



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1974

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NEW TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME IN CENTRAL DISTRICT
IN PREPARATION FOR MTR WORKS

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A THREE-STAGE SCHEME TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC IN CENTRAL DISTRICT IS TO START EARLY NEXT MONTH AS PART OF A CONTINUING PROCESS OF REDUCING CONGESTION, PRIOR TO THE INTRODUCTION OF SUBSEQUENT TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS REQUIRED BY MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WORKS THERE.

THE SCHEME FEATURES AN INITIAL PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY THAT BANS VEHICLES FROM STOPPING ALONG A SECTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, AND A LATER PROHIBITION AGAINST PRIVATE CARS - THE LESS ESSENTIAL TYPE OF VEHICLE - FROM ENTERING THIS CONGESTED ROAD SECTION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE SCHEME, SUPPLEMENTED BY CHANGES IN TRAFFIC ROUTING AND TURNING MOVEMENT, SHOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS IMPROVING TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE BUSY AREA.

AT THE SAME TIME, IT WILL GIVE USEFUL INDICATION AS TO WHAT EXTENT ALTERNATIVE ROUTES IN CENTRAL ARE ABLE TO CARRY TRAFFIC DISPLACED FROM DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

HE POINTED OUT THAT EVENTUALLY WHEN WORKS ON THE MTR START IN LATE 1975 IN CENTRAL, THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE CHANGES IN TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS, PARTICULARLY ALONG DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WHERE THERE WOULD BE EXTENSIVE CUT AND COVER WORKS.

+THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME COMING INTO OPERATION IN JANUARY ANTICIPATES THIS FUTURE TRAFFIC DEVELOPMENT AND GETS MOTORISTS READY FOR ANY LATER DIVERSIONS,+ HE SAID.

UNDER THE FIRST STAGE OF THE SCHEME, SCHEDULED TO START ON JANUARY 5, ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND TRAMS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING TO PICK UP OR SET DOWN PASSENGERS AND GOODS ON BOTH CARRIAGEWAYS OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL ALONG THE SECTION BETWEEN JACKSON ROAD AND JUBILEE STREET EVERY DAY DURING THE PEAK HOURS FROM 7 A.M. TO 10 A.M. AND FROM 4 P.M. TO 7 P.M. AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECTION OF ICE HOUSE STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.

THE SECOND STAGE, PLANNED TO START SEVERAL WEEKS LATER, PROHIBITS PRIVATE CARS FROM ENTERING THE SAME SECTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN 7 A.M. AND 7 P.M. FROM MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS. HOWEVER, THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO CROSS THE ROAD AT FIXED INTERSECTIONS.

THE FINAL STAGE, PLANNED TO START IN APRIL, WILL SEE THE URBAN CLEARWAY AND PROHIBITION ON PRIVATE CARS IN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL EXTENDED WESTWARDS TO THE JUNCTION WITH MORRISON STREET.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE BAN ON PRIVATE CARS WOULD BE NECESSARY BECAUSE A SURVEY HAD SHOWN THAT THEY CONSTITUTED NEARLY A QUARTER OF ALL VEHICLES ON THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY WHICH WAS THE ONE MOST SUBJECT TO CONGESTION.

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+A MAJOR CAUSE OF CONGESTION HERE IS THE INABILITY OF VEHICLES TO GET THROUGH THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY, CAUSED BY INADEQUATE WIDTH OF CARRIAGEWAYS, TRAM ISLANDS AND TOO MANY VEHICLES. THE PRACTICABLE ANSWER WOULD BE TO REDUCE THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC BY BANNING THE LESS ESSENTIAL CATEGORY OF VEHICLE - THE PRIVATE CAR,+ HE SAID.

ON THE OTHER HAND, HE ADDED, PUBLIC TRANSPORT VEHICLES CATERING FOR LARGE NUMBERS OF COMMUTERS MUST CONTINUE TO OPERATE ALONG THIS SECTION OF ROAD, AND GOODS VEHICLES MUST BE ALLOWED TO SERVICE BUSINESS PREMISES AT NON-CLEARWAY TIMES.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT A BAN ON PRIVATE CARS ENTERING A SECTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. ON WEEKDAYS IS UNLIKELY TO CAUSE HARDSHIP SINCE THERE ARE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES ON QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

+WHERE CAR PARKING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY ALONG THIS SECTION IS ACCESSIBLE ONLY FROM DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, APPLICANTS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL PERMITS,+ HE ADDED.

NOTE TO EDITORS :

COPIES OF A SKETCH MAP SHOWING THE THREE STAGES OF THE CENTRAL DISTRICT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE G.I.S. PRESS ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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APPEAL FOR PUBLIC APPRECIATION OF NURSING SERVICE
YEARS OF HARD WORK, DEDICATION RECALLED AT ROTARY TALK

MISS LYDIA CHEUNG, SENIOR NURSING OFFICER, MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TODAY CALLED FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE PUBLIC TOWARDS THE NURSING SERVICE IN HONG KONG TO ENABLE IT TO ACHIEVE A HIGHER STANDARD OF PATIENT CARE AND IMPROVED RELATIONS.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON OF THE KWLOON EAST ROTARY CLUB, SHE SAID THE PROFESSION AS A WHOLE WANTED A BETTER SERVICE, AND TO THIS END, WELCOMED +CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.+

SHE RECALLED THAT THE GOVERNMENT NURSING SERVICE STARTED ABOUT 100 YEARS AGO WHEN THE FIRST GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL WAS SET UP, AND PATIENTS WERE LOOKED AFTER BY UNTRAINED STAFF IN 1873.

IN 1890, ONE MATRON AND FIVE NURSING SISTERS WERE RECRUITED FROM ENGLAND. THEIR HARD WORK LAID A SOUND FOUNDATION FOR THE PRESENT NURSING SERVICE. IN THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED, THE SERVICE WAS STEADILY EXPANDED TO MEET INCREASING NEEDS.

IN 1898, TWO BRITISH NURSES DIED FROM BUBONIC PLAGUE AFTER CONTACTING THE DISEASE, AND THERE WAS AN EMOTIONAL REACTION BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN HELD IN THE GREATEST RESPECT BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THEIR DEVOTION TO DUTY.

THE FIRST HONG KONG GIRL TO RECEIVE NURSING TRAINING UNDERWENT THIS IN 1910. BY 1941, THE FIRST TRAINING SCHOOL HAD ACHIEVED A GOOD REPUTATION, AND WAS TURNING OUT ANNUALLY MANY GOOD NURSES.

MISS CHEUNG PAID A TRIBUTE TO NURSES WHO HAD CARRIED ON DURING THE PACIFIC WAR DESPITE MANY TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS. SHE LOOKED BACK AT HISTORY TO RECALL THAT FIVE NURSES HAD BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED WHILE WORKING IN THE HEIGHT OF BATTLE. SOME NURSES WENT TO CHINA TO CONTINUE THEIR SERVICE FOLLOWING THE FALL OF HONG KONG.

AS SOON AS THE WAR ENDED, MANY MEDICAL AND NURSING OFFICERS RETURNED, DOING THEIR BEST TO NORMALISE CONDITIONS, AND IN 1946, THE GOVERNMENT NURSING SCHOOL REOPENED, WITH THE SERVICE EXPANDING STEADILY SINCE TO MEET THE GROWING NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY. THE NUMBER OF NURSING STAFF AND ALLIED GRADES NOW TOTALLED 5,223.

IN A REFERENCE TO EMERGENCY MISSIONS CARRIED OUT BY POLICE LAUNCHES OR HELICOPTERS WHICH TRANSFER ACUTE PATIENTS FROM REMOTE AREAS TO URBAN HOSPITALS, MISS CHEUNG SAID NURSES AND MIDWIVES INVARIABLY AND INEVITABLY TOOK PART, BUT THE PUBLIC KNEW LITTLE ABOUT THIS, TAKING THE SERVICE FOR GRANTED, AND SELDOM GIVING CREDIT WHERE IT WAS DUE.

/IN ADDITION

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IN ADDITION TO PRESSURE, PHYSICAL HARDSHIP AND THE RISK TO PERSONAL SAFETY, NURSES ON SUCH MISSIONS HAD TO WEAR A SMILE AND ACQUIT THEMSELVES HONOURABLY AND PROFESSIONALLY IN ALL WEATHERS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

MISS CHEUNG SAID THE SUCCESS OF THE HEALTH DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT RELIED A GREAT DEAL ON THE WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS WHO WERE QUALIFIED NURSES AND MIDWIVES WITH SPECIAL TRAINING IN PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING.

HEALTH VISITORS, HEALTH AUXILIARIES AND INOCULATORS SHARED RESPONSIBILITY WITH DOCTORS, AND ALL HAD A SPECIFIC AND SIGNIFICANT ROLE TO PLAY IN THE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN HONG KONG.

+WE ARE PLANNING TO SET UP MORE ADVANCED STUDY COURSES, INCLUDING NURSE TUTOR TRAINING COURSES AND CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSES, FOR LOCAL STAFF WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS,+ MISS CHEUNG SAID.

SHE AGREED THAT WHILE THE SERVICE WAS NOW AND THEN CONFRONTED WITH PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THE NURSING STAFF AND THE COMPLEXITIES OF ADMINISTRATION, PEOPLE IN AUTHORITY WERE CONSTANTLY REVIEWING THE SERVICE AND TAKING MEASURES TO BETTER THE CONDITIONS.

SHE HOPED THAT WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE PUBLIC, HONG KONG COULD BECOME A HEALTHIER SOCIETY, WITH THE NURSING SERVICE DOING ITS SHARE IN A CLIMATE OF UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION.

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SPECIAL RECREATIONAL SCHEME FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

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A COMMITTEE COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF WELFARE AGENCIES, FACTORIES AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT HAS ESTABLISHED A RECREATIONAL SCHEME SPECIALLY FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS, ONE OF THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG.

THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS RECREATIONAL SCHEME AS IT IS KNOWN, WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THREE STAGES THROUGH RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, SELECTION OF MODEL WORKERS AND AN OVERSEAS WORKERS EXCHANGE PROGRAMME.

THE SCHEME WAS INITIATED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR WONG TAI SIN, MRS. HENRIETTA CHEN. MRS. CHEN EXPLAINS: +THE IDEA OF ORGANISING RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR FACTORY WORKERS WAS BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF A STUDY CONDUCTED BY SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY ON THEIR INTERESTS AND NEEDS. THE REPORT BROUGHT OUT THE FACT THAT INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN THE AREA DESPERATELY NEEDED HEALTHY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMES.+

FOLLOWING UP ON THE REPORT, A MEETING WAS HELD AMONG VARIOUS SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCIES, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND FACTORIES IN WONG TAI SIN, RESULTING IN AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BEING SET UP TO WORK ON A PLAN AND DEFINED TARGET AREAS.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE IS MR. LEUNG CHI-HANG, DIRECTOR AND MANAGER OF STAR INDUSTRIAL COMPANY LIMITED, AND ITS CHAIRMAN THE REV. BALDWIN P.W. YEUNG. VICE CHAIRMEN ARE MRS. MABEL O, WARDEN OF WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE= MR. NG NGOK-SHING OF THE CALVARY CHURCH SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE AND MR. WONG KWOK CHUNG OF ARVIN H.K. COMPANY LIMITED.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE REPRESENT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE, THE TSZ WAN SHAN ZION YOUTH CENTRE, THE Y.M.C.A. WONG TAI SIN CENTRE, THE TSZ WAN SHAN ESTATE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICE, THE SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY, SAN MIGUEL BREWERY AND ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY LIMITED.

TOGETHER WITH MRS. CHEN, FOUR OTHER GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES EXPERIENCED IN COMMUNITY AND RECREATION WORK IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE ADVISING ON PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES AND SO ON. THEY ARE MR. I.R. STRACHAN, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER= MR. A. JOHNSON, URBAN SERVICES OFFICER= MR. DAVID MAK, DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICER, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT= AND MR. BENNY NG, POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER.

WHILE THESE PEOPLE WILL PROVIDE THE +BRAINS+ TO RUN THE SCHEME, FINANCING WILL COME FROM SAN MIGUEL BREWERY LIMITED, STAR INDUSTRIAL COMPANY LIMITED, ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY LIMITED AND SMART SHIRTS MANUFACTURERES LIMITED.

/ON THE ESTABLISHMENT

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHEME MRS. CHEN COMMENTED: +IT IS INDEED ENCOURAGING TO SEE THE SCHEME RECEIVE SUCH ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FROM THE LOCAL FACTORIES. THOUGH INITIATED BY THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE, IT IS ACTUALLY A MANIFESTATION OF THE CO-OPERATIVE SPIRIT OF THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, THE INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WHO ARE ALL WORKING TO HELP IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR THE WORKERS.

ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 8) THE SCHEME WILL BE LAUNCHED OFFICIALLY WITH A COMBINED OPENING CEREMONY AND SPORTS MEET FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS. THIS WILL BEGIN AT 9 A.M. AT THE PERTH STREET SPORTS GROUND IN HO MAN TIN, KOWLOON.

OPENING REMARKS WILL BE MADE BY MR. HENRY AU, SENIOR PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, FOLLOWED BY A JOINT RIBBON CUTTING BY MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL GUESTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THIS FUNCTION ON SUNDAY.

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**WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN WAN CHAI WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR ABOUT 10 HOURS TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) EVENING TO ENABLE A WATER MAINS CONNECTION TO BE MADE IN THE AREA.

THE TEMPORARY STOPPAGE WILL START FROM 10 P.M. AND NORMAL SUPPLY SHOULD BE RESTORED BY 8 A.M. THE NEXT DAY.

AFFECTED WILL BE PREMISES BOUNDED BY NOS. 210-238 WAN CHAI ROAD AND NOS. 300-368 HENNESSY ROAD.

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WHERE THE PAST IS KEPT ALIVE
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MANY PEOPLE MAY REGARD THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE, WHICH PROVIDES A CENTRALISED SERVICE IN THE SELECTION AND PRESERVATION OF GOVERNMENT ARCHIVES OR PERMANENTLY VALUABLE PUBLIC RECORDS, AS MERELY A PAPER MUSEUM OR CEMETERY.

BUT TO MR. IAN DIAMOND, THE ARCHIVIST IN CHARGE, IT IS AN ACTIVE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT MACHINERY - IN FACT, THE 'GOVERNMENT'S MEMORY'.

ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND FILES FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE FORWARDED TO THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE FOR SORTING AND ASSESSMENT. DOCUMENTS ARE SELECTED FOR PRESERVATION ON THE BASIS OF THEIR VALUE IN RELATION TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL BASIS OF THE GOVERNMENT- THE ORIGIN, DEVELOPMENT, POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS- PROPERTY RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF PRIVATE CITIZENS OR ORGANISATIONS- AND INSIGHT INTO THE POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMICAL AFFAIRS OF A COUNTRY.

THE ARCHIVES ARE KEPT FOR OFFICIAL REFERENCE AND, UNDER APPROVED CONDITIONS, FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AND PRIVATE RESEARCH.

TEACHING STAFF AND STUDENTS OF LOCAL AND OVERSEAS UNIVERSITIES OFTEN MAKE USE OF THE AVAILABLE RECORDS, AND RECORDS FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE FREQUENTLY RECALLED FOR REFERENCE.

+SO YOU SEE THE OFFICE IS FAR FROM 'DEAD'+ SAID MR. DIAMOND.

THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE RECENTLY MOVED INTO NEW AND BETTER-EQUIPPED PREMISES ON THE GROUND AND MEZZANINE FLOORS OF THE MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STORY CAR PARK BUILDING.

+WE NOW HAVE MORE SPACE FOR STORING PUBLIC RECORDS AND THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN AUXILIARY SERVICES WHICH WERE LACKING IN THE OLD PREMISES ON GARDEN ROAD,+ MR. DIAMOND SAID.

AMONG THE ITEMS STORED IN THE OFFICE IS THE COLONY SEAL WHICH WAS USED IN THE PRE-WAR PERIOD. THERE IS ALSO A COLLECTION OF RECORDS OF THE JAPANESE ADMINISTRATION DURING THE OCCUPATION, INCLUDING PAPERS ON LAND MATTERS, PROPERTY RATING, AND OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE STANLEY PRISON CAMP AND HOSPITAL.

EARLY RECORDS ON LANDS AND DEEDS OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT FROM THE 1860'S UP TO THE LAST YEAR AND RECORDS OF THE AUDIT DEPARTMENT DATING FROM 1844 TO 1860 ARE ALSO KEPT IN THE OFFICE.

MR. DIAMOND SAID A MAP COLLECTION HAS ALSO BEEN STARTED IN THE NEW OFFICE, INCLUDING A MAP OF HONG KONG PREPARED IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY DEPICTING THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES OF HONG KONG AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/THE OLDEST

THE OLDEST DOCUMENTS KEPT IN THE OFFICE ARE A SET OF CROWN AND VILLAGE RENT ROLLS COVERING THE PERIOD 1843-1956, AND A BATCH OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE SECRETARIAT, SUPREME COURT AND VARIOUS MAGISTRATES DATED 1844.

AN ITEM OF INTEREST KEPT IN THE OFFICE BUT WHICH IS NOT A PART OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS, IS A FILE OF EARLY NEWSPAPERS, INCLUDING AN 1876 COPY OF THE CHINA MAIL WHICH IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY.

IN GENERAL, PUBLIC RECORDS THAT ARE OVER 30 YEARS OLD ARE OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION. BUT MR. DIAMOND SAID THERE IS NO HARD AND FAST RULE REGARDING THIS MATTER, AND THERE ARE RECORDS OVER 30 YEARS OLD WHICH ARE CLASSIFIED AND NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

THESE HISTORICAL RECORDS ARE KEPT IN A SEPARATE STORAGE ROOM LOCATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE CAR PARK BUILDING FAR AWAY FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE. HOWEVER, ROOM ITSELF IS EQUIPPED WITH SPECIAL DEVICES AND EQUIPMENT TO ENSURE THE SAFEKEEP OF THE ARCHIVES.

THE TEMPERATURE IN THE STORAGE AREA IS MAINTAINED CONSTANTLY AT 65 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT AND THE RELATIVE HUMIDITY AT 60 PER CENT.

+IF THE HUMIDITY IS TOO LOW, THE DOCUMENT PAPERS WILL BECOME BRITTLE, AND IF IT IS TOO HIGH, THE PAPERS WILL TURN SOFT AND MOULDY,+ MR. DIAMOND EXPLAINED.

A CONSTANT FLOW OF FRESH AIR IS KEPT CIRCULATING INTO THE ROOM. BUT IT IS PROCESSED THROUGH A FILTER TO ELIMINATE DUST PARTICLES AND INSECTS.

THERE IS ALSO A SAFE VAULT WHERE CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS ARE KEPT.

AN EFFECTIVE FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM IS INSTALLED IN THE ROOM. IF THE STORE AREA BECOMES SMOKELOGGED SPECIAL DETECTORS WILL SET OFF CYLINDERS OF CARBON DIOXIDE IN THE ROOM, SUFFOCATING ANY FIRE WHICH MAY HAVE STARTED.

+BEFORE THE CARBON DIOXIDE IS EMITTED, AN ALARM WILL GO OFF TO GIVE THE STAFF WORKING IN THE ROOM TIME TO EVACUATE,+ MR. DIAMOND SAID.

PUBLIC RECORDS ARE KEPT IN STANDARD CARTONS LODGED IN MOBILE STORAGE BAYS MOUNTED ON RAILS FOR SPACE ECONOMY AND EASY REFERENCE. STOCK IS CALCULATED BY THE FOOTAGE OF SHELVING OCCUPIED BY THESE CARTONS.

THE MURRAY ROAD OFFICES PROVIDE A TOTAL OF 15,000 FEET OF STORAGE SPACE, THREE TIMES THAT IN THE OLD PREMISES.

+WE HAVE VERY COMPREHENSIVE FINDING AIDS,+ MR. DIAMOND SAID, +AND CAN LOCATE ANY DOCUMENT WITHIN 10 MINUTES.+

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ONE ADDITION IN THE NEW OFFICE IS THE FUMIGATION ROOM WHERE DOCUMENTS ARE TREATED BEFORE STORAGE. THIS CLOSELY SEALED ROOM IS EQUIPPED WITH A PIPE THAT LETS IN METHYL BROMIDE, A HIGHLY PENETRATING GAS THAT WILL KILL ANY INSECT, EVEN THOSE HIDING IN HEAVY BOUND VOLUMES.

DOCUMENTS ARE TREATED IN THE +GAS CHAMBER+ FOR 24 HOURS BEFORE THEY ARE STORED AWAY.

ANOTHER NEW FEATURE IS THE REPAIR SECTION WITH TRAINED STAFF AND SPECIAL EQUIPMENT TO ENSURE THAT DAMAGED DOCUMENTS ARE PROFESSIONALLY REPAIRED BY SPECIALLY TRAINED STAFF.

OTHER SECTIONS IN THE NEW OFFICE COMPRISE A READING ROOM WITH 12 CUBICLES, A REFERENCE LIBRARY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, A FILM PROCESSING UNIT, A MICROFILM UNIT, GENERAL OFFICES AND RECORD SORTING ROOMS.

THE REFERENCE LIBRARY RETAINS A WIDE RANGE OF HONG KONG OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS AND OF U.K. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO HONG KONG, AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO MAKE USE OF THIS MATERIAL.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

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THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (TUESDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON :

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE MEW	GOOD	1.89
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.73
PO NGAI	GOOD	---
CHU CHO	GOOD	---
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.75
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.64
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	---
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.35
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.67
<u>U.S. RICE</u>	GOOD	1.91
<u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u>	GOOD	1.72
<u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>	GOOD	---
<u>TAIWAN RICE</u>	GOOD	---

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(ALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	NORMAL
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	340 (AVERAGE)

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(FMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	NORMAL	3.00	1.60	2.30
BIG-EYES	GOOD	2.50	1.00	1.80
SQUID	NORMAL	5.80	1.50	3.60
HAIR-TAILS	GOOD	2.20	0.80	1.50
LIZARD FISHES	GOOD	3.20	0.70	2.10
CROAKERS	GOOD	1.80	0.40	1.20
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	NORMAL	2.80	2.00	2.40
MELON COAT	NORMAL	2.40	1.50	2.00
BREAMS	SCARCE	5.50	4.00	4.80
YELLOW BELLY	GOOD	1.10	0.60	0.90
MACKERELS	LIMITED	5.00	3.00	4.00
RED GOAT FISH	LIMITED	3.80	1.00	2.40
FORK-TAIL	NORMAL	1.30	0.60	1.00
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	4.00	2.50	3.30
MELON SEED	SCARCE	2.80	1.20	2.00
POMFRETS	SCARCE	9.00	5.00	7.00
GARROUPAS	NORMAL	7.20	6.00	6.80
YELLOW CROAKER	SCARCE	6.80	5.00	6.00

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	NORMAL	1.50	0.40	1.00
WHITE CABBAGE	LIMITED	0.70	0.20	0.50
CHINESE LETTUCE	LIMITED	1.40	0.50	1.00
WATER SPINACH	---		NO SALE	
CHINESE KALE	LIMITED	1.60	0.50	1.00
STRING BEANS	---		NO SALE	
SPRING ONION	SCARCE	2.00	0.60	1.40
SPINACH	LIMITED	2.40	0.80	1.80
WATER CRESS	NORMAL	1.50	0.40	1.00
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	LIMITED	0.50	0.15	0.30
CHINESE SPINACH	---		NO SALE	
TOMATO	SCARCE	3.50	1.80	2.50

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