



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1984

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VALUE OF PERSONAL CONTACT STRESSED
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THE VALUE OF PERSONAL CONTACT WAS STRESSED TODAY BY MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, MR RICHARD LUCE, AFTER A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

MR LUCE SAID: +I HAVE SPENT THE MORNING WITH THE GOVERNOR IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. I HAVE HAD A VERY COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN HONG KONG AND I MUST SAY THAT I HAVE HAD VERY VALUABLE DISCUSSIONS.+

+AS I SAID ON MY ARRIVAL, I, MY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN SECRETARY, ATTACH THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO PERSONAL CONTACT AND THAT THEREFORE WAS THE VALUE OF THIS MORNING'S MEETING.+

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AMBASSADOR SAYS TALKS HERE 'EXTREMELY VALUABLE'
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THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO PEKING, SIR RICHARD EVANS, TODAY DESCRIBED AS +EXTREMELY VALUABLE+ HIS MEETING WITH THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND HIS CONSULTATIONS WITH MR RICHARD LUCE, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, AND THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS SHORTLY BEFORE DEPARTING FOR PEKING, SIR RICHARD SAID HE COULD NOT AFFORD TO STAY ANY LONGER BECAUSE HE WOULD BE HOST TO MR PAUL CHANNON, MINISTER OF TRADE, AT A DINNER PARTY THIS EVENING.

+BUT I SHALL BE BACK SOON,+ HE SAID.

+AND AS I SAID IN PEKING A FEW DAYS AGO, ALL THOSE OF YOU WHO GO THERE FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS ARE VERY WELCOME TO COME AND HAVE TEA WITH MY WIFE AND MYSELF AT MY HOUSE AT 5 O'CLOCK ON MARCH 16,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT.

+WE SHALL BE READY FOR YOU.

+BUT DON'T BRING YOUR NOTEBOOKS, AND YOUR CAMERAS, AND YOUR OTHER ELECTRONIC APPARATUS, BECAUSE THIS IS A GET-TOGETHER SESSION, A GETTING ACQUAINTED SESSION.

+WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU VERY MUCH THEN,+ HE SAID.

SIR RICHARD WAS SEEN OFF AT THE AIRPORT BY THE GOVERNOR'S ASSISTANT PRIVATE SECRETARY, MR MATTHEW CHEUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS CONFERENCE BY MINISTER OF STATE
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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, MR RICHARD LUCE, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE GIS THEATRE AT 12 NOON TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

LATER TOMORROW AFTERNOON, THERE WILL BE A FACILITY FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER MR LUCE'S DEPARTURE FOR KUALA LUMPUR. MR LUCE WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT CX 721, ETD. 3.30 PM.

PLEASE ADVISE THOSE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE EVENT TO ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM NOT LATER THAN 2.15 PM TOMORROW. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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BUDGET DAY ON WEDNESDAY
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HONG KONG'S BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1984/85 WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 29).

THE PROCEEDINGS WILL START AT 2.30 PM WHEN THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMIDGE MOVES THE FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1984 AND OUTLINES HONG KONG'S ESTIMATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1984-85.

THE ESTIMATED HEADS OF EXPENDITURE WILL BE SET OUT IN THE SCHEDULE OF THE BILL TO BE PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTE THE SAME AFTERNOON.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WILL BE ADJOURNED UNTIL MARCH 28 AND 29 WHEN UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE BUDGET PROPOSALS.

OFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL REPLY TO POINTS RAISED BY THEIR UNOFFICIAL COLLEAGUES ON APRIL 18. IF NECESSARY, THE DEBATE WILL CONTINUE THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING ON THE BILL ON MAY 2.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH ON WEDNESDAY WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE OVER RTHK'S RADIO 1 (CHINESE) AND RADIO 3 (ENGLISH).

/RTHK WILL

RTHK WILL ALSO BROADCAST LIVE THE OTHER BUDGET SITTINGS ON MARCH 28 AND 29, APRIL 18, 19 (IF NECESSARY) AND MAY 2 ON RADIO 1 (CHINESE) AND RADIO 3 (ENGLISH).

THE BUDGET SITTINGS WILL ALSO BE COVERED, IN NORMAL NEWSCASTS AND BULLETINS OF RTHK, COMMERCIAL RADIO, HK-TV AND ATV.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

IN ORDER TO AFFORD MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE TO PREPARE STORIES RELATING TO THE BUDGET, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, A CLOSED WORKING SESSION WILL BE HELD IN THE GIS THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE GROUND RULES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. NO PART OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH OR RELATED DOCUMENTS IS TO BE PUBLISHED OR BROADCAST PRIOR TO DELIVERY IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
2. REPORTERS WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE CLOSED WORKING SESSION ARE ASKED TO BE AT THE GIS THEATRE BY 11.15 AM TO REGISTER. AT 11.30 AM, THE FIRST, BACKGROUND, PART OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH WILL BE DISTRIBUTED.

AT 12.30 PM, EVENING NEWSPAPER REPORTERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE TO FILE STORIES BASED ON THIS PART OF THE SPEECH.

OTHER REPORTERS WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SESSION THAT AFTERNOON WILL ALSO LEAVE AT THIS POINT.

BOTH GROUPS MUST BEAR IN MIND THE EMBARGO STATED IN PARAGRAPH 1.

3. ONCE THE ABOVE TWO GROUPS HAVE DEPARTED, THE REMAINING REPORTERS WILL BE GIVEN THE SECOND PART OF THE SPEECH, CONTAINING THE BUDGET PROPOSALS.

NO-ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE THEATRE UNTIL AFTER THE FS HAS FINISHED SPEAKING. A SANDWICH LUNCH, AND SOFT DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

4. ON COMPLETION OF DELIVERY THE CLOSED SESSION WILL END AND REPORTERS MAY LEAVE.

NOTE: ALL MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES REGISTERING FOR THE CLOSED WORKING SESSION WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE ACCEPTED IN FULL THE ABOVE CONDITIONS.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE TO MEET IN PUBLIC NEXT MONTH
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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL CONDUCT ITS EXAMINATIONS OF GOVERNMENT BUDGET PROPOSALS IN PUBLIC FOR THE FIRST TIME AT FOUR SPECIAL MEETINGS NEXT MONTH.

CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS WERE MADE LAST JULY, PAVING THE WAY FOR THIS IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT IN ITS HISTORY.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE TOP DECISION-MAKING BODY ON PUBLIC SPENDING, HAS THREE OFFICIAL MEMBERS: THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS. BUT IT IS ONLY THE LEGCO UNOFFICIALS WHO HAVE VOTING RIGHTS.

THE COUNCIL NOW HAS 29 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, THE LARGEST NUMBER EVER, ALL OF THEM SITTING ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AS OVERSEERS OF PUBLIC SPENDING.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IS GOING TO PRESENT THE BUDGET ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 29), AND GEARING THEMSELVES FOR THE FORMIDABLE TASK OF SCRUTINISING THE VOLUMINOUS DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE, THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS HAVE FORMED THEMSELVES INTO FOUR STUDY TEAMS THIS YEAR TO DEAL WITH SOCIAL SERVICES; LAW AND ORDER; ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICES; AND GENERAL SERVICES UNDER THE CONVENERSHIP OF DR THE HON HARRY FANG, THE HON T.S. LO, THE HON BILL BROWN AND THE HON S.L. CHEN RESPECTIVELY.

WHEN THE SWITCH FROM IN-CAMERA TO OPEN SESSIONS WAS ANNOUNCED LAST YEAR, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID THE STEP WOULD DEMONSTRATE TO THE PUBLIC THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF OFFICERS ADMINISTERING GOVERNMENT SPENDING.

EVERY SUCH OFFICER WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE UNOFFICIALS TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON HIS DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET PROPOSALS.

IF THE PAST IS ANY GUIDE, CONTROLLING OFFICERS WILL BE BARRAGED WITH HUNDREDS OF QUESTIONS, VERBAL AND WRITTEN.

LAST YEAR, THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS RAISED 366 POINTS OF QUERY AFTER A SERIES OF MEETINGS AT WHICH EACH OF THE 71 HEADS OF EXPENDITURE WAS CRITICALLY EXAMINED.

THESE POINTS WERE EITHER ANSWERED IN WRITING OR CLARIFIED BY CONTROLLING OFFICERS AT FOUR SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. A TOTAL OF 25 CONTROLLING OFFICERS APPEARED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE AND WERE CLOSELY QUESTIONED BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

+THIS VERBAL GRILLING WILL NOW BE CARRIED OUT IN PUBLIC, A STEP THAT SHOULD HELP IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF AN OPEN GOVERNMENT,+ A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SPOKESMAN SAID.

THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON MARCH 7, 8, 9 AND 12.

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IT IS BUSINESS AS USUAL IN HK -- YAXLEY

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THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY TODAY (MONDAY) TOLD A DELEGATION OF SWEDISH BUSINESSMEN THAT THE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN HONG KONG CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT HONG KONG WAS VERY MUCH IN BUSINESS AND INTENDED TO STAY THAT WAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE SWEDISH OIL INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SWEDISH CONSULATE GENERAL IN HONG KONG AND THE SWEDISH TRADE COUNCIL IN SWEDEN TO DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN SWEDEN AND HONG KONG WHICH MAY RESULT FROM THE EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEAS OFF-SHORE OIL FIELDS.

+DESPITE, IN THE MINDS OF SOME, PRESENT UNCERTAINTIES, IT IS, HOWEVER, VERY MUCH BUSINESS AS USUAL IN HONG KONG. WE REMAIN FORWARD LOOKING AND OPTIMISTIC,+ MR YAXLEY SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT TRADE WAS BOOMING AS HONG KONG'S MAIN MARKETS OVERSEAS PULLED OUT OF RECESSION AND ORDER BOOKS WERE FULL.

+THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS ABOUT 20 PER CENT IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1983, UP FROM 18 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER AND 14 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER. DOMESTIC EXPORT PERFORMANCE IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN STRONG FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

+THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT FOR 1983 HAS BEEN REVISED UPWARDS FROM FOUR PER CENT TO SIX PER CENT, A FIGURE WHICH IN A DIFFICULT YEAR FOR EVERYBODY, COMPARES WELL WITH GROWTH RATES IN NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE,+ HE SAID.

HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS WERE CONTINUING TO INVEST, PARTLY TO MEET THE CURRENT UPSURGE IN ORDERS, THOUGH WITH PERHAPS A LITTLE MORE CAUTION THAN PREVIOUSLY, HE POINTED OUT.

+WE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY KNOW OF 50 MANUFACTURERS AMONG WHOM ARE A NUMBER OF OVERSEAS COMPANIES CURRENTLY EXPANDING THEIR OPERATIONS, SOME OF THEM AT A COST RUNNING INTO TENS OF MILLIONS OF HONG KONG DOLLARS,+ HE ADDED.

MR YAXLEY SAID ALTHOUGH FOREIGN INVESTMENT ACCOUNTED FOR ONLY 10 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, IT HAD BEEN ESPECIALLY VALUABLE IN ASSISTING HONG KONG TO DIVERSIFY AND UPGRADE ITS PRODUCTS.

+THE LEVEL OF OVERSEAS INTEREST IN HONG KONG REMAINS ENCOURAGINGLY HIGH. THIS INTEREST HOWEVER COMES LARGELY FROM NORTH AMERICA AND JAPAN, RATHER THAN FROM EUROPE. HOWEVER, EUROPE WITH ITS EXPERIENCE IN THE NORTH SEA OFFSHORE OIL INDUSTRY HAS A GREAT DEAL OF EXPERTISE WHICH WILL BE INVALUABLE FOR THE OFFSHORE OIL INDUSTRY IN THIS REGION, AND I AM SURE THAT DEVELOPMENT IN THIS AREA WILL OFFER MANY PROFITABLE OPPORTUNITIES,+ MR YAXLEY SAID.

ON THE GOVERNMENT SIDE, HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONTINUING WITH A SUBSTANTIAL PROGRAMME OF PUBLIC WORKS ON NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING HIGHWAYS AND OTHER FACILITIES, AND WITH PROGRAMMES IN EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, SOCIAL WELFARE, CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ALL THE OTHER AREAS THAT ARE IMPORTANT FOR A SOPHISTICATED, MODERN AND CARING COMMUNITY.

+ELECTRIFICATION AND MODERNISATION OF THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY, WHICH RUNS FROM KOWLOON TO OUR BORDER WITH CHINA, HAS JUST BEEN COMPLETED, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE HONG KONG ISLAND LINE OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY IS WELL UNDERWAY. THE GOVERNMENT WILL SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCING A MAJOR CO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE TERRITORY WHICH WILL TAKE US INTO THE 21ST CENTURY,+ HE TOLD THE SYMPOSIUM.

THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT, MAJOR C.G. BERNARD, ALSO DETAILED FACILITIES AND SERVICES AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG FOR THE OFFSHORE OIL INDUSTRY.

HE CALLED ON THE SWEDISH DELEGATION TO FURTHER LOOK INTO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES WHICH HONG KONG OFFERS.

+SWEDEN IS VERY POORLY REPRESENTED IN HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SCENE, COMPARED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS THE USA, JAPAN, UK, AUSTRALIA AND HOLLAND,+ HE SAID.

TO ILLUSTRATE THE POTENTIAL, MAJOR BERNARD POINTED OUT THAT SINGAPORE WHICH HAD AN OLD AND WELL ESTABLISHED OFFSHORE OIL INDUSTRIAL BASE AND INDUSTRY SERVING OIL FIELDS IN INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES, HAD OVER 110 SERVICE SUPPLY AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES, 33 OIL COMPANIES, 18 CONSULTANTS AND 15 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYORS.

HE ADDED THAT HONG KONG, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD ONLY SOME 60 SUCH COMPANIES IN ALL.

+THE POTENTIAL, THEREFORE, FOR ESTABLISHING SIMILAR BUSINESSES HERE IN HONG KONG, AS DRILLING ACTIVITIES DEVELOP, WHETHER AS A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OR AS A JOINT VENTURE, IS CLEARLY VERY CONSIDERABLE.

+OF COURSE, MANY OF THE FACILITIES AND SERVICES REQUIRED WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA OFFSHORE OIL BASES NOW BEING DEVELOPED CLOSE TO HONG KONG IN CHIWAN AND SHEKOU,+ HE SAID.

EVEN SO, HE ADDED, IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT THE COMMUNICATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES WHICH HONG KONG ALONE COULD PROVIDE IN THE EARLY YEARS WOULD LEAD AT LEAST TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON OFFICES FOR COMMUNICATIONS, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS CONTROL AND SUPPLIES PROCUREMENT.

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NEW VEHICLE INSPECTION PLAN ANNOUNCED

ALL GOODS VEHICLES AND TRAILERS MANUFACTURED BEFORE 1975 WILL HAVE TO BE EXAMINED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT BEFORE LICENCES FOR THESE VEHICLES CAN BE RENEWED.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (MONDAY), A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT INSPECTION IS REQUIRED IF APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENCES COMMENCING ON OR AFTER APRIL 1, 1984 IS MADE.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ANNOUNCED NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR INSPECTION OF GOODS VEHICLES AND TRAILERS MANUFACTURED IN 1975. OWNERS MUST PRESENT THESE VEHICLES FOR EXAMINATION BEFORE APPLICATION FOR LICENCES COMMENCING ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 1984 CAN BE ACCEPTED.

THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS REPLACE PLANS ANNOUNCED ON DECEMBER 25 AND 26, 1983 CONCERNING COMPULSORY INSPECTION OF GOODS VEHICLES AND TRAILERS MANUFACTURED IN 1975.

VEHICLES AND TRAILERS WHICH HAVE PASSED EXAMINATION AT THE DEPARTMENT'S VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE AT CHEUNG YIP STREET, NGAU TAU KOK, WILL BE ISSUED WITH A CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS WHICH SHOULD BE PRODUCED WHEN MAKING APPLICATION FOR RELICENSING.

THE CERTIFICATES WILL BE VALID ONLY IF ISSUED DURING THE FOUR MONTHS PRECEDING THE DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEW LICENCE.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR EXAMINATION ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL LICENSING OFFICES AND VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRES.

VEHICLE OWNERS ARE ADVISED TO MAKE EARLY APPOINTMENTS TO AVOID INCONVENIENCE WHEN THEIR LICENCES EXPIRE.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TELEPHONE 3-7597505.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS CONFERENCE ON REVIEW BOARD

A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO ANNOUNCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD AND TO INTRODUCE ITS MEMBERS.

THE CONFERENCE, TO BE OPENED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY, WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM IN THE FURAMA HOTEL JADE BALLROOM WHERE SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION FACILITIES WILL BE ARRANGED FOR THE PRESS. IT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A TEA RECEPTION TO WHICH YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED.

/THE BOARD

THE BOARD HAS BEEN SET UP TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF BROADCASTING AS ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT THE START OF ITS CURRENT SESSION.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE REVIEW WOULD ASSESS LONG-TERM NEEDS FOR TELEVISION AND SOUND BROADCASTING, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE MAJOR TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES WHICH HAD OCCURRED SINCE THE LAST REVIEW, AND WOULD RECOMMEND A POLICY FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF BROADCASTING IN HONG KONG.

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LANGUAGE INSTITUTE TO OFFER COURSES
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PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADS ARE INVITED TO NOMINATE LANGUAGE TEACHERS TO ATTEND A NUMBER OF FULL-TIME REFRESHER COURSES TO BE OFFERED FREE OF CHARGE BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1984 AND JUNE 1985.

THERE WILL BE FOUR COURSES - TWO FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AND TWO FOR TEACHERS OF CHINESE. EACH WILL LAST FOR 16 WEEKS AND ACCOMMODATE 150 TEACHERS.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSES ARE TO FAMILIARISE TEACHERS WITH THE MOST RECENT TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION, TO ENABLE THEM TO EXTEND AND UPDATE THE REPERTORY OF THEIR APPROACHES TO LANGUAGE TEACHING AND TO PROVIDE THEM WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE THEIR OWN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY.

A TEACHER REFRESHER COURSE CERTIFICATE WILL BE ISSUED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A COURSE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID THAT PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO TEACHERS WHO HAVE AT LEAST FIVE YEARS' POST-QUALIFICATION TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND WHO HAVE NOT ATTENDED A FULL-TIME REFRESHER COURSE DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

PREFERENCE WILL ALSO BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE SPENT MORE THAN HALF OF THEIR TEACHING TIME IN THE TEACHING OF CHINESE OR ENGLISH DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SCHOOLS MAY NOMINATE PARTICIPANTS FOR BOTH THE CHINESE AND ENGLISH COURSES.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED, NOMINATIONS MUST BE MADE IN PAIRS -- A NOMINATION FOR THE FIRST CHINESE COURSE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A NOMINATION FOR THE OTHER CHINESE COURSE. THIS ALSO APPLIES TO THE ENGLISH COURSES.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE RELEASED FROM NORMAL SCHOOL DUTIES TO ATTEND THE REFRESHER COURSES ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.

THE SCHOOLS CONCERNED WILL BE ALLOWED TO EMPLOY A FULL-TIME TEACHER FOR THE WHOLE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

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THE REPLACEMENT TEACHER WILL BE EMPLOYED AT THE CERTIFICATED MASTER/MISTRESS RANK ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS AND THE SERVICE WILL COUNT FOR PROMOTION AND INCREMENTAL PURPOSES.

SCHOOL HEADS WHO WISH TO NOMINATE TEACHERS TO ATTEND THESE COURSES SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATIONS TO THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION AT PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 21/F, 56 DUNDAS STREET, KOWLOON ON OR BEFORE MARCH 17, 1984.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE WITH THE INSTITUTE ON TEL. NO.3-319418.

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TYPE 'A' CAR PARK MONTHLY PASSES
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, ITS TYPE 'A' CAR PARK MONTHLY PASSES ISSUED AT \$1 000 EACH WILL BE VALID FOR ALL CAR PARKS MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT EXCEPT THE MIDDLE ROAD AND YAU MA TEI MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS, WHICH WILL BE PRIVATISED FROM MARCH 1.

THE GOVERNMENT MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS IN CENTRAL WILL BE PRIVATISED FROM APRIL 1 AND THE NEW OPERATOR WILL BE ISSUING NEW TYPE 'A' MONTHLY PASSES FOR USE AT ALL MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS THEN UNDER ITS MANAGEMENT.

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TRANSLATION WORKSHOP FOR JOURNALISTS
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WORKING JOURNALISTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A NEWS TRANSLATION WORKSHOP CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION OF THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE.

THE COURSE IS ORGANISED AT THE REQUEST OF THE JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL TO HELP UPGRADE THE STANDARD OF JOURNALISM IN HONG KONG.

THE WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING FROM MARCH 15 TO APRIL 12.

ABOUT 100 SAMPLES OF PUBLISHED TRANSLATIONS OF FOREIGN NEWS AGENCY STORIES AND ARTICLES WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE MODERATORS AND PARTICIPANTS AT THE WORKSHOP.

THE COURSE FEE IS \$1 000 A PERSON. EACH PARTICIPANT IS REQUIRED TO PAY A NOMINAL SUM OF \$100, AS THE REST OF THE AMOUNT IS BORNE BY VTC.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1984. ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD, MR FRANK NG AT 5-8932341 EXT. 283.

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BOARD TO DISCUSS BUILDING MANAGEMENT
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FINDINGS OF A SEMINAR ON MULTI-STOREY BUILDING MANAGEMENT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 29).

THE SEMINAR WAS HELD ON JANUARY 29, WHEN SOME 300 PARTICIPANTS DISCUSSED MAJOR BUILDING MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS, SUCH AS SECURITY, VICE-ESTABLISHMENTS, SIGNBOARDS AND ILLEGAL EXTENSIONS.

PARTICIPANTS THEN RECOMMENDED THAT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED SHOULD BE CHANNELLED TO RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND THAT FURTHER PUBLICITY BE GIVEN TO THE PROMOTION OF BETTER BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

AT WEDNESDAY'S MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL STUDY PROPOSALS TO HELP THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT KEEP DOWN FIRE HAZARDS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE RECENT PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION, VISITS TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS, AND A SURVEY ON THE DISTRICT NEWSPAPER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 3 PM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 29) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF TUNG PING BUILDING, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

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EIGHTH REFUSE COLLECTION POINT FOR MONG KOK
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A LARGE OFF-STREET REFUSE COLLECTION POINT WILL BE BUILT AT MONG KOK.

IT WILL OCCUPY A 200-SQUARE-METRE SITE IN NULLAH STREET AND BE READY BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$545 000 CONTRACT TO GAMMON (HONG KONG) LIMITED TO CARRY OUT THE PILING WORK, WHICH WILL TAKE THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

WORK ON BUILDING THE SUPERSTRUCTURE WILL THEN BEGIN UNDER A SEPARATE CONTRACT.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED INCLUDE A REFUSE COLLECTION AREA, A LOADING BAY, A ROLL-CALL ROOM, AN OFFICE AND STOREROOM.

THE STRUCTURE WILL BE THE EIGHTH OFF-STREET REFUSE COLLECTION POINT IN MONG KOK.

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NT LIFE SAVING SERVICES RESUME THURSDAY
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LIFE SAVING AND FIRST AID SERVICES WILL BE RESUMED ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1) AT ALL 27 GAZETTED PUBLIC BATHING BEACHES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND ON THE OUTLYING ISLANDS.

LIFEGUARDS WILL BE ON DUTY AT THE BEACHES BETWEEN 9 AM AND 6 PM DAILY, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

BUT HE URGED SWIMMERS TO PLAY SAFE BY NOT SWIMMING OUTSIDE THE AREAS CLEARLY MARKED BY BUOY LINES.

THEY ARE ALSO ADVISED NOT TO SWIM AT CASTLE PEAK BEACH, ANGLER'S BEACH AND THE NON-GAZETTED BEACH AT BUTTERFLY BAY IN TUEN MUN BECAUSE OF THE UNSUITABLE CONDITION OF THE WATERS THERE.

BEACHGOERS MAY, HOWEVER, SUN BATH OR USE THE BARBECUE PITS PROVIDED AT THE BEACHES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AND AT CASTLE PEAK BEACH, PLEASURE BOATS MAY BE HIRED BY THE PUBLIC, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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KENNEDY TOWN TRAFFIC CHANGE
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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN KENNEDY TOWN WILL BE CHANGED FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 29) TO FACILITATE SLOPE WORK AT BELCHER'S STREET.

THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE :

- * AN 80-METRE SECTION OF BELCHER'S STREET NEAR SAI CHEUNG STREET WILL BE RESTRICTED TO ONE LANE FOR TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.
- * VEHICLES ON SAI CHEUNG STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO BELCHER'S STREET.
- * A YELLOW BOX WILL BE DESIGNATED ON THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF BELCHER'S STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH HOLLAND STREET.
- * BELCHER'S STREET FROM 55 METRES WEST OF HOLLAND STREET TO 37 METRES EAST OF SAI CHEUNG STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED AS URBAN CLEARWAY. NO MOTOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP THERE FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM DAILY.

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FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 13 DAYS IN MARCH.

THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE DAYS AND TIMES OF THE PRACTICE:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>TIME</u> |
|----------------------|--------------|
| MARCH 1 (THURSDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 2 (FRIDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 5 (MONDAY) | 8 AM - 11 PM |
| MARCH 6 (TUESDAY) | 8 AM - 11 PM |
| MARCH 7 (WEDNESDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 9 (FRIDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 12 (MONDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 15 (THURSDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 20 (TUESDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 22 (THURSDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 27 (TUESDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 28 (WEDNESDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |
| MARCH 29 (THURSDAY) | 8 AM - 5 PM |

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1984

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 82.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 484.988 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 420.602 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 71.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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RESTRICTED ZONE EXTENDED
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FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 29), THE EXISTING 7 AM TO 7 PM RESTRICTION AT THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF BULKELEY STREET WILL BE EXTENDED WESTWARDS FOR ABOUT 23 METRES TO ITS JUNCTION WITH WHAMPOA STREET.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE AUTHORISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS, OR LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS.

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