



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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MORE ENVIRONMENTAL WORK NEEDED: REPORT

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MUCH HAD BEEN ACHIEVED BUT MUCH WAS STILL TO BE DONE IN THE AREA OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN HONG KONG ACCORDING TO A REPORT ISSUED TODAY.

THE REPORT, ENTITLED +ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN HONG KONG 1983-84+, HAS BEEN COMPILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IN COLLABORATION WITH 14 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN POLLUTION CONTROL, AND COVERS ALL ASPECTS OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTION, NOISE, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT.

IT INCLUDES AN INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER WHICH PRESENTS A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF THE GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD AND THE ROLE THEY PLAY.

THE REPORT ALSO COVERS PROGRESS MADE IN THE TEN YEARS SINCE THE CONSULTANTS, ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES LIMITED, WERE COMMISSIONED TO ADVISE ON WHAT SHOULD BE DONE TO PROTECT HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT, AND LISTS A NUMBER OF SUCCESSES.

THE SUCCESSES INCLUDE:

- * THE ENACTMENT OF THREE MAJOR ORDINANCES: FOR THE CONTROL OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTION AND FOR WASTE DISPOSAL, TOGETHER WITH AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING LEGISLATION TO CONTROL VENTILATION NOISE, CONSTRUCTION NOISE AT NIGHT AND THE EMISSION OF SMOKE FROM ROAD VEHICLES
- * THE ESTABLISHMENT, STAFFING AND EQUIPPING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, TO PROVIDE A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM TO DEAL WITH CO-ORDINATION, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD
- * THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTROL UNITS WITHIN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LEGISLATION
- * THE INTRODUCTION OF COMPREHENSIVE MONITORING PROGRAMMES FOR AIR AND WATER QUALITY, NOISE AND ALL TYPES OF WASTE ARISING
- * THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR PROGRAMME OF PUBLIC WORKS TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR THE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE AND OTHER WASTES, TO REDUCE POLLUTANT EMISSIONS FROM MUNICIPAL INCINERATORS AND TO RECTIFY POLLUTION BLACK-SPOTS

/* A MARKED

- * A MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN THE EXTENT TO WHICH ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE PHYSICAL PLANNING PROCESS
- * THE PREVENTION OF NEW NUISANCES AND HARMFUL EFFECTS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTROL MEASURES THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN INCORPORATED INTO MAJOR INSTALLATIONS IN HONG KONG SUCH AS THE COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS, CEMENT WORKS, CHEMICAL WORKS, FACTORIES ON INDUSTRIAL ESTATES AND NUMEROUS OTHERS.

IN THE SPECIFIC POLLUTION AREAS COVERED IN THE REPORT, REFERENCE IS MADE IN THE AIR QUALITY SECTION TO THE REDUCTIONS ACHIEVED IN LEAD IN PETROL, THE DECLINE OF THE PREVIOUSLY HIGH SULPHUR DIOXIDE CONCENTRATIONS IN THE HUNG HOM AREA AND THE DRAMATIC REDUCTION IN PARTICLE EMISSIONS FROM THE KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR.

THE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT SECTION FOCUSSES ON THE RENEWED EFFORTS TO CONTROL POLLUTION OF WATER-COURSES AND BEACHES IN THE TERRITORY AND PROVIDES MUCH USEFUL DATA ON THE OCCURRENCE OF RED TIDES AND THE FLOATING REFUSE PROBLEM.

IN THE NOISE AND VIBRATION SECTION OF THE REPORT, THE MAJOR THEME IS +PLANNING AGAINST NOISE+. THIS EXPLAINS THE WAY IN WHICH OPTICAL MODELS AND COMPUTER MODELS ARE BEING USED TO ENSURE THAT RESIDENTS OF NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, SUCH AS THOSE IN JUNK BAY, ARE PROTECTED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, FROM EXCESSIVE ROAD TRAFFIC AND RAIL NOISE.

HONG KONG'S PRE-EMINENCE IN TEXTILE AND GARMENTS IS REFLECTED IN THE ANALYSIS OF REFUSE COMPOSITION GIVEN IN THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING SECTION OF THE REPORT.

RAGS OF VARIOUS SORTS COMPRISE A MASSIVE 35 PER CENT OF ALL PRIVATELY COLLECTED WASTE.

FORECASTS OF HOW MUCH WASTE, IN THE FORM OF REFUSE AND SLUDGES, WILL BE GENERATED IN HONG KONG IN THE FUTURE INDICATE THE BIG TASK FACING THOSE WHO MUST PLAN FOR ITS DISPOSAL.

MORE THAN 2-1/2 MILLION TONNES A YEAR OF SLUDGES AND OVER 12 000 TONNES/DAY OF REFUSE WILL REQUIRE DISPOSAL BY THE END OF THE DECADE.

DETAILS ARE GIVEN OF AN ADVANCED COMPUTER MODEL THAT HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO AID THE PLANNING IN THIS AREA.

THE WAY IN WHICH ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE ENTERING MORE AND MORE INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANNING OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IS WELL ILLUSTRATED IN CHAPTER 7, WHICH RECORDS A 100 PER CENT INCREASE BETWEEN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1982 AND THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984 IN THE NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS BEING ASSESSED.

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THERE IS GOOD NEWS TOO OF IMPROVEMENTS IN THE EXTENT TO WHICH ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN FUTURE LOCAL PLANNING EXERCISES.

FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE +HONG KONG PLANNING STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES+, IS TO HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE CHAPTER ON +THE ENVIRONMENT+. THE FIRST TWO SECTIONS, ON AIR AND WATER QUALITY, HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND THE REMAINDER ARE EXPECTED TO BE FINALISED IN THE COMING YEAR.

COPIES OF THE REPORT CAN BE PURCHASED FROM HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BOOKSHOPS.

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UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION STABLE

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THE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION FOR THE THREE MONTHS TO APRIL 1984 REMAINED LARGELY STABLE WHILE THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION IMPROVED SLIGHTLY, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE PERIOD WAS 4.1 PER CENT, EFFECTIVELY THE SAME AS THE FOUR PER CENT RECORDED FOR THE QUARTER TO MARCH 1984.

WHEN COMPARED WITH THE RATE OF 3.7 PER CENT FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER (NOVEMBER 1983 - JANUARY 1984) AND 5.2 PER CENT FOR THE SAME QUARTER OF 1983, THE INCREASE OF 0.4 PER CENT WAS NOT STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT WHILE THE DECREASE OF 1.1 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR WAS STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT.

THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE QUARTER TO APRIL WAS ESTIMATED AT 103 800, COMPARED WITH 95 200 FOR THE QUARTER TO JANUARY 1984, AND TO 128 900 FOR THE SAME QUARTER OF LAST YEAR.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR FEBRUARY - APRIL 1984 WAS ESTIMATED AT 1.2 PER CENT AND THAT FOR NOVEMBER 1983 - JANUARY 1984 AT 1.5 PER CENT. THE DIFFERENCE WAS STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT. THE RATE FOR FEBRUARY - APRIL 1983 WAS 2.4 PER CENT.

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS 31 200 FOR THE QUARTER TO APRIL, COMPARED WITH 38 700 FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE SEEKING MORE WORK OR WERE NOT SEEKING MORE WORK BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED MORE WORK WAS NOT AVAILABLE.

/COMMENTING ON

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COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS SAID THAT BECAUSE THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS (E.G. PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO MONTH, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES WHICH HAD BEEN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FOR THE VARIATION IN FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME. THE UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER TO APRIL 1984 WAS 3.9 PER CENT.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THIS SURVEY COVERS A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 15 000 HOUSEHOLDS OR 55 000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG. PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR. THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER TO JUNE 1984 WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AROUND SEPTEMBER 20, 1984.

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ENVIRONMENT BODY STRENGTHENED
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN RETITLED, STRENGTHENED AND GIVEN WIDER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ITS NEXT TERM OF OFFICE BEGINNING ON JULY 1. THE NEW MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE WILL BE GAZETTED NEXT FRIDAY (JUNE 22).

IT IS INTENDED TO EMPHASISE THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION AS THE MAIN TASK COMMANDING THE COMMITTEE'S ATTENTION. A MINOR CHANGE TO REFLECT THIS IS THAT EPCOM WILL NOW BE KNOWN AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE COMMITTEE WILL TAKE OVER THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG STEERING COMMITTEE, WHICH MASTERMINDED THE ANTI-LITTERING CAMPAIGN IN 1982 AND ITS IMMEDIATE FOLLOW-UP. LITTERING IS SEEN AS AN INTRINSIC PART OF POLLUTION AND ASPECTS SUCH AS THE CONTROL OF FLOATING REFUSE ARE EXPECTED TO OCCUPY A GOOD DEAL OF EPCOM'S TIME IN THE COMING MONTHS.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEES ON LAND AND WATER POLLUTION, AIR POLLUTION AND NOISE, WHICH AT PRESENT REPORT TO EPCOM, ARE TO BE DISCONTINUED. INSTEAD, THE NEW EPCOM WILL BE ABLE TO SET UP AD HOC WORKING GROUPS FROM AMONG ITS OWN MEMBERS TO STUDY PARTICULAR ISSUES SHOULD THIS BE FELT NECESSARY. THIS WILL BE A MUCH MORE FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENT.

/THE PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THESE CHANGES IS TO REASSERT AND TO STRENGTHEN EPCOM'S POSITION AS THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT ON POLLUTION MATTERS. BY HAVING ONE, CENTRAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, RATHER THAN A MULTIPLICITY OF SOURCES OF ADVICE, IT IS EXPECTED THAT GREATER COHESION WILL BE ACHIEVED AND MATTERS DEALT WITH MORE EXPEDITIOUSLY THAN IS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE PRESENT STRUCTURE, TO THE BENEFIT OF THE CAUSE OF POLLUTION CONTROL. THE AUTHORITATIVE NATURE OF EPCOM'S ADVISORY ROLE IS IN THIS WAY CLEARLY ESTABLISHED.

THE COMMITTEE IS TO BE COMPOSED ENTIRELY ON UNOFFICIALS, BOTH TO EMPHASISE ITS INDEPENDENCE AND TO EQUIP IT FULLY TO CARRY OUT ITS PROPER TASK, WHICH IS TO PROVIDE TOP-LEVEL ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT FROM SOURCES NOT AVAILABLE WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE. EXPERTISE AVAILABLE ON EPCOM WILL, IN THIS WAY, COMPLEMENT THAT EXISTING WITHIN THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. OFFICIALS WILL ATTEND THE COMMITTEE'S MEETINGS TO ASSIST MEMBERS IN THEIR DELIBERATIONS, WITH THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BEING IN PERMANENT ATTENDANCE.

TO MAKE WAY FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW BLOOD, SIX MEMBERS OF EPCOM WILL BE RETIRING AT THE END OF THE PRESENT TERM : MR JOHN MARDEN, MR WALTER SULKE, MR HENRY LITTON, MR STEPHEN LAU, DR DANIEL NG AND DR KEITH LEGG. THEY HAVE BEEN ON THE COMMITTEE BETWEEN 7 AND 17 YEARS. A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN PAID TRIBUTE TO THEIR SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF EPCOM OVER THE YEARS.

THE COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO BE CHAIRED BY MR H.M.G. FORSGATE, WHO ALSO CHAIRS THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND IS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL.

EPCOM WILL, FROM JULY 1, HAVE THREE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS AMONGST ITS MEMBERS. MR ANDREW SO, THE SOLE CURRENT LEGCO MEMBER ON THE COMMITTEE, WILL BE JOINED BY MR CHARLES YEUNG FROM THE CLEAN HONG KONG STEERING COMMITTEE AND DR HENRIETTA IP WHO IS WELL KNOWN FOR HER INTEREST IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS AND IS A MEMBER OF THE UMELCO ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS PANEL.

THERE IS ALSO TO BE A STRENGTHENING OF THE +GRASSROOTS+ ELEMENT, TOGETHER WITH A CONSCIOUS ATTEMPT TO BALANCE URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES INPUT. TWO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ARE JOINING THE COMMITTEE : MR AUGUSTINE NG OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD AND DR ALBERT CHEUNG OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD. THE NEW TERRITORIES/URBAN AREA BALANCE IS ALSO REFLECTED IN THE APPOINTMENTS OF MR CHARLES YEUNG, A MEMBER OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK AS WELL AS BEING A LEGCO MEMBER, AND MR HOWARD YOUNG WHO IS ON THE URBAN COUNCIL. THESE MEMBERS WILL JOIN MR S.L. WAN OF THE CONSERVANCY ASSOCIATION, WHO IS ALREADY ON EPCOM AND WHO, THROUGH HIS ASSOCIATION, IS IN TOUCH WITH MANY OF THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO SHARE EPCOM'S CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.

/ACADEMIC EXPERTISE

ACADEMIC EXPERTISE WILL BE PRESENT IN THE PERSONS OF PROF. BRIAN MORTON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY OF HONG KONG UNIVERSITY, A NOTED EXPERT IN WATER POLLUTION MATTERS= DR K.W. FUNG, ALSO OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY, WHOSE INTEREST LIES IN THE AIR POLLUTION FIELD AND WHOSE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN A STUDY OF BLOOD-LEAD LEVELS IN HONG KONG PEOPLE= AND DR DAVID JOHNS, RECENTLY-APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC AND A FORMER PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE UK INSTITUTE OF ACOUSTICS.

IN ORDER THAT EPCOM MAY FUNCTION AS A WELL-BALANCED COMMITTEE, IN WHICH ALL THE IMPLICATIONS AND ASPECTS OF POLLUTION CONTROL POLICY MAY BE WEIGHED AND CONSIDERED, THREE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED ON THE NOMINATION OF THE THREE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS. THESE ARE THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, AND THE MEMBERS APPOINTED ON THEIR NOMINATION ARE MR PHILIP LAI, MR S.H. SUNG AND MR STAN H.Y. FUNG RESPECTIVELY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE RECONSTITUTED EPCOM WAS WELL-EQUIPPED TO TACKLE WHAT PROMISED TO BE A CHALLENGING PROGRAMME IN THE YEAR AHEAD, IN WHICH PROPOSALS ON MATTERS AS DIVERSE AS FLOATING REFUSE, ANIMAL WASTE POLLUTION IN THE STEAMS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE NEW DRAFT NOISE CONTROL BILL, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROLS IN TOLO HARBOUR, THE FIRST WATER CONTROL ZONE AND THE BRINGING-INTO EFFECT OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROLS UNDER THE NEW AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE WERE LIKELY TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

IN PARALLEL WITH THESE CHANGES TO THE EPCOM STRUCTURE, A NEW TOP-LEVEL INTRA-GOVERNMENT POLLUTION CONTROL POLICY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE. THE COMMITTEE WILL PROVIDE OVERALL COORDINATION AND DIRECTION FOR THE POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAMME AND WILL BE THE IN-HOUSE COUNTERPART OF EPCOM. MEMBERS ARE THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR GRAHAM BARNES, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR RON BRIDGE, THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT, MR EDDIE SHORT, THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS, MR JOHN TODD AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED. THE PERSONAL ATTENDANCE OF THESE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS IS EXPECTED TO GUARANTEE TO THE COMMITTEE THE NECESSARY DEGREE OF AUTHORITY AND EXPERIENCE TO DRIVE THROUGH A WELL THOUGHT-OUT POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAMME.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE RESTRUCTURED EPCOM AND THE NEW POLLUTION CONTROL POLICY COMMITTEE WOULD COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER AND PROVIDE EFFICIENT AND DYNAMIC MACHINERY AT THE TOP LEVEL IN THE CAUSE OF POLLUTION CONTROL.

/IN SUPPORT

IN SUPPORT OF THESE COMMITTEES THERE IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, NOW WITH AN ESTABLISHMENT OF 121 PEOPLE, SPECIALISTS IN POLLUTION CONTROL, WITH THE JOB OF DEVELOPING ANTI-POLLUTION STRATEGIES AND LEGISLATION; AND IN THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS REPRESENTED ON THE POLLUTION CONTROL POLICY COMMITTEE THERE ARE DEDICATED CONTROL UNITS WHOSE JOB IT IS TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE ANTI-POLLUTION OPERATIONS AND LEGISLATION. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT CHANGES TO EPCOM SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED IN ISOLATION BUT THROUGH THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE OVERALL RESOURCES, EFFORT AND EXPERTISE AVAILABLE BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE GOVERNMENT FOR THE POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAMME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE FOLLOWING IS EPCOM'S NEW MEMBERSHIP LIST:

MR H.M.G. FORSGATE, OBE, JP	(CHAIRMAN)
THE HONOURABLE ANDREW SO KWOK-WING, OBE, JP	
THE HONOURABLE CHARLES YEUNG SIU-CHO, OBE, JP	
DR THE HONOURABLE HENRIETTA IP MAN-HING	
PROFESSOR BRIAN MORTON	
MR S.L. WAN	
DR K.W. FUNG	
DR ALBERT CHEUNG CHI-PIU	
MR HOWARD YOUNG HOW-WAH	
MR AUGUSTINE NG CHEUK-TAI	
DR D.J. JOHNS	
MR S.H. SUNG	(APPOINTED ON THE NOMINATION OF THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)
MR PHILIP LAI	(APPOINTED ON THE NOMINATION OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES)
MR STAN H.Y. FUNG	(APPOINTED ON THE NOMINATION OF THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION)

/THE PRINCIPAL

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THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR (SECRETARY)
HEALTH AND WELFARE (POLLUTION)

THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS WILL BE PERMANENTLY IN ATTENDANCE:

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE
OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE

THE COMMISSIONER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

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GOVERNOR RETURNS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, RETURNED FROM PEKING TODAY (THURSDAY) AFTER THE 16TH ROUND OF TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR ROBIN MCLAREN, AND THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF INTERPRETER MR Y.P. CHENG.

MEETING HIM AT THE AIRPORT WERE THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ROGER LOBO, AND THE VICE-CHIEF EDITOR OF THE XINHUA NEWS AGENCY (HONG KONG BRANCH), MR TAN GAN.

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S REMARKS TO WAITING REPORTERS AT KAI TAK.

+GOOD MORNING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. WELL, TWO DAYS OF THE USUAL BUSINESSLIKE SESSIONS, BUT I THINK WE SURPRISED SOME OF YOUR COLLEAGUES IN PEKING BY ISSUING A RATHER LONGER COMMUNIQUE THAN WE HAD DONE IN THE PAST, BUT THAT WAS BECAUSE IT WAS AGREED TO ESTABLISH THIS WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE TWO SIDES.

THE WORKING GROUP WILL BE WORKING FULL TIME AND WILL START NEXT WEEK. IT WILL TAKE A FEW DAYS FOR THE MEMBERS TO ASSEMBLE IN PEKING.

BUT, THE FORMAL SESSIONS WILL CONTINUE TOO. AGAIN SOME OF YOUR COLLEAGUES ASKED ME WHEN THESE FORMAL SESSIONS WERE GOING TO COME TO AN END, AND I SAID I WASN'T GOING TO PREDICT HOW MANY OF THE FORMAL SESSIONS THERE WOULD BE, BUT I AM EXPECTING TO BE COMMUTING TO AND FROM PEKING FOR SOME TIME YET. SO NO DOUBT I SHALL HAVE THE PLEASURE OF MEETING YOU ALL FROM TIME TO TIME AT THE AIRPORT. I SHALL BE GOING BACK UP FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON THE 27TH AND 28TH AND I'LL SEE YOU ALL THEN.+

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265 INSURANCE FIRMS APPROVED UNDER NEW LAW

UNDER THE NEW INSURANCE LEGISLATION, 262 EXISTING COMPANIES HAVE OBTAINED AUTHORISATION TO CARRY ON THEIR BUSINESS AND 45 OTHERS HAVE WITHDRAWN, THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE WITHDRAWN COMPANIES WERE REQUIRED NOT TO UNDERWRITE ANY NEW POLICIES OR RENEW ANY EXISTING POLICIES, BUT HAD TO MEET ALL THEIR CLAIMS OR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE POLICIES ALREADY ISSUED BY THEM.

THE 307 COMPANIES IN EXISTENCE AT THE START OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE 1983, WERE ALL REQUIRED TO GO THROUGH THE AUTHORISATION PROCESS WITHIN ONE YEAR, MR GLEESON EXPLAINED.

+AND THE WHOLE PROCESS HAS BEEN COMPLETED WITHIN 10.5 MONTHS,+ HE SAID.

UNDER THE NEW LEGISLATION, 13 NEW INSURERS HAVE BEEN ADMITTED, RAISING THE NUMBER OF AUTHORISED INSURANCE COMPANIES IN HONG KONG TO 275.

A REGISTER OF AUTHORISED INSURERS IS KEPT IN THE OFFICE OF THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY AT ROOM 1405, WING ON CENTRE, 111 CONNAUGHT ROAD, CENTRAL.

FOR A SMALL FEE, THE PUBLIC MAY INSPECT THE REGISTER TO FIND OUT THEIR NAMES AND THE CLASSES OF INSURANCE BUSINESS THEY ARE AUTHORISED TO TRANSACT.

TRACING DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR, MR GLEESON SAID AN INSURANCE DIVISION HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW ORDINANCE.

THE DIVISION HAS A STAFF ESTABLISHMENT OF 26, HEADED BY AN INSURANCE OFFICER, A POST AT SENIOR DIRECTORATE LEVEL.

THIS POST HAS NOW BEEN TAKEN UP BY MR DEREK SULLIVAN, WHO HAS EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN BOTH LIFE AND GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS OF THE UK MARKET.

LEGAL ADVICE FOR THE NEW DIVISION IS PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S IN-HOUSE LAWYERS.

THE MAIN ROLE OF THE DIVISION IS TO AUTHORISE AND MONITOR INSURERS CARRYING ON ALL TYPES OF INSURANCE BUSINESS IN OR FROM HONG KONG, UNDER THE OVERALL SUPERVISION OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED INSURANCE AUTHORITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE ORDINANCE.

MR GLEESON POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE ORDINANCE, INSURANCE COMPANIES MUST COMPLY WITH NEW ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING REQUIREMENTS FOR THEIR ACCOUNTING PERIODS COMMENCING AFTER JUNE 30, 1983.

A GUIDELINE ON THESE REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY AND WILL BE ISSUED TO THE SOCIETY'S MEMBERS SHORTLY.

EIGHTY-SEVEN PER CENT DID NOT VOTE
* * * *

+EIGHTY-SEVEN PER CENT OF THOSE WHO COULD HAVE VOTED IN THE 1982 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION DID NOT DO SO,+ SAID MR DENIS BRAY, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS WHEN ADDRESSING THE HONG KONG SUBSIDISED SECONDARY SCHOOLS COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL GATHERING TODAY (THURSDAY).

+IF 87 PER CENT CONTINUE TO STAY AWAY IN FUTURE ELECTIONS THEN ANY CLAIM TO REPRESENTATIVE STATUS BY THOSE ELECTED BY 13 PER CENT WILL LOOK PRETTY UNCONVINCING. IS THIS THE SORT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WANT?+ HE ASKED.

MR BRAY SAID THAT IN ALL REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEMS ELECTIONS WERE SEPARATED BY INTERVALS OF SEVERAL YEARS BUT IF ORDINARY PEOPLE COULD ONLY INFLUENCE THEIR GOVERNMENT ON THESE OCCASIONS, HE WOULD RATE THAT GOVERNMENT'S REPRESENTATIVENESS AS PRETTY LOW.

+REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT REQUIRES THAT THE PROCESS OF GOVERNMENT IS CONTINUOUSLY EXPOSED TO PRESSURE FROM ORDINARY PEOPLE. YOUR PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS NOT ELECTED AT ALL, BUT IT IS NEVERTHELESS SUBJECTED TO AND RESPONSIVE TO PRESSURE FROM ORDINARY PEOPLE ALL THE TIME,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID HOWEVER THAT BEFORE INFLUENCING EVEN A RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT, IT WAS NECESSARY TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE FORCES IT CONTROLLED AND THE FORCES THAT CONTROLLED IT.

IN HONG KONG, HE SAID, THERE WERE VERY SEVERE LIMITS TO THE GOVERNMENT'S POWERS OF INTERFERENCE IN THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUALS ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTIONS HAD A WIDE IMPACT, FOR EXAMPLE IN THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME, FOR NEARLY HALF THE POPULATION AND IN SUBSIDISING PRACTICALLY ALL THE COST OF EDUCATION.

THERE WERE ALSO ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS ON WHAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD DO WITH THE TAXATION IT SECURED IN IMPROVING SOCIAL SERVICES. AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE LIMITS WOULD DRIVE PEOPLE UP AGAINST +THE UNPLEASANT AND DIFFICULT JUDGEMENTS INVOLVED IN FIXING PRIORITIES - IN DECIDING WHAT THEY REGARD AS IMPORTANT AND, WITH GREATER DIFFICULTY, WHAT THEY REGARD AS LESS IMPORTANT,+ MR BRAY SAID.

HE SAID THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE PUBLIC TO APPLY INFLUENCE ON A GOVERNMENT, REGARDLESS OF THE METHOD OF SELECTION OF THE PEOPLE SERVING ON THE GOVERNMENT BODIES. EVEN NOW THERE WERE OVER 20 CHANNELS OPEN TO INDIVIDUALS AND TO GROUPS, HE SAID.

+MUCH HARD WORK GOES INTO FORMING POLICY AND MUCH HARD WORK IS NEEDED TO CHANGE IT. CASUAL OR SHRILL PROTEST WILL NOT DO. WHAT IS REQUIRED IS A WILL AND A DETERMINATION TO PRESS HOME VIEWS EITHER THROUGH CHANNELS THAT EXIST NOW OR NEW ONES THAT CAN BE FORGED. THIS IS THE STUFF OF POLITICS. THIS REQUIRES DEVOTION AND TENACITY AND LEADERSHIP,+ HE SAID.

+HONG KONG DESPERATELY NEEDS A DETERMINED RESOLUTION TO TACKLE ITS FUTURE,+ HE ADDED. SCHOOLS HAD AN IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY, HE SAID, AND HE SET THE HEADMASTERS THREE TASKS OF INCREASING DIFFICULTY:

- * FIRST, MAKE SURE EACH STAFF - TEACHERS, CLERKS, CLEANERS AND ALL AND ESPECIALLY ANYONE TEACHING PUBLIC AFFAIRS - IS A REGISTERED VOTER BY NEXT TERM.
- * SECOND, TEACH THEIR STUDENTS ABOUT THE TWO FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS OF THE FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT WHICH ARE :- THE NATURE AND IMPORTANCE OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND THE EXTENT OF AND LIMITS TO GOVERNMENT INFLUENCE IN OUR DAILY LIVES ; AND THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND THE INEVITABILITY OF HAVING TO SET PRIORITIES.
- * THIRD, SEND THEIR STUDENTS OUT FROM SCHOOL DETERMINED TO MAKE HONG KONG A BETTER PLACE KNOWING THAT WHATEVER SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WE HAVE THIS WILL REQUIRE TENACITY AND HARD WORK TO GET THROUGH TO THOSE IN POWER.

MR BRAY FURTHER ADDED THAT WE MIGHT NOT YET KNOW WHAT FORM A MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE BUT IT WAS CERTAIN THAT THE ELECTORAL ROLL WOULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT PART TO PLAY.

+EVERYBODY WHO IS OVER 21 IS ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER IF HE HAS OVER SEVEN YEARS RESIDENCE OR IS A HONG KONG BELONGER. ABOUT 2.7 MILLION PEOPLE ARE ELIGIBLE. ABOUT 900 000 HAVE ACTUALLY REGISTERED. THOSE WHO HAVE NOT REGISTERED CAN DO SO FROM NOW TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER ALTHOUGH THE ELECTORAL REGISTER IS NOT OFFICIALLY OPEN FOR NEW NAMES UNTIL AUGUST.

+REGISTRATION REQUIRES YOU TO PUT DOWN YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND IDENTITY CARD NUMBER ON A FORM AND POST IT - THAT IS ALL,+ HE SAID.

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HOUSING AUTHORITY'S 117TH ESTATE OPENS * * * *

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S SECOND RURAL-TYPE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, CHEUNG KWAI ESTATE ON CHEUNG CHAU ISLAND, HAS COME ON STREAM AS TENANTS ARE MOVING INTO THE NEW ESTATE.

+IT IS THE AUTHORITY'S 117TH RENTAL ESTATE TO OPEN FOLLOWING THE RECENT COMPLETION OF ITS FIRST NINE BLOCKS,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AUTHORITY TODAY.

/THE SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MODERN ESTATE WOULD HAVE A TOTAL OF 18 LOW-RISE BLOCKS FOR 2 420 PEOPLE ON FULL COMPLETION LATER THIS YEAR.

+RISING TO TWO TO FOUR STOREYS HIGH, THE BLOCKS ARE BUILT ON A TERRACE CUT FROM THE HILLSIDE TO OFFER BETTER VIEWS.

+THE ESTATE COVERS A 2.7-HECTARE SITE ON NORTHERN CHEUNG CHAU AND WILL HAVE ALTOGETHER 472 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS OF 23.3 TO 41.6 SQUARE METRES.

+ALSO PROVIDED ON THE ESTATE ARE SHOPS, A KINDERGARTEN AND A POLICE REPORTING CENTRE.+

NINE OTHER BLOCKS ARE NOW WELL UNDER CONSTRUCTION UNDER ITS SECOND PHASE.

THE FIRST RURAL-TYPE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, LUNG TIN ESTATE AT TAI O, LANTAU ISLAND, WAS OPENED IN 1980 AND IS HOUSING 1 000 PEOPLE IN 184 FLATS.

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GOVERNOR FEATURES IN DOCUMENTARY

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A ONE-HOUR RTHK DOCUMENTARY ON THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL BE SCREENED ON THE ENGLISH CHANNEL OF ATV AT 8.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE DOCUMENTARY, ENTITLED +SIR EDWARD YOUDE -- THE SECOND YEAR+, COMPRISES FOUR PARTS, SHOWING THE GOVERNOR AT WORK AND IN HIS OFF-DUTY MOMENTS.

THE FIRST PART FOCUSES ON SIR EDWARD'S SHUTTLE TRIPS BETWEEN HONG KONG, PEKING AND LONDON AS A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION TO THE SINO-BRITISH TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

THE SECOND AND THIRD PARTS GIVE ACCOUNTS OF SIR EDWARD'S DAILY WORK AS WELL AS OF HOW HE AND LADY YOUDE SPEND THEIR LEISURE HOURS.

THE FINAL PART SHOWS SIR EDWARD'S ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK RECENTLY, AS HEAD OF A DELEGATION TO PROMOTE HONG KONG'S TRADE IN THE UNITED STATES.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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OFFICIAL RECEIVER APPOINTED LIQUIDATOR OF COMPANY.

THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER HAS BEEN APPOINTED PROVISIONAL LIQUIDATOR OF ALLIED FOOD INDUSTRIES (FAR EAST) LTD BY THE HIGH COURT, THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

ALLIED FOOD INDUSTRIES (FAR EAST) LTD WAS LISTED ON THE KAM NGAN STOCK EXCHANGE LTD AND FAR EAST EXCHANGE LTD BUT TRADING IN THE SHARES WAS SUSPENDED IN FEBRUARY 1984 AT THE REQUEST OF THE COMPANY.

THE COMPANY IS THE PRINCIPAL HOLDING COMPANY OF THE ALLIED FOOD GROUP.

THE GROUP HAS EXTENSIVE INTERESTS IN COCOA PRODUCTION, COCOA BEAN, POWDER AND BUTTER PROCESSING WITH SUBSIDIARIES IN SINGAPORE, INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES AND IS THOUGHT TO BE ONE OF THE LARGEST COCOA BEAN GRINDING COMPANIES IN THE WORLD.

THE PETITION WAS PRESENTED BY A CREDITOR, THE BANK OF AMERICA.

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THE GIRLS ARE BRIGHTER

"THE GIRLS ARE DEFINITELY BRIGHTER," SAID THE CHIEF POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER, MR STEWART LAI.

MR LAI WAS COMMENTING ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT MADE THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING THAT SIX GIRLS HAVE WALKED OFF WITH ALL THE TOP AWARDS IN THE 1983/84 HELP THE POLICE FIGHT YOUTH CRIME COMPETITION.

"OF THE SIX RUNNERS-UP, FIVE ARE ALSO GIRLS," HE DISCLOSED.

MR LAI WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF A FOUR-MEMBER JUDGING PANEL WHICH SELECTED THE 12 WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP AMONG 50 ENTRANTS WHO REACHED THE FINAL INTERVIEW.

THE GIRLS DID EXTREMELY WELL IN THE THREE-PART COMPETITION, INCLUDING A MULTIPLE CHOICE SECTION/POSTER DESIGN, ESSAY WRITING AND FINAL INTERVIEW, MR LAI SAID.

THE NAMES OF WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP WERE ANNOUNCED IN A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD AT HENRY G. LEONG YAUMATEI COMMUNITY CENTRE TO-NIGHT.

/THE WINNERS

THE WINNERS OF THE CHINESE SENIOR SECTION ARE TWO FORM 6 STUDENTS, KOA MEI-YING AND LO PAN-FUN, BOTH AGED 17. RECEIVING TOP MARKS IN THE CHINESE JUNIOR SECTION ARE 14-YEAR-OLD CARMEN MAK, A FORM 3 STUDENT, AND 16-YEAR-OLD LAW CHUK-KWAN, WHO IS STUDYING FORM 5. THE WINNERS OF THE ENGLISH SECTION AND POLICE FAMILIES SECTION ARE 17-YEAR-OLD SABRINA SIN AND 16-YEAR-OLD LEUNG MAN-YEE RESPECTIVELY, BOTH FORM 5 STUDENTS.

THEY WILL ACT AS HONG KONG'S YOUNG AMBASSADORS WHEN THEY VISIT THE NETHERLANDS AND UNITED KINGDOM FOR 22 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE COMPETITION IS THE SEVENTH ORGANISED BY THE POLICE. IT HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MAJOR PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES IN THE FIGHT YOUTH CRIME CAMPAIGN.

PRESENTING THE TROPHIES TO THE SIX WINNERS WAS MR JOOST DIRKZWAGER, DUTCH CONSUL, WHO ON BEHALF OF HIS GOVERNMENT WELCOMED THE GIRLS TO THE NETHERLANDS.

THE SIX RUNNERS-UP RECEIVED THEIR TROPIES FROM MR DOMINIC CHEUNG, REPRESENTATIVE OF KLM ROYAL DUTCH AIRLINES, SPONSOR OF THE COMPETITION. THEY WILL VISIT THAILAND FOR SEVEN DAYS IN AUGUST.

EACH OF THE 50 FINALISTS ALSO RECEIVE VALUABLE PRIZES INCLUDING A TYPEWRITER, A CAMERA, A CALCULATOR AND A BOOK COUPON.

PRESENTING A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT TO THE FINALISTS COMMENDING THEM FOR OUTSTANDING ATTAINMENTS, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR ROY HENRY SAID IT WAS NOT EASY FOR THEM TO REACH THIS STAGE OF THE COMPETITION.

THE FINALISTS, THEIR PARENTS AND TEACHERS COULD FEEL JUSTIFIABLY PROUD OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENT, HE ADDED.

THE SIX WINNERS WILL BE VERY BUSY PREPARING THEMSELVES IN THE COMING MONTH FOR THE EXCITING TRIP. THEY WILL VISIT POLICE FORMATIONS AND UPDATE THEMSELVES ON MORE ABOUT HONG KONG BEFORE THEY DEPART FOR THE NETHERLANDS ON JULY 25.

APART FROM SEEING THE MANY BEAUTIFUL SCENIC SPOTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE FOR THEM TO VISIT THE DUTCH AND UK POLICE AS WELL AS VARIOUS DIGNITARIES.

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MPS' TO MEET PRESS

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FIVE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS SUB-COMMITTEE ON RACE RELATIONS AND IMMIGRATION WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 11.30 AM, IN THE GIS THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

PRESENT WILL BE: MR JOHN WHEELER (CHAIRMAN), MR ROBIN CORBETT, MR JEREMY HANLEY, MR JOHN HUNT, AND MS CLARE SHORT. THE GROUP IS STUDYING THE CHINESE COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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UMELCO MEETS HOUSING DELEGATION

THREE MEMBERS OF THE UMELCO HOUSING PANEL, HON WONG LAM, HON CHAN YING-LUN AND HON MRS PAULINE NG, RECEIVED 11 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONCERN ON PUBLIC HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

AT THE MEETING, THE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENTED TO MEMBERS A POSITION PAPER CONTAINING THEIR VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

THEY ELABORATED ON THEIR PROPOSALS REGARDING THE ALLOCATION OF HOUSING UNITS FOR SMALL FAMILIES, THE LONG-TERM RESETTLEMENT PLAN FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN SQUATTERS AND TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS, WELL-OFF TENANTS, MEASURES TO PROMOTE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEMES AND THE ADDITION OF MARRIED CHILDREN.

THEY ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD REVIEW THE +SELF-SUPPORTING+ POLICY OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND THAT VIEWS ON THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT SHOULD BE COMPILED INTO THE FORM OF A SUMMARY FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION.

MEMBERS PROMISED TO REFER THEIR POSITION PAPER TO THE UMELCO HOUSING PANEL FOR CONSIDERATION.

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NEW HOME SOON FOR ELDERLY FOLK

THERE IS A GREAT DEMAND FOR CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, TOLD VISITING MEMBERS OF THE POK OI HOSPITAL'S NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS TODAY.

HE SAID THAT THE HOSPITAL'S FIRST CARE AND ATTENTION HOME, EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR, WOULD PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED SERVICE IN THIS AREA.

THE HOME, AT HA TSUEN IN YUEN LONG, WILL CATER FOR 136 ELDERLY PEOPLE IN NEED OF RESIDENTIAL AND LIMITED NURSING CARE.

A GRANT OF \$6.6 MILLION FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND HAD BEEN APPROVED FOR BUILDING AND EQUIPPING THE HOME, WHILE THE HOSPITAL ITSELF WILL CONTRIBUTE \$1.5 MILLION TOWARDS THE CAPITAL COST.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO POK OI'S WELFARE PROJECTS.

THE BOARD MEMBERS WERE ON A COURTESY VISIT TO THE DIRECTOR TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE WORK OF THE HOSPITAL.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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CALIBRATION LAB BEING SET UP
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MEMBERS OF THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD TODAY VISITED THE GOVERNMENT STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY, WHICH IS SET UP IN WAN CHAI.

ON THEIR TOUR OF THE 900-SQUARE METRE PREMISES, LOCATED ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, THE VISITORS WERE BRIEFED BY THE HEAD OF THE CALIBRATION LABORATORY, MR BRIAN TYLER, ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE FITTING OUT OF THE PREMISES AND THE INSTALLATION OF INSTRUMENTS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT. THEY ALSO LEARNT OF THE STAFFING POSITION AND THE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE TECHNICAL STAFF.

THE LABORATORY IS BEING ESTABLISHED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOLLOWING A RECOMMENDATION BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSIFICATION WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ENDORSED BY THE BOARD.

IT WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE CALIBRATION OF EQUIPMENT LATER THIS YEAR.

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CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS COMPLETE SOCIAL WORK COURSE
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TWENTY-FOUR OFFICERS OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WHO RECENTLY COMPLETED A SOCIAL WORK TRAINING COURSE, WERE PRESENTED WITH CERTIFICATES TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE COURSE WAS HELD BETWEEN MARCH AND JUNE ON A PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE BASIS, AND WAS THE FIRST ONE ORGANISED BY THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT.

IT WAS DESIGNED TO PREPARE THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES OFFICERS FOR PRISONERS' WELFARE WORK AND AFTER-CARE SERVICES TO DRUG ADDICTS AND YOUNG OFFENDERS, AND TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM WORK EFFICIENCY.

THE COURSE CONTENT COVERED GENERAL SOCIAL WORK, PENOLOGY, CRIMINOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO CORRECTIONAL ASPECTS. VISITS TO VARIOUS SOCIAL WELFARE FACILITIES WERE ALSO ARRANGED.

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT IN CHARGE OF YOUNG OFFENDERS, DR ROBERT ANDRY, PRESENTED THE CERTIFICATES AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE CITY POLYTECHNIC. ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC, DR DAVID JOHNS- AND THE HEAD OF THE SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT, MR JOSE DE BARROS.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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LISTENING COMPREHENSION FOR TEACHERS
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THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD TWO WORKSHOPS ON THE TEACHING OF LISTENING COMPREHENSION FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES NEXT MONTH.

THE TWO-DAY WORKSHOPS WILL INCLUDE SHORT TALKS ON THE TEACHING OF LISTENING COMPREHENSION AND DEMONSTRATION OF VARIOUS LISTENING COMPREHENSION EXERCISES.

THEY WILL BE HELD ON JULY 10 AND 12, AND JULY 17 AND 19, AT THE TEACHING CENTRE ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR OF TO KWA WAN MARKET AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 165 MA TAU WEI ROAD, TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON.

THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FOR EACH WORKSHOP WILL BE LIMITED TO 24. CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE AWARDED TO TEACHERS WHO HAVE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED A WORKSHOP.

HEADS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHO WISH TO SEND THEIR TEACHERS TO ATTEND SHOULD APPLY TO THE SENIOR INSPECTOR, ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE, 9A BONHAM ROAD, HONG KONG, ON OR BEFORE JUNE 27.

ENQUIRIES ON THE WORKSHOPS MAY BE MADE TO THE CENTRE AT 5-482537.

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AWARD-WINNING BOOKS ON DISPLAY
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EIGHT LOCALLY PRODUCED BOOKS WHICH HAVE WON URBAN COUNCIL AWARDS ARE ON DISPLAY AT THE CITY HALL ADULT LENDING LIBRARY FROM NOW TO JUNE 20 AND WILL GO ON EXHIBITION AT THE TO KWA WAN PUBLIC LIBRARY FROM JUNE 25 TO 30.

THE EIGHT BOOKS WERE SELECTED FROM SOME 300 ENTRIES NOMINATED BY PUBLISHERS AND PRINTERS FOR THE +URBAN COUNCIL AWARDS FOR THE BEST PRODUCED BOOKS IN HONG KONG 1983+.

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY RECENTLY, URBAN COUNCILLOR MR SHUM CHOI-SANG SAID, +THE PURPOSE OF THE AWARD SCHEME IS TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL PUBLISHERS AND PRINTERS TO PRODUCE MORE BOOKS OF GOOD QUALITY FOR THE PUBLIC.+

HE SAID THAT THE AWARDS WOULD BE PRESENTED ANNUALLY FROM NEXT YEAR.

THE JUDGES FOR THIS YEAR'S ENTRIES HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT TWO NEW CATEGORIES -- PERIODICALS AND ANNUAL REPORTS -- BE INCLUDED IN THE AWARD SCHEME NEXT YEAR.

MR SHUM SAID THAT HONG KONG HAD BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING CENTRE FOR PRINTING AND PUBLISHING HIGH-QUALITY BOOKS AT LOW COST. ABOUT 5 000 TITLES WERE PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN HONG KONG LAST YEAR.

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\$693.4M IN HOUSING TENDERS APPROVED
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TENDERS TOTALLING \$693.4 MILLION WERE APPROVED TODAY AT A MEETING OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY BUILDING COMMITTEE FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS.

WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE NEW ESTATES AND THREE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, REWIRING AND REINFORCEMENT OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION FOR AN OLD ESTATE AND LIFT INSTALLATION.

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY MR H.M.G. FORSGATE.

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YOUNG VIOLINIST TO ATTEND U.S. CAMP
* * *

A SECOND-YEAR VIOLIN STUDENT FROM THE HONG KONG MUSIC CONSERVATORY WILL BE REPRESENTING HONG KONG IN THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP TO BE HELD FROM JUNE 24 TO AUGUST 20 IN INTERLOCHEN, MICHIGAN.

WONG SZE-HANG WHO IS 18 YEARS OF AGE, HAD BEEN SELECTED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT BY OPEN AUDITION.

THIS IS THE THIRD YEAR THE MUSIC OFFICE WILL BE SENDING A YOUNG MUSICIAN TO JOIN THE NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP, WHICH IS HELD ANNUALLY IN SUMMER AND IS AIMED AT PROMOTING WORLD FRIENDSHIP THROUGH MUSIC.

WONG, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (A), WILL BE LEAVING ON SATURDAY (JUNE 23) AND RETURNING HERE ON AUGUST 21.

THE AIR FARE FOR HIS TRIP HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND.

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PRACTICAL TRAINING ESSENTIAL TO TECHNICAL EDUCATION
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ABOUT 1 400 FULL-TIME STUDENTS AT TECHNICIAN LEVEL FROM THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL TECHNICAL INSTITUTES ARE BEING PLACED IN VARIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS TO GAIN WORKING EXPERIENCE DURING THE SUMMER VACATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID THAT PRACTICAL TRAINING WAS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF EACH INTEGRATED TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSE.

/EMPLOYERS COULD

EMPLOYERS COULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN SUPPLEMENTING STUDENT'S ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE BY PROVIDING PRACTICAL TRAINING PLACES, HE SAID.

+RESPONSE FROM EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE TRAINING FOR TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING THIS SUMMER WITH SUFFICIENT TRAINING PLACES IN THE HOTEL, TOURISM AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

+HOWEVER, A SMALL NUMBER OF PLACES ARE REQUIRED IN OTHER INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING CLOTHING, PRINTING, CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND THE COMMERCIAL SECTORS, + THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

EXPERIENCE SHOWED THAT THE SUMMER PRACTICAL TRAINING SCHEME PUT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH EMPLOYERS, MANY OF WHOM OFFERED PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT TO OUTSTANDING STUDENTS UPON THEIR COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, HE ADDED.

EMPLOYERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE SCHEME CAN DIRECTLY CONTACT THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES : MORRISON HILL (5-745321), KWAI CHUNG (0-246221), KWUN TONG (3-414331), HAKING WONG (3-615161) AND LEE WAI LEE (3-383611).

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DRY-WEATHER CHANNEL FOR SHING MUN RIVER * * * * *

WORK HAS STARTED ON DESILTING THE SHING MUN RIVER AT SHA TIN.

SILT, MUD AND OTHER DEPOSITS ARE BEING REMOVED FROM A TWO-KILOMETRE STRETCH OF THE CONCRETE-LINED RIVER CHANNEL BETWEEN THE LOWER SHING MUN DAM AND THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY BRIDGE NEAR TAI WAI.

A \$1.7 MILLION CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED TO YICK KEE AND PARTNERS LIMITED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE PROJECT ALSO INCLUDES DIGGING A DRY-WEATHER CHANNEL OVER THE SAME LENGTH IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RIVER. THIS WILL BE TWO-AND-A-HALF METRES WIDE AND ONE METRE DEEP AND LEAD WATER AWAY IN THE DRY SEASON, WHEN THE LEVEL OF THE RIVER IS NORMALLY VERY LOW, THEREBY PREVENTING SILT FROM BEING DEPOSITED ON THE MAIN RIVER CHANNEL BED DUE TO SLOW WATER MOVEMENT.

THE WORK WILL BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR THE DRY WEATHER IN NOVEMBER.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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DB TO DISCUSS CORRIDOR PLAN
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TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE TUEN MUN - YUEN LONG CORRIDOR OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING.

THE AIM OF THE PROJECT IS TO PROVIDE AN ORDERLY FRAMEWORK FOR NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA AND TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT THERE.

A SENIOR TOWN PLANNER OF NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MR I.T. BROWNLEE, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE PROJECT, INCLUDING IMPROVEMENTS AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING HOUSING AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSINGS, AND COMMUNITY AND TRANSPORT FACILITIES.

BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON A LAYOUT PLAN FOR SAN HING TSUEN, LOCATED NORTH OF THE NEW TOWN BOUNDARY AND ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

THE PLAN IS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS IN THE VILLAGE BY SETTING ASIDE DISTINCT AREAS FOR INDUSTRY AND HOUSING.

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YUEN LONG TO HOLD SINGING CONTEST
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THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT AMATEUR SINGING CONTEST WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY (JUNE 16) EVENING AT THE LUT SAU HALL.

TWELVE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SELECTED FROM MORE THAN 200 ENTRANTS, WHO ARE EITHER LIVING, STUDYING OR WORKING IN YUEN LONG.

THE WINNER OF THE COMPETITION WILL REPRESENT YUEN LONG AND COMPETE WITH THOSE FROM THE OTHER 17 DISTRICTS AT A SEMI-FINAL ON AUGUST 11.

MR CHEUNG MING-MAN, A LOCAL SINGER, AND THE YUEN LONG CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL BE GUEST PERFORMERS AT THE CONTEST.

SATURDAY'S EVENT IS PART OF THE 18-DISTRICT AMATEUR SINGING CONTEST, WHICH IS BEING ORGANISED TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND TO PUBLICISE THE COMING REGISTRATION OF VOTERS AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RICHARD YUEN.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS TO THE CONTEST ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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UNAUTHORISED SIGNBOARDS TO BE CLEARED
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UNAUTHORISED SIGNBOARDS OUTSIDE THE SKYWAY MANSION IN PORTLAND STREET, MONG KOK WILL BE PULLED DOWN TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE CLEARANCE, INITIATED BY THE OWNERS INCORPORATION UNDER THE MULTI-STOREY BUILDING (OWNERS INCORPORATION) ORDINANCE, IS BEING CO-ORDINATED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE.

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT A SIMILAR OPERATION WAS CARRIED OUT ON THE SAME BUILDING LAST SEPTEMBER.

+BUT RECENTLY, UNAUTHORISED SIGNBOARDS STARTED RE-APPEARING OUTSIDE THE BUILDING,+ HE SAID.

TOMORROW'S CLEARANCE WILL BE JOINTLY CARRIED OUT BY THE POLICE AND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

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TEACHERS COMPLETE COURSE
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TWO HUNDRED PRIMARY SCHOOL LANGUAGE TEACHERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED A 16-WEEK RETRAINING COURSE OFFERED BY THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION, WILL RECEIVE THEIR CERTIFICATES TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

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ELECTRICAL SUB-STATION FOR AIRPORT
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WORK WILL START LATER THIS MONTH ON BUILDING AN ELECTRICAL SUB-STATION ON THE CARGO APRON EXTENSION CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT KAI TAK AIRPORT.

A \$390 000 CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED TO WAI BO CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING (HONG KONG) COMPANY LIMITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE SUB-STATION WILL BE A SINGLE-STOREY CONCRETE BLOCK IN WHICH TWO SWITCH ROOMS, A SERVICE OIL TANK AND A STOREROOM FOR CARBON DIOXIDE CYLINDERS WILL BE HOUSED.

/WCK WILL

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1984

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WORK WILL BE COMPLETED IN FIVE MONTHS.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CARGO APRON EXTENSION BEGAN IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN 18 MONTHS.

IT INCLUDES A 700-METRE LONG ACCESS ROAD AND ABOUT 21 000 SQUARE METRES OF CONCRETE APRON SLABS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PARKING FACILITIES TO HANDLE THE INCREASING AMOUNT OF AIR CARGO TRAFFIC.

THE PROJECT IS PART OF THE AIRPORT'S STAGE V DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

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NEW MAXICAB ROUTE FOR MID-LEVELS

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A NEW MAXICAB ROUTE - 3A - WILL OPERATE BETWEEN CONDUIT ROAD AND CENTRAL (HMS TAMAR) DURING PEAK HOURS FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

IT WILL OPERATE VIA GARDEN ROAD, ROBINSON ROAD AND GLENEALY AT EIGHT-MINUTE INTERVALS, CHARGING \$1.5.

ALSO FROM TOMORROW, MAXICABS ON ROUTE 3, BETWEEN PO SHAN ROAD AND CENTRAL (HMS TAMAR), WILL RUN VIA CONDUIT ROAD, INSTEAD OF CASTLE ROAD AND ROBINSON ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO CENTRAL.

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24-HOUR CLEARWAY

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FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 16), KEUNG SHAN ROAD, BETWEEN ITS TWO JUNCTIONS WITH SHEK PIK RESERVOIR ROAD, WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR CLEARWAY.

NO MOTOR VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE.

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