DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 1983

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COMPUTERS FOR STORAGE OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH DATA

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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS TO MODERNISE ITS RECORD-KEEPING, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES WITH THE USE OF COMPUTERS IN STORING VITAL MEDICAL AND HEALTH DATA.

ABOUT $1-MILLION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON THE COMPUTERISATION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THERE IS A PRESSING NEED TO USE COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY FOR A MORE ACCURATE, RELIABLE AND EFFICIENT MEDICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM.

WITH THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INPATIENTS AND OUTPATIENTS TREATED IN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS HAVE INCREASED BY 103 PER CENT AND 63 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

+THIS, TOGETHER WITH THE COMPLEXITY OF TREATMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS AND ACCUMULATION OF RECORDS, HAS DRASTICALLY INCREASED THE COST OF INFORMATION HANDLING AND COMMUNICATION IN TERMS OF MONEY AND TIME,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE THREE POTENTIAL AREAS FOR COMPUTER DEVELOPMENT — PATIENT CARE, HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION, AND PLANNING AND EVALUATION — THE FIRST TWO OF WHICH WILL BE GIVEN URGENT PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.

THE GOVERNMENT DATA PROCESSING AGENCY IS CURRENTLY INVITING COMPUTER CONSULTANTS TO CARRY OUT THE STUDY.

THE OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE CONSULTANT STUDY INCLUDE:

* RECOMMENDING HOSPITAL PROCEDURES WHICH COULD BE EFFECTIVELY IMPROVED BY COMPUTER AIDS TO PROVIDE MORE EFFICIENT SERVICES.

* PREPARING FUNCTIONAL SPECIFICATION OF THE PROCEDURES, PARTICULARLY THE ADMISSION/DISCHARGE/TRANSFER (ADT) FOR PATIENTS.

* PROVIDING A DETAILED COST AND BENEFIT ANALYSIS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED PROCEDURE.

* ESTABLISHING THE VIABILITY, WITH REFERENCE TO ITS PROBLEMS AND BENEFITS, OF CAPTURING PATIENTS' DATA RELATED TO THEIR MEDICAL HISTORY FOR INCLUSION IN THE COMPUTERISED MEDICAL REPORTS.

* CONSIDERING THE PORTABILITY OF THE PROPOSED SYSTEM FOR OTHER HOSPITALS IN HONG KONG.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COSTS OF HEALTH CARE HAVE BEEN STEADILY RISING OVER THE YEARS WITH AN IMPORTANT PART OF IT HAVING TO DO WITH THE PROCESSING OF MEDICAL INFORMATION AS WELL AS COMMUNICATIONS.

+ALTHOUGH SUCH COSTS HAVE NOT BEEN QUANTIFIED IN THE HONG KONG SETTING, OVERSEAS STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT BETWEEN 25 AND 40 PER CENT OF A HOSPITAL'S COSTS ARE RELATED TO INFORMATION HANDLING,+ HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, THERE ARE IMMEASURABLE BUT POTENTIALLY HIGH COSTS OF COMMUNICATION AND COMPUTATION ERRORS, WHICH INCLUDE THE LOSS OF DATA, ADVERSE EFFECTS OF MEDICATIONS SUCH AS DRUG INTERACTION, AND UNNECESSARILY PROLONGED HOSPITAL STAYS AND OTHER EXCESSIVE PATIENT EXPOSURE TO MEDICAL CARE PROCESS.

+WITH THE USE OF COMPUTERS SUCH ERRORS CAN BE EITHER MINIMISED OR ERADICATED AS THE MACHINES CAN ACCURATELY AND RELIABLY PROCESS MEDICAL DATA AND SPEED UP THE COMMUNICATION OF SUCH INFORMATION,+ HE ADDED.

THE USE OF A COMPUTER SYSTEM IN HOSPITALS WILL PROVIDE AN EFFICIENT MEANS OF KEEPING TRACK OF ADMISSIONS AND BEDSPACE, ESPECIALLY IN A REGIONAL HOSPITAL WHERE SOME 200 PATIENTS ARE ADMITTED AND DISCHARGED DAILY, IN ADDITION TO THE LARGE NUMBERS OF PATIENT TRANSFERS.

A COMPUTERISED SYSTEM IN HOSPITALS WILL HANDLE PATIENT ADMISSION, TRANSFER, RE-ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE PROCEDURES.

IT WILL ALSO CREATE AN ADMINISTRATIVE PATIENT RECORD AND UPDATE IT THROUGHOUT THE PATIENT'S STAY IN THE INSTITUTION.

PROVIDING ENQUIRY CAPABILITY FOR LOCATING PATIENTS UPON REQUEST AND PRODUCING VARIOUS CENSUS SUMMARIES AND REPORTS WILL BE ANOTHER FUNCTION OF THE COMPUTER.

IN THE HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT THE COMPUTER WILL HANDLE BOOKING OF APPOINTMENTS, CANCELLATIONS AND REQUESTS FOR CHARTS, X-RAY AND LABORATORY TESTS.

ADDITIONALLY IT WILL PRODUCE VARIOUS WORKLISTS, CREATE AND PRINT PATIENT IDENTIFICATION RECORDS, PROVIDE CAPABILITY TO SEARCH FOR AVAILABLE APPOINTMENTS, AND HANDLE BOOKED ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND PRODUCE STATISTICAL REPORTS ON THE WAITING LISTS.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CONSULTANCY STUDY WILL BE TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF DEVELOPING A MEDICAL DATA BASE TO SERVICE INITIALLY THE OUTPATIENT APPOINTMENT AND SCHEDULING SUBSYSTEM AND THE HOSPITAL ADMISSION-BED CENSUS SUBSYSTEM.

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1982 EVENTFUL YEAR OF WEATHER RECORDS

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THE WEATHER MADE 1982 AN EVENTFUL YEAR, CAUSING A NUMBER OF RECORDS AND NEAR RECORDS, INCLUDING THE HIGHEST YEARLY RAINFUL FIGURE OF 3 247.5 MM AND THE FIRST RECORDED TORNADO TO HIT HONG KONG.

IT ALSO BROUGHT HONG KONG THE WETTEST SINGLE MONTH OF AUGUST, WHEN 872 MM OF RAIN FELL, AS WELL AS THE WETTEST SINGLE DAY IN AUGUST, WHEN RAINFALL ROSE TO 334.2 MM ON AUGUST 16.

THE YEAR'S RAINFALL FIGURE WAS 46 PER CENT ABOVE NORMAL.

THESE ARE AMONG SOME OF THE WEATHER STATISTICS CONTAINED IN THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY'S ANNUAL REVIEW JUST RELEASED.

A NEAR-RECORD WAS ESTABLISHED WHEN 653.9 MM OF RAIN FELL FROM MAY 28 TO 31, THE SECOND HIGHEST FIGURE ON RECORD FOR A CONTINUOUS FOUR-DAY PERIOD IN MAY.

AS A RESULT OF THIS HEAVY RAINFALL, ROUND-THE-CLOCK WATER SUPPLY WAS RESUMED AFTER EIGHT MONTHS OF WATER RESTRICTIONS, THE REVIEW RECALLS.

BUT THE RAINSTORMS ALSO CAUSED SERIOUS FLOODING IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, AS WELL AS LANDSLIDES IN MANY AREAS OF HONG KONG, KILLING 25 PEOPLE, INJURING 100 OTHERS AND MAKING OVER 8 000 PEOPLE HOMELESS.

IN ADDITION, ABOUT 700 000 HEAD OF POULTRY AND 10 000 PIGS WERE DROWNED, AND 1 000 HECTARES OF CROPS AND 400 HECTARES OF FISH PONDS INUNDATED.

ON JUNE 2, THE FIRST TORNADO EVER RECORDED IN HONG KONG STRUCK IN YUEN LONG, KILLING TWO PEOPLE AND INJURING FIVE OTHERS.

WIDESPREAD FLOODING AND NUMEROUS LANDSLIDES AGAIN OCCURRED BETWEEN AUGUST 15 AND 19 BECAUSE OF HEAVY RAINSTORMS.

FIVE PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND 1 460 RENDERED HOMELESS DURING THE PERIOD. FLOODING DISRUPTED ROAD AND FERRY SERVICES IN TSUEN WAN AND INUNDATED 450 HECTARES OF CROPS AND 310 HECTARES OF FISH PONDS IN THE NORTHWESTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE TOTAL RAINFALL OF 872 MM IN AUGUST AND THE SINGLE-DAY RAINFALL OF 334.2 MM ON AUGUST 16 WERE BOTH NEW RECORDS FOR THE MONTH.

ON AUGUST 18, A WATERSPOUT LANDED ON TSING YI ISLAND, DAMAGING A SHIPYARD.

TURNING TO OTHER WEATHER ISSUES, THE REVIEW REPORTS THAT 28 TROPICAL CYCLONES THAT RAGED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE CHINA SEAS DURING THE YEAR CAUSED HEAVY LOSSES OF LIFE AND PROPERTY IN SEVERAL ASIAN COUNTRIES.

/BUT THEY .....

BUT THEY BROUGHT NO PERSISTENT GALES AND LITTLE DAMAGE TO HONG KONG, ALTHOUGH WARNING SIGNALS WERE DISPLAYED FOR FIVE OF THE CYCLONES.

JANUARY WAS WARMER AND DRIER THAN USUAL, WITH THE TEMPERATURE STAYING ABOVE 11.5 DEGREES CELSIUS AND THE MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 16.9 DEGREES CELSIUS, BEING 1.3 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL. EVEN THOUGH FIRE DANGER WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON 22 DAYS, FIRE BROKE OUT IN VARIOUS SQUATTER AREAS, MAKING ABOUT 9 000 PEOPLE HOMELESS.

FEBRUARY WAS CLOUDY AND HUMID. FOG DEVELOPED IN THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 19 AND PERSISTED FOR SEVERAL DAYS, DIVERTING AIRCRAFT FROM HONG KONG AND DISRUPTING FERRY AND HOVERCRAFT SERVICES.

A FISHING JUNK SANK AFTER COLLIDING WITH A CONTAINER SHIP IN FOG SOUTH OF PO TOI ISLAND ON FEBRUARY 23. ON FEBRUARY 24, A COLD FRONT ARRIVED IN HONG KONG AND CLEARED THE FOG.

A FISHING JUNK SANK IN ROUGH SEAS IN TATHONG CHANNEL ON FEBRUARY 25 WHILE THE STRONG MONSOON SIGNAL WAS HOISTED.

THE MEAN TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH WAS 15.9 DEGREES CELSIUS AND THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE WAS 10.2 DEGREES CELSIUS.

MARCH WAS WARMER, CLOUDIER AND MORE HUMID THAN USUAL. FOG WAS REPORTED AT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT EVERY MORNING FROM MARCH 5 TO 7, DIVERTING SEVEN AIRCRAFT FROM HONG KONG AND AFFECTING FERRY SERVICES.

THE FOLLOWING MONTH WAS THE SEVENTH WETTEST APRIL ON RECORD. THUNDERSTORMS AND HEAVY SHOWERS DURING THE LAST NINE DAYS BROUGHT THE MONTH'S RAINFALL TO A TOTAL OF 310 MM, MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NORMAL AMOUNT.

AFTER MAY, THE FOURTH WETTEST ON RECORD FOR THE MONTH, THE TOTAL RAINFALL OF 205.9 MM FOR JUNE WAS HALF THE NORMAL FIGURE.

TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH, TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE DISPLAYED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE YEAR DURING THE APPROACH OF TROPICAL STORM TESS WHICH FORMED OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON JUNE 27, RECURVED NEAR HAINAN ON JUNE 29 AND DISSIPATED NEAR DONGSHA ON JULY 2.

IN JULY, TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE HOISTED ON TWO OCCASIONS DURING THE APPROACH OF SEVERE TROPICAL STORM WINONA AND TYPHOON ANDY.

WINONA FORMED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC TO THE EAST OF THE PHILIPPINES ON JULY 12, AND CROSSED LUZON AND THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA BEFORE REACHING LEIZHOU PENINSULA ON JULY 17.

ANDY FORMED NEAR GUAM ON JULY 22, CROSSED SOUTHERN TAIWAN AND LANDED IN SOUTHEAST CHINA ON JULY 30.

/THERE WAS .....

THERE WAS NO REPORT OF DAMAGE IN HONG KONG.

THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 34.8 DEGREES CELSIUS RECORDED ON JULY 29 WAS THE HIGHEST OF THE YEAR.

AFTER AUGUST, SEPTEMBER CONTINUED TO BE WETTER THAN NORMAL, WITH THE TOTAL RAINFALL OF 466.8 MM, BEING 46 PER CENT ABOVE NORMAL.

THE STRONG MONSOON SIGNAL WARNING WAS DISPLAYED FOR A RECORD DURATION OF 74 HOURS FROM 3.45 AM ON SEPTEMBER 5 TO 5.45 AM ON SEPTEMBER 8.

TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE HOISTED DURING THE APPROACH OF TYPHOON IRVING WHICH CAME WITHIN 400 NAUTICAL MILES OF HONG KONG ON SEPTEMBER 11 AND LANDED IN GUANGXI ON SEPTEMBER 15 AFTER CROSSING THE LEIZHOU PENINSULA.

ALTHOUGH WINDS IN HONG KONG WERE GENERALLY STRONG OFF SHORE ON SEPTEMBER 13, THERE WERE NO REPORTS OF DAMAGE.

OCTOBER WAS ALSO WETTER THAN NORMAL. THE ACCUMULATED RAINFALL OF 3 151.7 MM FOR THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF THE YEAR WAS LARGER THAN THE PREVIOUS RECORD ANNUAL RAINFALL OF 3 100.4 MM ESTABLISHED IN 1973. TYPHOON NANCY CAME WITHIN 400 NAUTICAL MILES OF HONG KONG ON OCTOBER 15 AFTER CROSSING NORTHERN LUZON AND LANDED IN VIETNAM ON OCTOBER 19.

IT WAS THE LAST TROPICAL CYCLONE IN THE YEAR FOR WHICH TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE DISPLAYED IN HONG KONG.

NOVEMBER WAS THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE MONTH WITH ABOVE-AVERAGE RAINFALL. THE FIGURE OF 95.8 MM WAS 176 PER CENT ABOVE NORMAL.

THE MONTH WAS ALSO MORE HUMID THAN NORMAL WITH AN AVERAGE RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF 77 PER CENT, THE THIRD HIGHEST RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

FOUR COLD SURGES AFFECTED HONG KONG AND TEMPERATURES DROPPED APPRECIABLY ON NOVEMBER 30 TO THE MONTH'S LOWEST OF 12.9 DEGREES CELSIUS.

DOMINATED BY THE CONTINENTAL ANTICYCLONE OVER CHINA, THE WEATHER DURING DECEMBER WAS DRIER AND COOLER THAN NORMAL.

THERE WAS ONLY A TRACE OF RAINFALL AND THE MONTH WAS THE THIRD DRIEST DECEMBER ON RECORD.

A MAJOR SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON ARRIVED IN HONG KONG ON CHRISTMAS DAY AND BROUGHT THE TEMPERATURE AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DOWN TO 8.9 DEGREES CELSIUS ON DECEMBER 27, THE LOWEST OF THE YEAR.

DURING THIS COLD SPELL, THE LOWEST TEMPERATURES AT TATE'S CAIRN AND TAI MO SHAN WERE 2.4 DEGREES CELSIUS AND ZERO DEGREE CELSIUS AND HOAR FROST WAS REPORTED IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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NEW GENERAL NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL

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MORE NURSE TRAINING FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN A GENERAL NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL ADJACENT TO THE PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL IS COMPLETED IN 1985.

TENDERS FOR THE SITE FORMATION AND CAISSON FOUNDATION WORKS FOR THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE SCHOOL AND QUARTERS WILL BE A 16-STOREY BUILDING.

HE SAID THAT THE NEW NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL WILL OCCUPY THE LOWER THREE STOREYS WHILE THE UPPER FLOORS WILL BE USED AS QUARTERS TO ACCOMMODATE ABOUT 780 GENERAL AND STUDENT NURSES.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL START IN MARCH AND TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION FOR SAI WAN HO

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A SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION AND AN AMBULANCE DEPOT WILL BE BUILT IN WAI HANG STREET, SAI WAN HO, TO CATER TO THE NEEDS OF THE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS OF QUARRY BAY AND SAI WAN HO.

THE FIRE STATION WHICH WILL BE OF A STANDARD DESIGN WILL HAVE AN APPLIANCE ROOM FOR FOUR FIRE ENGINES, A DRILL YARD, SERVICE ROOMS, OFFICES, CANTEEN, RECREATIONAL ROOM, BARRACKS AND OTHER FACILITIES.

THE AMBULANCE DEPOT WILL BE BUILT ON THE SAME STANDARD DESIGN AS THAT OF THE FIRE STATION WITH SIMILAR FACILITIES, SUCH AS SERVICE ROOMS, OFFICES, CANTEEN, RECREATIONAL ROOM AND BARRACKS. IT WILL ALSO HAVE AN AMBULANCE YARD FOR FOUR AMBULANCES.

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT.

WORK WILL START IN APRIL AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER 1984.

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PUBLICITY EFFORTS TO PROMOTE URBCO ELECTIONS

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A SERIES OF PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES TO HELP PUBLICISE THE FIRST CONSTITUENCY-BASED URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON MARCH 8 HAVE BEEN ARRANGED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE.

TO ORCHESTRATE THE ELECTIONS, BANNERS AND SIGNBOARDS WILL BE DISPLAYED AND VANS WILL BE USED TO BROADCAST MESSAGES TO ELECTORS TO CAST THEIR VOTES ON POLLING DAY.

IN ADDITION, TWO +U.C. ELECTION PROMOTION NITES+ AND TWO DISCUSSION FORUMS WILL BE HELD LATE NEXT MONTH AND EARLY MARCH, ENABLING CANDIDATES STANDING IN KWUN TONG'S TWO CONSTITUENCIES TO PUT FORTH THEIR PLATFORM.

FURTHERMORE, 120 000 COPIES OF AN INFORMATIVE SPECIAL ELECTIONS SUPPLEMENT BY THE DISTRICT NEWSPAPER WILL BE PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL REGISTERED ELECTORS IN THE AREA.

DETAILS OF THE PUBLICITY EFFORTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DAVID TSUI, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (MONDAY) MORNING.

MR TSUI WILL ALSO INTRODUCE THE CANDIDATES IN KWUN TONG TO THE PUBLIC AT THE NEWS CONFERENCE DURING WHICH EACH CANDIDATE WILL BE ABLE TO DELIVER THEIR PLATFORM.

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NEW EDITION OF 'NAMES OF BUILDINGS' BOOK

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A NEW EDITION OF THE 'NAMES OF BUILDINGS' BOOK COMPILED BY THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE.

THE BOOK, PRICED $75 PER COPY, CONTAINS A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF BUILDING NAMES WITH THE OFFICIAL ADDRESSES. WHERE APPROPRIATE, THE CHINESE VERSION OF THE NAMES HAVE ALSO BEEN INCLUDED.

FOR EASE OF REFERENCE THE BOOK IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS. PART ONE COMPRISES BUILDING NAMES IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND NEW KOWLOON AND PART TWO THOSE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES INCLUDING THE OUTLYING ISLANDS. AN INDEX OF CHINESE NAMES PRECEDES EACH PART.

COMMENTING ON THE NEW EDITION, THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, MR R.A. FRY, TODAY SAID +THE NUMBER OF BUILDING NAMES RECORDED HAS NOW REACHED NEARLY 8 000 AND THE BOOK SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROVE POPULAR NOT ONLY WITH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS BUT CERTAIN BUSINESSES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR+. HE ALSO SAID THAT WHILE THERE WAS NO LEGISLATION CONTROLLING THE USE OF BUILDING NAMES, THE BOOK SHOULD ASSIST AN OWNER OR DEVELOPER TO AVOID DUPLICATION WHEN CHOOSING A NAME FOR HIS BUILDING.

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RESIDENTS URGED TO REPORT CRIMES

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BURGLARY, PICKPOCKETING AND THEFT FROM VEHICLES ARE TOPPING THE CRIME LIST IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT, ACCORDING TO THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LEE KAI-FAT.

POINTING OUT THAT THE DISTRICT'S CRIME RATE IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1982 HAD INCREASED BY TWO PER CENT, HE ADVISED RESIDENTS TO BE MORE CAREFUL WITH THEIR PROPERTIES SO AS TO AVOID UNNECESSARY LOSS.

SPEAKING AT THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME VARIETY SHOW HELD TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT, MR LEE SAID PEOPLE WERE STILL RELUCTANT TO REPORT CRIME.

+IN THIS CONNECTION, THE POLICE HAVE RECENTLY FURTHER SIMPLIFIED CRIME REPORTING PROCEDURES IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE RESIDENTS TO DO SO,+ HE SAID.

MR LEE ALSO APPEALED FOR CLOSER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THE POLICE SO THAT CRIMINALS WOULD BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

HIGHLIGHTS OF TODAY'S EVENT INCLUDED MAGIC AND PUPPET SHOWS AND PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS.

THE FIGHT CRIME VARIETY SHOW WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

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YUEN LONG COOKED FOOD AND FROZEN MEAT STALL FOR LETTING

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TWO STALLS FOR SELLING COOKED FOOD AND FROZEN MEAT AT TWO YUEN LONG MARKETS WILL BE PUT UP FOR LETTING BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 4).

ONE OF THE STALLS IS AT THE KIK YEUNG ROAD COOKED FOOD BAZAAR WHILE THE OTHER IS AT KAM TIN MARKET.

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT THE OFFICE OF PING SHAN RURAL COMMITTEE AT ON NING ROAD IN YUEN LONG STARTING AT 10 AM.

THE UPSET MONTHLY RENTAL FOR THE KIK YEUNG ROAD COOKED FOOD BAZAAR STALL IS $2 500 AND $150 FOR THE KAM TIN MARKET STALL.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS FOR THE STALLS CAN START BUSINESS ON MARCH 1 FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS. THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE BID RENTAL ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

/POTENTIAL .....

POTENTIAL BIDDERS WHO MUST BE OVER 21 SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS TO THE AUCTION VENUE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, THE HAWKERS AND MARKETS SECTION OF THE YUEN LONG URBAN SERVICES OFFICE MAY BE CONTACTED BY TELEPHONING O-792261 EXT. 112, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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CHONG HING HIKING SCHEME

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THE FINAL WALK OF THE 1982/83 CHONG HING HIKING SCHEME WAS HELD THIS (SUNDAY) MORNING IN TSUEN WAN TOGETHER WITH A CLOSING CEREMONY OFFICIATED BY A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ANDREW SO.

DURING THE CLOSING CEREMONY WHICH WAS HELD AT A PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL'S PLAYGROUND AND ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 2 000 PEOPLE, PRIZES WERE AWARDED TO OUTSTANDING PARTICIPANTS OF VARIOUS AGES.

IN HIS SPEECH, MR SO SAID THE CHONG HING HIKING SCHEME WAS A POPULAR OUTDOOR ACTIVITY AND BENEFICIAL TO PARTICIPANTS.

THE SCHEME -- ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT WAS SPONSORED BY THE LIU CHONG HING BANK. THE BANK'S VICE-CHAIRMAN, MR LIU LIT-FOR ALSO ATTENDED THE CLOSING CEREMONY AND HIKE.

DURING THE YEAR, 400 HIKING ACTIVITIES WERE ORGANISED FOR RESIDENTS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG. THESE WALKS COVERED 32 DIFFERENT PLACES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE AND OUTLYING ISLANDS.

TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE HAD SUCCEEDED IN JOINING THE SCHEME AND EACH INDIVIDUAL HAD AT LEAST TAKEN PART IN FIVE TREKS, MR JOHNNY CHAN, RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER IN CHARGE OF OUTDOOR PURSUITS, SAID.

+THERE IS A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WE CAN ACCOMMODATE IN THESE WALKS,+ HE SAID.

+OF COURSE WE WISH TO TAKE IN MORE PEOPLE, BUT THERE IS ALWAYS A PROBLEM OF TRANSPORT AND GETTING ENOUGH MANPOWER TO LEAD THE GROUPS.

+THE SCHEME WAS THE SECOND IN TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS, AND THE NUMBER WE ACCEPTED, OUT OF A TOTAL OF 25 000 APPLICANTS, WAS A 100 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE 1981 SCHEME.+

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SHA TIN PHOTO COMPETITION DRAWS BIG RESPONSE

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A TOTAL OF 697 ENTRIES WAS RECEIVED FOR A FESTIVE LIGHTING PHOTO COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD.

THE COMPETITION, WHICH WAS DIVIDED INTO A YOUTH SECTION FOR UNDER 18 AND AN OPEN SECTION, WAS AIMED AT DRAWING SHUTTER-BUGS TO THE LIVELY DECORATED SHA TIN NEW TOWN DURING THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

WINNING ENTRIES WERE SELECTED BY A PANEL OF JUDGES COMPRISING MR DONALD TSANG OF SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR M. CHAN OF SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, MR HO PUI-CHEUNG OF CARITAS PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, MR T.O. LEE OF CANON CAMERA AND MR RAYMOND TENG OF REGAL MERIDIEN HOTEL GROUP.

TSANG YUN-SAU RECEIVED FIRST PRIZE FOR THE BEST PHOTO IN THE OPEN SECTION, WHILE YAM WAI-HONG WAS THE OVERALL WINNER IN THE YOUTH SECTION. THEIR PRIZES WILL BE CANON A1 CAMERA WITH 70-210MM F4 ZOOM LENS AND CANON AE1 CAMERA WITH 50MM F1.4 LENS RESPECTIVELY.

THE TWO WINNERS, WITH THE RUNNERS-UP, WILL BE GIVEN THEIR PRIZES AT THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR LIGHTING DECORATIONS WHICH WILL BE HELD AT SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE ROAD BRIDGE ON FEBRUARY 10.

ALL WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE PUT ON DISPLAY AT THE LOBBY OF THE SHA TIN RAILWAY STATION FROM FEBRUARY 10 TO 17.

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TUEN MUN YOUTH TENNIS COMPETITION

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TENNIS NOVICES IN TUEN MUN WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR SKILL AT A FORTHCOMING OPEN COMPETITION TO BE HELD NEXT MONTH.

THE COMPETITION, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, IS AIMED AT RAISING THE TENNIS STANDARD IN THE DISTRICT AS WELL AS SPOTTING YOUNG TALENTS IN THE SPORT.

THE FOUR-DAY TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD AT THE TUEN MUN TEMPORARY TENNIS COURT ON TWO SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AND TWO SUNDAYS BETWEEN FEBRUARY 19 AND 27, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NTSD SAID.

/ENTRIES .....

ENTRIES FOR THE COMPETITION, WHICH ARE FREE, ARE NOW OPENED TO TUEN MUN YOUNGSTERS AGED FROM 14 TO 25 ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

THE TOURNAMENT WILL BE DIVIDED INTO FOUR SECTIONS -- MAN'S SINGLE, MAN'S DOUBLE, WOMAN'S SINGLE AND WOMAN'S DOUBLE.

ENTRY FORMS MAY NOW BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF TUEN MUN TEMPORARY TENNIS COURT, THE NORTH REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE NTSD ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF GARAGE NO. 1, TAI YUEN ESTATE, TAI PO AND THE TUEN MUN OFFICE OF THE RSS.

ALL COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE TUEN MUN OFFICE OF THE RSS AT ROOM 012, TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE BUILDING, BEFORE NOON ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 3).

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WATER CUT IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND KWUN TONG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN THE TSIM SHA TSUI AREA WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR SIX HOURS ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 2) FOR A LEAKAGE TEST WHILE SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME OTHERS IN KWUN TONG WILL BE CUT OFF FOR EIGHT HOURS FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

IN THE TSIM SHA TSUI AREA, THE PREMISES AFFECTED WILL BE THOSE BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD, MODY ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD, HART AVENUE AND CARNARVON ROAD, INCLUDING THOSE IN CORNWALL AVENUE AND HANOI ROAD. THEY WILL HAVE NO FRESH WATER SUPPLY FROM MIDNIGHT TO 6 AM.

IN KWUN TONG, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SAU MAU PING ESTATE, LAM TIN ESTATE, CHOI WAN ESTATE, SHUN LEE ESTATE, SHUN ON ESTATE, SHUN TIN ESTATE AND PREMISES ALONG HONG LEE ROAD, HONG NING ROAD AND KUNG LOK ROAD WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM ON THE SAME DAY.

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