



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1977

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FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1977

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QUEEN'S GALLANTRY AWARD

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A SALESMAN AND A POLICE CONSTABLE HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE QUEEN'S GALLANTRY MEDAL, THE FIRST EVER TO BE GIVEN IN HONG KONG, AND THE QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT RESPECTIVELY, IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

THE AWARDEES ARE MR. YIP LONG-PING, AGED 24, AND POLICE CONSTABLE LO YIN-HOK, AGED 22.

MR. YIP'S BRAVERY HAS BEEN RECOGNISED FOLLOWING A ROBBERY INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED IN A CHEUNG SHA WAN GOLDSMITH'S SHOP ON JUNE 22, 1976 DURING WHICH HE WAS SHOT IN THE ABDOMEN.

AT ABOUT 4.40 P.M. ON THAT DAY, THREE MEN ENTERED THE GOLDSMITH'S SHOP. ONE, ARMED WITH A REVOLVER, GRABBED AN EMPLOYEE WHILE THE OTHERS BEGAN SMASHING THE GLASS DISPLAY COUNTERS WITH HAMMERS.

MR. YIP, WHO WAS IN THE SHOP WITH HIS BROTHER, GRABBED A MELON KNIFE FROM UNDER THE COUNTER AND RAN INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE SHOP, INTENDING TO ATTACK THE MAN HOLDING THE REVOLVER.

HIS BROTHER, MR. YIP BOR-PING, SOUNDED THE BURGLAR ALARM, PICKED UP A STOOL AND ALSO JOINED IN THE RESISTANCE.

THE ARMED ROBBER FIRED THREE SHOTS, ONE OF THEM HITTING MR. YIP LONG-PING IN THE ABDOMEN. DURING THE MELEE HE ALSO MANAGED TO WOUND THE GUNMAN IN THE HAND, BEFORE THEY ALL RAN FROM THE PREMISES.

THOUGH WOUNDED, MR. YIP PERSUED ONE OF THEM ALONG CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD INTO APLIU STREET, BUT WAS NOT ABLE TO APPREHEND THE MAN BECAUSE OF THE EFFECTS OF THE WOUND.

FOUR MEN HAVE SINCE BEEN ARRESTED BY THE POLICE AND A .22 REVOLVER AND AMMUNITION RECOVERED. THEY HAVE ALL BEEN CHARGED WITH VARIOUS OFFENCES.

MR. YIP WAS IN HOSPITAL FOR OVER TWO WEEKS DURING WHICH TIME A BULLET WAS REMOVED FROM HIS ABDOMEN. NO PERMANENT INCAPACITY IS EXPECTED.

THE OTHER INCIDENT INVOLVING POLICE CONSTABLE LO YIN-HOK HAPPENED ON MARCH 24, 1976.

CONSTABLE LO, WHO JOINED THE FORCE IN JANUARY 1974, WAS ON PATROL DUTY IN UNIFORM AT ABOUT 2 P.M. AT THE JUNCTION OF LOK SHAN ROAD AND YUK YAT STREET WHEN HE WAS ATTACKED BY TWO YOUNG MEN.

ONE GRABBED HIM AROUND THE NECK FROM BEHIND WHILE THE OTHER, ARMED WITH A KNIFE, ATTACKED HIM FROM THE FRONT AND SEIZED HIS REVOLVER, CUTTING THE LANYARD WITH THE KNIFE.

/CONSTABLE

CONSTABLE LO STRUGGLED VIOLENTLY WITH THE MAN HOLDING HIM AND MANAGED TO PUNCH THE MAN WITH THE REVOLVER. THIS MAN STRUCK CONSTABLE LO ON THE HEAD WITH THE REVOLVER CAUSING THE CYLINDER TO OPEN, AND ALL BUT ONE ROUND OF AMMUNITION TO SCATTER ON THE GROUND. AT THAT TIME NO ONE KNEW HOW MANY ROUNDS WERE LEFT IN THE REVOLVER.

HIS ATTACKER THEN CLOSED THE CYLINDER, POINTED THE REVOLVER AT CONSTABLE LO AND PULLED THE TRIGGER. FORTUNATELY THE GUN DID NOT FIRE, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS ONE ROUND LEFT IN THE CYLINDER.

AT THIS TIME BOTH MEN RAN OFF AND CONSTABLE LO CHASED AFTER THE ONE WITH THE REVOLVER. AFTER PERSUADING HIM FOR ABOUT 600 YARDS THE MAN BOARDED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS. CONSTABLE LO SEIZED THE MAN AT THE SAME TIME STRIKING HIM WITH THE TRUNCHEON. A VIOLENT STRUGGLE THEN ENSUED. OTHER OFFICERS ARRIVED AND THE MAN WAS OVERPOWERED AND ARRESTED.

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PROPOSED CLOSURE OF ROAD IN TUEN MUN

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AS PART OF THE P.W.D.'S NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT AT TUEN MUN, PROPOSALS TO EXTEND TSUN WEN ROAD FROM THE INDUSTRIAL AREA, AREA 9, NORTHWARDS TO THE TAI HING PUBLIC ESTATE, AND TO CONNECT KIN YICK STREET TO THE EXISTING UN-NAMED ROAD ADJACENT TO THE TAI HING COTTON MILL ARE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

THE PROPOSALS ALSO INCLUDE THE FORMATION OF ADDITIONAL INDUSTRIAL LAND AND ROADS IN AND AROUND SAN CHING ROAD.

BECAUSE OF THESE WORKS IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CLOSE PART OF SAN CHING ROAD AND PART OF THE UN-NAMED ROAD ADJACENT TO THE TAI HING COTTON MILL.

A P.W.D. SPOKESMAN SAID EXISTING ACCESS THROUGH THE UN-NAMED ROAD WOULD BE MAINTAINED UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF ALTERNATIVE ACCESS THROUGH KIN YICK STREET.

WITH THE FORMATION OF THE AREA TO THE NORTH AND WEST OF KIN YICK STREET, THE EXISTING ACCESS THROUGH SAN CHING ROAD TO THAT AREA WOULD NO LONGER BE REQUIRED, HE ADDED.

THE EXTENT OF THE CLOSURES ARE GIVEN IN A NOTIFICATION IN THE GAZETTE. ANY PERSONS WHO HAVE OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSALS OR ANY CLAIM OF PRIVATE RIGHT SHOULD SUBMIT THEM IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS NOT LATER THAN JULY 24 OR AUGUST 24, RESPECTIVELY.

THE NOTICE (BOTH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE) CAN ALSO BE SEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE AND THE PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICES (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY BRANCH, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, OR AT THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, FOURTH FLOOR, 101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, KOWLOON OR AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, TUEN MUN, +TOP COURT+, TAK CHING COURT, TUEN MUN.

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WATER STORAGE LEVEL STILL FALLING
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THE P.W.D.'S DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. WILLIAM TUCKER, SAID TODAY THAT HONG KONG'S WATER STORAGE HAD FALLEN BY MORE THAN 1,700 MILLION GALLONS SINCE THE CURRENT WATER RESTRICTIONS CAME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 1.

AT THE BEGINNING OF JUNE, HE SAID, THE RESERVOIRS HELD 31,488 MILLION GALLONS OR 46.8 PER CENT OF THEIR TOTAL CAPACITY.

BY NINE O'CLOCK THIS MORNING STORAGE WAS DOWN TO 29,733 MILLION GALLONS -- ONLY 44.2 PER CENT OF TOTAL CAPACITY.

AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR STORAGE WAS 53,168 MILLION GALLONS, OR 79 PER CENT OF TOTAL CAPACITY.

MR. TUCKER SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MORE THAN 139.2 MM OF RAIN HAD FALLEN DURING THE PAST FIVE DAYS, WATER STORAGE LEVELS REMAINED FAR BELOW THOSE EXPECTED AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR, WHEN STORAGE SHOULD BE GROWING SHARPLY.

IN FACT THEY WERE GETTING INCREASINGLY BELOW THE 33,405 MILLION GALLONS WHICH WERE IN THE RESERVOIRS ON OCTOBER 9, 1974 WHEN HONG KONG LAST BEGAN A 10-HOUR WATER SUPPLY.

MR. TUCKER SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE +SAVE WATER DRIVE+ APPEARED TO HAVE ACHIEVED ITS INITIAL AIM OF A TEN PER CENT SAVING IN CONSUMPTION, THE LACK OF USEFUL RAINFALL YIELD MEANT THE SITUATION WAS STEADILY GROWING WORSE.

HE URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO MAINTAIN THEIR EFFORTS TO CONSERVE WATER.

MR. TUCKER SAID: +THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS REVIEWING THE WATER SITUATION, AND WILL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNMENT NEXT WEEK ON WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A NEED TO IMPOSE FURTHER RESTRICTIONS.+

IN THE MEANTIME, HE AGAIN APPEALED TO THE MANagements OF HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR INTERNAL PUMPING SYSTEMS ARE IN GOOD WORKING ORDER.

HE SAID SOME BUILDING MANagements HAD APPARENTLY REMOVED SUCH SYSTEMS, WHICH WERE REQUIRED BY THE WATER AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE UPPER FLOORS WOULD STILL BE ABLE TO GET WATER WHEN MAINS PRESSURE WAS LOW -- PARTICULARLY DURING TIMES OF WATER RESTRICTIONS.

/+WITHOUT

+WITHOUT THE INTERNAL PUMPING SYSTEM,+ HE SAID, +THE OCCUPANTS OF THE BUILDINGS MIGHT SUFFER UNNECESSARY HARDSHIP DURING WATER RESTRICTIONS, AND THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO BECAUSE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE INTERNAL SYSTEMS LIES ENTIRELY WITH THE BUILDING MANagements.+

TURNING TO STORAGE TANKS ON THE ROOFS OF DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, MR. TUCKER STRESSED THAT WATER FROM SUCH TANKS SHOULD NOT BE USED BY OCCUPANTS DURING THE HOURS WHEN MAINS SUPPLIES WERE CUT OFF.

+MANagements SHOULD ENSURE THAT RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF THEIR STAFF TURN OFF SUPPLIES FROM THESE TANKS DURING THE HOURS OF RESTRICTIONS,+ HE SAID.

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YOUTH QUIZ COMPETITION FINALS
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

AN INTER-AGENCY YOUTH QUIZ COMPETITION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE WILL HOLD ITS FINAL ROUND THIS SUNDAY (JUNE 26) AT THE YMCA IN WATERLOO ROAD.

AT THE END OF THE CONTEST, RTHK CONTROLLER, RADIO PROGRAMMES, MR. KEN WARBURTON, WILL PRESENT PRIZES AND MR. Y.F. HUI, DIRECTOR OF THE HK COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING.

THREE TEAMS WILL ENTER THE FINALS: YMCA (LAM TIN), CARITAS (TUNG TAU) AND CARITAS (CHEUNG CHAU).

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE FINALS AND THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 3.15 P.M. AT THE YMCA HALL, 23 WATERLOO ROAD, KOWLOON.

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DUKE OF KENT PRAISED HONG KONG'S ACHIEVEMENTS

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THE DUKE OF KENT PRAISED HONG KONG'S ACHIEVEMENTS AS SOMETHING +IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK OF A PARALLEL.+

HE WAS SPEAKING AS THE GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE FOURTH HONG KONG ASSOCIATION'S +DRAGON BOAT+ DINNER IN LONDON'S SAVOY HOTEL YESTERDAY (THURSDAY).

AMONG THE 300 DISTINGUISHED GUESTS WERE MR. EVAN LUARD, PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE= MR. D.F. MURRAY, UNDER SECRETARY, FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE= SIR PETER CAREY, PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY= SIR PAUL BRYAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE ANGLO-HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP= SIR ANTHONY ROYLE, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND OTHER SENIOR BRITISH OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND LEADERS OF LONDON'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

HRH, WHO IS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TRADE BOARD, SAID: +SO IN THE JUBILEE YEAR OF 1977 IT IS NOT INAPPROPRIATE TO CONGRATULATE THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG ON THEIR ENERGY AND THEIR ENLIGHTENED POLICIES WHICH HAVE ACHIEVED THIS REMARKABLE RECORD. I DON'T DOUBT THAT IF WE EXAMINED THAT RECORD WE COULD FIND IN IT SOME PRETTY USEFUL LESSONS FOR OURSELVES,+ THE DUKE SAID.

THE DUKE SAID THE EXTREMELY RAPID DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG SHOULD BE A MAGNET FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY, ESPECIALLY ON THE CAPITAL GOODS SIDE, AND HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE REMAINED AN AMAZING DEGREE OF IGNORANCE AMONG BRITISH INDUSTRIALISTS AS TO THE OPPORTUNITIES HONG KONG OFFERED.

+WE INTEND TO TRY AND CORRECT THAT STATE OF AFFAIRS -- IN A NUMBER OF WAYS. THE MOST SPECTACULAR IS A MAJOR EXHIBITION OF MACHINERY AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TRADE BOARD PLANS TO MOUNT IN HONG KONG IN EARLY 1978 -- AND I AM GLAD TO SAY THAT THE RESPONSE TO THIS PLAN SO FAR HAS BEEN MOST ENCOURAGING.

+IF IT IS AT ALL POSSIBLE I HOPE TO GET TO SEE THIS EXHIBITION MYSELF,+ HE SAID.

THE DUKE ADDED THAT THIS YEAR, THE BOARD WOULD BE SUPPORTING ABOUT 200 BRITISH BUSINESSMEN ON VISITS TO HONG KONG, AS MEMBERS OF TRADE MISSIONS COVERING A VAST RANGE OF PRODUCTS FROM HEAVY INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT TO MANY KINDS OF CONSUMER ITEMS.

DR. HARRY FANG, WHO IS IN LONDON AS A MEMBER OF A COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION DELEGATION AND WHO WAS A GUEST AT THE DINNER, TOLD THE GATHERING THAT THE SUCCESS OF HONG KONG HAD COME ABOUT NOT ONLY THROUGH THE WISE AND DEDICATED LEADERSHIP OF SUCCESSIVE GOVERNORS BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY THROUGH THE SHEER HARD WORK AND RESILIENCE OF THE WORK FORCE.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID HE WAS SURE THAT HE WAS ECHOING THE FEELINGS OF THE GATHERING WHEN HE WISHED HONG KONG PROSPER LONG, +SO THAT ITS INHABITANTS MAY SHARE IN THE GENERAL WEALTH, WHICH IS THE FRUIT OF THEIR TOILS.+

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION, MR. JOHN SWIRE, SAID HE THOUGHT HONG KONG WAS INCREASINGLY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ITS SPECIAL RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN.

HEREIN, HE SAID, LAY AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BRITAIN, SINCE FOR ALL THE OBVIOUS REASONS, AND PARTICULARLY THE POLITICAL ONES, HONG KONG WOULD DEARLY LIKE TO BRING THE VISIBLE TRADE INTO CLOSER BALANCE BY BUYING EVEN MORE FROM THAT COUNTRY.

MR. SWIRE SAID IT WAS NOT TRUE THE CLAIM THE PRESS NEVER TIRED OF MAKING THAT HONG KONG WAS ESSENTIALLY A PLACE OF PASSAGE, WHERE NO ROOTS WERE THRUST DOWN AND NO LASTING ACHIEVEMENT COULD BE MADE.

+LOOKING BACK FROM THE VANTAGE POINT OF THIS JUBILEE YEAR, AT THE ADVANCES MADE OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS, THE PROGRESS IN ITSELF GIVES THE LIE TO THIS CLAIM OF THE PRESS,+ HE SAID.

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FOUR LOTS OF LAND FOR SALE NEXT MONTH

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A MAJOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITE AT REPULSE BAY WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION IN THE CITY HALL ON JULY 25 BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S LANDS AND SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

THE SITE OF ABOUT 5,200 SQUARE METRES IS LOCATED AT BELLEVIEW DRIVE, REPULSE BAY.

APART FROM THE REPULSE BAY SITE, THERE WILL BE THREE NON-INDUSTRIAL SITES OFFERED FOR SALE AT THE AUCTION.

ONE, LOCATED BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND LOWER LASCAR ROW, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 211 SQUARE METRES.

THE OTHER TWO LOTS ON OFFER ARE SITUATED IN KOWLOON.

ONE OF THE SITES, OF ABOUT 94 SQUARE METRES, IS LOCATED AT PO WAI LAND, PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD.

ANOTHER LOT OCCUPYING AN AREA OF ABOUT 217 SQUARE METRES IS AT THE JUNCTION OF TING ON STREET AND TING FU STREET.

THE PUBLIC AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 P.M. ON JULY 25 IN THE THEATRE OF THE CITY HALL.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND SALE PLANS INSPECTED AT, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), GROUND FLOOR, AND AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405, NATHAN ROAD, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

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GOVERNOR PAYS TRIBUTE TO CAS AND ITS COMMISSIONER

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, THIS EVENING CONGRATULATED THE CIVIL AID SERVICES FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS AND THE RETIRING COMMISSIONER, MR. P.C. WOO FOR HIS +MANY NOTEWORTHY DUTIES.+

SPEAKING AT THE C.A.S. 25TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER PARTY IN THE CITY HALL RESTAURANT, SIR MURRAY PRAISED THE C.A.S. IN HELPING TO MAKE HONG KONG A BETTER AND SAFER PLACE TO LIVE IN, AND THANKED MR. WOO, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY, AND WISHED HIM A +HAPPY AND WELL EARNED RETIREMENT.+

SIR MURRAY ADDED THAT HE LOOKED FORWARD WITH CONFIDENCE TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE FINE SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE C.A.S.

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:

+I AM VERY PLEASED, ONCE AGAIN, TO BE WITH YOU TO ENJOY YOUR TRADITIONAL HOSPITALITY AND ESPECIALLY TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

+THIS IS A YEAR OF DISTINGUISHED SILVER JUBILEES AND 1977 MARKS 25 YEARS OF NOTABLE AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF HONG KONG BY THE CIVIL AID SERVICES.

+THE PERIOD HAS SEEN THE C.A.S. CHANGE FROM A CIVIL DEFENCE ORGANIZATION TO ONE ABLE TO DEAL WITH CIVIL EMERGENCY SITUATIONS OF MANY TYPES AND TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY SERVICE IN MANY DIFFERENT FIELDS.

+WHEREVER THERE ARE FLOODS, TYPHOONS OR LANDSLIDES OR A DANGER OF FOREST FIRES OR A NEED FOR MOUNTAIN RESCUE THE C.A.S. IS TO BE FOUND. MUCH OF THE CREDIT FOR THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEE CAMPS TWO YEARS AGO ALSO GOES TO THE C.A.S. : AND LAST BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST, YOUR CIVIC TASKS INCLUDING CROWD CONTROL, ORGANIZATION OF CHARITY WALKS, SAFETY AND CLEANSING CAMPAIGNS AND THE TRAINING OF YOUNG PEOPLE ARE AN ENORMOUS HELP.

+IN ALL THESE WAYS THE C.A.S. HELPS TO MAKE HONG KONG A BETTER AND SAFER PLACE TO LIVE, I CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS, AND LOOK FORWARD WITH CONFIDENCE TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF OF THIS FINE SERVICE.

+UNHAPPILY, THIS YEAR WILL ALSO SEE THE RETIREMENT FROM ACTIVE SERVICE OF YOUR COMMISSIONER, THE HON. P.C. WOO, WHOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE SERVICE DATES BACK ALMOST TO ITS INCEPTION,

+DURING THESE YEARS MR. WOO HAS PERFORMED MANY NOTEWORTHY DUTIES. HE HAS CONTRIBUTED IMPORTANTLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SERVICE AND AS COMMISSIONER FOR THE PAST NINE YEARS HAS GUIDED IT THROUGH MANY CHALLENGES TO THE MULTI-FUNCTIONAL ROLE AND HIGHLY RESPECTED POSITION IT ENJOYS TODAY.

/+TO YOU,

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+TO YOU, MR. WOO, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE THANKS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR YOUR WORK FOR THE C.A.S. AS FOR SO MUCH ELSE IN HONG KONG, AND TO WISH YOU A HAPPY AND WELL EARNED RETIREMENT.

+YOU CAN TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING BUILT THE SERVICE INTO THE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE FORCE IT IS TODAY, AND YOU HAND OVER TO MR. R.H. LOBO AN ORGANIZATION WITH PLENTY OF CONFIDENCE, WELL TRAINED AND WELL ABLE TO FACE THE DEMANDS OF THE FUTURE.

+LADIES AND GENTLEMEN I WILL NOW ASK YOU ALL TO RISE AND DRINK A TOAST TO YOUR RETIRING COMMISSIONER AND TO THE FUTURE OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES.+

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CONVERSION OF THREE HUNG HOM CARPARK FLOORS INTO SPORTS CENTRE

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THE THREE TOP FLOORS OF THE HUNG HOM MULTI-STOREY CARPARK WILL BE CLOSED FROM NEXT MONTH FOR ONE YEAR, IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

THE CLOSURE OF THE SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH FLOORS OF THE CARPARK FROM JULY 1, 1977 TO JUNE 30, 1978 IS TO ALLOW FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE SPACES INTO FACILITIES FOR SPORT AND RECREATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THE THREE FLOORS WOULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR ONE YEAR, WITH FURTHER EXTENSIONS IF AND WHEN NECESSARY.

HE SAID THAT THIS WAS IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO MAXIMISE THE USE OF EVERY AVAILABLE FACILITIES. +SINCE THE CARPARK HAS NOT BEEN FULLY UTILISED BY THE PUBLIC IN THE PAST, IT IS HOPED THAT IT WILL BECOME MORE POPULAR AFTER ITS UPPER FLOORS ARE CONVERTED INTO A SPORTS CENTRE,+ HE SAID.

ALTHOUGH THE HUNG HOM MULTI-STOREY CARPARK, WHICH WAS OPENED ON NOVEMBER 30, 1975, CAN ACCOMMODATE 1,500 CARS, ONLY ABOUT 110 VEHICLES MADE USE OF IT DAILY. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CARPARK WILL BE FULLY UTILISED WHEN THE INDOOR STADIUM IN HUNG HOM AND THE SHATIN RACECOURSE ARE COMPLETED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE SAID TODAY THAT IF EVERYTHING GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, THE SPORTS CENTRE, WHICH WOULD CATER FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES, WOULD BE READY IN AUGUST.

HE SAID THAT THE 30,000 SQ. FT. SPORTS CENTRE, WOULD PROVIDE FOR INDOOR RECREATIONAL AND SPORT FACILITIES SUCH AS TABLE TENNIS, BADMINTON, TRAMPOLINE, ROLLER-SKATING AND BOXING.

COACHING CLASSES IN TAI CHI CHUAN, BOXING, DANCING, BADMINTON AND OTHERS CONDUCTED BY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED COACHES WOULD ALSO BE ORGANISED, HE ADDED.

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FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 20 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
JULY 4 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 5 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 11 P.M.
JULY 6 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 7 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 11 P.M.
JULY 8 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 4 P.M.
JULY 11 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 12 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 13 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 14 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 15 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 3 P.M.
JULY 18 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 8 P.M.
JULY 19 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 8 P.M.
JULY 20 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 8 P.M.
JULY 21 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 8 P.M.
JULY 22 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 25 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 11 P.M.
JULY 26 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 27 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 11 P.M.
JULY 28 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
JULY 29 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT

Friday, June 24, 1977

DRAGON BOAT DINNER IN LONDON

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The Hong Kong Association held a "Dragon Boat" dinner at Savoy Hotel in London on Thursday (June 23) night.

HRH, the Duke of Kent was the guest of honour and spoke at the dinner. Others who spoke were Dr. the Hon. Harry Fang and Mr. John Swire, Chairman of the Hong Kong Association.

The following is the full text of the Duke's speech:-

"If I had needed any encouragement to accept your invitation to come to this dinner I should have found it I think in the discovery that this is your fourth Dragon Boat Dinner - a fact which made me doubly pleased to accept. Not only do I have the happiest memories of my own time in Hong Kong but I also as a former participant in one of those dragon boat races have the clearest recollection of paddling our boat - at least it started as paddling, but we finished by pushing it, up to our necks in murky water, across Taipo Harbour.

"That was 14 years ago but the impressions formed then are as crystal sharp, as if it were last week. I assure you that you have done me a great honour in inviting me to join such a distinguished

/group

group including a number of 'old China hands' this evening, and thus giving me the chance to catch up with life in this last remaining British Colony.

"This seems to be a great year for reminiscing, or at least for reviewing events of the last 25 years. I hope therefore you will forgive me if I fall in with the popular trend for a few moments to reflect on what has happened in Hong Kong over that time. It so happens that my first visit to the colony was exactly 25 years ago when as a very young man, in fact I was still at school, I was taken round the New Territories and shown with pride one of the first big resettlement schemes in Kowloon which were then starting to be built in order to house the large influx of population from China.

"At that time there were still fewer than a million people in the colony - in fact you could look down from halfway up the peak and actually see the harbour then - now you have to go to the top to look over the skyscrapers - but the line on the graph was beginning to shoot up and there were many who were convinced Hong Kong was about to burst at the seams - that such numbers of people in such a small area could scarcely be housed, let alone fed, or given work.

"There were gloomy prophecies of starvation, disease and of violent revolution. As you know better than I do, the Jeremiahs were confounded. Today, not only has the number of inhabitants multiplied five times, but by dint of remarkable foresight, superb planning and incredible human exertions this staggering number of people has been housed - some of the densest housing anywhere and this alone is impressive enough (I could scarcely believe the amount of building that had taken place in the 10 years between my first and second

/visits)

visits) - industry of all kinds has flourished so that unemployment is negligible, the standard of living is far higher than it was 25 years ago, with excellent schools, splendid hospitals and services and all this has been brought about without serious social unrest or conflict - apart from the brief outbreak of violence of 10 years ago which was not a home-grown product.

"In short, hard work and the right environment have meant that Hong Kong has long become accustomed to a rising level of prosperity. Today, from all accounts the colony is thriving as few other territories in the world are thriving - and that population hasn't stopped growing yet.

"All this represents an achievement for which it is impossible to think of a parallel - even the Japanese performance does not equal it. So in the jubilee year of 1977 it is not inappropriate to congratulate the people and the Government of Hong Kong on their energy and their enlightened policies which have achieved this remarkable record. I don't doubt that if we examined that record we could find in it some pretty useful lessons for ourselves.

"If I say that my own year in Hong Kong was not only one of the happiest but unquestionably the most interesting of the life, I feel certain this experience is by no means untypical. Such is the beauty of the place, together with the unique atmosphere of constant thriving activity, that Hong Kong cannot fail to make a deep impression on anyone who spends any time there. I therefore find it enormously stimulating to have this chance of renewing contacts with Hong Kong friends, albeit on a rather different footing from that of 1963 when

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I was a serving soldier. The world of trade in which I now find myself is far removed from that of the army and in many ways it is at least as much of a challenge, if not a greater one, even though there are welcome signs that our trading performance is starting to improve. As far as Hong Kong is concerned, her prosperity was of course founded on trade and despite having negligible resources of her own she has continued to amaze the world by the thrusting success of her business enterprises.

"Like Britain she needs to export a high proportion of her total output and in this has been remarkably successful - not only was the total business between us grown threefold in six years, but in fact from being a position of near equilibrium seven or eight years ago the trading balance has now tipped heavily in Hong Kong's favour. We in Britain must ruefully admit that our klm in Hong Kong seem to have the edge over us at the moment in export terms.

"What gives us even greater cause for concern however is that the United Kingdom's share of the Hong Kong market has declined over a period of ten years or so from 11 per cent to 5 per cent. There are no doubt many excellent reasons why other countries have increased their share at our expense but the evidence seems inescapable that British exporters in general have failed to capitalise on what should historically have been a thoroughly favourable situation for them.

"Not only had Hong Kong traditionally looked to Britain as a major supplier but the goodwill towards us in the Colony was extensive. Unhappily it seems to have been another instance of the familiar bogey - too easy a market breeding complacency, while more aggressive salesmen from other countries make hay.

"The attribute that Hong Kong is a 'captive' market still unfortunately persists among too many British firms who seem to think they need not bother to sell to Hong Kong - that the customers will come to them. How wrong they are. What is doubly sad is that the potential is so plainly there. How many businessmen in this country I wonder realise that Hong Kong is actually our second largest market in the Far East, after Japan - here is a population of 4-1/2 million taking about 200 million pounds worth of goods a year compared with one in Japan of 113 million taking 350 million pounds.

"If we had 11 per cent of that market once, my bet is that with a really determined effort it should not be beyond us to recapture it. The auguries for 1977 do give us a little encouragement in this direction - the first quarter of this year saw an improvement of about 50 per cent in our exports compared with a year ago, which is at least welcome. I only hope this trend can be maintained, although I don't under-estimate the difficulty of clawing back business from one's competitors.

"If there are promising signs of a new interest in the Hong Kong market among British firms, undoubtedly our success in winning some of the major contracts for the new underground railway has been a big contributory factor. Participation in such a prestige project is in itself a great stimulus and can act as a catalyst for marketing other goods and services.

"The extremely rapid development to which I have referred should be a magnet for British industry, especially on the capital goods side, but here again I have the impression that there remains

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an amazing degree of ignorance among British industrialists as to the opportunities Hong Kong offers. On the other side of the coin there is no doubt a fair degree of ignorance at the Hong Kong end too of what Britain can make available, although that is probably partly our fault. At any rate we intend to try and correct that state of affairs - in a number of ways. The most spectacular is a major exhibition of machinery and technology which the British Overseas Trade Board plans to mount in Hong Kong in early 1978 - and I am glad to say that the response to this plan so far has been most encouraging. If it is at all possible I hope to get to see this exhibition myself.

"But there are other areas too where we see great scope for increased business. For instance only last month several important missions from Hong Kong were received in London: from the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, the Hong Kong Shipowners Association and from a representative group of industrial buyers. All three missions have resulted in substantial orders being placed and we look forward to further visits of this kind - they will always be more than welcome.

"At the same time we do not overlook the equally essential - perhaps even more essential - need to encourage British manufacturers to visit the Colony, to see for themselves how well things are going there and to get a feel of the market. This year our board will be supporting some 200 British businessmen on visits to Hong Kong, as members of trade missions covering a vast range of products from heavy industrial equipment to many kinds of consumer items.

"In all this work of encouragement and promotion the British Overseas Trade Board gets valuable help from several bodies, notably

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from our hosts the Hong Kong Association to whom we are extremely grateful for all the helpful liaison and publicity work they do and also from the Hong Kong trade advisory group, under Mr. John Browne's able leadership.

"Who are actively running seminars up and down the country on opportunities in the territory. Many busy people give up a great deal of their time for this work and our board fully recognises and appreciates these voluntary efforts.

"Ladies and gentlemen, you will I think be aware by now that I have the very warmest affection and admiration for Hong Kong and its people. The links between them and us in Britain are powerful and lasting. All of us here I know would like to see those ties strengthened still further and it is certainly my hope that this can be brought about by a greatly increase awareness, especially in the British business world, of what Hong Kong has achieved and is still achieving. It is to the success of all these endeavours that I now raise my glass, and especially to the continued prosperity of that unique British territory on the other side of the world.

"I give you the toast - 'Hong Kong'."

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The following is the full text of Dr. the Hon. Harry Fang's speech:-

"I count myself fortunate and indeed greatly honoured to be asked, on behalf of the guests in this distinguished gathering, to say a few words.

"The choice of a suitable topic for this celebrated occasion gave me some difficulty, I must confess. I decided finally that in place of some weighty matters of state, it would aid digestion if I spoke in a lighter vein on the Dragon Boat Festival, and on the Chinese names of our post-war Governors, for those of you who have heard it all before, I hope you will bear with me for a few minutes.

"The Dragon Boat Festival dates back to the days of the Seven Kingdoms and the Han Dynasty over 2,000 years ago. It is a memorial day for a distinguished patriotic poet-cum-politician who killed himself by jumping into the river when he saw no more hope for his country.

"This festival day falls on the 5th day of the 5th moon, and is in fact the day of summer solstice - the end of spring, the beginning of summer, the end of the "young" cycle and the beginning of "ying". It is celebrated as the day the crops would begin to grow, and dreaded as the day insects, infections, communicable diseases commence to flourish. This day used to be considered an omen of sorrow and evil, but slowly, customs have changed over the centuries. The clash of cymbals and drums of the dragon boats are no longer to drive the evil spirits away, but a healthy sporting event which in Hong Kong is supported enthusiastically not only by local Chinese residents, but by all nationalities, including a special crew sent all the way from Japan. It is in fact most appropriate that the Hong Kong association should hold its annual dinner on this day.

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"Whilst on the subject of Chinese customs, names in Chinese are considered to be very important and indicative of good or bad fortune, just like "Fung Shui". Hong Kong has been very fortunate in the Chinese names of all its post-war Governors.

"Sir Mark Young's Chinese name means love for surprise and excitement. This adventuring spirit inspired many of the early immigrants to Hong Kong immediately after the war. Then came Sir Alexander Grantham, who unfortunately cannot join us this evening, who was in Hong Kong for ten years. His name meant good appetite, big capacity, broadmindedness, which symbolised Hong Kong's endurance in adversity, versatility and prosperity. Then we had Sir Robert Black, who I am so pleased to see here tonight. Black, as the name denotes, is not a cheerful colour, but his Chinese name means something entirely different. It stands for solid foundation and reliability, and so Hong Kong was indeed a safe refuge for many people who decided to settle there.

"Sir David Trench, who is seated on my left, came next, and he had a Chinese name meaning he brought with him the toe of the chinese royal beast, which is considered a lucky charm, similar to a rabbit's foot. He brought us, in addition to other things, a lot of luck to see us through two major crises. The first was the severe drought in 1964, when water was rationed for four hours every fourth day. The first week he arrived, he brought torrential rain. The second crisis was the riots in 1967. The situation was at one time so critical that nationals of foreign countries, and that does not of course include citizens of the U.K., were told to be prepared for evacuation within 24 hours. Since then, Hong Kong has never looked back.

/"And now

"And now we have Sir Murray MacLehose whose Chinese name means administrator par excellence. Plans which were thought to be impossible, such as the fight against corruption and narcotics, and the provision of housing for 200,000 people a year, are now becoming accepted as part of our way of life.

"And so you see Hong Kong has had a succession of Governors all with propitiously chosen Chinese names. But the success of Hong Kong has come about not only through their wise and dedicated leadership but more importantly through the sheer hard work and resilience of our work force who have an indomitable will to weather all storms.

"All of us who are here tonight have one thing in common: a deep and abiding interest in Hong Kong and in the welfare of its people. Hong Kong has a record which it can justifiably be proud of, although we all realise that much still remains to be done. I am sure I am echoing the feelings of this gathering when I say long may Hong Kong prosper so that its inhabitants may share in the general wealth, which is the fruit of their toils.

"Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the guests present here, I thank you most sincerely for inviting us to this heart-warming reunion, and taking my cue from you, may I therefore ask the hosts to join us, guests in drinking together a joint toast of thanks."

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The following is Mr. John Swire's speech :-

"First, Sir, I would like to thank you for proposing the toast of Hong Kong tonight. It is clear that, like so many of us who have lived in Hong Kong, you consider yourself an adopted citizen, and because of this, and because of your personal knowledge of the place, you have left me very little to say in response on behalf of Hong Kong.

"This may well be a relief to those here tonight, but I would, if I may, like to add to your reminiscences by saying that I, too, remember your visit in Coronation Year. You had just acquired a new camera, and, doubtless, like the rest of us, you took many photographs of Hong Kong as it was in those days.

"I have recently been looking at my own photographs of central Hong Kong in the early 50's, and what strikes me in particular is the change in the appearance of the people since those days. Then all that stood out were a few Chinese women in their white or blue pyjama-like suits - I believe they are called 'Sai Kum Sam' - and even fewer girls, both Chinese and foreign, looking undeniably dowdy, in what must have been the 'New Look'.

"And here I never cease to wonder how it is that the hair of the Chinese girls was always immaculate, whereas, before the days of air conditioning in home and office, I must admit that the foreign heads appeared to be covered in some species of dank seaweed - but all that apart, the clothes of the very great majority of those in the street, both men and women, betrayed poverty in some degree.

"Today a street scene, particularly in Central District, shows a milling throng of smart suits, white pressed shirts and every conceivable variation of jeans as worn by the fashion-conscious boy and girl the world over.

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"There was, as you say, been a transformation: in short, Hong Kong now has, measured by most criteria, the highest standard of living in Asia, after Japan. Of course there is still poverty, and in most respects there is still a long way to go before European standards are reached.

"But under successive Governors - and I am glad that we have Sir Robert Black and Sir David Trench here tonight, even if, sadly, our President, Sir Alexander Grantham, cannot be here - under their leadership, and under the present leadership of Sir Murray MacLehose, the Hong Kong Government can be proud of its considerable achievements in providing housing, medical services and education for a population that, swollen by refugees, has increased from about one million to $4\frac{1}{2}$ million today.

"Doctor Harry Fang, who will be known to many of you as a distinguished orthopaedic surgeon and member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council, and who is presently in this country as a member of a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Delegation, has kindly agreed to respond to the toast to the guests tonight, and I know that he will be touching on the achievements - I suppose unique in the post-war world - of the Hong Kong Government, so I will say no more on this subject.

"The Government, however, can only provide the inspiration and the framework, important thought there are. Hong Kong itself has no natural resources, other than its hard-working and ingenious population, and they depend upon exports, services and tourism to survive.

"Hong Kong is, I think, increasingly aware of the importance of its special relationship with Britain, and herein, as you have emphasised, lies an opportunity for Britain, since for all the obvious

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reasons, and particularly the political ones, Hong Kong would dearly like to bring the visible trade into closer balance by buying even more from this country.

"And here, while endorsing everything that you say about the need for Britain to be not only aware of the opportunities, but fully competitive in seizing them, lest we become too depressed by the trade gap to which you have referred, I should perhaps mention that the figures are not quite as black as they look, because Hong Kong buys British goods, ships and aircraft engines that for various reasons do not appear in the U.K. Hong Kong trade figures.

"There is no room for complacency, however, and like you, Sir, I sometimes wonder if Britain is always fully aware, of the opportunities thus presented. I also wonder if we all in Britain are aware of the responsibilities that are inherent in this special relationship - for Hong Kong, alone of our colonies and ex-colonies, hasn't the option of independence as an alternative to its present status: and this does lay a very special responsibility on us in this country. We should, I suggest ponder on this.

"On behalf of the Hong Kong Association I should like to welcome all our guests here this evening and to say how pleased we are that you have come. As usual, the Greeks had a word for it, 'Xenos', which means, I believe, both hosts and guests. This has many advantages; for one thing, if we had been in ancient Greece it would only have been necessary for Dr. Fang to make a speech on behalf of 'Oi Menoi' and you would have been spared my appearance. But I do feel that there is a real truth behind this concept of making no difference between host and guest - and in proposing the toast of the guests tonight, I would like to suggest that, not only the people of Hong Kong, for whom we all have such admiration, but administrators, businessmen and servicemen, too, have in this sense,

all been both guests and hosts during their sojourn in Hong Kong, making their own special contribution to its success and progress.

"The press never tires of claiming that Hong Kong is essentially a place of passage, where no roots are thrust down and no lasting achievement can be made. This is not true, and I say this not only because there must be several here tonight, both British and Chinese, who, like my own family, can claim at least five generations' experience of the place. Indeed, looking back from the vantage point of this Jubilee Year, at the advances made over the last 25 years, the progress in itself gives the lie to this claim of the press.

"To this progress both guests and hosts have made their contribution, as they have to this dinner tonight, and in proposing the toast to the guests I would like to follow the custom of our Chinese friends, and suggest that we all, both hosts and guests alike, stand and drink the toast together.

"I give you the toast of 'The Guests'."