



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
FOREIGN SECRETARY'S STATEMENT ON GREEN PAPER .....	1
YOUNG ENVOYS MEET GOVERNOR .....	2
PLAN FOR ASSESSING VIEWS .....	4
BACKGROUND PAPER .....	5
UK SUPPORT +MOST WELCOME+ .....	7
HK GOVERNMENT CONSULTED .....	7
PROPOSED TAXI MEASURES MODIFIED .....	7
MAY ORDERS-ON-HAND AT HIGH LEVEL .....	9
JUNE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES .....	12
PRODUCTIVITY ON THE RISE .....	15
CONTRACT AWARDED TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENT .....	15
SIX KOWLOON SITES FOR RENT .....	16
500 UNITS LET IN TWO DAYS .....	17
+INTELPOST+ TO COVER L.A. OLYMPICS .....	17
APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR TECHNICAL COURSES .....	18
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF COMMENDED .....	19
EASTERN DISTRICT TO HOLD SINGING CONTEST .....	20
MAN FINED FOR POSSESSING PROTECTED BIRDS .....	20
POSTAL SERVICES TO EL SALVADOR SUSPENDED .....	21
NEW MAXICAB ROUTE IN KOWLOON .....	21
TRAFFIC MEASURES IN WONG TAI SIN .....	22
STREET CLOSURE IN MONG KOK .....	22

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 1 -

FOREIGN SECRETARY'S STATEMENT ON GREEN PAPER

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SIR GEOFFREY HOWE MADE A STATEMENT ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY (JULY 18).

QUESTION:

TO ASK THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS IF HE WILL MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG, TO BE PUBLISHED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ON JULY 18.

ANSWER:

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ARE TODAY PUBLISHING A GREEN PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN THE TERRITORY. COPIES OF THIS PAPER HAVE BEEN PLACED IN THE LIBRARY OF THE HOUSE. THE MAIN AIMS OF THE PROPOSALS ARE: TO DEVELOP PROGRESSIVELY A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT, THE AUTHORITY FOR WHICH IS CLEARLY ROOTED IN HONG KONG, WHICH IS ABLE TO REPRESENT AUTHORITATIVELY THE VIEW OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND WHICH IS MORE DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG: TO BUILD THIS SYSTEM ON THE EXISTING INSTITUTIONS WHICH HAVE SERVED HONG KONG WELL, AND AS FAR AS POSSIBLE PRESERVE THEIR BEST FEATURES: AND TO ALLOW FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IF THAT SHOULD BE THE WISH OF THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY. THIS GRADUAL APPROACH BUILDS ON EXISTING AND WELL TRIED SYSTEMS RATHER THAN ATTEMPTING A MORE RADICAL APPROACH WITH ITS ATTENDANT RISKS DURING A SENSITIVE PERIOD OF TRANSITION IN THE LIFE OF THE TERRITORY.

THE GREEN PAPER PROPOSES THAT ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO PROVIDE FOR A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO BE ELECTED INDIRECTLY BY AN ELECTORAL COLLEGE COMPOSED OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL, AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS, AND BY SPECIFIED FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES. TO START WITH, THESE ARRANGMENTS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED IN TWO STAGES - IN 1985 AND 1988 - FOLLOWING THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN THOSE YEARS. IN 1989, AFTER THE 1988 ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL HAVE TAKEN PLACE, THERE SHOULD BE A REVIEW OF THE POSITION WITH A VIEW TO DECIDING WHAT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD BE PURSUED.

/THE PAPER .....

THE PAPER ALSO PROPOSES THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SHOULD BE REPLACED PROGRESSIVELY BY MEMBERS ELECTED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FROM AMONG THEIR NUMBER, BUT A SMALL NUMBER OF MEMBERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND THE FOUR EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS SHOULD REMAIN AS MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. THESE ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED IN TWO STAGES - IN 1988 AND 1991 - FOLLOWING THE ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN THOSE YEARS. FINALLY, THE PAPER PROPOSES THAT, IN DUE COURSE, THE GOVERNOR SHOULD BE REPLACED IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BY A PRESIDING OFFICER ELECTED BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FROM AMONG THEIR OWN NUMBER. THIS PAPER DOES NOT HOWEVER MAKE PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE OTHER FUNCTIONS OF THE GOVERNOR.

IN THE VIEW OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT THESE PROPOSALS ARE WELL DESIGNED TO ENHANCE THE REPRESENTATIVE STATUS OF HONG KONG'S CENTRAL GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND TO GIVE THE HONG KONG PEOPLE A STRONGER VOICE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORY IN YEARS TO COME. THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL NOW BE PUTTING FORWARD THEIR VIEWS, WHICH WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN A SUBSEQUENT WHITE PAPER.

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#### YOUNG ENVOYS MEET GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE TODAY (THURSDAY) WISHED SIX HONG KONG'S AMBASSADORS A 'HAPPY VOYAGE' WHEN THE YOUNG GIRLS VISITED THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE SIX ARE WINNERS OF THE 1983/84 HELP THE POLICE FIGHT YOUTH CRIME COMPETITION. --- MARIAN KOA (17); DAPHNE LO (17); CARMEN MAK (15); BETTY LAW (16); SABRINA SIN (17); AND IRENE LEUNG (16) WILL LEAVE FOR A 22-DAY ALL EXPENSES-PAID TRIP IN THE NETHERLANDS AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ACCOMPANIED BY CHIEF STAFF OFFICER, POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS, MR DREW RENNIE AND TWO ESCORTS, SUPERINTENDENT TSE CHAN-FAI AND WOMAN CHIEF INSPECTOR, KWONG PO-SAI, THE GIRLS WERE RECEIVED BY THE GOVERNOR PERSONALLY.

THEY CHATTED WITH SIR EDWARD AT A TEA RECEPTION AND TOLD HIM THAT THIS YEAR'S AWARD WAS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE PREVIOUS ONES THAT THEY WOULD VISIT TWO COUNTRIES.

THE PARTY WILL LEAVE FOR HOLLAND ON JULY 25, STARTING THE FIRST PART OF THEIR TIGHTLY-SCHEDULED ITINERARY.

THEY WILL MEET POLICE CHIEFS, LOCAL LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT THE TWO PLACES.

/APART FROM .....

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 3 -

APART FROM VISITING NATIONAL CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, HAGUE MUNICIPAL POLICE, THE PEACE PALACE WHICH IS THE HOME OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, THE PARTY WILL ALSO SEE THE NEW DUTCH PORCHE HIGHWAY PATROL TEAM AND TOUR THE WORLD'S LARGEST PORT --- ROTTERDAM --- WITH MUNICIPAL RIVER POLICE.

DURING THEIR VISIT AT THE ROYAL PALACE, THE GROUP WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE HUSBAND OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE MARGUERITTE, MR PETER VAN VOLLENHOVA.

ON THE ENTERTAINMENT SIDE, THE WINNERS WILL PAY VISITS TO MARDURODAM --- HOLLAND IN MINIATURE, LOCAL TV STUDIO, BULB FIELDS, WINDMILLS AND THE LAND OF THE SEA --- ZEALAND AT WHERE THEY WILL SEE MASSIVE DELTA PROJECT, A COMPLEX OF DIKES, DAMS, BRIDGES, SLUICES AND HIGHWAYS WHICH STOP THE NORTH SEA FROM FLOODING OF HOLLAND.

BEFORE THEY DEPART FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE WINNERS WILL VISIT KLM ROYAL DUTCH AIRLINES HEADQUARTERS AND SEE FOR THEMSELVES HOW ONE OF THE WORLD'S BUSIEST AIRPORT OPERATES.

WHEN THE YOUTHS ARE IN THE U.K. IN EARLY AUGUST, THEY WILL VISIT VARIOUS POLICE FORMATIONS SUCH AS THAMES RIVER POLICE MUSEUM, BRIGHTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS, CITY OF LONDON POLICE STABLES, BRAMSHILL POLICE STAFF COLLEGE, AND THE NEW SCOTLAND YARD. THE GROUP WILL ALSO VISIT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS WHERE THEY WILL BE MET BY SIR PETER BLAKER AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

IN ADDITION, THEY WILL ALSO VISIT SCENIC SPOTS INCLUDING TOWER BRIDGE, WHITEBALL, HYDE PARK BARRACKS, OXFORD UNIVERSITY, BUCKINGHAM PALACE AND TOWER OF LONDON.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAMME WILL BE VISITS TO KENSINGTON PALACE, TOUR OF THE WORLD'S NO. 1 DEPARTMENT STORE --- HARRODS AND THE APPEARANCE IN A TV INTERVIEW.

BEFORE THE PARTY RETURNS, THEY WILL ATTEND A RECEPTION BY SIR JACK CATER, COMMISSIONER OF HONG KONG GOVERNMENT LONDON OFFICE. IN TURN, THE WINNERS WILL ALSO HOST CHINESE DINNERS FOR LOCAL LEADERS AND YOUTHS.

THE SIX OUTRIGHT WINNERS WERE SELECTED FROM THOUSANDS OF ENTRANTS WHO ALL PASSED THE THREE-PART COMPETITION, WHICH WAS A MAJOR EVENT OF THE FIGHT YOUTH CRIME CAMPAIGN.

ORGANISED BY THE POLICE SINCE 1975, THIS YEAR'S COMPETITION IS THE SEVENTH OF ITS KIND AND IS SPONSORED BY KLM ROYAL DUTCH AIRLINES AND SUPPORTED BY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND DUTCH CONSULATE-GENERAL.

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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 4 -

PLAN FOR ASSESSING VIEWS  
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IN THE BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY) THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, WAS ASKED WHAT ARRANGEMENTS WERE PROPOSED TO ASSESS THE ACCEPTABILITY TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG OF ANY AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY.

QUESTION:

TO ASK THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE PROPOSED TO ASSESS THE ACCEPTABILITY TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG OF ANY AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY.

ANSWER:

AS WE HAVE OFTEN MADE CLEAR, WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO ASSESSING THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ON ANY AGREEMENT WE MAY REACH WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY. I HAVE TODAY, PLACED IN THE LIBRARY OF THE HOUSE DETAILS OF THE METHODS WE PROPOSE TO USE TO DO THIS. BRIEFLY WE ENVISAGE THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN BOTH HONG KONG AND THE UK AND THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL BE INVITED TO COMMENT ON IT. A SPECIAL OFFICE WILL BE SET UP UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG WHICH WILL COLLATE AND ASSESS ALL VIEWS WHICH IT RECEIVES ON THE AGREEMENT AND PRODUCE A FINAL REPORT WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED. IT IS ALSO PROPOSED THAT A SMALL INDEPENDENT TEAM SHOULD BE APPOINTED TO MONITOR THE WORK OF THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE. THE TEAM WILL CONFIRM IN ITS OWN REPORT, WHICH WILL ALSO BE PUBLISHED, WHETHER IT IS SATISFIED WITH THE WAY THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE HAS DISCHARGED ITS DUTIES.

THERE HAS BEEN DISCUSSION RECENTLY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF USING A REFERENDUM TO ASSESS THE ACCEPTABILITY OF AN AGREEMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. IN THE VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT THIS WOULD HAVE VERY REAL DRAWBACKS. IN THE SPECIAL POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF HONG KONG, IT IS IMPORTANT TO AVOID THE RISK OF PROVOKING FACTIONAL DIVISIONS OR DISTURBANCES WHICH COULD THEMSELVES LEAVE THE RESULT OF A REFERENDUM OPEN TO REAL DOUBT. MOREOVER, THERE ARE PRACTICAL OBJECTIONS RELATED TO THE LOW RATES OF REGISTRATION IN HONG KONG SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF UNIVERSAL FRANCHISE IN 1982. THE GOVERNMENT FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT A PROCESS OF CONSULTATION THROUGH THE WELL-DEVELOPED CHANNELS FAMILIAR TO THE HONG KONG PEOPLE WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO PROVIDE THE FULL ASSESSMENT OF THE RANGE AND QUALITY OF OPINION ON THIS COMPLEX ISSUE WHICH I BELIEVE PARLIAMENT WOULD EXPECT AS A BASIS FOR ITS OWN DELIBERATIONS.

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BACKGROUND PAPER  
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FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A BACKGROUND PAPER TO BE PLACED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY BY THE BRITISH SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR TESTING THE ACCEPTABILITY IN HONG KONG OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY:

INTRODUCTION:

1. IN THE REPLY WHICH HE GAVE ON JULY 18 TO THE QUESTION TABLED BY THE HON MEMBER FOR BROMSGROVE THE FOREIGN SECRETARY OUTLINED THE ARRANGEMENTS THAT WOULD BE MADE TO TEST THE ACCEPTABILITY IN HONG KONG OF ANY AGREEMENT REACHED WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY. THIS PAPER DESCRIBES THESE PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS IN MORE DETAIL.

OBJECTIVES:

2. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION WILL BE:
  - (A) TO PUT A DRAFT AGREEMENT TO THE HONG KONG PEOPLE WITH A CLEAR EXPLANATION OF ITS IMPLICATIONS AND TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER OR NOT IT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THEM;
  - (B) TO PROVIDE HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT WITH AN ACCURATE ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT OF OPINION IN HONG KONG ON THE AGREEMENT, AND ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG WHICH IT WILL SET OUT, BEFORE THE DECISION IS TAKEN TO SIGN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

PROPOSED ARRANGMENTS:

3. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AS PART OF A WHITE PAPER IMMEDIATELY AFTER IT HAS BEEN INITIALLED. THIS WHITE PAPER WILL BE PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN HONG KONG IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE AND WILL ALSO INCLUDE:
  - (A) AN ACCOUNT OF THE BACKGROUND TO THE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING UP TO THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AND
  - (B) AN EXPLANATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS.

THE WHITE PAPER WILL BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNOR IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN HONG KONG. IT WILL SUBSEQUENTLY BE INTRODUCED BY A MINISTERIAL STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT AS SOON AS PARLIAMENT RECONVENES.

4. IT IS PROPOSED THAT, IN HONG KONG, THE WHITE PAPER AND THE TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHOULD BE HANDLED AS FOLLOWS:

/(A) THEY WILL .....

- (A) THEY WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO THE URBAN COUNCIL AND ALL DISTRICT BOARDS WITH AN INVITATION TO THESE BODIES TO MAKE KNOWN THEIR VIEWS;
- (B) COPIES WILL BE SENT TO SELECTED REPRESENTATIVE AND SEMI-REPRESENTATIVE BODIES (INCLUDING TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS, PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC BODIES AND OTHER GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS OF STANDING IN THE COMMUNITY) WITH AN INVITATION TO COMMENT;
- (C) THE DOCUMENTS WILL BE DEBATED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL;
- (D) THE DOCUMENTS WILL ALSO BE GIVEN WIDE PUBLICITY THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA. COPIES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, WHO WILL BE INVITED TO COMMENT;

REPRESENTATIVE BODIES AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC WILL BE FREE TO COMMENT ON ANY ASPECT OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

- 5. THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION FOR COMMENTS WILL NEED TO BE CAREFULLY ASSESSED AND PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT. THERE WILL ALSO BE INDIRECT EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION (E.G. EDITORIALS AND LETTERS TO NEWSPAPERS). THESE WILL CONTINUE TO BE MONITORED AND TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.
- 6. TO THIS END, A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE WILL BE SET UP, BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT. IT WILL BE SEPARATE FROM THE ORDINARY MACHINERY OF THE GOVERNMENT, COMING UNDER THE CHARGE OF A SENIOR OFFICIAL AND REPORTING DIRECT TO THE GOVERNOR. IT WILL UNDERTAKE THE TASK OF COLLATING, SUMMARISING, ANALYSING AND ASSESSING EXPRESSIONS OF VIEW RECEIVED EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH OTHER PARTS OF THE GOVERNMENT MACHINERY, AND OF PRODUCING A REPORT. THE REPORT DRAWN UP BY THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE WILL INCLUDE FACTUAL SUMMARIES OF ALL THE VIEWS EXPRESSED, AND AN OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE EXTENT OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT. THE REPORT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN HONG KONG.
- 7. IT IS ALSO PROPOSED THAT A SMALL INDEPENDENT TEAM SHOULD BE APPOINTED TO MONITOR THE WORK OF THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE. THE ROLE OF THE 'MONITORS' WILL BE TO ENSURE THAT THE ASSESSMENT IS CARRIED OUT PROPERLY, ACCURATELY AND IMPARTIALLY BY THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE, AND THAT THE OFFICE HAS FOLLOWED THE PRESCRIBED PROCEDURES FAITHFULLY IN DRAWING UP A REPORT ON THE COMMENTS MADE. THE 'MONITORS' WILL NOT COLLECT OR ASSESS OPINION THEMSELVES. THEY WILL WITNESS DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE EXERCISE OF CONSULTATION, HAVE ACCESS TO THE MATERIAL ON WHICH THE ASSESSMENT REPORT WAS BASED AND PUBLISH THEIR FINDINGS AT THE SAME TIME AS THE ASSESSMENT REPORT. THE ASSESSMENT REPORT AND THE VIEWS OF THE 'MONITORS' ON WHETHER THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH THE WAY THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE HAS DISCHARGED ITS DUTIES WILL BE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT IN A MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 7 -

UK SUPPORT +MOST WELCOME+

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IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUESTIONS ON SIR GEOFFREY HOWE'S REMARKS IN PARLIAMENT ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WAS MOST WELCOME, PARTICULARLY AT THIS STAGE OF HK'S DEVELOPMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SIR GEOFFREY'S STATEMENT UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE WHICH BOTH THE BRITISH AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS ATTACHED TO POSITIVE AND PROGRESSIVE CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE TERRITORY.

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HK GOVERNMENT CONSULTED

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IN ANSWER TO MEDIA QUESTIONS ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN LONDON OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE TO COLLECT PUBLIC OPINION ON THE AGREEMENT ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN GAVE THE FOLLOWING REPLY:-

THE DECISION WAS REACHED IN FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

IT IS COMPLETELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WHICH IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA, THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

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PROPOSED TAXI MEASURES MODIFIED

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THE PACKAGE OF MEASURES PROPOSED TO IMPLEMENT THE PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE +1983 TAXI REVIEW+ HAS NOW BEEN MODIFIED AFTER FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE 18 DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE TAXI TRADE AND AFTER OBTAINING FURTHER ADVICE FROM THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THERE WILL BE NO INCREASE IN FIRST REGISTRATION TAX (FRT), A MODERATE INCREASE OF \$400 IN THE ANNUAL LICENCE FEE TO BE INTRODUCED NEXT YEAR, A FREEZE IN THE ISSUE OF NT LICENCES AND A REDUCTION IN THE ISSUE OF URBAN LICENCES FROM 1 200 AT PRESENT TO 200 A YEAR, TO BE REVIEWED AFTER TWO YEARS.

/THIS MEANS .....

THIS MEANS THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN THE EXISTING PREFERENTIAL 15 PER CENT FRT ON TAXIS, COMPARED WITH 90 PER CENT FOR PRIVATE CARS.

THE REVISED ANNUAL LICENCE FEE, AT \$2 000 FROM JANUARY 1, 1985, WILL STILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN THE \$3 400 FOR PRIVATE CARS OF SIMILAR ENGINE CAPACITY EFFECTIVE SINCE FEBRUARY LAST YEAR.

THE NEW LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF TAXIS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN GAZETTE NOTICES TOMORROW. REGULATIONS PROVIDING FOR THE REVISION TO THE ANNUAL LICENCE FEE, PROPOSED ON TRANSPORT GROUNDS ALONE, WILL BE MADE LATER THIS YEAR.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT FOLLOWING THE TAXI DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, A PROGRAMME OF CONSULTATIONS WAS CONDUCTED BY THE TRANSPORT BRANCH AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO GATHER PUBLIC OPINION ON HOW TAXIS SHOULD BE REGARDED IN THE CONTEXT OF OVERALL TRANSPORT POLICY.

WHILE IT WAS RECOGNISED THAT, COMPARED WITH THE MASS CARRIERS SUCH AS BUSES, TAXIS ARE RELATIVELY INEFFICIENT ROAD USERS, THERE WAS OBJECTION TO EQUATING TAXIS FULLY WITH PRIVATE CARS.

+THE GENERAL PERCEPTION WAS THAT TAXIS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS AN ADJUNCT TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE MODERATE INCREASE OF \$400, ON TOP OF THE PRESENT \$1 600 IN THE ANNUAL LICENCE FEE, WOULD ALTER TO SOME EXTENT THE PREFERENTIAL TAXATION TREATMENT ACCORDED TO TAXIS AT PRESENT.

IT TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE PRESENT RELATIVELY LOW PROFITABILITY OF THE TAXI TRADE. THE TRADE MAINTAINS THAT THE MARKET CANNOT SUPPORT ANOTHER FARE INCREASE TOO SOON AFTER THE FEBRUARY INCREASE.

HOWEVER, IF, AFTER A PERIOD, DEMAND INCREASES, CONSIDERATION WOULD THEN BE GIVEN TO POSSIBLE FARE INCREASE IF THE TAXI OPERATORS REQUEST IT.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE MAIN REASON FOR NOT INCREASING THE FIRST REGISTRATION TAX WAS THAT IN THE CASE OF PRIVATE CARS, THE TAX WAS IN PART INTENDED TO CONTROL GROWTH RATE, BUT IN THE CASE OF TAXIS, CONTROL COULD BE EXERCISED BY THE GOVERNMENT LIMITING THE NUMBER OF NEW LICENCES ISSUED.

AS REGARDS THE ISSUE OF NEW TAXI LICENCES, THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE DISTRICT BOARDS HAD NOT UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED A MORATORIUM. SOME MEMBERS THOUGHT THE MAJOR MODES OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT WERE STILL NOT SUFFICIENT. GENERALLY, IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT TAXIS HAVE A USEFUL ROLE TO PLAY AS AN ADJUNCT TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

+ON BALANCE, THEREFORE, IT WAS DECIDED TO CONTINUE TO ISSUE A LIMITED NUMBER OF NEW URBAN TAXI LICENCES, SO AS TO KEEP UP A DEGREE OF COMPETITION AND HENCE THE LEVEL OF SERVICE, AS DEMAND RISES IN THE FUTURE,+ HE SAID.

+HOWEVER IN THE CASE OF NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS, WHICH HAVE LOWER PROFITABILITY, DUE TO THEIR LOWER FARE SCALE, A LOWER LEVEL OF BUSINESS AND GREAT DIFFICULTY IN PICKING UP RETURN PASSENGERS, THE ISSUE OF LICENCES WILL BE FROZEN AT THE EXISTING NUMBER OF 2 638.+

THE ISSUE OF NEW URBAN TAXI LICENCES AT ONE-SIXTH OF THE PREVIOUS RATE OF 1 200 A YEAR WILL CONTINUE UP TO JULY 1986. THE SITUATION, TOGETHER WITH OTHER ASPECTS OF THE TAXI TRADE AND ITS OPERATIONS, WILL BE FURTHER REVIEWED DURING THIS PERIOD.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES FACED BY TAXI OPERATORS IN MAINTAINING PROFITABILITY.

+THE SMALL INCREASE IN ANNUAL LICENCE FEE AND THE VERY LIMITED ISSUE OF URBAN TAXI LICENCES HAVE BEEN DECIDED ON AFTER A FURTHER CAREFUL AND EXTENSIVE REVIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON TAXIS.

+THE INCREASE WILL HAVE MINIMAL EFFECT ON OPERATING COST, AND IS A REASONABLE AND FAIR REFLECTION OF THE ROLE OF TAXIS IN THE HIERARCHY OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT MODES,+ HE SAID.

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#### MAY ORDERS-ON-HAND AT HIGH LEVEL

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY RELEASED STATISTICS FROM THE MONTHLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL AND ORDERS-ON-HAND FOR MAY 1984.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN TERMS OF MONTHS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR REMAINED AT A HIGH LEVEL IN MAY 1984, ACCORDING TO A SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

MOST INDUSTRIES REPORTED EITHER NO CHANGE OR A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS, COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, EXCEPT THE TEXTILES AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES WHICH REPORTED A DECLINE.

INCREASES IN EMPLOYMENT WERE RECORDED IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES PARTICULARLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, MAINLY DUE TO THE RECRUITMENT OF SUMMER WORKERS AT THE END OF MAY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SLIGHT DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY, WHILE THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY REPORTED NO CHANGE.

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 10 -

EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTOR SHOWED NO CHANGE FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, THE NUMBER OF OPERATIVES INCREASED SLIGHTLY AS A FEW FIRMS STARTED SOME NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, PAYROLL ACROSS THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ROSE.

INCREASES IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE ALSO RECORDED IN SEVERAL INDUSTRIES, NOTABLY IN THE TEXTILES AND WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRIES, DUE TO SALARY REVISION AND MORE OVERTIME WORK BEING CARRIED OUT.

WITHIN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, ONLY THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY EXPERIENCED A SLIGHT DECLINE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR INCREASED, DUE TO PAYMENTS FOR OVERTIME WORK.

ON THE OTHER HAND, BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN HOTELS DECLINED SUBSTANTIALLY BECAUSE OF SALARY ADJUSTMENTS AND PAYMENT OF BONUSES BY A FEW FIRMS IN APRIL.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN TWO TABLES BELOW.

WHEN RELEASING THE SURVEY RESULTS, THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR MAY 1984 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, AT \$1.5 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION AT 3-7212579.

/A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN .....

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR
	MAR. 1984	APR. 1984	MAY 1984	MAY 1984
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	3	-1	1	5.10
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	*	-2	-4	2.47
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	4	1	1	4.14
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4	2	-1	3.55
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5	1	*	5.79
OTHERS	4	1	*	4.39
<u>ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>4.75</u>

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS
	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)						
	MAR. 1984	APR. 1984	MAY 1984	MAR. 1984	APR. 1984	MAY 1984	MAY 1984 HK \$
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>	*	*	2	4	*	3	2 734
FOOD AND DRINKS	*	1	1	-3	6	2	3 483
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	-1	*	*	7	-2	5	2 361
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	-1	*	-1	14	-1	19	3 215
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	1	4	9	12	2	2	2 579
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	*	4	4	5	*	-1	2 180

/ELECTRICAL AND .....

- 12 -

ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	*	*	3	3	*	*	2 476
OTHERS	-1	*	2	1	2	*	3 697
<u>CONSTRUCTION **</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>-4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4 006</u>
<u>SERVICES</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>4 773</u>
BANKS	*	*	*	-1	5	1	4 333
HOTELS	1	1	*	1	10	-10	3 167
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	*	2	3	-1	4 692
OTHERS	*	*	*	4	-3	2	6 256

\* CHANGES WITHIN +0.5 PER CENT.

\*\* PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

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### JUNE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES \* \* \* \*

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR JUNE 1984 WERE 155.5 AND 155.2 RESPECTIVELY, ACCORDING TO FIGURES PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH, CPI(A) INCREASED BY 1.4 POINTS OR 0.9 PER CENT AND CPI(B), BY 1.3 POINTS OR 0.8 PER CENT.

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1983, CPI(A) ROSE BY 13.7 POINTS OR 9.7 PER CENT AND CPI(B), BY 14.0 POINTS OR 9.9 PER CENT.

THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO JUNE 1984, AT 150.3 AND 149.7 RESPECTIVELY, WERE BOTH 10.3 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGES FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO JUNE 1983.

DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD TO JUNE 1984, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI(A) INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.7 PER CENT EACH MONTH AND THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI(B), AT 0.6 PER CENT EACH MONTH.

DURING JUNE, FOOD PRICES, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND SALT-WATER FISH, WERE HIGHER. ADMISSION CHARGES FOR CINEMAS AND CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL CHARGES ALSO WENT UP.

/THE CPI(A) .....

THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1979-80 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

THE CPI(A) REFERRED TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$1 000 AND \$3 499 A MONTH, AND THE CPI(B) TO THOSE SPENDING BETWEEN \$3 500 AND \$6 499 A MONTH AT THAT TIME.

THE INDEXES FOR JUNE 1984 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY-SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES ARE GIVEN BELOW, TOGETHER WITH THOSE FOR MAY 1984 AND JUNE 1983.

(OCTOBER 1979 TO SEPTEMBER 1980 AVERAGE = 100)

SECTION	CPI(A)			CPI(B)		
	JUN. 83	MAY 84	JUN. 84	JUN. 83	MAY 84	JUN. 84
FOODSTUFFS	143.7	154.8	157.4	144.2	155.4	157.8
HOUSING	135.4	143.7	143.8	134.7	144.0	144.1
FUEL AND LIGHT	144.2	148.7	148.7	144.6	148.4	148.4
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	185.3	208.0	208.4	178.9	200.7	201.2
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	140.7	156.4	156.5	142.1	157.8	158.0
DURABLE GOODS	111.7	125.8	125.6	114.7	129.5	129.4
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	131.9	150.1	150.9	131.0	147.1	148.2
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	155.2	169.5	170.2	157.2	171.4	172.9
SERVICES	149.5	166.8	167.6	147.5	165.1	165.9
ALL ITEMS	141.8	154.1	155.5	141.2	153.9	155.2

/COMPARED WITH .....

- 14 -

COMPARED WITH MAY 1984, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS ROSE BY 2.6 POINTS IN CPI(A) AND 2.4 POINTS IN CPI(B). THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF FRESH VEGETABLES INCREASED DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS BROUGHT ABOUT BY TORRENTIAL RAINS AT THE END OF MAY AND BY TROPICAL STORM WYNNE IN LATE JUNE. THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SALT-WATER FISH ALSO WENT UP DUE TO INADEQUATE SUPPLY AS SOME FISHERMEN STAYED AT HOME TO CELEBRATE THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL. INCREASES WERE ALSO RECORDED IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF FRESH FRUITS AND IN THE AVERAGE CHARGE FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS. THE EFFECT OF MOVEMENTS IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS ON THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS WAS INSIGNIFICANT.

HIGHER PRICES OF MEDICINES AND JEWELLERY PUSHED UP THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS BY 0.8 POINT IN CPI(A) AND 1.1 POINTS IN CPI(B).

THE INDEX FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES ROSE BY 0.7 POINT IN CPI(A) AND 1.5 POINTS IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL CHARGES AND THE FULL IMPACT OF THE RISE IN MTR FARES.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES INCREASED BY 0.8 POINT IN BOTH CPI(A) AND CPI(B), REFLECTING THE EFFECT OF HIGHER ADMISSION CHARGES FOR CINEMAS AND HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

(FIGURES PRESENTED IN THIS PRESS RELEASE REFER TO CPI SERIES NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. ALL PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM CPI FIGURES TO 2 DECIMAL PLACES.)

DETAILS OF THESE PRICE MOVEMENTS ARE GIVEN IN THE +CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT+ FOR JUNE 1984, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$3 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG, OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, ROOM 1904, 19TH FLOOR, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG. THE REPORT IS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES MAY BE MADE WITH THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 3-7216512.

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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 15 -

PRODUCTIVITY ON THE RISE  
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DESPITE GROWING COMPETITION FROM NEIGHBOURING AREAS, HONG KONG'S SPINNING AND WEAVING INDUSTRIES HAVE MAINTAINED THEIR PROFITABILITY BY CONTINUOUS RESTRUCTURING AND REINVESTMENT TO RAISE PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO, WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE TOPPING-OUT CEREMONY OF THE NEW FACTORY OF SOUTH SEA TEXTILE MANUFACTURING CO. LTD. IN TUEN MUN.

+SOUTH SEA TEXTILE MANUFACTURING AND OUR SPINNING AND WEAVING INDUSTRIES HAVE A LONG HISTORY IN HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. SOUTH SEA'S DECISION TO INVEST SOME \$64 MILLION IN THE MODERNISATION OF ITS SPINNING AND WEAVING OPERATIONS IN HONG KONG IS AN INDICATION OF BUSINESS CONFIDENCE IN THE CONTINUING VIABILITY OF THIS INDUSTRY,+ MR HO SAID.

THE COMPANY'S NEW NINE-STOREY PURPOSE-BUILT FACTORY HAS A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF 32 500 SQUARE METRES. IT WILL ACCOMMODATE THE COMPANY'S SPINNING AND WEAVING OPERATIONS WHICH AT PRESENT ARE HOUSED IN TSUEN WAN.

+THE FACTORY'S RELOCATION TO TUEN MUN EARLY NEXT YEAR WILL PROVIDE FURTHER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF TUEN MUN, AND THIS IS A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE LIST OF 1 500 LARGE AND SMALL INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN SET UP IN THIS FAST GROWING NEW TOWN,+ MR HO SAID.

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CONTRACT AWARDED TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENT  
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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO SPEND \$18.6 MILLION TO IMPROVE EMISSIONS FROM THE KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR.

A SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED TO JEBSEN AND COMPANY LTD BY THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

IT WAS SIGNED BY MR GRAHAM OSBORNE, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, AND MR DIETER VON HANSEMANN, A VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMPANY.

THE PROJECT WILL INVOLVE REPLACING THE MECHANICAL GAS CLEANING EQUIPMENT WITH THREE HIGHLY-EFFICIENT ELECTROSTATIC PRECIPITATORS AND INSTALLING A WASTE HEAT BOILER.

THE PRECIPITATORS WILL HELP REMOVE MOST OF THE DUST FROM THE FLUE GAS BEFORE DISCHARGE, RESULTING IN CLEANER EMISSIONS AS REQUIRED BY THE AIR POLLUTION ORDINANCE.

/THE DECISION .....

- 16 -

THE DECISION TO INSTAL THEM WAS MADE FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL EVALUATION OF TWO PILOT PRECIPITATORS INSTALLED IN THE PLANT EARLY LAST YEAR.

THE KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR, WHICH STARTED OPERATION IN 1967, COMPRISES FIVE REFUSE BURNING LINES AND TWO CHIMNEYS. IT HAS A CAPACITY TO INCINERATE 650 TONS OF REFUSE A DAY.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL TAKE ABOUT 22 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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SIX KOWLOON SITES FOR RENT  
\* \* \* \*

SIX CROWN LAND LOTS IN KOWLOON ARE BEING OFFERED ON SHORT-TERM TENANCIES BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THREE ARE ON KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION, TWO ARE IN ARGYLE STREET AND THE REMAINING LOT IS AT TAI KOK TSUI.

TWO OF THE KOWLOON BAY SITES, EACH MEASURING 9 350 SQUARE METRES, ARE FOR STORAGE OF NON-DANGEROUS GOODS AND FOR FILM PRODUCTION.

THEIR INITIAL TENANCIES ARE FOR THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE REMAINING KOWLOON BAY SITE IS FOR REPAIRING AND MAINTAINING MOTOR VEHICLES ALTHOUGH IT CAN ALSO BE USED FOR OPEN STORAGE.

THE 1 615 SQUARE-METRE SITE IS BEING OFFERED ON AN 18-MONTH TENANCY WHICH CAN BE RENEWED QUARTERLY.

BOTH ARGYLE STREET SITES, LOCATED NEXT TO KOWLOON HOSPITAL, ARE FOR STORING GOODS AND VEHICLES.

THEY MEASURE 1.57 HECTARES AND 8 800 SQUARE METRES, AND THEIR TENANCIES ARE FOR ONE YEAR, ALSO RENEWABLE QUARTERLY.

THE REMAINING SITE, LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF BEECH STREET AND ANCHOR STREET IN TAI KOK TSUI, MEASURES 5 150 SQUARE METRES AND IS TO BE USED AS A FEE-PAYING CAR PARK FOR GOODS VEHICLES.

THE INITIAL TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE AFTERWARDS AT MONTHLY INTERVALS.

TENDERS FOR ALL SIX SITES CLOSE ON AUGUST 3.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES (KOWLOON EAST AND WEST), YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

TENDER PLANS CAN ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THESE PLACES.

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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1934

- 17 -

500 UNITS LET IN TWO DAYS  
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ANOTHER 150 UNITS AT THE WANG CHEONG FACTORY ESTATE WERE LET TODAY TO INTERESTED FACTORY OPERATORS WHO FLOCKED THE ESTATE OFFICE THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO SIGN TENANCIES.

+THIS BRINGS TO MORE THAN 500 UNITS, OR 50 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL 1 045 UNITS, LET IN TWO DAYS,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

HE SAID THE UNITS, EACH OF 25 SQUARE METRES IN SIZE, WERE SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR A WIDE RANGE OF SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESSES.

+OPERATORS MAY LEASE FROM ONE UNIT TO ANY COMBINATION OF SUCH TO MEET THEIR OWN NEEDS.

+LETTING OF THE REMAINING UNITS WILL CONTINUE ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.+

MEANWHILE, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG GARMENT MANUFACTURERS WILL JOINTLY ORGANISE A SEMINAR TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO INTRODUCE THE POPULAR FACTORY ESTATE.

HOUSING STAFF WILL EXPLAIN OVER A SLIDE SHOW ON THE FACTORY'S DESIGN, FACILITIES AND MANAGEMENT, AS WELL AS LETTING PROCEDURES.

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO BE PRESENT TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

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+INTELPOST+ TO COVER L.A. OLYMPICS  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE INTERNATIONAL ELECTRONIC POST SERVICE -- INTELPOST -- WILL BE EXTENDED TO COVER THE LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS FROM JULY 23 (MONDAY) TO AUGUST 12, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

DURING THIS PERIOD, INTELPOST ITEMS POSTED IN HONG KONG BEFORE 6 PM WILL BE DELIVERED THE SAME DAY IN LOS ANGELES.

+INTELPOST IS THEREFORE IDEAL FOR SENDING URGENT LETTERS, REPORTS, CHARTS OR CONTRACTS TO THOSE WHO ARE IN LOS ANGELES EITHER AS PARTICIPANTS OR AS SPECTATORS AT THE GAMES DURING THIS PERIOD,+ A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/THE DOCUMENTS, .....

THE DOCUMENTS, HANDLED CONFIDENTIALLY, ARE SCANNED, CONVERTED INTO HIGH-SPEED ELECTRONIC IMPULSES AND TRANSMITTED DIRECT TO THE RECEIVING STATION.

IN LOS ANGELES, THE RECEIVED COPY IS PLACED IN AN ENVELOPE AND DELIVERED TO THE ADDRESSEE BY POST OFFICE MESSENGER.

ALTERNATIVELY, THE COPY CAN BE COLLECTED FROM A DESIGNATED POST OFFICE.

THE CHARGE FOR THE SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES IS \$50 FOR THE FIRST SIDE OF AN A4 PAPER SHEET AND \$25 FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT A4 SIDE SENT TO THE SAME ADDRESSEE AT THE SAME TIME.

+INTELPOST, NOW AVAILABLE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, USA, FRANCE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THE NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, AUSTRALIA, MALAYSIA, BELGIUM, MACAU AND QATAR IS ALREADY ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST PUBLIC ELECTRONIC MAIL SERVICES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IT IS AN IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT FOR HONG KONG AS THE TERRITORY HAS BECOME A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,+ HE ADDED.

THOSE WISHING TO USE THE SERVICE MAY POST THEIR DOCUMENTS AT EITHER THE GENERAL POST OFFICE OR THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE AT 10 MIDDLE ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

IF THEY HAVE FACSIMILE MACHINES IN THEIR OFFICES, ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO TRANSMIT THEIR ITEMS DIRECT TO THE POST OFFICE INTELPOST TERMINAL IN THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE INTELPOST REPRESENTATIVE ON TELEPHONE 5-2671148.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR TECHNICAL COURSES  
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THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL ARE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR FULL-TIME, PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE AND BLOCK-RELEASE COURSES DUE TO START IN MID-SEPTEMBER.

THE MORRISON HILL, KWAI CHUNG, KWUN TONG, HAKING WONG AND LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WILL OFFER 140 COURSES IN 13 DISCIPLINES.

THE COURSES ARE MAINLY AT CRAFT AND TECHNICIAN LEVELS, SUITABLE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED FORM THREE OR FORM FIVE.

THE 13 DISCIPLINES COVER HOTEL-KEEPING AND TOURISM STUDIES, COMMERCIAL STUDIES, CONSTRUCTION, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, GENERAL STUDIES, INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY, PRINTING, TEXTILE INDUSTRIES, CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, MARINE AND FABRICATION, DESIGN AND MOTOR VEHICLE ENGINEERING.

/DETAILS OF .....

- 19 -

DETAILS OF THE COURSES WILL BE ADVERTISED IN THE LOCAL PRESS THIS SATURDAY (JULY 21).

APPLICATION FORMS AND GUIDES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND DISTRICT OFFICES FROM MONDAY (JULY 23).

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES CONCERNED BY AUGUST 20.

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CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF COMMENDED  
\* \* \* \* \*

A MASTER TEACHING IN THE STANLEY PRISON, MR LAU SE-YIU, WAS AWARDED THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES' COMMENDATION TODAY FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION AND COMMITMENT TO PRISONERS' EDUCATIONAL CLASSES.

UNDER HIS GUIDANCE, ALL ENTRANTS WHO SAT FOR THE CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE EXAMINATIONS LAST DECEMBER OBTAINED OUTSTANDING RESULTS.

IN ADDITION, 14 OTHER STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT WERE ALSO PRESENTED WITH THE COMMISSIONER'S COMMENDATION CERTIFICATES BY THE CIVIL SECRETARY, MR CHARLES GATELY, AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS.

MISS KWAN CHING-WAN, A CLERICAL ASSISTANT WORKING AT THE TAI LAM CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, WAS COMMENDED FOR HER OUTSTANDING VIGILANCE AND INITIATIVE IN THWARTING AN ATTEMPT TO SMUGGLE UNAUTHORISED ARTICLES INTO THE INSTITUTION LAST FEBRUARY.

ASSISTANT OFFICER LEE SHUI-TONG WAS COMMENDED FOR HIS ALERTNESS WHICH RESULTED IN THE APPREHENSION OF A PRISONER WHO RAN AWAY FROM CHIMAWAN PRISON LAST APRIL.

OFFICER MO YUEN-MAI AND ASSISTANT OFFICER LAU LAI-YEE WERE COMMENDED FOR THEIR INITIATIVE, TENACITY AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WHICH RESULTED IN AN ESCAPEE FROM TAI TAM GAP CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION BEING TRACED AND APPREHENDED LAST MAY.

THE OTHER 10 OFFICERS, ALL OF THEM WITH THE TAI LAM CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, WERE ALSO COMMENDED FOR THESE QUALITIES WHICH RESULTED IN AN ESCAPEE FROM THE INSTITUTION BEING APPREHENDED LAST MAY.

THEY WERE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT KWOK WING-CHIU, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS LUK MAN-FOON AND LAM SIU-TAI, AND ASSISTANT OFFICERS LAM KWOK-WAH, LAI YIK-KEUNG, CHOI FAI-SHUN, TAM KWOK-CHAU, WONG PO-SIU, LEE WAI-CHIU AND MAK YAU-TAK.

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- 20 -

EASTERN DISTRICT TO HOLD SINGING CONTEST  
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THE EASTERN DISTRICT WILL HOLD ITS PRELIMINARY AMATEUR SINGING CONTEST ON SATURDAY (JULY 21) EVENING AT THE DR SEAKER CHAN'S MEMORIAL HALL IN NORTH POINT.

TWELVE CONTESTANTS, CHOSEN FROM 251 ENTRANTS, WILL COMPETE IN THE CONTEST ORGANISED AS PART OF A TERRITORY-WIDE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE MORE RESIDENTS TO REGISTER AS VOTERS FOR NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

THE WINNER WILL REPRESENT THE EASTERN DISTRICT TO COMPETE WITH THOSE FROM THE OTHER 17 DISTRICTS IN A SEMI-FINAL ON AUGUST 11.

THE SINGING CONTEST IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND SING TAO NEWSPAPER LTD.

THE JUDGES FOR SATURDAY'S CONTEST WILL BE MADAM CHRISTINA TING, A DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER; MR CHEUNG MAN-SUN, SENIOR PRODUCER OF RTHK; MR DOMINIC CHOW, A COMPOSER; MR WAN LONG-YIN, PRODUCTION MANAGER OF SING TAO PANSONIC; AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM POLYGRAM RECORD COMPANY.

THE OFFICIATING GUEST WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, MR LUI HAU-TUEN.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE PERFORMANCES BY THE KIANGSU-CHEKIANG COLLEGE DANCE GROUP, AND SINGING BY MISS CARMEN WONG.

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MAN FINED FOR POSSESSING PROTECTED BIRDS

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IT IS AN OFFENCE TO POSSESS OR IMPORT ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS OR THEIR PARTS WITHOUT AUTHORISATION, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WARNED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE WARNING FOLLOWED A COURT CASE YESTERDAY IN WHICH A MAN WAS FINED \$200 FOR ILLEGALLY POSSESSING THREE EAGLES AND FOUR OWLS. THE BIRDS WERE CONFISCATED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT 29 PEOPLE WERE PROSECUTED FOR THE OFFENCE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR.

THE GOODS SEIZED INCLUDED 152 SEA TURTLE EGGS, 17 SEA TURTLE SPECIMENS, 194 KILOGRAMS OF ELEPHANT SKINS, EIGHT CROCODILE SPECIMENS, TWO PYTHON SKINS AND ONE PANGOLIN SKIN.

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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 21 -

POSTAL SERVICES TO EL SALVADOR SUSPENDED  
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DUE TO THE PREVAILING SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR WHICH AFFECTS POSTAL OPERATIONS THERE, ALL POSTAL SERVICES FROM HONG KONG TO THAT COUNTRY ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM TODAY, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED.

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NEW MAXICAB ROUTE IN KOWLOON  
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A NEW MAXICAB ROUTE BETWEEN FU SHAN AND KOWLOON CITY FERRY WILL OPERATE FROM SATURDAY (JULY 21).

MAXICABS FOR THE ROUTE, NO. 33, WILL TRAVEL VIA FUNG SHING STREET, PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, FUNG MO STREET, TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD, TUNG TSING ROAD, LOK SIN ROAD, KAI TAK ROAD, NGA TSIN WAI ROAD, LION ROCK ROAD, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST, MA TAU CHUNG ROAD, MOK CHEONG STREET, TO KWA WAN ROAD AND SAN MA TAU STREET ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO KOWLOON CITY FERRY.

THE RETURN JOURNEY WILL BE VIA SAN MA TAU STREET, TO KWA WAN ROAD, MA TAU KOK ROAD, MA TAU CHUNG ROAD, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST, GRAMPAN ROAD, NGA TSIN WAI ROAD, TAK KU LING ROAD, LOK SIN ROAD, TUNG WOR ROAD, TUNG LUNG ROAD, TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD, FUNG MO STREET, LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND FUNG SHING STREET.

THE SERVICE WILL OPERATE FROM 6.35 AM TO 10 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND SATURDAYS, AND FROM 7.35 AM TO 10 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THE SERVICE FREQUENCY WILL BE 10 MINUTES DURING PEAK HOURS AND 15 MINUTES DURING OFF-PEAK PERIODS. THE FARE WILL BE \$2.5.

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/22 .....

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

- 22 -

TRAFFIC MEASURES IN WONG TAI SIN  
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FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JULY 21), THE NEW BUS STATION AT LOK FU SHOPPING CENTRE IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE MADE A PROHIBITED ZONE.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE STATION.

FROM 7 AM THE SAME DAY, THE SECTION OF FUNG SHING STREET IN WONG TAI SIN BETWEEN PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 100 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD WILL BE MADE A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 12 MIDNIGHT DAILY.

WITHIN THIS ZONE, ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, EXCEPT THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS.

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STREET CLOSURE IN MONG KOK  
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CHEUNG WONG ROAD BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND TONG MEI ROAD IN MONG KOK WILL BE CLOSED FOR FOUR HOURS TO TRAFFIC, OTHER THAN VEHICLES REQUIRING LOCAL ACCESS.

THE CLOSURE, WHICH WILL BE FROM 12.30 AM TO 4.30 AM ON SATURDAY (JULY 21), IS TO FACILITATE THE DELIVERY OF A TRANSFORMER TO A POWER SUBSTATION THERE.

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