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THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1993

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CABINET MEETING DISCUSSES POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL BE PUTTING RECOMMENDATIONS, WITH THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO CHINA, SIR ROBIN MCLAREN, AT A CABINET COMMITTEE MEETING TODAY (THURSDAY) ABOUT HOW THEY SEE THE WAY FORWARD IN THE TALKS ON THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER MEETING FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OFFICIALS IN LONDON YESTERDAY, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "WE WILL BE ENSURING THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG REMAIN PARAMOUNT THROUGHOUT THESE NEGOTIATIONS SO FAR AS OUR OWN STRATEGY ON THE BRITISH AND THE HONG KONG SIDE IS CONCERNED."

"WE ARE NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, GOING TO CONNIVE AT RIGGED ELECTIONS, AND WE WILL NOT FRUSTRATE THE DESIRE OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG FOR A GREATER SAY IN RUNNING THEIR OWN AFFAIRS, WHICH I THINK IS WHOLLY LEGITIMATE."

NOTING THAT THE BRITISH SIDE WERE NEGOTIATING IN GOOD FAITH, THE GOVERNOR SAID THEY WANTED TO SEE A SETTLEMENT AND A SETTLEMENT IN GOOD TIME TO ARRANGE FOR THE 1994 AND 1995 ELECTIONS.

"WE WILL NOT JETTISON OUR PRINCIPLES IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A SETTLEMENT," HE ADDED.

"WE WANT ELECTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1994 AND 1995 WHICH ARE FAIR AND OPEN AND ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND WE WANT OBJECTIVE CRITERIA FOR THE SO-CALLED 'THROUGH TRAIN' SO FAR AS LEGISLATORS ARE CONCERNED."

ASKED TO ELABORATE ON THE CRITERIA, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "I DO NOT THINK THAT PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND IF CANDIDATES IN THE 1995 ELECTIONS WERE GOING AROUND CANVASSING UNABLE TO TELL PEOPLE WHETHER THEY WERE LIKELY TO BE ABLE TO TRAVEL THROUGH 1997 TO 1999, UNABLE TO SAY WHETHER THEY WERE GOING TO BE TWO-YEAR LEGISLATORS OR FOUR-YEAR LEGISLATORS.

"THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT I THINK THAT EVERY LEGISLATOR IN 1995 HAS TO HAVE AN ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE THAT WITHOUT ANY OTHER CONSIDERATIONS COMING INTO PLAY, THEY CAN TRAVEL THROUGH TO 1999. BUT IT MEANS THAT LEGISLATORS MUST HAVE THE SAME SORT OF CLEAR AND OBJECTIVE CRITERIA TO TRAVEL THROUGH THAT THEY HAVE AT THE MOMENT.

"IF YOU ARE A CANDIDATE TODAY, YOU HAVE TO MEET CERTAIN QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A CANDIDATE. IF YOU BECOME A LEGISLATOR, YOU HAVE TO TAKE AN OATH, EITHER THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OATH.

"THERE ARE SIMILAR PROVISIONS IN THE BASIC LAW FOR LEGISLATORS, FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, IN ORDER TO TAKE OATHS IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR OFFICE. THAT IS, AS IT WERE, A 'JUSTICIABLE' CRITERIA.

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"IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF ASKING A GROUP OF PEOPLE AT SOME STAGE AFTER THE ELECTIONS WHETHER THEY THINK THAT AN INDIVIDUAL LEGISLATOR HAS THE RIGHT ATTITUDE IN THE PAST TO MATTERS WHICH MAY CONCERN THEM IN THE FUTURE. THAT IS NOT OBJECTIVE, IT IS SUBJECTIVE."

ASKED WHAT HE WOULD SAY TO THE PRIME MINISTER TODAY, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WOULD MENTION THAT THE LAST YEAR HAD ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY BEEN A VERY SUCCESSFUL ONE FOR HONG KONG.

"I WILL ALSO BE SAYING THAT I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE NOT MANAGED TO MAKE THE PROGRESS ON POLITICAL MATTERS IN THE LAST YEAR, THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE, AND THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA IN THE FUTURE, A RELATIONSHIP BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT AND MUTUAL TRUST."

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TOY SAFETY APPEAL BOARD PANEL APPOINTED

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY HAS APPOINTED AN APPEAL BOARD PANEL UNDER THE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCT SAFETY ORDINANCE.

THE PANEL WILL HEAR APPEALS AGAINST AN ENFORCEMENT DECISION OR ACTION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE UNDER PART VI OF THE ORDINANCE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

IT ALSO HEARS APPEALS AGAINST NOTICES ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO REQUIRE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SUPPLIERS TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF THEIR PRODUCTS, TO STOP SUPPLYING UNSAFE PRODUCTS OR TO RECALL UNSAFE PRODUCTS FROM THE MARKET.

"THE APPEAL BOARD PANEL COMPRISES A CHAIRMAN AND A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, BOTH OF WHOM ARE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS, AND NOT MORE THAN 15 MEMBERS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC, TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, AND PRODUCT TESTING PROFESSION," HE SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL ARE APPOINTED FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY WHEN THE ORDINANCE COMES INTO EFFECT.

MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE APPEAL BOARD PANEL ARE:

CHAIRMAN

MR ANDREW LIAO CHEUNG-SING, QC, MEMBER OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF HONG KONG

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

MR WILLIAM TSUI HING-CHUEN, SOLICITOR, COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG

/MEMBERS

MEMBERS

DR DAVID LLOYD CRONE, SENIOR RACING CHEMIST OF ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON APPLIED BIOLOGY AND CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY

MR ANDREW TANG, DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER OF INCHCAPE TESTING SERVICES HK LTD, HOKLAS APPROVED SIGNATORY IN TOYS TESTING

MISS MABEL C K LI, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF WASSERBEL TESTING LAB, TECHNOLOGIST OF TOY TESTING FROM HOKLAS ACCREDITED LABORATORY

DR HO SIU-LAU, SENIOR LECTURER OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OF HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, HOKLAS ASSESSOR

MR LAU SIU-HUNG, DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG ELECTRONIC SERVICES UNIT, HOKLAS ASSESSOR

MR ARTHUR CHAN MAN, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF UNIMAX TOYS LTD, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER OF HONG KONG TOYS COUNCIL

MR JEFFREY LAM KIN-FUNG, DIRECTOR OF ALICE DOLL FASHIONS LTD, MEMBER OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MR GEOFF STAMMERS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF MANNINGS RETAIL LTD, MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF RETAIL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

MR THOMAS H L SHEK, GENERAL MANAGER OF TOYS "R" US

MRS CHOW WONG MABEL, PROPRIETOR OF ELEGANT PRINTERS, FORMER MEMBER OF CONSUMER COUNCIL

MISS LEONA LAM WAI-LING, PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, APPOINTED MEMBER OF TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD

MR WONG KWOK-KEUNG, SOCIAL WORKER, APPOINTED MEMBER OF KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD

MR FAN SAI-YEE, ACCOUNTANT, MEMBER OF APPEAL BOARD PANEL (TOWN PLANNING)

DR DAVID LEE KA-YAN, DOCTOR, FORMER PRESIDENT OF HONG KONG PAEDIATRIC SOCIETY

AMENDMENTS TO LIFTING APPLIANCES REGULATION ENDORSED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS ENDORSED PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEAR) REGULATION WHICH SEEK TO FURTHER PROTECT WORKERS' SAFETY, THE ACTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TSANG KIN-WOO, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

"IT IS NECESSARY TO INCREASE REGULATORY CONTROL TO FURTHER PROTECT WORKERS, PARTICULARLY WHEN MORE LIFTING APPLIANCES WILL BE USED ON THE INCREASING AMOUNT OF CONSTRUCTION WORK TAKING PLACE THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, NOTABLY ON THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECTS," MR TSANG SAID.

"THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATION WILL BE AMENDED AND SUBSUMED UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEAR) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1993," MR TSANG SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE DEFINITION OF 'COMPETENT EXAMINER' IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATION WOULD ALSO BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY.

HE SAID MORE STRINGENT REGULATORY MEASURES OVER THE SAFE USE OF LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEAR WOULD BE INTRODUCED UNDER THE AMENDMENT REGULATION TO BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 21.

THE MAJOR REQUIREMENTS ARE:

- * LIFTING APPLIANCES MUST BE EXAMINED EVERY YEAR BY COMPETENT EXAMINERS;
- * AN AUTOMATIC SAFE LOAD INDICATOR MUST BE INSTALLED ON A CRANE;
- * PERSONS OPERATING CRANES MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER AND MUST POSSESS A VALID CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY (CITA) OR BY ANY OTHER PERSONS SPECIFIED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR; AND
- * A COMPETENT EXAMINER FOR LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEAR MUST BE A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER REGISTERED UNDER THE ENGINEERS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE IN A RELEVANT DISCIPLINE SPECIFIED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR.

SINCE CONTRACTORS MAY NEED TIME TO COMPLY WITH THE PROPOSED PROVISIONS ON EMPLOYMENT OF QUALIFIED CRANE OPERATORS AND THE INSTALLATION OF SAFE OVERLOAD INDICATORS, MR TSANG SAID THE RELEVANT AMENDMENTS WOULD COME INTO EFFECT ON THREE DIFFERENT DATES.

"THE REQUIREMENT OF A CRANE OPERATOR TO POSSESS A VALID CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE CITA WILL COME INTO EFFECT ONE YEAR AFTER APPROVAL BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN ORDER TO ALLOW TIME TO TRAIN UP SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF QUALIFIED OPERATORS," MR TSANG SAID.

"ON THE OTHER HAND, THE REQUIREMENT OF AN AUTOMATIC SAFE LOAD INDICATOR TO BE FITTED ON CRANES WOULD COME INTO OPERATION SIX MONTHS AFTER APPROVAL BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SO THAT THERE WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR INSTALLATION.

"THE OTHER PROVISIONS WOULD BE BROUGHT INTO EFFECT IMMEDIATELY AFTER LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS GIVEN ITS APPROVAL," HE ADDED.

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REDUCTION IN AD VALOREM LEVY ON IMPORTS PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING TO REDUCE THE AD VALOREM LEVY (AVL) ON IMPORTS FROM 0.05 PER CENT TO 0.035 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF THE IMPORTS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (REGISTRATION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1993 WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 21.

SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, IT IS INTENDED THAT THE REDUCTION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON OCTOBER 1 THIS YEAR.

AS A RESULT OF THE PROPOSED REDUCTION, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT IMPORTERS WILL STAND TO SAVE SOME \$90 MILLION IN THE LEVY ON IMPORTS IN 1993/94 AND MORE THAN \$1 BILLION OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

THIS WILL BENEFIT NOT ONLY IMPORTERS BUT ALSO MANUFACTURERS WHO RELY ON IMPORTED RAW MATERIALS OR COMPONENTS FOR THEIR PRODUCTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PROPOSED REDUCTION WOULD ALSO HAVE THE EFFECT OF REDUCING THE GOVERNMENT'S SUBVENTION TO THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (TDC).

HISTORICALLY GOVERNMENT'S SUBVENTION TO THE TDC HAS BEEN CALCULATED BY REFERENCE TO THE NET AVL COLLECTED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

"BECAUSE OF THE TDC'S SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION AND ITS SUCCESS IN GENERATING ITS OWN REVENUE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS REACHED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TDC TO REDUCE THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNUAL SUBVENTION TO THE TDC, BY THE SAME AMOUNT AS THE REDUCTION IN THE REVENUE FROM THE AVL ON IMPORTS COLLECTED BY THE GOVERNMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE PROPOSALS HAD THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE TDC INCLUDING THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MAJOR TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS.

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MOBIL OIL TSING YI COMPLEX DECLARED OPEN

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THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, TODAY (THURSDAY) DECLARED THE OPENING OF A NEW ADDITION TO HONG KONG'S ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE, THE MOBIL OIL TSING YI COMPLEX.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, HE SAID THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE OIL COMPLEX WAS A TREMENDOUS ACHIEVEMENT IN A NUMBER OF WAYS.

"PHYSICALLY, THE SITE POSED AN ENORMOUS CHALLENGE IN ITSELF WITH THE NEED TO CREATE THE SITE.

"MANY OF THE TECHNOLOGIES EMPLOYED HERE HAVE NEVER BEEN SEEN BEFORE IN HONG KONG," SIR DAVID SAID.

HE SAID THE SHEAR SCALE OF THE INVESTMENT DEMONSTRATED MOBIL'S COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

"HONG KONG IS PLAYING A PIVOTAL ROLE IN UNLOCKING THE TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF THE PEARL RIVER DELTA.

"THOSE WHO SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT THIS PART OF THE WORLD PRESENTS WILL BE WELL REWARDED."

RECOGNISING THAT MEETING LOCAL FUEL REQUIREMENTS WAS A DEMANDING BUSINESS, SIR DAVID SAID SUPPLY, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION MUST BE SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE.

"HONG KONG IS FORTUNATE IN HAVING A NUMBER OF COMPANIES PREPARED TO TAKE ON SUCH LOGISTICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHALLENGES AND TO MAKE A VERY SUBSTANTIAL LONG-TERM FINANCIAL COMMITMENT," HE SAID.

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RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS GIVEN PRIORITY THEMES

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THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION (CPCE) HAS REAFFIRMED THAT ITS WORK THEME FOR THE YEAR 1993/94 WILL BE ON THE CONCEPTS OF THE RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS, THE COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN, DR DANIEL TSE CHI-WAI, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

DR TSE SAID THE COMMITTEE WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE THE LEAD IN ENCOURAGING MORE CIVIC EDUCATION (CE) ACTIVITIES TO BE STAGED BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND ORGANISATIONS AT DISTRICT LEVEL.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE COMMITTEE'S WORK PLAN THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING, HE SAID THE TOTAL FUNDING FOR THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SCHEME HAD BEEN INCREASED TO \$1.2 MILLION, REPRESENTING A 20 PER CENT RISE OVER THAT OF 1992/93.

/THE SCHEME

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THE SCHEME AIMS TO ENCOURAGE DISTRICT BODIES TO ORGANISE CE PROJECTS BY PROVIDING THEM WITH FINANCIAL RESOURCES. A TOTAL OF 35 OUT OF 84 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

HE NOTED THAT 13 OF THESE APPROVED PROJECTS WOULD FOCUS ON THE THEMES OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RULE OF LAW.

THE TOTAL FUNDING ALLOCATED TO THE COMMITTEE IS \$2.4 MILLION FOR 1993/94, WHICH IS A 41 PER CENT INCREASE OVER 1992/93. IN ADDITION, A SUM OF \$800,000 HAS BEEN EARMARKED FOR PUBLICITY PURPOSES.

DR TSE SAID THE COMMITTEE WOULD ADOPT MORE INTERESTING FORMATS TO ILLUSTRATE THE CONCEPTS THAT HAD OFTEN BEEN REGARDED BY MANY AS "ABSTRACT AND REMOTE".

THE HUMAN RIGHTS TELELINE SERVICE AND CE CARD ARE EXAMPLES. BOTH OF WHICH WILL BE LAUNCHED IN THE COMING HUMAN RIGHTS EXHIBITION ON SATURDAY (JULY 3).

WHILE THE TELELINE COMPRISES FIVE SHORT DRAMAS REFLECTING DAY-TO-DAY SITUATIONS, THE CARDS, WHICH ARE INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME, WILL CARRY ARTICLES OF THE HONG KONG BILL OF RIGHTS ORDINANCE WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF SHOW-BIZ STARS.

TO INTRODUCE THE CONCEPTS TO STUDENTS AND TO CALL ON TEACHERS AND FRONTLINE WORKERS TO RENDER THEIR SUPPORT, TWO SETS OF TEACHING KITS ARE BEING PRODUCED AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE READY LATER THIS YEAR.

OTHER PROGRAMMES INCLUDE A TERRITORY-WIDE CE SURVEY TO GAUGE PUBLIC'S VIEWS ON THE RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND A DISCUSSION ON THE LEGAL SYSTEMS IN HONG KONG AND CHINA.

THE SATURDAY'S EXHIBITION IS AN ANNUAL EVENT. THE CONVENOR OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE, MR WILLIAM TSUI, WHO ALSO CHAIRS THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE ON THE EVENT, SAID A WELL MIX OF ACTIVITIES WILL GO ALONGSIDE WITH THE FOUR-DAY EXHIBITION.

THE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE COMPUTER QUIZ, DRAMA SHOWS, A LABYRINTH, BOOK EXHIBITION, VIDEO AND SLIDE SHOW ON THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND CARTOONS TO ILLUSTRATE INDIVIDUAL PROVISIONS OF THE HONG KONG BILL OF RIGHTS ORDINANCE.

ALSO ON DISPLAY WILL BE THE EIGHT OUTSTANDING CE PROJECTS UNDER THE 1992/93 COMMUNITY PROJECTS SCHEME.

THE COMPUTER QUIZ, ENTITLED "ADVENTURE OF A WORM", HAS WON A MERIT AWARD IN THE 1992/93 HK INDEPENDENT SHORT FILM COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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PUTTING ACROSS MACHINE SAFETY MESSAGE

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) LAUNCHED A PUBLICITY DRIVE TO PUT ACROSS THE MESSAGE OF PROPER GUARDING OF MACHINERY TO ENSURE WORKERS' SAFETY.

DURING THE TWO-MONTH MACHINERY SAFETY AND SUMMER JOB SAFETY CAMPAIGN, FACTORY INSPECTORS WILL VISIT WORKPLACES TO EXPLAIN TO EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS THE IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVELY GUARDING THE DANGEROUS PARTS OF MACHINES.

"IN THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN, FACTORY INSPECTORS WILL FOCUS THEIR ATTENTION ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF SUMMER JOB WORKERS IN THE MANUFACTURING, CATERING AS WELL AS THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES," DEPUTY CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR KAN HON-SANG, SAID.

"CATERING HAS BECOME A TRADE WHICH ATTRACTS MANY STUDENTS TO TAKE UP SUMMER JOBS, WHILE SOME OTHER STUDENTS WILL ALSO BE EMPLOYED TO WORK ON CONSTRUCTION SITES," MR KAN EXPLAINED.

THESE STUDENTS MAY NOT BE ADEQUATELY TRAINED AND MAY NOT BE AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL HAZARDS THAT EXIST IN THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT, HE ADDED.

IN LAST YEAR'S CAMPAIGN, FACTORY INSPECTORS TOOK OUT 398 SUMMONSES AGAINST OFFENDING FACTORY PROPRIETORS.

IN ADDITION, OVER 12,000 PUBLICATIONS ON SUMMER JOB AND MACHINERY SAFETY WERE DISTRIBUTED DURING VISITS TO INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS, AND MORE THAN 400 SUMMER JOB WORKERS WERE ADVISED OF SAFETY AND HEALTH MATTERS.

HE SAID DANGEROUS PARTS OF MACHINERY, IF NOT PROPERLY GUARDED, OFTEN CAUSED SERIOUS ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN LOSS OF LIMBS OR EVEN DEATHS.

"SOME MACHINES ARE PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS, SUCH AS POWER PRESSES, GRANULATORS, AND MACHINES USED IN WOODWORK PAPER AND CATERING INDUSTRIES AS WELL AS PRINTING AND PLASTIC FACTORIES.

"STUDENTS WITHOUT PROPER TRAINING ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO VARIOUS KINDS OF RISK THAT MAY EXIST IN THE WORKPLACE AND SITES. AS SUCH, WE WILL ALSO LOOK OUT WHETHER LIFTING APPLIANCES AND HEAVY PLANTS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES ARE OPERATED BY PEOPLE UNDER THE AGE OF 18," MR KAN SAID.

DURING THE CAMPAIGN, INSPECTORS WILL ALSO TAKE OUT PROSECUTIONS AGAINST OFFENDERS UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (GUARDING AND OPERATION OF MACHINERY) REGULATION, IF UNGUARDED MACHINERY ARE FOUND TO BE OPERATING.

SINCE MAY, FACTORY INSPECTORS HAVE GIVEN TALKS TO ABOUT 4,900 STUDENTS IN 15 SCHOOLS, ADVISING THEM TO REFRAIN FROM TAKING UP SUMMER JOBS WITH POTENTIAL HAZARDS.

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"WE PLAN TO VISIT ANOTHER 31 SCHOOLS IN THE NEAR FUTURE BEFORE THE SCHOOL TERM ENDS THIS YEAR," HE SAID.

MR KAN APPEALED TO EMPLOYERS TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO ENSURE MACHINERY SAFETY AND URGED ALL WORKERS TO CO-OPERATE WITH EMPLOYERS IN TAKING NECESSARY SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.

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HK DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL FOR NEW YORK CITY
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THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, NEW YORK, AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK ANNOUNCED THAT THE THIRD ANNUAL HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK WILL BE HELD FROM AUGUST 7 TO 15.

THE FESTIVAL, SPONSORED BY HONGKONGBANK, USA, WILL FEATURE AN EXCITING DRAGON BOAT REGATTA AND A CULTURAL EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTING THE TRADITIONAL AND MODERN FEATURES OF HONG KONG.

ANNOUNCING THE PROGRAMME AT A NEWS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK, MR RAYMOND FAN, ACTING DIRECTOR, HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, SAID: "HONG KONG IS A VERY MODERN AND COSMOPOLITAN CITY."

"A LOT OF PEOPLE KNOW HONG KONG ONLY AS A SUCCESSFUL COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CENTRE. BUT WE ALSO HAVE A COLOURFUL CULTURAL HERITAGE, WHICH WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT TO NEW YORK," HE SAID.

AT THE NEWS CONFERENCE, THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION'S SENIOR EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, MR MICHAEL GEOGHEGAN, PRESENTED THE SPONSORSHIP CHEQUE TO CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK, MR RODERICK RICHARDS.

MR RICHARDS, WHO IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK, INC, DESCRIBED THE SERIES OF FESTIVAL EVENTS AS EXCITING.

ON AUGUST 7 (SATURDAY), 16 TEAMS FROM NEW YORK CITY WILL COMPETE IN PRELIMINARY DRAGON BOAT RACE HEATS IN QUEENS, NEW YORK.

THE WINNERS WILL GO ON TO COMPETE WITH TEAMS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY IN A SERIES OF STANDARD 640-METRE RACES CULMINATING IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP RACE ON AUGUST 15 (SUNDAY), IN THE HUDSON RIVER NEAR THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.

THE WINNING TEAM OF THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE IN NEW YORK WILL BE AWARDED THE HONGKONGBANK CUP AND WILL BE FLOWN TO HONG KONG BY DELTA AIR LINES, THE OFFICIAL CARRIER OF THE FESTIVAL, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL RACES SCHEDULED FOR JUNE NEXT YEAR.

THE NEW YORK DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE IS RECOGNISED BY THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL RACES.

MR FAN SAID: "DRAGON BOAT RACING IS NOT JUST AN ANCIENT CHINESE TRADITION. IT IS ALSO A VERY EXCITING SPORTING COMPETITION AND A LOT OF FUN TO WATCH."

"IT IS BECOMING A POPULAR INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENT, AND ONE DAY I HOPE THAT A TEAM FROM OUR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE IN NEW YORK WILL BRING HOME THE RACING CUP FROM THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT RACE," HE SAID.

THE HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL'S CULTURAL EXHIBITION WILL BEGIN ON AUGUST 12 WITH A BUDDHIST PRIEST IN TRADITIONAL ROBES BLESSING THE DRAGON BOATS AND WATER DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY.

AT THE EXHIBITION, VISITORS WILL BE ABLE TO SAMPLE TRADITIONAL CHINESE DISHES, WATCH ARTISANS, TRADITIONAL CHINESE DANCERS AND EXHIBITIONS OF MARTIAL ARTS.

VISITORS WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO SEE THE MODERN FACES OF HONG KONG THROUGH EXHIBITS PROVIDED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

ON AUGUST 15 (SUNDAY), SPECTATORS AT THE CHAMPIONSHIP RACE WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO STROLL THROUGH A HONG KONG VILLAGE SET UP AT THE RACE SITE.

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50 CAR MARKS UP FOR AUCTION

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF 50 LUCKY VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS ON SATURDAY (JULY 3).

THE AUCTION WILL START AT 9.30 AM AT THE LECTURE HALL, SHEUNG WAN CIVIC CENTRE, FIFTH FLOOR, URBAN COUNCIL SHEUNG WAN COMPLEX AT 345 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

THE REGISTRATION MARKS ARE:

FE8889	FF448	FF298	FF219
FF887	CC8138	BB1480	FF997
*CA123	*FM868	*FJ2828	*FK9
FF1128	FF389	FF388	AJ4200
FF991	XX229	FF1283	FF366
AC3882	FF138	CK1163	FF105
FF918	FF2881	FF320	FD9876
*FL4	*105	*FM88	*AL15
BB667	FF899	FF811	FF932
FF9388	FF108	FF889	DD2937
FF644	FF8611	*BC45	FF640
CM847	FF7971	XX7187	*FK1122
CB8602	FF5110		

* SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK (NOT TRANSFERABLE)

/SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION MUST BE PRODUCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE AUCTION IF THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK IS TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE NAME OF BODY CORPORATE.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION, AFTER DEDUCTION OF EXPENSES, WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 197TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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TEMPORARY VENUE FOR CAR REGISTRATION MARKS AUCTION

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PEOPLE WISHING TO ACQUIRE THEIR FAVOURITE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS SHOULD NOTE THAT AUCTIONS STARTING THIS SATURDAY (JULY 3) UNTIL OCTOBER THIS YEAR WILL BE HELD AT A NEW VENUE AT THE LECTURE HALL, SHEUNG WAN CIVIC CENTRE, FIFTH FLOOR, URBAN COUNCIL SHEUNG WAN COMPLEX, 345 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THE TEMPORARY CHANGE OF VENUE WAS NECESSARY AS THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL WOULD BE UNDER RENOVATION FROM JULY TO OCTOBER.

THE SHEUNG WAN CIVIC CENTRE WAS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED AND WAS WELL-SERVED BY THE MTR, TRAMS, CHINA MOTOR BUS ROUTES 3A, 4, 5, 7, 10, 37, 71, 79M AND TUNNEL BUS ROUTES 101, 104 AND 105.

THE AUCTION ON SATURDAY WILL START AT 9.30 AM WHEN A TOTAL OF 50 MARKS WILL BE PUT UP FOR AUCTION.

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MEN FINED FOR ILLEGAL MEAT IMPORT

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TWO MEN WERE CONVICTED AND FINED IN COURT RECENTLY FOR ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF MEAT, ONE OF THEM WAS GIVEN A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$25,000 PLUS FOUR MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT SUSPENDED FOR 18 MONTHS.

IN ONE OF THE CASES, THE MAN WAS ARRESTED AT MAN KAM TO CHECK POINT ON JUNE 22 AFTER HE FAILED TO PRODUCE OFFICIAL MANIFEST AND HEALTH DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION OF MEAT ON BOARD HIS GOODS VEHICLE, NAMELY 6,360 KILOGRAMS OF FRESH PIG CARCASSES, 4,700 KILOGRAMS OF PORK CUTS AND 1,000 KILOGRAMS OF FRESH BEEF.

/HE WAS

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HE WAS CONVICTED IN FANLING MAGISTRACY ON JUNE 30 AND WAS FINED \$5,000.

IN THE OTHER CASE, ANOTHER MAN WAS CONVICTED IN THE SAME COURT ON JUNE 18 FOR ILLEGALLY IMPORTING 1,000 KILOGRAMS OF UNMANIFESTED FRESH BEEF CUTS, 250 KILOGRAMS OF FRESH PIG CARCASSES AND 850 KILOGRAMS OF PROCESSED CATTLE BLOOD AND INTESTINES THROUGH THE MAN KAM TO CHECK POINT ON JUNE 14.

THE COURT IMPOSED THE MAXIMUM FINE ON HIM FOR THE OFFENCE.

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EMPLOYERS REMINDED TO CHECK RECRUITS' IDENTITY
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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) CONFIRMED THAT A HONG KONG RESIDENT HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO 15 MONTHS OF IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF \$5,000 BY THE COURT FOR OFFENCES RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

ON JUNE 16, IMMIGRATION INVESTIGATORS VISITED A RESTAURANT IN SAU MAU PING UPPER ESTATE AND FIVE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA WERE FOUND WORKING THERE.

UPON ENQUIRIES, THE DEFENDANT, BEING THE OWNER OF THE RESTAURANT, ADMITTED TO HAVE EMPLOYED THOSE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CHARGED.

HE WAS CONVICTED AT THE WESTERN MAGISTRACY TODAY AND SENTENCED.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED ALL EMPLOYERS THAT THEY SHOULD CHECK THE IDENTITY OF THEIR RECRUITS. THEY WILL BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION IF THEY DO NOT OBSERVE THIS LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENT.

IT IS ALSO AN OFFENCE TO EMPLOY A PERSON WHO IS NOT LAWFULLY EMPLOYABLE AND THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS A FINE OF \$250,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE YEARS.

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BEACH WATER GRADES
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GRADING SYSTEM IS TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIOLOGICAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

/A SPOKESMAN

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE GRADING WOULD BE ANNOUNCED BIWEEKLY DURING THE BATHING SEASON, TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATER WAS USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT E. COLI DATA OBTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME.

AS WITH LAST YEAR, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH THAT HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A VERY LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG IN RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING THE SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

"BEACHES WITH HIGHLY DEVELOPED HINTERLANDS ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE POLLUTED THAN THE GRADES SUGGEST DURING AND AFTER HEAVY RAIN.

"BATHERS SHOULD AVOID SUCH BEACHES FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS AFTER A STORM, LONGER IF THE WEATHER REMAINS OVERCAST OR LESS IF THERE IS STRONG SUNSHINE." THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

- * GRADE "1" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 24 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED RISK OF MINOR ILLNESS TO SWIMMERS IS UNDETECTABLE.
- * GRADE "2" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS FAIR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 180 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 10 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.
- * GRADE "3" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.
- * GRADE "4" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS VERY POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE.

NORMALLY, THE CLOSURE OF A BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A GRADE "4" OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

AT PRESENT, TWO BATHING BEACHES, CASTLE PEAK AND OLD CAFETERIA, HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTE. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM AT THE TWO BEACHES.

IN ADDITION, ROCKY BAY BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. THE THREE BEACHES ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING LIST.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES TODAY ARE:

BEACH -----	PREVIOUS GRADING ----- (AS AT 17.6.93)	PRESENT GRADING ----- (AS AT 1.7.93)
SAI KUNG DISTRICT -----		
CAMPERS	1	2
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	2	2
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	2	2
HAP MUN BAY	1	1
KIU TSUI	1	2
PAK SHA CHAU	1	2
SILVERSTRAND	2	2
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	2	2
ISLANDS DISTRICT -----		
CHEUNG SHA UPPER	1	1
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	2	3
DISCOVERY BAY*	2	2
HUNG SHING YEH	2	1
KWUN YAM WAN	2	2
TONG FUK	1	1
LO SO SHING	1	1
PUI O	2	2
SILVERMINE BAY	3	3
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	2	2
TUNG O*	2	2

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HONG KONG SOUTH

BIG WAVE BAY	3	3
CHUNG HOM KOK	3	3
DEEP WATER BAY	2	2
HAIRPIN	3	3
MIDDLE BAY	2	2
REPULSE BAY	2	2
SHEK O	3	3
SOUTH BAY	1	1
ST STEPHEN'S	3	3
TURTLE COVE	2	2
STANLEY MAIN	3	3
ROCKY BAY	X	X
TO TEI WAN*	2	2

TUEN MUN DISTRICT

OLD CAFETERIA	X	X
NEW CAFETERIA	3	3
CASTLE PEAK	X	X
KADOORIE	3	3
BUTTERFLY	2	2

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT

ANGLERS'	4	4
APPROACH	4	3
CASAM	4	4
GEMINI	3	3
HOI MEI WAN	4	4
LIDO	3	3
TING KAU	4	4
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	3	3

NOTE: "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING
* NON-GAZETTED BEACH

THE FOLLOWING BEACHES HAVE CHANGED GRADING ON THIS OCCASION:

HUNG SHING YEH FROM "2" TO "1"; APPROACH FROM "4" TO "3";
CAMPERS, KIU TSUI AND PAK SHA CHAU FROM "1" TO "2"; CHEUNG SHA LOWER
FROM "2" TO "3".

THE CHANGES ARE WITHIN THE NORMAL RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF THE
BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF THE BEACHES.

/THE GENERAL

THE GENERAL DETERIORATION AT CAMPERS, KIU TSUI, PAK SHA CHAU AND CHEUNG SHA LOWER BEACHES IS PROBABLY DUE TO THE RECENT HEAVY RAINFALL WHICH WOULD HAVE CAUSED THE POLLUTANTS IN THE BEACH HINTERLAND TO BE FLUSHED INTO THE SEA WATER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT DR MALCOLM BROOM, PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER ON TEL 835 1234.

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MUSIC CAMP FOR YOUTH

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THE 1993 HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP WILL BE HELD AT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE FROM JULY 17 TO 31.

ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE AND SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, THE CAMP HAS BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT SINCE 1980 TO PROVIDE INTENSIVE MUSIC TRAINING TO YOUNG MUSICIANS.

MORE THAN 400 MUSICALLY TALENTED YOUNGSTERS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CAMP WHICH INVOLVES A PLUCKED STRING CHINESE ORCHESTRA, A CHINESE ORCHESTRA. A STRING ORCHESTRA (SENIOR AND INTERMEDIATE), A CHOIR AND A SYMPHONIC BAND.

THE CAMPERS, INCLUDING 10 OVERSEAS YOUNG MUSICIANS, WILL RECEIVE INSTRUCTION AND GUIDANCE FROM GUEST MUSICIANS FROM HONG KONG, THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.

THEY WILL ALSO RECEIVE A VARIETY OF TRAINING BY TAKING PART IN ORCHESTRAL AND SECTIONAL REHEARSALS, MASTER CLASSES AND DEMONSTRATION CONCERTS.

IN ADDITION, A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS, INCLUDING KARAOKE, SQUASH, SWIMMING, MUSIC QUIZ, BADMINTON AND BILLIARD, WILL BE LINED UP.

TO MARK THE CLOSE OF THE CAMP, A FINALE CONCERT WILL BE HELD AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM AT 3 PM ON AUGUST 1.

THE CAMP'S CHINESE ORCHESTRA, STRING ORCHESTRA (SENIOR) AND CHOIR WILL PRESENT A MUSIC PROGRAMME INCLUDING AVE VERUM CORPUS, BACHJANAS BRASILEIRAS, NO. 1, HAVANAISE OP. 83 AND TEA PLANTATIONS ALONG THE LIAN RIVER.

TICKETS AT \$30 AND \$40 EACH ARE ON SALE AT ALL URBTIX OUTLETS. HALF-PRICE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS AND SENIOR CITIZENS AGED 60 OR ABOVE.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 582 5314.

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FIREMEN PRAISED FOR RESCUE WORK
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SIX FIRE PERSONNEL AND AN AMBULANCEMAN WERE TODAY (THURSDAY) HIGHLY COMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR JERRY LAM CHEK-YUEN, FOR THEIR ROLES IN THE FIRE-FIGHTING AND RESCUE OPERATION AT AN ELDERLY HOME IN KOWLOON LAST WEEK.

SPEAKING AT THE AWARD CEREMONY, MR LAM SAID ALL STAFF AT THE SCENE HAD DEMONSTRATED GOOD TEAM WORK IN FIGHTING THE NO.3 ALARM FIRE AND SAVING LIVES.

"THEY RESCUED ALL THE TRAPPED PEOPLE WITHIN 19 MINUTES AND QUICKLY CONTROLLED THE FIRE WITHIN 38 MINUTES," HE SAID.

"THEIR ACTIONS HAD REDUCED THE NUMBER OF DEATHS, INJURIES AND LOSS OF PROPERTY TO THE MINIMUM," HE SAID, ADDING THAT ALL OF THEM FULLY EXEMPLIFIED THE SPIRIT OF THE 'ELITE' BRIGADE.

THE FIRE BROKE OUT ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF A THREE-STOREY BUILDING AT 108 BOUNDARY STREET AT 4.34 PM ON JUNE 24. FIREMEN ARRIVED THERE WITHIN FOUR MINUTES AFTER RECEIVING THE CALL.

SINCE IT WAS SUSPECTED TO BE AN ARSON CASE INVOLVING COMBUSTIBLE SUBSTANCES, THE FIRE DEVELOPED RAPIDLY.

MR LAM POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE MANY PEOPLE WAITING TO BE RESCUED AND THE MEANS OF ESCAPE WERE HEAVILY SMOKE-LOGGED, MAKING THE RESCUE AND FIRE-FIGHTING WORK MUCH MORE DIFFICULT.

TWO ELDERLY WOMEN DIED WHILE 30 INJURED PEOPLE WERE RESCUED AND SENT TO HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT.

MR LAM SAID: "IT IS THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S STATUTORY DUTY TO PROTECT LIVES AND PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF FIRE AND OTHER CALAMITIES AND, AT THE SAME TIME, TO PROVIDE AN EFFICIENT AMBULANCE SERVICE."

"TO KEEP PACE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY, EVERY UNIT OF THE DEPARTMENT IS STRIVING TO IMPROVE THE SERVICE STANDARD AND ENHANCE MEMBERS' PROFESSIONALISM," HE SAID.

UNDER A PERFORMANCE PLEDGE ANNOUNCED SIX MONTHS AGO, THE DEPARTMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF ITS SERVICE.

AWARDED THE DIRECTOR'S COMMENDATIONS ARE STATION OFFICER HO WAI-WA, PROBATIONAL STATION OFFICER LO KIT-HUNG, SENIOR FIREMEN KONG SIU-MING AND CHEUNG KAM-TONG, AND FIREMEN LAI KAM-PUI AND PUN KA-WA.

SENIOR AMBULANCEMAN LAM SHING WAS AWARDED THE FAVOURABLE ENTRY.

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NORTH SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMMES BEGIN ON SATURDAY
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A FUN DAY TO LAUNCH THE NORTH DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMMES (SYP) WILL BE HELD IN LUNG SAM AVENUE INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE ON SATURDAY (JULY 3).

LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN A VARIETY OF INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES INCLUDING BADMINTON, SQUASH, ROCK CLIMBING, ELECTRICAL VEHICLE DRIVING, AND GYMNASTIC EXERCISES. ALL THE PROGRAMMES ARE FREE OF CHARGE.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A LUCKY DRAW.

THE FUN DAY WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 9 AM AND 1 PM. THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 11 AM.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG; NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TIMOTHY TONG; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SYP ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG FO-TAI.

RUFFLE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 675 1584.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,690
REVERSAL OF LAF	+110
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,800
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-150
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,650
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.6 **0.3* 1.7.93

/HONG KONG

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.78 PCT	14 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.40	4.05
1 MONTH	3.48 PCT	17 MONTHS	2411	4.625	100.56	4.24
3 MONTHS	3.36 PCT	20 MONTHS	2502	4.75	100.61	4.40
6 MONTHS	3.55 PCT	23 MONTHS	2505	3.75	98.62	4.57
12 MONTHS	3.91 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 9,950 MN

CLOSED 1 JULY 1993

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