIOUS LOCAL SPORTS FUNCTIONS.

+THROUGH THE SPORTS FORTNIGHT, THE BOARD HOPES THAT MORE PEOPLE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES AND SHOW INTEREST IN SPORTS,+ MR TANG SAID.

+WE ALSO HOPE PEOPLE WILL BECOME MORE AWARE THAT THE BOARD'S AIM IS TO IMPROVE THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION,+ HE ADDED.

ABOUT 5 000 PEOPLE ATTENDED TODAY'S CEREMONY, WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY A DEMONSTRATION FOOTBALL MATCH BETWEEN TWO FIRST DIVISION CLUBS, SOUTH CHINA AND SEIKO.

THE SPORTS FORTNIGHT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT, THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 17 -

STATISTICS ON ORDERS-ON-HAND,  
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL OUT  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN TERMS OF MONTHS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN AUGUST 1984, COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, BUT IT REMAINED AT A RELATIVELY HIGH LEVEL, ACCORDING TO SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

WHILE SLIGHT DECREASES IN ORDERS WERE RECORDED FOR MOST MAJOR INDUSTRIES, LITTLE CHANGE WAS OBSERVED FOR THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY.

COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR FELL, ESPECIALLY IN THE PLASTIC AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, AS SUMMER WORKERS GRADUALLY LEFT EMPLOYMENT. ONLY THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY SHOWED AN INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT, AS SOME BAKERIES EMPLOYED MORE TEMPORARY WORKERS IN PREPARATION FOR THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR DROPPED AS SOME CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, THE EMPLOYMENT LEVEL WAS PRACTICALLY UNCHANGED.

DESPITE SOME DECREASE IN EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES GENERALLY ROSE.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS ALSO ROSE BECAUSE THE PEAK IN EMPLOYMENT OF SUMMER WORKERS WAS OVER. THE WAGE RATE FOR SUMMER WORKERS WAS NORMALLY LOWER.

DECREASES IN PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED IN BOTH THE CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICES SECTORS, REPORTEDLY DUE TO PAYMENT OF MID-YEAR BONUSES IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTOR CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR AUGUST 1984 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, AT \$1.5 PER COPY.

/ENQUIRIES ABOUT .....

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION AT 3-7212768.

STATISTICAL DETAILS OF THE SURVEY ARE CONTAINED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLES:

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	(PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR AUGUST 1984
	JUNE 1984	JULY 1984	AUG. 1984	
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	1	-2	-2	4.95
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	-3	-3	-1	2.31
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	7	*	*	4.39
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	1	*	-1	3.57
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-1	-1	-2	5.50
OTHERS	1	1	*	4.47
<u>ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>4.63</u>

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/ SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR AUG. 1984 HK\$
	(PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			THE PRECEDING MONTH)			
	JUNE 1984	JULY 1984	AUG. 1984	JUNE 1984	JULY 1984	AUG. 1984	
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-3</u>	<u>-3</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2 732</u>
FOOD AND DRINKS	1	2	2	3	-1	2	3 643

/WEARING APPAREL, .....

WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	2	1	-1	*	-1	4	2 437
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	*	*	-1	-11	-4	2	2 825
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	15	12	-10	-8	-3	11	2 555
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	5	2	-6	-2	1	7	2 328
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	6	2	-4	-1	-1	4	2 516
OTHERS	3	1	-4	-2	*	3	3 740
<u>CONSTRUCTION</u> **	2	-2	-4	-2	5	-3	4 008
<u>SERVICES</u>	*	*	*	*	8	-2	5 013
BANKS	*	*	*	*	5	-3	4 435
HOTELS	*	-1	*	-1	1	*	3 169
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	*	1	11	-4	5 054
OTHERS	1	1	*	-2	4	2	6 462

\* CHANGES WITHIN + 0.5 PER CENT

\*\* PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984

- 20 -

ROAD SAFETY DAY IN TAI PO  
\* \* \*

AN EVENT-PACKED ROAD SAFETY DAY WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 20) MORNING AT THE TAI PO PLAYGROUND TO START OFF THIS YEAR'S TAI PO DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN.

THE ROAD SAFETY DAY IS PART OF A SIX-MONTH CAMPAIGN THAT FOCUSES ON TWO THEMES -- PEDESTRIANS' AND CYCLISTS' SAFETY.

THERE WILL BE PARADES BY SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROL TEAMS, GAMES STALLS, A MODEL OF A 'ROAD SAFETY CITY', CYCLING DEMONSTRATION, EYESIGHT TESTS FOR PARTICIPANTS AND AN EXHIBITION.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO WINNERS OF A RECENTLY HELD QUIZ ON TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, WHICH ATTRACTED MORE THAN 8 000 PUPILS FROM 30 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE CAMPAIGN IS SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE POLICE.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHAN; THE POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR J.F. GREENE; THE SENIOR STAFF OFFICER, TRAFFIC, NT, MR D.G. ROBINSON; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, MR STEPHEN WONG; AND TWO BOARD MEMBERS, MR CHEUNG WAI-LAM AND MR LAM PAK-PING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FOUR-STOREY SPORTS CENTRE FOR POLICE  
\* \* \*

A FULLY AIR-CONDITIONED, FOUR-STOREY SPORTS CENTRE IS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT BOUNDARY STREET, KOWLOON, FOR MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE.

THE SPORTS CENTRE WILL CONSIST OF TWO WINGS LINKED BY A CENTRAL HALL, WITH MOST OF THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES LOCATED IN THE NORTH WING.

INCLUDED WILL BE A RESTAURANT AND FUNCTION ROOM, A SPORTSMAN'S BAR AND LOUNGE, A GAMES ROOM, TELEVISION AND READING ROOMS, A DARK ROOM AND PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORY, AND OTHER ANCILLARY FACILITIES, SUCH AS OFFICES AND STAFF QUARTERS.

THE SOUTH WING WILL HOUSE THE INDOOR SPORTING FACILITIES, INCLUDING A MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS HALL, SIX SQUASH COURTS, A GYMNASIUM AND FITNESS ROOMS, A JUDO ROOM, TABLE TENNIS ROOMS AND TENNIS COURTS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE CHILDREN'S PLAYROOMS, A STORE ROOM, CHANGING ROOMS AND A SAUNA.

/AN INDOOR .....

AN INDOOR REVOLVER RANGE, BOWLING ALLEY, SNACK BAR AND GAMES ROOM WILL BE BUILT IN THE BASEMENT.

WORK ON INSTALLING THE \$5.5 MILLION AIR-CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT STARTED EARLY THIS WEEK, AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ENTRIES INVITED FOR SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL  
\* \* \* \* \*

SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE 21ST SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD BETWEEN JANUARY 10 AND JANUARY 31 NEXT YEAR.

THE FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE WESTERN FOLK OR NATIONAL DANCE, WESTERN DANCE DRAMA, CHINESE DANCE, CHINESE DANCE DRAMA, ORIENTAL DANCE AND CREATIVE DANCE.

ENTRIES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO A LOWER PRIMARY SECTION FOR STUDENTS FROM PRIMARY 1 TO 3, AN UPPER PRIMARY SECTION FOR THOSE FROM PRIMARY 4 TO 6, A SECONDARY SECTION AND A SECTION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, THE FESTIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE AT CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL IN FORTRESS HILL ROAD, NORTH POINT.

IN KOWLOON, IT WILL BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG SZE YAP COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION WONG TAI SHAN MEMORIAL COLLEGE IN NAM CHEONG STREET, AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE VENUE IS TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL IN TAI HO ROAD.

THE FEE IS \$30 FOR EACH SCHOOL WHICH MAY JOIN ONE OR MORE DANCE ITEMS.

PRIZES IN THE FORM OF HONOURS AWARDS, HIGHLY COMMENDED AWARDS AND COMMENDED AWARD CERTIFICATES WILL BE PRESENTED TO SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO THE MARKS GAINED IN THE PERFORMANCES.

OVERALL CHALLENGE AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THREE SECONDARY AND THREE PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH THE HIGHEST OVERALL SCORES, AND A CERTIFICATE WILL BE GIVEN TO EACH PERFORMING STUDENT OF A SCHOOL WHICH ACHIEVES A COMMENDED STANDARD OR ABOVE.

EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL WILL BE GIVEN A SOUVENIR PENNANT.

ENTRY FORMS AND FEES MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (PHYSICAL EDUCATION) (ATTN: MRS MAXIE WONG), PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 6/F, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON BEFORE NOVEMBER 20.

- - - - 0 - - - -