



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
SOME \$1.6 BILLION BEING SPENT ON ROADS THIS YEAR .....	1
ACCORD REACHED ON SOME TEXTILE EXPORTS TO U.S. ....	3
CHANGE OF PACE FOR HOME AFFAIRS CHIEF .....	4
SEAT BELT DEADLINE APPROACHING .....	5
NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENING FRIDAY .....	6
PRESS FACILITY TO COVER GOVERNOR'S DEPARTURE .....	6
POLICE TO BOOST TELECOMMUNICATIONS EXPERTISE .....	7
POLICE ADVISER TO MEET PRESS SATURDAY .....	8
DB MEMBERS INSPECT WELFARE FACILITIES .....	9
CONTRACTORS PRAISED FOR EFFORTS IN REDUCING NOISE .....	9
JOB'S FOUND FOR REDUNDANT TEACHERS .....	11
MUSIC STUDENT LEAVES FOR UK .....	11
OPEN FORUM ON EDUCATION .....	12
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF POOL .....	12
PARKING FOR OMNIBUSES ONLY .....	13

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 1 -

SOME \$1.6 BILLION BEING SPENT ON ROADS THIS YEAR

\* \* \* \*

SOME \$1.6 BILLION WILL BE SPENT ON HONG KONG'S ROADS THIS YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR ALAN SCOTT SAID TODAY.

THIS IS AN IMPRESSIVE FIGURE IN A YEAR WHEN FOR OBVIOUS REASONS GOVERNMENT IS BEING VERY CAREFUL WITH PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, MR SCOTT ADDED.

LAST YEAR, IT SPENT ONE BILLION DOLLARS ON HIGHWAY PROJECTS AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING ROADS, INCLUDING THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL, THE WIDENING OF THE ISLAND ROAD BETWEEN WONG CHUK HANG AND DEEP WATER BAY, STUBBS ROAD FLYOVER, AND THE AIRPORT TUNNEL, AMONG OTHER SUCH PROJECTS, MR SCOTT SAID, IN A TALK AT THE TUNG WAH LUNCHEON MEETING.

MR SCOTT EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS PHYSICALLY LIMITED AS WELL AS FINANCIALLY LIMITED IN WHAT IT COULD DO IN THE URBAN AREAS, BECAUSE OF THEIR DENSITY.

+ALSO WE HAVE TO LIMIT ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION THROUGH THE GROWTH OF VEHICLES IN THE URBAN AREAS. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT IN TERMS OF PROVIDING NEW ROADS IN THE URBAN AREAS, WE ARE WELL INTO THE ERA OF DECREASING RETURNS ON EXPENDITURE, HE SAID.

GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON INTERNAL TRANSPORT, MR SCOTT SAID, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE 1979 WHITE PAPER, WHICH STATED THREE MAIN OBJECTS -- FIRST, TO IMPROVE THE ROAD SYSTEM, SECOND TO EXPAND AND TO UPGRADE THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM, AND, THIRD, TO ENSURE THE MOST ECONOMIC USE OF THE ROAD SYSTEM.

+BUT NOTHING STANDS STILL, PARTICULARLY IN TRANSPORT; AND I EXPECT TO SEE A CAREFUL RE-DEFINEMENT OF PROGRAMMES TO ENSURE THAT THE COMMUNITY DERIVES THE GREATEST BENEFIT FROM THE CONSIDERABLE EXPENDITURE ON THE TRANSPORT PROGRAMMES, HE SAID.

SPEAKING OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT, MR SCOTT SAID THE OPENING OF THE LAST STAGE OF THE ELECTRIFIED AND MODERNISED SERVICE OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION MARKED ANOTHER IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN HONG KONG'S TRANSPORT HISTORY AND WAS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO IMPROVE THE MOBILITY OF PEOPLE AND GOODS IN HONG KONG.

AS FOR BUSES, HE SAID MUCH WORK HAD GONE INTO RESTRUCTURING BUS ROUTES SERVING THE NORTH-WEST NEW TERRITORIES, TO GET RIGHT THE COMPLEMENTARY ROLE BETWEEN RAIL AND TRANSPORT AND TO AVOID WASTEFUL DUPLICATION. THIS RESULTED IN A GROWING NETWORK OF FEEDER BUS ROUTES WHICH PROVIDE AN EFFICIENT MEANS OF SERVICE FOR THE VARIOUS RAILWAY STATIONS. NEW FEEDER ROUTES ARE BEING INTRODUCED TO PROVIDE LINK SERVICES TO THE MONG KOK AND KOWLOON STATIONS OF THE KCR.

/END EXPLAINED .....

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM IS TO MONITOR, WITHOUT ACTUALLY SUPERVISING, THE DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPANIES CONCERNED.

+WE MUST REMEMBER THAT THEY ARE PRIVATE COMPANIES BUT SUBJECT TO PROFIT CONTROL SCHEMES,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE ALL SENSIBLE MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM REMAINED RESPONSIVE TO THE DEMANDS OF RISING EXPECTATIONS, AND TO THE MOVEMENTS OF POPULATION IN HONG KONG, AND THE NEW TERRITORIES, WHILE KEEPING FARES AT ACCEPTABLE LEVELS.

DISCUSSING THE THIRD OBJECTIVE -- THE MOST ECONOMIC USE OF THE ROAD NETWORK -- MR SCOTT SAID PERHAPS TOO MUCH HAD BEEN SAID RECENTLY ABOUT THE ELECTRONIC ROAD PRICING PILOT STAGE. BUT HE NOTED THAT MOST COMMENTATORS SEEMED TO HAVE ACCEPTED THE RATIONAL BASIS OF THE PROPOSITION AND WERE PREPARED TO AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF THE PILOT STAGE.

+IT IS STRANGE THAT THIS PILOT STAGE IS ATTACKED, OFTEN IRRATIONALLY, BY PEOPLE WHO BOAST OF THEIR OWN COMMERCIAL JUDGMENT AND THEIR ABILITY TO TAKE RISKS AS THE BASIS OF HONG KONG'S SUCCESS; THEY CRITICISE THE GOVERNMENT FOR BEING A NEGATIVE BUREAUCRACY, AND THEN TURN ROUND AND CRITICISE A PROPOSAL WHICH HAS CAUGHT THE ATTENTION OF AUTHORITIES CONCERNED WITH TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

+LET ME JUST ADD THAT WE SHALL GO ON RESPONDING FACTUALLY AND CAREFULLY TO ALL ENQUIRIES,+ HE SAID.

MR SCOTT ALSO ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO THE VIEWS CHANNELLED THROUGH DISTRICT BOARDS ON GOVERNMENT'S TRANSPORT POLICY.

HE SAID MOST ADVICE IS EITHER ACCEPTED IN POLICY TERMS AND SUBJECT TO RESOURCES, OR RUNS PARALLEL WITH CURRENT PROPOSALS AND IDEAS.

BUT INEVITABLY, HE SAID, EITHER IN THE LIGHT OF PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT OR BECAUSE OF THE WIDER IMPLICATION OF PARTICULAR DISTRICT LEVEL PROPOSALS, THE GOVERNMENT SOMETIMES CANNOT ACCEPT AND TAKE FORWARD A PROPOSAL.

+I ALWAYS URGE MY STAFF IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES TO TAKE PARTICULAR CARE TO EXPLAIN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION AND IF AT ALL POSSIBLE TO MOVE TOWARDS THE DISTRICT BOARD'S POSITION,+ MR SCOTT SAID, +BUT WITH THE BEST WILL IN THE WORLD, IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE.+

+AGAINST THAT, WE MUST SET THE MANY TIMES WHEN ADVICE IS ACCEPTED AND IMPLEMENTED. THE PART WHICH DISTRICT BOARDS PLAY WILL CONTINUE TO GROW, TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL CONCERNED,+ HE ADDED.

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 3 -

ACCORD REACHED ON SOME TEXTILE EXPORTS TO U.S.  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT RESTRAINT LIMITS FOR HONG KONG EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES OF COTTON SHEETING, COTTON UNDERWEAR, AND WOMEN'S MMF SUITS - AT LEVELS CONSIDERABLY ABOVE THE 1982 TRADE LEVELS - HAVE BEEN AGREED FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON ON JULY 14-15.

THE AGREED LIMITS FOR 1983 ARE:-

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>RESTRAINT LIMIT</u>	<u>1982 EXPORTS</u>
313 (COTTON SHEETING)	50 288 529 SYD	36 790 863 SYD
352 (COTTON UNDERWEAR)	4 450 000 DZN	3 874 938 DZN
644 (MMF SUITS, W, G AND I)	25 000 DZN	11 540 DZN

+HOWEVER, HONG KONG DOES NOT AGREE THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS AN ACCEPTABLE CASE FOR IMPOSING RESTRAINT ON MMF NON-CELLULOSIC YARN (CATEGORY 604), + A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID. THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT, IMPOSED ON THIS CATEGORY A RESTRAINT LIMIT OF 342 455 LB. FOR 1983. THIS LIMIT, REPRESENTING 115 PER CENT OF 1982 EXPORTS, IS THE MINIMUM ENTITLEMENT STIPULATED IN THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT EXPORTS IN THESE FOUR CATEGORIES ARE AT PRESENT SUBJECT TO THE EXPORT AUTHORISATION SYSTEM, UNDER WHICH THERE IS NO SPECIFIC RESTRAINT LIMIT, BUT THE LEVEL OF EXPORTS IS MONITORED AND THE UNITED STATES MAY AT ANY TIME SEEK CONSULTATIONS WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON A LEVEL OF RESTRAINT IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

+THOSE WHO ALREADY HOLD APPROVED EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS IN THESE CATEGORIES WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE NEW RESTRAINT LEVELS. HOWEVER, THE RESTRAINT WILL LIMIT THE SCOPE FOR NEW ORDERS TO COME TO HONG KONG DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR, + THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

CALLS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE UNITED STATES ON TEN EXPORT AUTHORISATION (EA) CATEGORIES SO FAR THIS YEAR. SIX OF THEM WERE COVERED BY AN EARLIER ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON AT THE END OF JUNE, FOLLOWING WHICH RESTRAINT LIMITS WERE AGREED IN RESPECT OF THREE CATEGORIES AND THE UNITED STATES IMPOSED LIMITS ON THE OTHER THREE CATEGORIES.

FOLLOWING THE WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS, THE LEADER OF THE HONG KONG TEAM, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE, PROCEEDED TO GENEVA TO DELIVER A STATEMENT TO THE TEXTILES SURVEILLANCE BODY (TSB).

/IN THAT .....

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 4 -

IN THAT STATEMENT, HE EXPRESSED HONG KONG'S CONCERN ABOUT THE UNPRECEDENTEDLY LARGE NUMBER OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE USA THIS YEAR TO LIMIT ITS IMPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING FROM HONG KONG, AND THE INADEQUACY OF JUSTIFICATION FOR RESTRAINT UNDER THE CRITERIA OF THE MFA IN FOUR OF THE TEN CASES INVOLVED.

WHILE HE DID NOT REQUEST THE TSB TO TAKE ANY SPECIFIC ACTION AT THIS STAGE, MR CARTLAND RESERVED HONG KONG'S RIGHT TO REFER DETAILS OF SOME OR ALL OF THE EA CALLS TO THE TSB AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CHANGE OF PACE FOR HOME AFFAIRS CHIEF  
\* \* \* \*

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WENT ON A WALKING TOUR OF WAN CHAI THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING, IN A CHANGE OF PACE FROM HIS REGULAR VISITS TO VARIOUS PARTS OF HONG KONG TO KEEP HIMSELF UP TO DATE.

DURING A TWO-HOUR WALKABOUT, MR AKERS-JONES SAW THE CONTRASTING SCENES OF WAN CHAI BY NIGHT -- FROM THE BUSY, GLITTERING SHOPPING AND ENTERTAINMENT AREAS TO THE RELAXED ATMOSPHERE OF THE OPEN-AIR SITTING-OUT AREAS OF QUIET CHESS GAMES AND CASUAL SOCIAL CHIT CHAT.

ACCOMPANYING HIM WERE THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR ALBERT LAM, THE DISTRICT OFFICER FOR CENTRAL AND WESTERN/WAN CHAI, MISS LOLLY CHIU, AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICERS, MR FRANCIS HO AND MR FRANK YUE.

THE PARTY SET OFF AT 8 PM FROM GREAT GEORGE'S STREET AND PATERSON STREET -- THE HEART OF CAUSEWAY BAY'S EATING OUT AND ENTERTAINMENT AREA -- PASSING THROUGH FOOD STREET WITH ITS RICH VARIETY OF CUISINES.

THEY TOURED THE OLDER AND LESS GLAMOROUS ENTERTAINMENT AREA ALONG JAFFE ROAD DOTTED WITH DANCE HALLS, MAHJONG PARLOURS, VIDEO GAMES CENTRES AND ITINERANT HAWKERS.

MR AKERS-JONES, WHO AS SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS HAS POLICY RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIDEO GAMES CENTRES, ENTERED ONE OF THEM TO OBSERVE ACTIVITIES THERE.

VIDEO GAMES ARE A POPULAR ATTRACTION WITH THE YOUNG AND THE LICENSING CONDITIONS OF SUCH CENTRES HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MUCH DISCUSSION BY THE DISTRICT BOARDS.

ON THE WAY TO SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND, MR AKERS-JONES WAS BRIEFED ON THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR THE MTR ISLAND LINE AT PERCIVAL STREET AND THE EFFECT ON TRAFFIC IN THE AREA.

AT SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND, HE SAW THE MORE SEDATE SIDE OF WAN CHAI'S NIGHT LIFE WITH YOUNGSTERS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SOCCER AND BASKETBALL MATCHES, WHILE THEIR ELDERS PASSED TIME ON QUIET CHESS GAMES OR CASUAL SOCIAL CHATS.

- 5 -

THE PARTY THEN PROCEEDED BY CAR TO CENTRAL AND WESTERN, MAKING A BRIEF CALL AT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE WHICH PROVIDES A RANGE OF SERVICES ON COMMUNITY WORK, REHABILITATION AND FAMILY CASEWORK TO RESIDENTS.

MR AKERS-JONES ALSO JOINED THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE AT THE +POOR MAN'S NIGHTCLUB+ OUTSIDE THE TEMPORARY MACAU FERRY TERMINAL, A POPULAR SHOPPING BAZAAR WHICH COMES ALIVE IN THE EVENING WITH HUNDREDS OF FOOD STALLS AND SHOPPING STALLS OFFERING A VARIETY OF BARGAIN GOODS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

## SEAT BELT DEADLINE APPROACHING

\* \* \* \*

THERE ARE ONLY 10 WEEKS LEFT BEFORE DRIVERS AND FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS IN CARS AND CERTAIN LIGHT VANS MUST WEAR SEAT BELTS BY LAW.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT FAILURE TO WEAR A BELT AFTER OCTOBER 1 COULD LEAD TO A \$500 FINE AND IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS ON FIRST CONVICTION.

+BUT IT IS NOT THE FEAR OF PUNISHMENT THAT SHOULD CONVINCCE PEOPLE TO WEAR BELTS. EACH YEAR MORE THAN 4 000 CAR DRIVERS AND FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS ARE KILLED OR INJURED ON HONG KONG'S ROADS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THERE SEEMS TO BE AN IMPRESSION THAT BECAUSE OUR TRAFFIC IS OFTEN RELATIVELY SLOW MOVING, THERE IS LESS NEED TO WEAR A SEAT BELT HERE THAN ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD.+ THIS IS JUST NOT THE CASE. EVEN IF TWO VEHICLES TRAVEL AT ONLY 15 MILES AN HOUR, THEIR COMBINED IMPACT SPEED IN A HEAD-ON CRASH IS 30 MILES AN HOUR.

+THIS HAS ABOUT THE SAME EFFECT AS WHEN A PERSON FALLS HEAD-FIRST FROM THE THIRD-FLOOR WINDOW OF A BUILDING INTO A SHEET OF PLATE GLASS,+ HE SAID.

IN HONG KONG FRONT-SEAT BELTS HAVE HAD TO BE FITTED IN CARS SINCE 1976.

THE LAW STATES THAT FROM OCTOBER 1, THEY MUST NOT ONLY BE FITTED, BUT ALSO BE WORN.

STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT WEARING A SEAT BELT REDUCES THE CHANCE OF DEATH OR INJURY IN A CRASH BY MORE THAN HALF.

IN THE UNITED KINGDOM THE WEARING OF SEAT BELTS HAS BEEN COMPULSORY SINCE JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR.

THE NEW REQUIREMENT IN HONG KONG ALSO APPLIES TO DUAL PURPOSE LIGHT VANS WHICH ARE REGISTERED AS PRIVATE CARS.

THE RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT SEAT BELTS ARE WORN RESTS WITH THE DRIVER OF THE VEHICLE AND WITH INDIVIDUAL PASSENGERS OVER 15 YEARS OF AGE.

+ALTHOUGH THE LAW IS NOT YET IN EFFECT, PEOPLE SHOULD ALREADY BE WEARING THEIR BELTS. PLAIN COMMON SENSE SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO CONVINCCE THEM THAT SEAT BELTS SAVE LIVES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 6 -

NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENING FRIDAY  
\* \* \* \*

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S ON TING/YAU OI COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TUEN MUN WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED AT A CEREMONY AT 4 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WHO WAS TO HAVE OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, IS UNFORTUNATELY INDISPOSED AND IS UNABLE TO DO SO NOW. MRS SELINA CHOW, LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, WILL OFFICATE IN HIS PLACE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN; THE ACTING REGIONAL SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES), MR ADOLF HSU; THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR DAVID FORD; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE, MR LAU WONG-FAT; THE SWD REGIONAL OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES), MR HENRY AU; THE DISTRICT OFFICER (TUEN MUN), MR RICKY FUNG AND THE WARDEN OF THE CENTRE, MR LIU KWONG-YUEN.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. TRANSPORT HAS BEEN ARRANGED TO TAKE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS TO THE COMMUNITY CENTRE. THE PRESS TRANSPORT WILL PICK UP MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AT THE CAR PARK AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, MAIN WING, AND WILL LEAVE AT 2.15 PM SHARP.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES GOING TO THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THEIR OWN SHOULD ARRIVE THERE BY 3.30 PM, HALF AN HOUR BEFORE THE OPENING CEREMONY.

THE CENTRE IS LOCATED IN ON TING ESTATE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS FACILITY TO COVER GOVERNOR'S DEPARTURE  
\* \* \* \*

THERE WILL BE A FACILITY FOR PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER THE DEPARTURE OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, FOR PEKING ON SUNDAY (JULY 24).

SIR EDWARD, ACCOMPANIED BY THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR ROBIN MCLAREN, WILL BE LEAVING ON FLIGHT CA 102, ETD 12.45 PM.

PLEASE ADVISE THOSE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE DEPARTURE TO ASSEMBLE IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING NOT LATER THAN 11.45 AM ON SUNDAY. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE THERE TO ASSIST.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7 .....

## POLICE TO BOOST TELECOMMUNICATIONS EXPERTISE

\* \* \*

THE POLICE FORCE IS LOOKING FOR TALENT TO BOOST ITS EXPERTISE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS FOLLOWING A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ITS COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT BRANCH.

DISCLOSING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES, MR KEITH LOMAS, SAID THE FORCE WOULD SHORTLY BE ADVERTISING LOCALLY FOR TWO SENIOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERS AND SEVEN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERS.

THE NEW POSTS WERE CREATED UNDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF A STEERING GROUP SET UP LATE LAST YEAR TO STUDY THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE WORK OF THE COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT BRANCH.

"FOLLOWING THE TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BRANCH FROM THE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT TO THE MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN OCTOBER 1982, A STEERING GROUP AND A SUBORDINATE WORKING PARTY WERE ESTABLISHED TO DETERMINE HOW FAR THE BRANCH'S OBJECTIVES AND DUTIES WERE BEING MET WITH EXISTING RESOURCES, AND TO RECOMMEND CHANGES WHERE APPROPRIATE," MR LOMAS SAID.

"AT AN EARLY STAGE IN ITS DELIBERATIONS, THE STEERING GROUP RECOGNISED THE NEED FOR SPLITTING UP THE COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT BRANCH INTO ITS COMPONENT PARTS, THERE BEING NO LONGER A LOGICAL REASON FOR 'TRANSPORT' TO BE COMBINED WITH 'COMMUNICATIONS'," MR LOMAS SAID.

THE REVIEW WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CONDUCTED IN TWO PARTS.

"SO FAR AS COMMUNICATIONS WAS CONCERNED, THE BRANCH WAS FOUND TO HAVE CARRIED OUT A VERY GOOD JOB DESPITE BEING SERIOUSLY UNDERSTAFFED.

"HOWEVER, IT WAS RAPIDLY REACHING A POINT WHERE EXISTING RESOURCES COULD NOT MEET THE INCREASING DEMANDS BROUGHT ABOUT BY NEW COMMITMENTS AND EXPANSION OF THE FORCE.

"THE BRANCH IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN MANY TELECOMMUNICATION PROJECTS SUCH AS A JOINT MARITIME COMMUNICATION PROJECT, A CONSULTANCY ON THE EXTENSION OF THE BEAT RADIO SCHEME TO THE NEW TERRITORIES POLICE DISTRICTS, THE UPGRADING OF RADAR FACILITIES FOR MARINE POLICE LAUNCHES AND A SECOND GENERATION COMPUTER ASSISTED COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM, TO MENTION BUT A FEW."

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE ACCEPTED THE STEERING GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT BRANCH BE SPLIT INTO A 'COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH' AND A 'TRANSPORT BRANCH', BOTH REMAINING SUBORDINATE TO THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

THE RECOMMENDATION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY IMPLEMENTED ON JUNE 22 THIS YEAR.

THE COMMISSIONER ALSO ENDORSED PROPOSALS THAT THE COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH SHOULD BE HEADED BY A SPECIALIST CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE WITH FOUR SUBORDINATE SENIOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOUR DIVISIONS WITHIN THE BRANCH, AND WITH AN INCREASED NUMBER OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERS.

"SOME OF THE NEW POSTS CREATED WILL SOON BE ADVERTISED AND PLANS ARE IN HAND TO RECRUIT THE SPECIALIST CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT WHO WILL BE A PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER," MR LOMAS SAID.

TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT OF THE FORCE WAS FOUND TO BE EFFECTIVE BUT THE STEERING GROUP BELIEVED THAT SIGNIFICANT COST EFFECTIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN EFFICIENCY COULD BE MADE IF THE BRANCH WAS HEADED BY A PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED SPECIALIST AND THERE WAS A SMALL ADDITION IN JUNIOR STAFF TO DEAL WITH FINANCIAL CONTROL AND VEHICLE RECORDS.

THIS RECOMMENDATION WAS ALSO ACCEPTED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND ENDORSED BY THE DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE.

TURNING TO THE ROLE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE FORCE, MR LOMAS SAID, "THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ANY LARGE ORGANISATION RELIES TO A LARGE EXTENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF RIGHT INFORMATION AT THE RIGHT TIME, AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE IS NO EXCEPTION. IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE OPERATIONAL AREA WHERE IT IS ESSENTIAL IF RESOURCES ARE TO BE DEPLOYED EFFECTIVELY, AND THE POLICE OFFICERS IN THE FIELD GIVEN MAXIMUM SUPPORT."

"INEVITABLY, THE COMPLEXITY OF POLICING MODERN HONG KONG HAS HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED FOR US TO KEEP PACE WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIELD TO RETAIN THE INITIATIVE AND THUS CONTINUE TO FULFIL OUR OBLIGATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

MR LOMAS WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES WOULD HELP COMMANDERS MAKE OPTIMUM USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES, PARTICULARLY MANPOWER, WHICH IS AN EXPENSIVE RESOURCE.

THE BOARD MEMBERS LATER WENT TO THE MA TAU CHUNG STREET SLEEPERS' SHELTER WHICH OPENS FROM 6 PM TO 5 AM DAILY.

**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

POLICE ADVISER TO MEET PRESS SATURDAY  
\* \* \* \*

SIR JAMES CRANE, FORMERLY HER MAJESTY'S CHIEF INSPECTOR OF CONSTABULARY, WHO HAS BEEN ADVISING THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE ON THE ORGANISATION AND OPERATION OF THE RHKP, WILL MEET THE PRESS AT THE END OF HIS CURRENT VISIT TO HONG KONG.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JULY 23) AT THE GIS THEATRE, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, 5TH FLOOR.

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR ROY HENRY AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE ICAC, MR PETER WILLIAMS WILL ALSO BE PRESENT.

SIR JAMES ARRIVED IN HONG KONG ON JULY 2 FOR A THREE WEEK VISIT, AND DURING THIS TIME HE EXAMINED AND ADVISED ON THE PRINCIPLE AND PRACTICE OF DEVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY FROM POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO REGIONAL LEVELS.

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 9 -

### DB MEMBERS INSPECT WELFARE FACILITIES

\* \* \* \*

A GROUP OF KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON INSPECTED SOME OF THE WELFARE FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN THE DISTRICT.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE BOARD'S CHAIRMAN, MR LEE LAP-SUN, MEMBERS FIRST HAD A BRIEFING SESSION WITH THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MRS HENRIETTA CHAN, ON THE WORK OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

THEY THEN VISITED THE MA TAU WAI GIRLS' HOME IN SHEUNG SHING STREET, HO MAN TIN TO SEE ITS FACILITIES.

THE HOME, WITH A CAPACITY FOR 192, SERVES AS A PROBATION AND DETENTION CENTRE, A PLACE OF REFUGÉ, AND A REMAND HOME FOR PROBLEM GIRLS.

AT THE HOME, GIRLS ARE BEING TAUGHT SUCH SUBJECTS AS CHINESE, ENGLISH, ARITHMETIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES. PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING IS ALSO CONDUCTED IN DRESS-MAKING, HANDICRAFT, HOME-CARE AND DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FOLK-DANCING, BASKETBALL, VOLLEYBALL, BADMINTON AND MUSIC ARE ALSO ORGANISED.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE HOME, MRS SHUM YU YIM-LAN, SAID THAT ACADEMIC AND PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING WAS BEING PROVIDED TO EQUIP THE GIRLS WITH BASIC KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A HEALTHY WAY OF LIVING AND TO REINTEGRATE INTO THE COMMUNITY.

THE BOARD MEMBERS LATER WENT TO THE MA TAU CHUNG STREET SLEEPERS' SHELTER WHICH OPENS FROM 6 PM TO 8 AM DAILY.

FACILITIES IN THE SHELTER CAN ACCOMMODATE UP TO 110 PEOPLE.

AN AVERAGE OF 50 STREET SLEEPERS ARE STAYING AT THE SHELTER BUT IT HAS A CAPACITY FOR 110 PEOPLE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

### CONTRACTORS PRAISED FOR EFFORTS IN REDUCING NOISE

\* \* \*

THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR CHAN NAI-KEONG, TONIGHT URGED BUILDING CONTRACTORS, WHO HAVE NOT TAKEN POSITIVE STEPS TO REDUCE NOISE AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, TO START INVESTIGATING WHAT IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE MADE.

HE WAS ADDRESSING THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION AT ITS ANNUAL DINNER.

MR CHAN PRAISED THE ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTING A PROGRAMME OF ACTIONS AND MEASURES AIMED AT ACHIEVING QUIETER CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS.

/+PROPOSALS ARE .....

+PROPOSALS ARE IN TRAIN FOR INTRODUCING LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD EXTEND THE CONTROL OF CONSTRUCTION NOISE TO NORMAL WORKING HOURS AS WELL AS TIGHTENING UP CONTROL IN RESPECT OF OPERATIONS OUTSIDE NORMAL WORKING HOURS,+ MR CHAN SAID.

HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT ALL CONTRACTORS WOULD TAKE EARLY NOTE OF THE IMPLICATIONS AND WOULD NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT BEFORE TAKING ACTION TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS TO THEIR PLANT AND EQUIPMENT.

+WHILE IT IS NOT INTENDED TO IMPOSE AN UNDUE BURDEN ON THE INDUSTRY THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE PRESENT LEVEL OF NOISE PRODUCED, SUCH AS THAT FROM PERCUSSIVE PILING, WILL HAVE TO BE REDUCED,+ HE ADDED.

MR CHAN SAID THAT THOSE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION WHO HAD NOT TAKEN POSITIVE MEASURES TO REDUCE NOISE AT CONSTRUCTION SITES SHOULD DO SO NOW.

ON SAFETY MEASURES, MR CHAN COMMENDED THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENT DURING THE PAST YEAR, RESULTING IN A 20 PER CENT REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF FATALITIES ON CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A DRAMATIC INCREASE OVER THE LAST YEAR OR TWO IN THE SIZE AND NUMBER OF CLAIMS ON GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS.

HE RECALLED THAT PREVIOUSLY CLAIMS WERE ONLY SUBMITTED, DISPUTES PROLONGED AND ARBITRATION OR LITIGATION PROCEEDINGS CONSIDERED WHEN CONTRACTORS HAD SUFFERED LOSSES WHICH THEY COULD NOT OTHERWISE ABSORB.

HOWEVER, HE FOUND THE RECENT PHENOMENON MORE DISTURBING.

+I SUSPECT MUCH OF THE PROBLEM HAS ARISEN BECAUSE CONTRACTORS HAVE BEEN FAILING TO RECOGNISE THE DEGREE OF RISK WHICH IS LEGITIMATELY THEIRS WHEN PRICING A TENDER.

+WHATEVER MAY BE THE REAL CAUSES, THE SITUATION DOES DEMAND ATTENTION BY THE PARTIES CONCERNED,+ MR CHAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT A DIALOGUE WAS NOW IN PROGRESS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION AND EXECUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING CONTRACTS, INCLUDING THE SUGGESTION AND CONSIDERATION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.

ON THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME, MR CHAN REASSURED THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG.

+THE NEW TOWNS PROGRAMME WILL CONTINUE UNABATED. SIMILARLY, WE MUST ALSO PRESS AHEAD WITH THE PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUCH AS TRANSPORT PROJECTS AND WATER SUPPLY,+ HE SAID.

AMONG THE MAJOR PROJECTS ARE THE TUEN MUN HOSPITAL, SHA TIN AND TUEN MUN CULTURAL COMPLEXES AND THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PROJECT FOR NORTH WEST KOWLOON.

HE SAID THAT THE ESTIMATED TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON NEW PROJECTS AND THOSE ALREADY UNDER WAY WAS ABOUT \$7.6 BILLION (EXCLUDING LAND COSTS).

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 11 -

### JOBS FOUND FOR REDUNDANT TEACHERS

\* \* \* \*

ALL OF THE 401 REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS, WHO REGISTERED WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S PLACEMENT SERVICE IN MAY HAVE BEEN PLACED IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

+THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO THE MANY SCHOOL AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION TO BRING THIS ABOUT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1975 TO ASSIST REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN SEEKING ALTERNATIVE JOBS AS A RESULT OF THE DROP IN POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE AS WELL AS A SHIFT OF POPULATION FROM THE URBAN AREAS TO THE NEW TOWNS.

SINCE 1975, THE SERVICE HAS HELPED A TOTAL OF 3 137 REDUNDANT TEACHERS TO SECURE ALTERNATIVE TEACHING POSTS. LAST YEAR THE NUMBER OF REDUNDANT TEACHERS WAS 271.

- - - - 0 - - - -

### MUSIC STUDENT LEAVES FOR UK

\* \* \*

THE 1983 WINNER OF THE LADY MACLEHOSE PRIZE, MR CHOW LAP-CHUNG HAS JUST LEFT FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM TO ATTEND THE DARTINGTON SUMMER SCHOOL OF MUSIC AT DEVON.

THE PRIZE, IN THE FORM OF A TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP, IS AWARDED EACH YEAR TO THE MOST OUTSTANDING SECOND-YEAR MUSICIAN ATTENDING THE HONG KONG CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.

THE PRIZE THIS YEAR AMOUNTS TO \$15 000 AND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

THE PRIZE WILL ENABLE THE SELECTED STUDENT TO TRAVEL ABROAD DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS TO ATTEND SUMMER SCHOOLS AND MUSIC FESTIVALS IN EUROPE OR NORTH AMERICA.

MR CHOW, A 19-YEAR-OLD SECOND-YEAR VIOLIN STUDENT OF THE CONSERVATORY AND A MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (A) WILL ATTEND THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL AFTER COMPLETING THE SUMMER COURSE.

MR CHOW HAS BEEN PLAYING THE VIOLIN FOR ELEVEN YEARS AND IS ALSO GOOD AT SOME CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

HE WAS A PRIZE WINNER OF THE 1981 HONG KONG SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL AND WAS ALSO AWARDED A JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND SCHOLARSHIP THIS YEAR.

MR CLIVE OXLEY, MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR AND ACTING DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, WAS AT THE AIRPORT TO BID MR CHOW FAREWELL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/12 .....

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 12 -

OPEN FORUM ON EDUCATION

\* \* \*

RESIDENTS IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT ARE BEING INVITED TO AN OPEN FORUM ON SUNDAY (JULY 24) TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON HONG KONG'S EDUCATION SYSTEM AND THE REPORT 'A PERSPECTIVE ON EDUCATION IN HONG KONG', COMPILED BY A PANEL OF VISITING EXPERTS.

ORGANISED BY AN AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE FORUM WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON THE NINTH FLOOR OF THE CARITAS CENTRE, 16 CAINE ROAD.

THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED TO STUDY AND REVIEW THE PANEL'S REPORT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DISTRICT BOARD. ITS MEMBERSHIP COMPRISES SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, LECTURERS AND BOARD MEMBERS.

THE CONVENOR OF THE COMMITTEE, MRS MARGARET LI, SAID THAT ANY PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY, PARENTS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, WOULD BE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE FORUM.

+WRITTEN COMMENTS ON ANY ASPECTS OF THE REPORT OR THE EXISTING EDUCATION SYSTEM ARE ALSO WELCOME AND SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,+ SHE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD ITS LAST MEETING ON JULY 29 WHEN MEMBERS WILL STUDY ALL THE OPINIONS GATHERED AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF POOL

\* \* \* \*

THE SECONDARY POOL OF THE KWAI SHING PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED IN THE EVENING, STARTING TODAY (THURSDAY).

BUT THE POOL WILL REMAIN OPEN BETWEEN 6.30 AM AND 6.45 PM.

THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE IS TO FACILITATE REPAIR WORK ON THE FLOODLIGHT SYSTEM AT THE COMPLEX, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE MAIN POOL AND THE OTHER SECONDARY POOLS OF THE COMPLEX WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

THE REPAIR WORK IS EXPECTED TO TAKE SIX WEEKS TO COMPLETE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

- 13 -

PARKING FOR OMNIBUSES ONLY

\* \* \*

TAXIS AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE PARKING, PICKING UP AND SETTING DOWN AREA ON CHEONG WAN ROAD OUTSIDE THE HONG KONG COLISEUM FROM SATURDAY (JULY 23) AT 10 AM.

THE ABOVE PARKING AREA WILL BE PROHIBITED TO ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT PUBLIC OMNIBUSES.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE EXISTING PROHIBITION IN THE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE LAY-BY AT ON WAN ROAD WEST OF THE KCR KOWLOON STATION WILL BE RESCINDED.

AND AT 10 AM ON SATURDAY, EIGHT HALF-HOUR PUBLIC OMNIBUS PARKING METERS WHICH CHARGE \$1 FOR 30 MINUTES WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL AT THE CHEONG WAN ROAD AREA.

- - - - 0 - - - -