DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 1985

CONTENTS — PAGE NO.

CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORMS NOW AVAILABLE 1

THREE MORE BRANDS OF ADULTERATED WINE FOUND 2

EEC CONSUMERS CALL FOR TRADE LIBERALISATION 2

NEW HIRE CHARGES FOR NON-URBAN SPORTS GROUNDS 4

NO AUTHORITY TO STEP OUTSIDE LAW, POLICE TOLD 6

BOSSES REMINDED ABOUT OVERSEAS WORK CONTRACTS 7

REGISTER OF WOMEN, YOUNG WORKERS SIMPLIFIED 7

NEW I.D. CARDS FOR NEXT AGE GROUP 8

TRAINING OFFERED AIR, SEA FREIGHT STAFF 9

BILL SEEKS MORE TIME FOR UC ESTIMATES 10

SOFTBALL GROUND GETS FLOODLIGHTING 10

DISPLAY SETS OUT AREA COMMITTEE WORK 11

HK-MACAU FIREMEN HOLD INTERPORT SPORTS EVENTS 11

ROAD NETWORK PLANNED FOR SAI WAN HO RECLAMATION 12

CHOI HA ROAD SECTION TO BE WIDENED 12

OPEN DAY AT MUSIC CAMP 13

SAI YING PUN TRAFFIC CHANGES 13

CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORMS NOW AVAILABLE

* * * *

CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO WISH TO TAKE PART IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (ELECTORAL SERVICES), MR LAI KWAN-TAT, POINTED OUT TODAY THAT NOMINATIONS WILL BE CALLED ON AUGUST 2, BUT FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES, THE FORMS ARE NOW OBTAINABLE FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND FROM THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION AT HARBOUR CENTRE IN WAN CHAI.

THOSE WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS COMPRISING OR FORMING PART OF A FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY MAY ALSO OBTAIN FORMS FROM THEIR ORGANISATIONS, HE ADDED.

A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY FORMALLY DECLARES SEPTEMBER 26 THIS YEAR AS THE DATE FOR HOLDING THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN HONG KONG.

MR LAI EXPLAINED THAT THIS DATE WAS CHOSEN ON OPERATIONAL GROUNDS.

+THE ELECTIONS HAVE TO BE CONCLUDED A COUPLE OF WEEKS BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION. SEPTEMBER 26 IS PRACTICALLY THE LAST DAY IN THAT MONTH SUITABLE FOR THE OPERATION. IT IS A THURSDAY WHICH WILL NOT CLASH WITH ANY MAJOR SOCIAL OR SPORTING EVENT, AND WHICH WILL LEAVE A LITTLE TIME FOR TIDYING UP BEFORE THE END OF THE WEEK,+ HE SAID.

ALSO ANNOUNCED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE ARE APPOINTMENTS OF RETURNING OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS FOR THE ELECTIONS.

FOR DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCIES IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE, DISTRICT OFFICERS ARE APPOINTED AS RETURNING OFFICERS FOR DISTRICTS OTHER THAN THEIR OWN. AN ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER IN EACH DISTRICT WILL ACT AS ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICER FOR HIS OWN DISTRICT AND TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS.

THE SECRETARY, URBAN COUNCIL AND THE SECRETARY, PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL BE RETURNING OFFICERS FOR THEIR OWN COUNCIL. THEIR DEPUTIES ARE APPOINTED AS ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS, ALSO FOR THEIR OWN COUNCIL.

IN RESPECT OF FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (ELECTORAL SERVICES) WILL BE THE RETURNING OFFICER, ASSISTED BY THE REGISTRATION OFFICER AND ASSISTANT REGISTRATION OFFICERS IN THE CAPACITY OF ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS.

RETURNING OFFICERS HAVE THE SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISING THE ELECTIONS AND ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THEY WILL DO IS TO CALL FOR NOMINATIONS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE CONSTITUENCY NEXT FRIDAY (AUGUST 2).

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2 .....

THREE MORE BRANDS OF ADULTERATED WINE FOUND

* * * * *

THREE MORE BRANDS OF AUSTRIAN WINE HAVE BEEN FOUND TO CONTAIN DIETHYLENE GLYCOL, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE NAMES OF THE WINES ARE: RUSTER BEERENAUSLESE OSTERREICH BURGENLAND 1983, TRAUSDORFTER WELSCHRIESLING TROCKEN BEERENAUSLESE 1982 AND FELFER SCHILLINGEBERG GRUNER VESLTLINER EISWEIN-OSTERREICH 1983. PERCENTAGES OF THE CHEMICAL PRESENT ARE 0.5 PER CENT, 0.3 PER CENT AND 0.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEEN BOTTLES OF THE FIRST WINE HAVE BEEN SEIZED FROM AN IMPORTER. THE TOTAL BATCH CONSISTED OF 240 BOTTLES. THE IMPORTER ACTS ALSO AS A RETAILER AND THE BALANCE OF THE BOTTLES WAS SOLD DIRECT TO ABOUT 40 PEOPLE. IT IS THOUGHT THAT THIS IS THE ONLY SOURCE OF SUPPLY IN THE TERRITORY.

THE OTHER TWO WINES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN BY ANOTHER IMPORTER AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICERS ARE ABOUT TO SEIZE 500 TO 600 BOTTLES. INVESTIGATIONS ARE STILL GOING ON TO TRY AND ESTABLISH HOW MANY BOTTLES HAVE REACHED THE MARKET.

+THIS WINE SHOULD NOT BE DRUNK+, SAID SUPERINTENDENT LAWRENCE LI. +ANYONE WHO HAS PURCHASED IT SHOULD SURRENDER THEIR BOTTLES.+

A NUMBER OF SAMPLES OF OTHER WINES IS STILL BEING TESTED BY THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY AND THE PUBLIC WILL BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED IF ANY FURTHER CONTAMINATION IS FOUND.

- - - - o - - - -

EEC CONSUMERS CALL FOR TRADE LIBERALISATION

* * * *

REPRESENTATIVES OF EUROPEAN CONSUMERS HAVE ATTACKED THE EEC POSITION ON TEXTILES AS BEING TOO TIMID AND HAVE CALLED FOR A FIRM STANCE IN FAVOUR OF TRADE LIBERALISATION AND THE PHASING OUT OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT.

THIS WAS WELCOMED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR DONALD TSANG, WHO WAS COMMENTING ON A JOINT STATEMENT MADE BY THE EUROPEAN CONSUMERS' BUREAU (ECB) AND THE FOREIGN TRADE ASSOCIATION (FTA).

IN A RECENT STATEMENT TO THE EEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, THE EEC COMMISSION, WHILE RECOGNISING THAT LIBERALISATION AND MFA ABOLITION MUST BE THE EVENTUAL AIM, PUT FORWARD NO DEADLINE OR SUGGESTION AS TO HOW THIS SHOULD BE ACHIEVED.

/+ECB AND .....

+ECB AND THE FTA REGARD THE COMMISSION POSITION AS TIMID,+ SAID THE STATEMENT.

+IT FAILS TO ACCOUNT FOR THE GROWING TIDE IN FAVOUR OF LIBERALISATION IN MEMBER STATES SINCE CONSUMERS AND IMPORTERS LAUNCHED THEIR JOINT CAMPAIGN LAST YEAR. IT REPRESENTS A LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR APPROACH, HEMMED IN BY THE CONSTRAINTS OF ASSESSING THE POSITIONS OF GOVERNMENTS IN THE REST OF THE WORLD, RATHER THAN GIVING ANY CLEAR LEAD FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.+

THE TWO GROUPS SAID THEY HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT A COMMISSION REPORT ON THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY WHICH INFLUENCED THE PREPARATION OF THE PUBLISHED EEC POSITION. +THE REPORT IS AN APOLOGY FOR PROTECTION BIASED IN FAVOUR OF THE INDUSTRY,+ THEY SAID.

THERE WERE THREE SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO THE COMMISSION'S ANALYSIS, SAID THE ECB AND THE FTA.

FIRSTLY THE PROTECTIONIST BIAS IN FAVOUR OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IS ALL TOO APPARENT AND FIGURES FOR IMPORTS ARE INFLATED BY INCLUDING COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT COME UNDER THE MFA. AT THE SAME TIME THE POINT THAT, WITH SIGNS OF RECOVERY, THE INTERESTS OF THE EEC CLOTHING AND APPAREL INDUSTRY NOW LIE IN EXPANDING EXPORTS.

SECONDLY, THE COST OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS TO CONSUMERS IS IGNORED. ALL COST-BENEFIT ANALYSES OF THE MFA SHOW A SUBSTANTIAL HIDDEN TAX OF BETWEEN 10 AND 20 PER CENT ON CONSUMERS - PARTICULARLY ON THOSE WHO DEPEND ON CHEAP IMPORTED CLOTHING AND ON FAMILIES BUYING CHILDREN'S CLOTHING.

THIRDLY, NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE NEED FOR AN ORDERLY TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. THE COMMISSION HAS BASED ITS POSITION ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE CAN BE NO IMMEDIATE RETURN TO GATT RULES - BUT NOBODY IS ADVOCATING ABOLISHING THE MFA OVERNIGHT. WHAT IS REQUIRED IS AN ORDERLY TRANSITIONAL PERIOD TO ACHIEVE FREE TRADE BY 1991.

+THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SHOULD START FROM THE ASSUMPTION NOT THAT THE MFA SHOULD BE MAINTAINED BUT HOW TO PHASE IT OUT GRADUALLY,+ SAID THE TWO GROUPS.

MR TSANG SAID THAT THE STATEMENT WAS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN THAT THOUGH THE CLIMATE OF PROTECTIONISM OVERSEAS SOMETIMES SEEMED VERY STRONG, GROUPS SUCH AS CONSUMERS WERE NOW PUTTING THEIR POSITION CLEARLY AND MAKING EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT IT WAS KNOWN THAT PROTECTIONISM BENEFITED NO-ONE IN THE LONG RUN.

----0----

/4 .....

NEW HIRE CHARGES FOR NON-URBAN SPORTS GROUNDS

* * * *

HIRE CHARGES FOR THE USE OF FACILITIES IN NON-URBAN SPORTS GROUNDS UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL GO UP NEXT YEAR.

THE NEW CHARGES, PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT, WERE ENDORSED AT A MEETING OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TODAY.

THE NEW CHARGES FOR CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANISATIONS WILL COME INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1986 WHILE THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE FOR SCHOOLS HAS BEEN FIXED FOR APRIL 1, 1986 TO ALLOW THEM TIME TO BUDGET FOR THE INCREASE.

THE MOVE IS TO BRING IN LINE THE CHARGES LEVIED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR SIMILAR FACILITIES IN THE URBAN AREAS.

WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW RATES, CHARGES FOR HIRING FOOTBALL PITCHES FOR 90 MINUTES FOR ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL WILL BE INCREASED FROM $14 TO $30 AND FOR MINIATURE FOOTBALL FROM $7 TO $15.

IN ADDITION, A CHARGE OF $20 WILL BE MADE FOR THE USE OF FLOODLIGHTING FOR EVERY 90 MINUTES FOR WHICH THERE HAS BEEN NO CHARGE FOR NON-URBAN AREAS, UNLIKE THE URBAN AREAS.

IN THE CASE OF ALL-WEATHER ATHLETIC TRACKS, THE EXISTING CHARGES ARE MADE ACCORDING TO THE LENGTH OF THE TRACK. THE DAILY CHARGES FOR A 300-METRE ALL-WEATHER TRACK ARE $20 FOR SCHOOLS AND $50 FOR CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, COMPARED WITH $15 AND $30 FOR HALF A DAY.

FOR THE USE OF A 400-METRE ALL-WEATHER TRACK, DAILY CHARGES ARE $30 FOR SCHOOLS AND $60 FOR CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANISATIONS WHILE CHARGES FOR HALF A DAY ARE $20 AND $40 RESPECTIVELY.

EXISTING CHARGES FOR THE USE OF ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT AT THESE TRACKS ARE THE SAME. DAILY CHARGES FOR SCHOOLS ARE $30 WHILE THOSE FOR CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANISATIONS ARE $50, COMPARED WITH $20 AND $30 FOR HALF A DAY.

TO MAKE BOOKING EASIER FOR BOTH USERS AND MANAGEMENT STAFF, A NEW COMPOSITE FEE FOR ONE DAY OR HALF A DAY WILL BE CHARGED FOR THE USE OF A GROUP OF FACILITIES WHICH NORMALLY WOULD BE USED AT AN ATHLETIC MEETING. NO DIFFERENCE IS MADE ON THE LENGTH OF THE TRACK.

THE NEW DAILY CHARGES FOR THE USE OF ATHLETIC TRACK, EQUIPMENT AND PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM FOR ATHLETIC MEETINGS WILL BE $200 FOR SCHOOLS AND $300 FOR OTHERS, COMPARED WITH $120 AND $180 FOR HALF A DAY. FOR THE USE OF FLOODLIGHTING, A FLAT RATE OF $15 PER HOUR WILL BE CHARGED.

/THE ACTING .....

THE ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (HEADQUARTERS) OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR PETER CHEUNG, EXPLAINED THAT HIRING CHARGES FOR FOOTBALL PITCHES HAD NOT BEEN REVISED SINCE JULY, 1977 AND THOSE FOR ATHLETIC TRACKS HAD NOT BEEN REVISED SINCE THE PLEASURE GROUNDS (NEW TERRITORIES) REGULATIONS CAME INTO OPERATION ON DECEMBER 1, 1972.

THE REVISED CHARGES, HE ADDED, ARE EXPECTED TO BRING IN ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF ABOUT $8 760 IN 1985/86 AND $35 400 FROM 1986/87 ONWARDS.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE SUBSIDY TO HIRERS WILL BE REDUCED FROM 96 PER CENT TO 94 PER CENT IN 1986/87. FROM NOW ON, MR CHEUNG SAID, FEES WILL BE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL REVIEW.

AT THE MEETING, THE COUNCIL ALSO ENDORSED PROPOSAL TO HAVE SIX SPORTS GROUNDS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS LISTED UNDER THE PLEASURE GROUNDS (NEW TERRITORIES) REGULATIONS WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION BEFORE THESE SPORTS GROUNDS WERE BUILT.

THE SIX SPORTS GROUNDS ARE THE CHEUNG CHAU, KWAI CHUNG, SAI KUNG TANG SHIU KIN, SHA TIN, TUEN MUN TANG SHIU KIN AND THE WO YI HOP ROAD SPORTS GROUNDS.

THE LISTING WILL HAVE THE EFFECT OF RAISING MINIMUM HIRING CHARGES FOR THE SIX SPORTS GROUNDS FROM $50 TO $100 WHEN THE HIRER CHARGES MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AN ADMISSION FEE.

DURING THE MEETING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR TONY HAMMOND, ON THE PROCEDURE FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER.

THEY WERE ALSO TOLD OF THE POLICIES AND AIMS OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON MATTERS RELATING TO RECREATION AND SPORTS PROMOTION, CAMPS AND WATER SPORTS CENTRES, OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES- PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND AMENITY AREAS AND TRANSPORT FACILITIES AND SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT.

EARLIER, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, THANKED THE RSD UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF MR HAMMOND AND THE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT FOR THEIR WORK IN PREPARING 51 INFORMATION PAPERS OF VARIOUS TOPICS DURING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE COUNCIL'S OPERATION.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS THROUGH DISCUSSIONS ON THESE PAPERS THAT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL HAD A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLICIES AND AIMS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

----O----

/6 .....

NO AUTHORITY TO STEP OUTSIDE LAW, POLICE TOLD

* * * *

DESPITE THE LOW-PROFILE PARAMILITARY CAPABILITY WHICH EXISTS IN THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, NO INDIVIDUAL OR UNIT EVER HAS THE AUTHORITY TO STEP OUTSIDE THE LAW.

THIS POINT WAS EMPHASISED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY AN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR JOHN MACDONALD, IN ADDRESSING THE PASSING OUT PARADE MOUNTED BY GOLF COMPANY AT THE POLICE TACTICAL UNIT IN FANLING.

MR MACDONALD SUGGESTED THE MEN SHOULD VIEW WITH CAUTION A PIECE OF RECENT CRITICISM IN THE MEDIA IN WHICH THE FORCE WAS DESCRIBED AS A ''SELF-STYLED PARAMILITARY DISCIPLINED FORCE'' WHICH, SINCE THE EVENTS OF 1977 ''HAS BEEN A LAW UNTO ITSELF.''

''THIS CAPABILITY WAS NOT SOUGHT, BUT IMPOSED BY CIRCUMSTANCES AND FOUND ESSENTIAL IN THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER AND IS ACCEPTED BY THE PUBLIC AS NECESSARY,'' MR MACDONALD REMINDED THE PTU TRAINEES.

''NOTWITHSTANDING THAT WE TEND TO ADOPT A PARAMILITARY STRUCTURE WHEN IN AN INTERNAL SECURITY POSTURE, NO INDIVIDUAL OR UNIT IS ABOVE THE LAW.

''ON THE CONTRARY, YOU ARE TOTALLY ACCOUNTABLE TO IT, TO THE COURTS WHICH ADMINISTER IT AND TO THE VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS AND PROCEDURES THAT ENSURE DISCIPLINE IS MAINTAINED.''

HE TOLD THE MEN THAT THEY MUST MAKE VERY EFFORT TO SUSTAIN THE HIGH STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE THEY HAD ACHIEVED DURING THEIR 12-WEEK TRAINING COURSE, AND THAT THEY WOULD BE FAILING THEMSELVES AND IN THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY IF THEY TOLERATED ANY DETERIORATION.

THEY MUST CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES WITH TACT, FORBEARANCE AND, ABOVE ALL, COURTESY, HE SAID.

''YOU HAVE BEEN TRAINED TO REACT IN SUCH MANNER TO ALL, EVEN A PERSON CAUGHT IN THE ACT OF COMMITTING AN OFFENCE, AND I KNOW YOU RECOGNISE YOUR ROLE AS SERVANTS OF THE COMMUNITY -- WITHOUT WHOSE CONFIDENCE NONE OF US CAN FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY.''

----0----

/7 .....

BOSSES REMINDED ABOUT OVERSEAS WORK CONTRACTS

* * * *

EMPLOYERS INTENDING TO RECRUIT LOCAL MANUAL WORKERS FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE HONG KONG WERE REMINDED TODAY BY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT THAT THEY MUST FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS STIPULATED IN THE CONTRACTS FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE HONG KONG ORDINANCE.

HE SAID THE EMPLOYER MUST ENTER INTO A WRITTEN CONTRACT WITH THE WORKER AND MUST PRESENT THE DOCUMENT TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR FOR ATTESTATION BEFORE THE WORKER LEAVES HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT ENFORCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE WOULD BE TIGHTENED UP FOLLOWING THE RECENT AMENDMENTS WHICH SET OUT OFFENCES AND PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.

WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, EMPLOYERS OR THEIR AGENTS WILL BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION IF THEY FAIL TO OBTAIN WRITTEN CONTRACTS FOR THE WORKERS OR FAIL TO PRESENT THE CONTRACTS FOR ATTESTATION.

THE EMPLOYER OR HIS AGENT ALSO COMMITS AN OFFENCE IF HE INDUCES A WORKER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WHICH DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE ORDINANCE, OR TO LEAVE HONG KONG TO TAKE UP EMPLOYMENT BEFORE THE CONTRACT IS ATTESTED.

THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS $50 000 IN EITHER CASE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

EMPLOYERS INTENDING TO RECRUIT WORKERS FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE HONG KONG MAY CONTACT THE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT ABOUT THE PROPER PROCEDURES.

THE SERVICE IS LOCATED ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF HENNESSY CENTRE, 500 HENNESSY ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY AND TELEPHONE FOR ENQUIRIES IS 5-767311.

- - - - o - - - -

REGISTER OF WOMEN, YOUNG WORKERS SIMPLIFIED

* * * * * *

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN A MAJOR STEP IN SIMPLIFYING RECORD KEEPING FOR FACTORY PROPRIETORS EMPLOYING WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1, THE PROPRIETOR OF ANY FACTORY WHICH HAS THE SAME PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT AND THE SAME WEEKLY REST DAY FOR ITS WOMEN AND YOUNG WORKERS WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN A REGISTER IN RESPECT OF THESE WORKERS.

/HOWEVER, ...

HOWEVER, EMPLOYERS IN FACTORIES OPERATING MORE THAN ONE SHIFT, OR HAVE DIFFERENT PERIODS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THEIR WOMEN AND YOUNG WORKERS, OR WHO HAVE BEEN SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED TO KEEP A REGISTER OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN SPECIAL PERMISSIONS GIVEN IN WRITING BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, ARE STILL REQUIRED TO KEEP THE REGISTER IN ITS PRESENT FORM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THE SIMPLIFICATION PROCESS WOULD BENEFIT ABOUT 28 000 EMPLOYERS AND CANCEL THE RECORD KEEPING FOR ABOUT 500 000 WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS EMPLOYED IN INDUSTRIES.

ALL EMPLOYERS ARE, HOWEVER, STILL REQUIRED TO KEEP AN UP-TO-DATE LIST OF THE NAMES AND ID NUMBERS OF ALL THEIR EMPLOYEES, AS REQUIRED UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE.

THE REGISTER OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN 1959 AND CONTAINS INFORMATION ON THE PARTICULARS OF EACH WOMAN AND YOUNG PERSON EMPLOYED IN A FACTORY, THE BEGINNING AND ENDING OF EACH WORKING DAY, AND THE WEEKLY REST DAY.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE MAJORITY OF FACTORIES AT THAT TIME WERE OPERATING ON A SEVEN-DAY WEEK, AND WORKERS HAD TO TAKE THEIR WEEKLY REST DAY BY ROTATION.

HE SAID THE REGISTER WAS THEREFORE AN INDISPENSABLE INSTRUMENT IN ENFORCING THE LAW ON WORKING HOURS AND REST DAYS FOR WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES, HE ADDED, THERE HAD BEEN A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE PATTERN OF WORKING HOURS AND REST DAYS.

APART FROM OPERATING ON SHIFT, OR WITH SPECIAL SWING SHIFTS, ABOUT 95 PER CENT OF FACTORIES NOW HAVE THE SAME STARTING AND ENDING HOURS FOR ALL WORKERS AND A BREAK ON SUNDAY.

AS SUCH INFORMATION, APPLYING UNIFORMLY TO ALL WORKERS IN THE FACTORY, ARE ALREADY AVAILABLE IN THE TIME TABLE WHICH IS REQUIRED TO BE POSTED IN EACH FACTORY EMPLOYING WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS, THE REGISTER IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

EMPLOYERS WITH FURTHER ENQUIRIES SHOULD CONTACT ANY OFFICE OF THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, OR TELEPHONE 3-311820, 3-490810, 5-7904563 OR 0-230046.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW I.D. CARDS FOR NEXT AGE GROUP

* * * *

THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MEN BORN BETWEEN 1929 AND 1932 WILL BE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM AUGUST 5 TO SEPTEMBER 7.

+DURING THE FIVE-WEEK PERIOD, ABOUT 110 000 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO CALL AT OUR EIGHT ISSUE OFFICES FOR NEW CARDS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

/THESE OFFICES .....

THESE OFFICES ARE OPEN DAILY FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

+THOSE WISHING TO VISIT A PARTICULAR OFFICE AT A SPECIFIC TIME, CAN MAKE USE OF THE MAIL-IN APPOINTMENT SERVICE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ANY DISTRICT OFFICE OR IMMIGRATION OFFICE. APPLICANTS CAN ALSO CALL THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ON 3-7333111 REQUESTING FOR FORMS TO BE MAILED TO THEM.

+DULY COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ISSUE OFFICE OF ONE'S CHOICE AT LEAST 10 DAYS BEFORE THE END OF THE PHASE,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HE ALSO REMINDED APPLICANTS TO BRING ALONG THEIR OLD CARDS WHEN THEY VISIT THE ISSUE OFFICES.

+THOSE WHO ARE NOT CERTAIN OF THEIR YEARS OF BIRTH ARE ADVISED TO DO SOME RESEARCH BEFORE COMING TO OUR OFFICE, OR THEY COULD BRING ALONG THEIR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS SUCH AS PASSPORTS OR CERTIFICATES OF IDENTITY FOR EASY REFERENCE,+ HE SAID.

----o----

TRAINING OFFERED AIR, SEA FREIGHT STAFF

******

STAFF OF THE AIR AND SEA FREIGHT TRANSPORT INDUSTRY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRUSH UP ON THEIR MANAGERIAL SKILL AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRADES BY JOINING EXTENSION COURSES OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL (VTC).

THE TRANSPORT AND PHYSICAL DISTRIBUTION TRAINING BOARD OF VTC, IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, WILL OFFER EXTENSION COURSES FOR PERSONNEL FROM THE TWO SECTORS OF INDUSTRY IN OCTOBER.

THE SIX-MONTH COURSE IN SEA FREIGHT WILL COVER A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS FROM ACCOUNTING AND ECONOMICS, LAW OF BUSINESS, CARRIAGE AND MANAGEMENT TO ELEMENTS OF SHIPPING, SEA FREIGHT OPERATIONS, MARKETING AND WAREHOUSING OPERATION.

THE AIR FREIGHT COURSE WILL COVER TECHNICAL SUBJECTS SUCH AS DISTRIBUTION CONCEPT, CUSTOMER SERVICES, PRODUCT PACKAGING AND UTILISATION AND MATERIAL HANDLING.

A COMPLETION CERTIFICATE AND A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE ISSUED TO PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PASSED THE FINAL COURSE EVALUATION AND HAVE A SATISFACTORY CLASS ATTENDANCE RECORD.

COURSE FEE IS $2 400. HOWEVER, THE TRAINING BOARD WILL REFUND HALF THEIR FEE TO PARTICIPANTS WHO RECEIVE BOTH CERTIFICATES.

/THE COURSES, ...

THE COURSES, TO BE HELD TWICE WEEKLY, WILL START IN OCTOBER AND END IN APRIL. APPLICATION FORMS, OBTAINABLE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL AT 14TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SAME OFFICE BEFORE AUGUST 10.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, CONTACT THE SECRETARY OF THE TRANSPORT AND PHYSICAL DISTRIBUTION TRAINING BOARD, MR NELSON WONG, ON 5-8932341 EXT. 254.

- - - - o - - - -

BILL SEEKS MORE TIME FOR UC ESTIMATES

* * * *

A BILL SEEKING TO PROVIDE THE URBAN COUNCIL WITH MORE TIME TO PREPARE ITS ESTIMATES OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

+IF THE BILL IS ENACTED, THE COUNCIL CAN SUBMIT ITS ESTIMATES NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 31 INSTEAD OF BEFORE NOVEMBER 30. THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN CONSULTED AND WISH THE BILL TO BE ENACTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,+ A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 WILL RECEIVE ALL THREE READINGS ON AUGUST 7.

PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO UMELCO, AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, AT HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

- - - - o - - - -

SOFTBALL GROUND GETS FLOODLIGHTING

* * *

THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) HE HOPED THE PROVISION OF FLOODLIGHTING AT THE TIN KWONG ROAD SOFTBALL GROUND WOULD LEAD TO MORE GAMES BEING PLAYED.

OFFICIATING AT THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY THIS EVENING, HE SAID THAT HE WAS GLAD THAT THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT AND THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND HAD BEEN ABLE TO HELP THE HONG KONG SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION SHARE THE COST OF PROVIDING THE FLOODLIGHTS.

THE COST OF ABOUT $380 000 FOR THE FLOODLIGHTING SYSTEM WAS PROVIDED EQUALLY BY THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND AND THE SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION.

+SOFTBALL IN HONG KONG HAS AN INTERESTING HISTORY AND I AM GLAD SO MANY VETERANS ARE STILL SUPPORTING THE GAME AND THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF YOUNGSTERS TAKING IT UP.

/+PLAYING AND .....

+PLAYING AND WATCHING SOFTBALL IS A GRAND WAY OF BRINGING TOGETHER THE DIFFERENT COMMUNITY GROUPS WHICH MAKE UP HONG KONG,+ MR WILLIAMSON SAID.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION, MR T.T. TSUI ALSO OFFICIATED AT THE CEREMONY WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS A HISTORIC MOMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOFTBALL IN HONG KONG.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE FLOODLIGHTS WOULD ALLOW GAMES TO BE PLAYED FROM 6.30 PM TO 11.30 PM MONDAY TO SUNDAY, THUS DOUBLING PLAYING TIME AT TIN KWONG ROAD.

THE SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, MR F. DE S. OZORIO ALSO ATTENDED THE CEREMONY.

----o----

DISPLAY SETS OUT AREA COMMITTEE WORK

* * * *

A FOUR-DAY EXHIBITION DESCRIBING THE WORK OF AREA COMMITTEES IN WONG TAI SIN AND THEIR ROLE IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION WILL START TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

IT WILL MARK THE END OF THE WONG TAI SIN WEST SUB-DISTRICT FORNIGHT.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND CHARTS WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE EXHIBITION AREA OF THE LOK FU SHOPPING CENTRE FOR TWO DAYS (ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY), AND AT THE COVERED PLAYGROUND OF THE LOK SIN TONG WONG CHUNG MING SECONDARY SCHOOL ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAY AND TUESDAY (JULY 29 AND 30).

THE WONG TAI SIN WEST SUB-DISTRICT FORTNIGHT, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE AREA COMMITTEES OF TUNG TAU, LOK FU AND WANG TAU HOM, IS AIMED AT PROVIDING RESIDENTS WITH A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORK OF AREA COMMITTEES AND AT ENCOURAGING THEM TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

VISITORS TO THE EXHIBITION CAN ALSO JOIN A QUIZ ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND WIN PRIZES. QUESTIONS IN THE QUIZ WILL BE ABOUT INFORMATION DISPLAYED AT THE EXHIBITION.

----o----

HK-MACAU FIREMEN HOLD INTERPORT SPORTS EVENTS

* * * *

THE FIRST HONG KONG AND MACAU FIRE SERVICES INTERPORT SPORTS COMPETITION ENDED TODAY (FRIDAY), AFTER THREE DAYS OF EVENTS, WITH THE FINAL CONTESTS BEING HELD AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI STATION.

THE MACAU TEAM WON THE TABLE-TENNIS AND SOCCER EVENTS, AND THE HONG KONG TEAM WON THE VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION.

THE INTERPORT, AIMED AT FOSTERING CLOSER TIES BETWEEN THE TWO FIRE SERVICES, WILL NOW BE AN ANNUAL EVENT.

----o----

/12 .....

ROAD NETWORK PLANNED FOR SAI WAN HO RECLAMATION

* * * * *

THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A NETWORK OF ROADS AT SAI WAN HO RECLAMATION TO PROVIDE VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS IN THE AREA.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DRAINAGE SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED UTILITY WORKS TO CATER FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RECLAMATION.

THE ROAD NETWORK, TOTALLING 2.4 KILOMETRES, WILL ALSO PROVIDE ACCESS BETWEEN THE RECLAMATION AND SAI WAN HO FERRY PIER.

ACCORDING TO THE PROPOSAL, A SECTION OF NEW ROAD WILL FIRST BE BUILT AT THE JUNCTION OF HONG CHEUNG STREET TO FACILITATE LATER ROAD DIVERSION.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORK WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

A PLAN SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG= AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG NORTH, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG AND AT THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, 880-886 KING'S ROAD, GROUND AND FIRST FLOORS, HONG KONG.

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSAL MUST BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BY SEPTEMBER 24.

- - - - o - - - -

CHOI HA ROAD SECTION TO BE WIDENED

* * * *

A SECTION OF CHOI HA ROAD IN JORDAN VALLEY, KOWLOON, WILL BE WIDENED AND EXTENDED AS PART OF A PLANNED PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

THE ROAD AND ASSOCIATED FOOTPATHS WILL PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE PROPOSED JORDAN VALLEY NORTH ESTATE AND ADJOINING PROPERTIES.

TO FACILITATE THE PROPOSED WORK, THE SECTION OF THE ROAD WILL BE CLOSED, AND ONLY PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR ACCESS TO ADJOINING PROPERTIES WILL BE PROVIDED.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED BY THE PUBLIC AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY= AT THE KOWLOON EAST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON= AND AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, TUNG YAN STREET, THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS, KOWLOON.

ANY OBJECTIONS TO THE WORKS OR THE USE OF THE WORKS, SHOULD BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BY SEPTEMBER 24.

- - - - o - - - -

/13 .....

OPEN DAY AT MUSIC CAMP

* * *

THE 1985 HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP WILL HOLD AN OPEN DAY AT THE PO LEUNG KUK PAK TAM CHUNG HOLIDAY CAMP IN SAI KUNG ON SUNDAY (JULY 28) FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN AT THE ANNUAL CAMP WILL BE ABLE TO SEE THE PROGRESS MADE AFTER ONE WEEK OF INTENSIVE TRAINING BY OVERSEAS MUSICIANS.

- - - - O - - - -

SAI YING PUN TRAFFIC CHANGES

* * *

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IN FORCE IN SAI YING PUN FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS FROM 8 PM ON MONDAY (JULY 29) TO ALLOW ROAD WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT AT THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

THE ARRANGEMENTS, WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ON DES VOEUX ROAD WEST, ARE:

DAILY BETWEEN 8 PM AND 11 PM

* VEHICLES NOT EXCEEDING 10 TONNES GROSS WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL ON THE EASTBOUND TRAM LANE.

* FRANCHISED BUSES AND VEHICLES EXCEEDING 10 TONNES GROSS WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WESTERN STREET, CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND EASTERN STREET.

DAILY BETWEEN 11 PM AND 6 AM OF THE FOLLOWING DAY

* VEHICLES ON EASTERN STREET WILL BE BANNED FROM TURNING LEFT INTO DES VOEUX ROAD WEST EASTBOUND.

* ALL EASTBOUND VEHICLES EXCEPT TRAMS AND FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WESTERN STREET AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST.

* FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA WESTERN STRRET, CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND SUTHERLAND STREET TO REJOIN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

- - - - O - - - -