



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1987

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GOVERNOR IMPRESSED WITH YUEN LONG DEVELOPMENT

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE WAY YUEN LONG HAD MANAGED TO COMBINE TRADITIONAL WAY OF LIFE WITH VERY ACTIVE MODERN DEVELOPMENT.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER HIS FIRST DISTRICT VISIT, TO YUEN LONG, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY THE VARIOUS PLACES HE HAD SEEN AND THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

+ONE HAS A TREMENDOUS SENSE OF LOYALTY TO THIS DISTRICT BY THE COMMUNITY AND FOR ME IT'S BEEN A FASCINATING AFTERNOON,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE SMELL OF A NULLAH IN YUEN LONG, SIR DAVID SAID THERE WAS A PLAN TO DEAL WITH IT, BUT IT WOULD TAKE TIME.

AT THE REQUEST OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS DOING A SURVEY ON WHAT MIGHT BE DONE IN THE SHORT TERM AND A REPORT WOULD BE COMING OUT WITHIN A MONTH. + BUT IT NEEDS WORK DONE ON IT. IT WILL TAKE TIME AND THE HOPE IS THAT SOMETHING CAN BE DONE IN THE SHORT TERM,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR ADDED THAT POLLUTION WAS A TREMENDOUS PROBLEM. +IT'S NOT JUST THE NULLAH HERE, IT'S A PROBLEM ELSEWHERE IN HONG KONG, IT IS NOT EASY TO DEAL WITH,+ HE SAID.

ASKED ABOUT HIS IMPRESSION ON HIS VISIT TO THE LOK MA CHAU BORDER, SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS VERY INTERESTING FOR HIM TO SEE THE CHANGE THERE.

+I WAS HERE FIVE AND A HALF YEARS AGO WHEN THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT ACROSS THE BORDER WAS JUST BEGINNING. AND I AM VERY STRUCK BY NOW THE AMOUNT OF MOVEMENT THERE IS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SHENZHEN, AND I HOPE THAT IS GOING TO BENEFIT THIS PART OF HONG KONG, BECAUSE WITH TRANSPORT GOING ACROSS THAT SHENZHEN RIVER BRIDGE, IT WILL HELP THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH-WEST PART OF THE TERRITORY,+ HE ADDED.

ON THE QUESTION OF ANIMAL WASTE, SIR DAVID SAID THAT THERE WAS A SCHEME TO COMPENSATE FARMERS WHO WOULD GO OUT OF BUSINESS BECAUSE OF THE NEW ANIMAL WASTE PROGRAMME.

HE HOPED THE SCHEME WOULD DEAL WITH THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH FARMERS FACED.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THERE WAS A NEED TO BALANCE BETWEEN THE NEEDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROBLEMS LIKE THE NULLAH, AND THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE FARMERS. +OBVIOUSLY, THEY ARE VERY ANXIOUS ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURE,+ HE CONTINUED.

/ASKED ABOUT

ASKED ABOUT FARMERS' COMPLAINT THAT THE COMPENSATION WAS TOO LITTLE, SIR DAVID SAID THERE WAS AN INCREASE RECENTLY IN THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAD LOOKED AT IT VERY CAREFULLY AND CONCLUDED THAT THE COMPENSATION WAS FAIR AND REASONABLE.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE CRIME RATE IN THE NEW TOWNS, HE SAID HE HAD NOT GONE INTO DETAILS OF CRIME STATISTICS TODAY.

+WHAT HAS STRUCK ME IS NOW ONE SEES A VERY LIVELY COMMUNITY, AND IT IS THAT SIDE, A POSITIVE SIDE, THAT I HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN, RATHER THAN SOME OF THE OTHER SIDE.+

WHEN BEING ASKED TO DEFINE THE NEW TERRITORIES, SIR DAVID SAID THE DEFINITION, TO HIM, WAS QUITE SIMPLE. +IT IS NORTH OF BOUNDARY STREET, BETWEEN BOUNDARY STREET AND SHENZHEN RIVER.+

SIR DAVID ALSO SAID THAT LADY WILSON WAS VERY KEEN TO VISIT AS MUCH OF HONG KONG AS SHE COULD, AND HE CERTAINLY HOPED SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCOMPANY HIM AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE ON FUTURE TRIPS.

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GOVERNOR LOOKS AT DEVELOPMENTS IN YUEN LONG DISTRICT

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (THURSDAY) INSPECTED VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN YUEN LONG, ONE OF THE BUSIEST DISTRICTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHERE A RANGE OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION TO IMPROVE THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE AREA AND PROVIDE VITAL LINKS WITH CHINA.

THE VISIT TO YUEN LONG MARKED THE FIRST OF SIR DAVID'S TOUR TO A DISTRICT SINCE TAKING UP OFFICE, AND WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY SIMILAR VISITS TO 18 OTHER DISTRICTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, THE GOVERNOR AND LADY WILSON ARRIVED BY HELICOPTER AT MAI PO WHERE THEY WERE GREETED BY YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALAN WONG, AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR TAI KUEN.

THEY FIRST WENT TO THE WORK SITE FOR THE SHENZHEN RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT ALONG THE BORDER ROAD. SIR DAVID WAS BRIEFED ON THE PROGRESS OF WORK ON THE LOK MA CHAU BORDER CROSSING BY THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS, MR HAROLD BEATON.

THE LOK MA CHAU BORDER CROSSING IS BEING BUILT TO COPE WITH THE GROWING VOLUME OF CROSS-BORDER TRAFFIC. THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PROJECT, EXPECTED TO BE OPERATIONAL BY THE END OF 1988, WILL INCLUDE A DUAL TWO-LANE HIGHWAY LINKING A CONCRETE BRIDGE OVER THE SHENZHEN RIVER, UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AN INTERCHANGE WITH THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD AND BORDER CONTROL FACILITIES. CONSTRUCTION COST FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PROJECT IS ESTIMATED AT \$245 MILLION.

SECOND STAGE CONSTRUCTION WILL BE DETERMINED BY FUTURE TRAFFIC VOLUME IN THE AREA. IF GIVEN THE GO AHEAD, THIS WOULD COST AN ADDITIONAL \$150 MILLION.

SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON THEN VISITED THE POK OI HOSPITAL AND WERE MET BY ITS CHAIRMAN, MR CHENG HOI-CHUEN, WHO EXPLAINED TO THEM THE HOSPITAL'S EXPANSION PLAN. UNDER THE SCHEME, THE NUMBER OF BEDS AT POK OI HOSPITAL WILL BE INCREASED TO 420 BY AROUND 1990. IN ADDITION TO NEW QUARTERS FOR DOCTORS AND NURSES, A CASUALTY WARD AND AN OUT-PATIENT CLINIC WILL BE BUILT.

AT THE YUEN LONG TOWN CENTRE, SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON WENT TO THE ROOF OF A MULTI-STOREY BUILDING TO LOOK AT THE SITE OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT TERMINUS AND ITS ENVIRONS. THEY WERE BRIEFED BY THE LRT DIRECTOR, MR JOE WADE, ON THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT. STAGE 1 OF THE PROJECT, WHICH COMPRISES SIX ROUTES WITH 23 KILOMETRES OF DOUBLE TRACK, WOULD START OPERATION IN AUGUST 1988 AS SCHEDULED.

SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON THEN DROVE ALONG YUEN LONG MAIN ROAD AND STOPPED AT THE BRIDGE OVER THE NULLAH. THEY WERE BRIEFED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, YUEN LONG, MR ALAN WONG, ON THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH POLLUTION OF THE NULLAH AND MEASURES TAKEN TO AMELIORATE THEM.

AT THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL, SIR DAVID WAS SHOWN VARIOUS FACILITIES BY ITS CHAIRMAN, MR LEUNG SHUI-FAT. HE CHATTED WITH SOME STUDENTS ATTENDING DANCING CLASS THERE AND SAW CHILDREN PLAYING IN THE TOY ROOM. LADY WILSON WAS PRESENTED WITH A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS BY ONE OF THE CHILDREN.

SIR DAVID THEN WALKED TO LUT SAU HALL WHERE HE MET THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT ARTS COMMITTEE, MADAM LEUNG SING-TAK, AND THE MANAGER OF THE CIVIC CENTRE, MR JEFF YING SHIU-YIN.

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THE MAIN FEATURE OF THE HALL IS THE AUDITORIUM WHICH CAN ACCOMMODATE 880 SPECTATORS. IT IS USED AS THE MAIN VENUE FOR MANY CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS IN THE DISTRICT SUCH AS THE ANNUAL YUEN LONG ARTS FESTIVAL.

BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE, SIR DAVID ATTENDED A RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD AT THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION CLUBHOUSE AND WAS PRESENTED WITH A SOUVENIR BY THE BOARD'S CHAIRMAN, MR TAI KUEN.

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CHANGES TO LOCAL STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME ANNOUNCED
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) TWO CHANGES TO THE LOCAL STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME WHICH OFFERS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF GRANTS AND LOANS TO FULL-TIME STUDENTS OF THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE TWO POLYTECHNICS AND THE BAPTIST COLLEGE.

THE CHANGES ARE MADE FOLLOWING A REVIEW CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN RESPONSE TO SUGGESTIONS MADE BY THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE IN 1986.

THE CHANGES WHICH WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM THE 1987-88 ACADEMIC YEAR ARE:

- (A) THE APPORTIONMENT OF ANNUAL DISPOSABLE INCOME (ADI) BETWEEN GRANTS AND LOANS IS REVISED FROM THE RATIO OF 50:50 TO 60:40; AND
- (B) AN INTEREST OF 2.5 PER CENT P.A. WILL BE CHARGED ON LOANS.

IN DECIDING TO IMPLEMENT THESE CHANGES, THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCE.

+THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS CHANGED ITS BASIC POLICY WHICH IS THAT NO STUDENT WHO IS OFFERED A PLACE IN ANY OF THE FIVE TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE RENDERED UNABLE TO ACCEPT THAT PLACE BECAUSE OF LACK OF MONEY,+ A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+ASSISTANCE WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE THE FORM OF BOTH GRANTS AND LOANS,+ HE ADDED.

/THE CHANGES

THE CHANGES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO ENSURE THAT THE POLICY OBJECTIVE OF THE SCHEME IS ACHIEVED AS ECONOMICALLY AS POSSIBLE. GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AS A WHOLE ARE LIMITED AND MUST BE USED WHERE THE NEED IS THE GREATEST.

TERTIARY EDUCATION IS ALREADY HEAVILY SUBSIDISED AND SINCE TERTIARY EDUCATION ENABLES A STUDENT UPON GRADUATION TO INCREASE HIS EARNING POWER, IT IS REASONABLE FOR HIM TO CONTRIBUTE MORE TOWARDS THE COST OF HIS TERTIARY EDUCATION.

AN INTEREST CHARGE HAD BEEN SET SINCE A TOTALLY INTEREST FREE LOAN REPRESENTS A FURTHER SUBSIDY FOR THE STUDENT AND THE RATE OF 2.5 PER CENT HAD BEEN ADOPTED AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THE REPAYMENT CAPACITY OF STUDENTS AFTER GRADUATION.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHANGES, THE INCREASE IN MONTHLY REPAYMENT FOR ALMOST ALL STUDENTS WOULD BE LESS THAN \$80. THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT INTEREST WOULD ONLY ACCRUE FROM THE DATE ON WHICH REPAYMENT BEGINS WHICH IS NORMALLY AFTER GRADUATION.

+THE REPAYMENT PERIOD REMAINS UNCHANGED AT FIVE YEARS, BUT IT CAN BE EXTENDED IN HARDSHIP CASES WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONSIDERED ON THE INDIVIDUAL MERITS OF EACH CASE,+ HE ADDED.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

IN ORDER TO ILLUSTRATE THE EFFECT OF THESE CHANGES ON THE MONTHLY REPAYMENT, TWO EXAMPLES BASED ON FICTITIOUS ANNUAL DISPOSAL INCOME HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT AS FOLLOWS. A BACKGROUND BRIEF ON THE ANNUAL DISPOSAL INCOME APPORTIONMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GIS DUTY OFFICER ON REQUEST.

EXAMPLES

(A) 3-YEAR DEGREE COURSE IN ARTS

	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE ATTAINABLE	AMOUNT RECEIVED BY A STUDENT WITH AN ADI OF \$8 000		*TOTAL AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FOR 3 YEARS	
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ADI APPORTIONMENT RATIO	-	50:50	60:40	50:50	60:40

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GRANT	\$7 280	\$4 980	\$4 520	\$14 940	\$13 560
LOAN	\$10 900	\$8 600	\$9 060	\$25 800	\$27 180

* ASSUMING ALL FIGURES REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR 3 YEARS.

MONTHLY REPAYMENT UPON GRADUATION WITH AN ADI APPORTIONMENT RATIO OF 50:50 AND NO INTEREST CHARGE \$430

MONTHLY REPAYMENT UPON GRADUATION WITH AN ADI APPORTIONMENT RATIO OF 60:40 AND A 2.5 PER CENT P.A. INTEREST CHARGE \$483

INCREASE IN MONTHLY REPAYMENT \$53

(B) 6-YEAR DEGREE COURSE IN MEDICINE

	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE ATTAINABLE	AMOUNT RECEIVED BY A STUDENT WITH AN ADI OF \$8 000		*TOTAL AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FOR 6 YEARS	
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ADI APPORTIONMENT RATIO	-	50:50	60:40	50:50	60:40
GRANT	\$7 820	\$7 820	\$7 820	\$46 920	\$46 920
LOAN	\$10 900	\$10 900	\$10 900	\$65 400	\$65 400

* ASSUMING ALL FIGURES REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR 6 YEARS.

MONTHLY REPAYMENT UPON GRADUATION WITH AN ADI APPORTIONMENT RATIO OF 50:50 AND NO INTEREST CHARGE \$1 090

MONTHLY REPAYMENT UPON GRADUATION WITH AN ADI APPORTIONMENT RATIO OF 60:40 AND A 2.5 PER CENT P.A. INTEREST CHARGE \$1 161

INCREASE IN MONTHLY REPAYMENT \$71

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HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMIT FEES, VALIDITY REDUCED

FEES FOR A MULTIPLE HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMIT WILL BE REDUCED FROM THE EXISTING \$50 TO \$35 WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY). THE VALIDITY OF THE TRAVEL DOCUMENT WILL ALSO BE REDUCED FROM TEN TO FIVE YEARS.

AN IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT AS CONTROL POINTS ARE BEING GRADUALLY COMPUTERISED IN PHASES, HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMITS ARE BEING PHASED OUT GRADUALLY BETWEEN NOW AND 1989.

+WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW, HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED ON A ONE-PERSON-ONE-PERMIT BASIS. PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN WILL THEREFORE NO LONGER BE INCLUDED IN THEIR PARENTS' OR GUARDIANS' HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMITS,+ HE SAID.

+SINGLE JOURNEY HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMITS VALID FOR SIX MONTHS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO BOTH ADULTS AND CHILDREN AT A FEE OF \$10 EACH. CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SEVEN WILL, IN NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, BE ISSUED WITH SINGLE HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMITS.

+HOWEVER, CHILDREN ALREADY INCLUDED IN EXISTING HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMITS OF THEIR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS MAY STILL TRAVEL ON THESE PERMITS PROVIDED THAT THEY ARE TRAVELLING WITH THE PRINCIPAL HOLDERS AND PROVIDED THAT THEY ARE UNDER 16. SUCH CHILDREN THEREFORE NEED NOT APPLY FOR RE-ENTRY PERMITS UNTIL THEIR PARENTS' OR GUARDIANS' RE-ENTRY PERMITS EXPIRE,+ HE ADDED.

DETAILED PROCEDURE ON HOW TO APPLY FOR THE RE-ENTRY PERMITS IS SET OUT IN THE LEAFLET +HOW TO APPLY FOR A RE-ENTRY PERMIT+ OBTAINABLE FROM IMMIGRATION OR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES CAN ALSO BE MADE TO THE INFORMATION OFFICE OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ON 3-7333111.

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SLIM MAJORITY IN BILL PASSAGE SEEN AS 'ENCOURAGING'

THE SLIM MAJORITY ACHIEVED IN PASSING THE GEPHARDT AMENDMENT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WAS DESCRIBED AS ENCOURAGING BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE CONTROVERSIAL AMENDMENT TO THE TRADE BILL WAS APPROVED BY A 218 TO 214 VOTE. IT WOULD REQUIRE MAJOR EXPORTING COUNTRIES TO EASE TRADE BARRIERS AND REDUCE THEIR TRADE SURPLUSES WITH THE UNITED STATES OR FACE A TEN PER CENT ANNUAL CUTBACK IN IMPORTS UNTIL 1992.

/+ALTHOUGH WE

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+ALTHOUGH WE ARE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE GEPHARDT AMENDMENT HAS BEEN PASSED, WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE SLIM MAJORITY WHICH SUGGESTS THAT IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT AN EVENTUAL PRESIDENTIAL VETO COULD BE OVER-RIDDEN,+ SAID MR TONY MILLER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE.

HE NOTED THAT THIS WAS ONLY ONE STEP IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS. THE SENATE VERSION OF THE TRADE BILL IS STILL TO BE DEBATED AND THEN BOTH BILLS MUST BE RECONCILED THROUGH THE CONFERENCE STAGE OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE.

MR MILLER SAID HE UNDERSTANDS THAT THE AMENDMENT AS PASSED REPRESENTS A WATERED-DOWN VERSION WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE HONG KONG AS A TRADING PARTNER WHICH HAS NO UNFAIR TRADING PRACTICES.

+NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE CONCERNED AT ANY LEGISLATION WHICH REDUCES PRESIDENTIAL DISCRETION IN TRADE MATTERS, REPLACING NEGOTIATIONS WITH CRUDE MANDATORY SANCTIONS,+ HE SAID.

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CS LOOKS AT SPORTS CENTRE FACILITIES * * * * *

THE SWIMMING POOL OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE WILL BE OPENED FOR COMPETITION PURPOSE WHEN ITS 1 000-SEAT SPECTATOR STAND IS COMPLETED IN AUGUST, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DAVID FORD, WAS TOLD DURING HIS VISIT TO THE CENTRE THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

BRIEFED ON THE CENTRE'S LATEST DEVELOPMENTS, MR FORD LEARNED THAT THE \$8.3 MILLION BUILDING PROGRAMME INCLUDED A FITNESS ROOM FOR SWIMMERS AND A CANOE STORE ROOM.

ON OTHER SPORTS FACILITIES, A \$1.35 MILLION PROJECT WOULD REPLACE THE SYNTHETIC FLOOR OF THE CHAMPIONS HALL WITH WOODEN FLOORING, TURNING IT INTO A MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS VENUE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CENTRE'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MR HOWARD WELLS, MR FORD TOURED THE CENTRE WATCHING VARIOUS TRAINING PROGRAMMES IN ACTION.

HE WAS ALSO SHOWN TESTS ON ATHLETES AT THE SPORTS SCIENCE LABORATORY AND A DISPLAY OF FLOOR EXERCISES BY JUNIOR GYMNASTS.

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COMPUTERS AT IMMIGRATION CONTROL POINTS SWITCHED ON

THE COMPUTERISATION OF IMMIGRATION CONTROL POINTS AT THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL IN CENTRAL AND THE SHAM SHUI PO PIER WENT INTO OPERATION AFTER A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE SIX COMPUTERS INSTALLED AT THESE TWO CONTROL POINTS WILL BE LINKED TO 63 SMALL TERMINALS AT IMMIGRATION COUNTERS. THIS WILL SPEED UP IMMIGRATION OFFICERS' WORK IN CHECKING ON HONG KONG PASSENGERS.

SPEAKING AFTER THE CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR ALAN CARTER, SAID THE FIRST PHASE OF THE +EASY TRAVEL SCHEME+, WHICH WOULD START TOMORROW (FRIDAY), MARKED A NEW ERA IN HONG KONG'S IMMIGRATION CONTROL WORK.

UNDER THE SCHEME, HONG KONG RESIDENTS WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE CARDS.

HOLDERS OF HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS BEARING A +***+ SYMBOL WILL FURTHER BE EXEMPTED FROM PRESENTING A HONG KONG RE-ENTRY PERMIT, INITIALLY FOR JOURNEYS TO AND FROM MACAU VIA THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL AND THE SHAM SHUI PO PIER, AND LATER FOR JOURNEYS TO AND FROM CHINA VIA OTHER CONTROL POINTS FOLLOWING THE PHASED COMPUTERISATION OF IMMIGRATION CONTROL BETWEEN NOW AND 1989.

THE GOVERNMENT DATA PROCESSING MANAGER, DR COLIN GREENFIELD, AND THE DIRECTOR OF HONG KONG OPERATIONS OF IBM, MR HENRY CHOW, ALSO OFFICIATED AT THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY AT THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL.

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OFF-STREET TRAINING FOR LEARNER MOTORCYCLISTS PLANNED

THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO REQUIRE LEARNER MOTORCYCLISTS TO COMPLETE A BASIC OFF-STREET TRAINING COURSE IN A DRIVING SCHOOL BEFORE THEY ARE ALLOWED TO OBTAIN A LEARNER DRIVING LICENCE TO PRACTISE RIDING ON PUBLIC ROADS.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SHA TIN DRIVER TRAINING CENTRE OF THE HONG KONG SCHOOL OF MOTORING.

HE SAID THAT AT PRESENT LEARNER MOTORCYCLISTS WERE NOT REQUIRED BY LAW TO UNDERGO ANY FORMAL TRAINING BEFORE TAKING DRIVING TESTS AND A LEARNER MOTORCYCLIST COULD THEREFORE RENT A MOTORCYCLE AND LEARN TO RIDE BY HIMSELF ON PUBLIC ROADS.

/+SUCH A

+SUCH A METHOD OF LEARNING IS OBVIOUSLY FAR FROM IDEAL,+ HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID THAT MANY LEARNER MOTORCYCLISTS IN HONG KONG WERE ALREADY AWARE OF THE NEED TO LEARN TO RIDE A MOTORCYCLE PROPERLY AND IN SAFE CONDITIONS.

IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, OUT OF 367 MOTORCYCLISTS TESTED, 186 WERE TRAINED BY THE HONG KONG SCHOOL OF MOTORING AT ITS TWO TRAINING CENTRES AT WONG CHUK HANG AND SHA TIN.

MR LEUNG NOTED THAT A COMPREHENSIVE AND SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO THE TEACHING AND TRAINING OF LEARNER DRIVERS HAD MANY BENEFITS AND ADVANTAGES.

+NOT ONLY CAN THE BASIC CONCEPTS OF SAFE AND CONSIDERATE DRIVING BE FULLY BROUGHT HOME IN A SYSTEMATIC PROGRAMME, THE TRAINING IN AN OFF-STREET ENVIRONMENT ALLOWS THE STUDENT TO ACQUIRE THE BASIC SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE BEFORE FACING THE RIGOURS OF HONG KONG'S BUSY ROADS,+ HE SAID.

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CONTRACT FOR TALLEST GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING AWARDED
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) AWARDED A \$318-MILLION CONTRACT TO A LOCAL CONTRACTOR FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A 49-STOUREY GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING AT HARBOUR ROAD ON THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION.

IT IS THE TALLEST GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING SO FAR CONSTRUCTED IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF STOREYS.

THE CONTRACT, THE LARGEST AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT THIS YEAR, WAS SIGNED BY THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES, MR JOSE LEI, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF SHUN SHING CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED, MR TSE KWOK-WAH.

THE BUILDING IS PART OF A GOVERNMENT COMPLEX BEING BUILT ON A 16 000-SQUARE-METRE SITE BOUNDED BY HARBOUR ROAD TO THE NORTH AND GLOUCESTER ROAD TO THE SOUTH.

THE COMPLEX, BEING DEVELOPED IN FIVE STAGES, INCLUDES A BASEMENT CAR PARK, A SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION, THREE TOWER BLOCKS AND A LANDSCAPED PLAZA.

THE FOUNDATION AND BASEMENT WORKS FOR THE ENTIRE SITE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION WERE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1985 AND MID-1986.

ONE OF THE TOWER BLOCKS, A 30-STOREY COURTS AND OFFICES BUILDING, WAS COMPLETED EARLY THIS YEAR.

WORK ON THE CURRENT CONTRACT FOR THE 49-STOREY BUILDING IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN SHORTLY AND TAKE ABOUT THREE YEARS TO COMPLETE. A TOTAL OF 108 000 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE TREASURY AND IMMIGRATION, WATER SUPPLIES AND RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENTS.

CONTRACT DRAWINGS AND DOCUMENTS FOR A SECOND 49-STOREY OFFICES BUILDING AND LANDSCAPED PLAZA IN THE FIFTH AND FINAL STAGE ARE ALREADY UNDER PREPARATION.

COSTING ABOUT \$1.3 BILLION TO DEVELOP, IT IS EXPECTED THAT ALL FIVE STAGES WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE EARLY 1990'S.

THE COMPLEX FORMS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFICES BUILDING PROGRAMME TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON LEASED PRIVATELY-DEVELOPED OFFICE ACCOMODATION.

OTHER BUILDINGS IN THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE AN 11-STOREY BUILDING ON TOP OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY MONG KOK STATION AND A TOWER BLOCK AT QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, UNDER A JOINT VENTURE WITH A PRIVATE DEVELOPER.

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PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORTS KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN APPEAL
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A NUMBER OF COMPANIES HAVE RESPONDED FAVOURABLY TO THE APPEAL MADE BY KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGNERS BY EXPRESSING KEEN INTEREST TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN.

TAKING THE LEAD IN JOINING THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN FORCES ARE REPUTABLE COMPANIES FROM THE OIL INDUSTRY AND SUPERMARKET BUSINESS AS WELL AS AN ASSOCIATION OF THE MOTOR TRADERS.

AT TOMORROW'S (FRIDAY) MEETING OF THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL-REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, MEMBERS WILL REPORT ON THE LATEST SITUATION OF THIS CORPORATE INVOLVEMENT.

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THE COMMITTEE WILL FURTHER TALK ON THE PROGRESS OF OTHER ITEMS, INCLUDING THE COLISEUM SHOW ON MAY 15 AND THE PLANNED BLITZ AGAINST UNAUTHORISED DISPLAY OF POSTERS AT PUBLIC PLACES.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM IN THE MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBER, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, 174-208, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SECOND MEETING OF THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL-REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE.

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\$1 MILLION RAISED IN CLEAN FOR CHARITY DRIVE
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STUDENTS OF 401 PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS RAISED MORE THAN \$1 MILLION FOR THE 1986-87 CLEAN FOR CHARITY JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG AND THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB.

TO THANK STUDENTS, MEMBERS OF THE CYC DISTRICT COMMITTEES AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN, THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG HELD A TEA RECEPTION AT THE LEE GARDENS HOTEL YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE 1986-87 CLEAN FOR CHARITY, MRS ALICE CHIU, ACCEPTED A CHEQUE OF \$1 077 209 FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, AT THE RECEPTION.

MR LI LATER PRESENTED PRIZES TO 12 STUDENTS WHO WON THE CLEAN FOR CHARITY PAINTING COMPETITION.

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ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT INVITES MALE RECRUITS
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THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT, THE PART-TIME VOLUNTEER MILITARY UNIT KNOWN AS +THE VOLUNTEERS+, IS INVITING YOUNG MEN OF MATURE CHARACTER, GOOD PHYSIQUE AND HIGH CALIBRE TO JOIN THE FORCE.

THE RECRUITMENT EXERCISE THIS YEAR WHICH WILL BEGIN TOMORROW (MAY 1) IS TO RECRUIT MALE VOLUNTEERS TO FILL 150 VACANCIES.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INFORMATION LEAFLETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS AT SPORTS ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY.

COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS BY JUNE 5, 1987.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE TRAINING IN BASIC MILITARY SKILLS, INCLUDING HANDLING RIFLES, SUB-MACHINE GUNS, VEHICLES AND ASSAULT BOATS, DRILL, OPERATION OF RADIO EQUIPMENT, MAP READING, AS WELL AS FIRST AID.

TRAINING FOR NEW RECRUITS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON FOUR EVENINGS AND ONE WEEKEND PER MONTH FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE MONTHS. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO ATTEND TWO NINE-DAY TRAINING CAMPS BEFORE PASSING OUT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE VOLUNTEERS SAID THE ROLE OF THE REGIMENT IS TO SUPPORT THE BRITISH ARMY AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY IN HONG KONG AND THIS OFFERS A GOOD CHANCE FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO FACE CHALLENGES TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

+IT WILL HELP BUILD ONE'S CHARACTER AND SELF-RELIANCE, BROADEN ONE'S OUTLOOK AND DEVELOP A SENSE OF CITIZENSHIP,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+SERVICE IN THE REGIMENT CAN ALSO CULTIVATE A MORE MATURE, HEALTHY AND CAPABLE PERSONALITY AND THE VOLUNTEERS WILL GAIN PRECIOUS EXPERIENCE IN SUPERVISORY SKILLS, JUDGMENT AND DECISION-MAKING.+

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE 17 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE, HAVE COMPLETED SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HAVE A REASONABLE KNOWLEDGE OF SPOKEN ENGLISH. THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE A REGULAR EMPLOYMENT AND HAVE THEIR EMPLOYERS' CONSENT FOR JOINING THE FORCE BEFORE THEY APPLY.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE REGIMENT'S RECRUITING OFFICER AT 5-761371.

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ENGINEER TRAINEES GET MORE SUBSIDY
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THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE MONTHLY SUBSIDY FOR GRADUATE TRAINEES RECEIVING TRAINING UNDER THE ENGINEERING GRADUATE TRAINING SCHEME (EGTS) HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM \$2 000 TO \$2 150 WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1.

THE SUBSIDY FOR ENGINEERING UNDERGRADUATES RECEIVING APPROVED PRACTICAL TRAINING IN INDUSTRY UNDER THE SCHEME ALSO HAS GONE UP FROM \$1 000 TO \$1 200 PER PERSON PER MONTH.

THE EGTS, INTRODUCED IN 1983, IS ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE ON TRAINING OF TECHNOLOGISTS TO ENABLE ENGINEERING GRADUATES TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY PRACTICAL TRAINING.

EACH TRAINEE RECEIVING TRAINING UNDER THE SCHEME WILL BE GRANTED A SUBSIDY TO BE PAID THROUGH HIS EMPLOYER AS PART OF HIS SALARY.

SINCE 1983, A TOTAL OF 130 TRAINING SCHEMES FROM 92 EMPLOYERS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE.

EMPLOYERS WISHING TO OFFER TRAINING PLACES FOR ENGINEERING GRADUATES AS WELL AS UNDERGRADUATES MAY CONTACT THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE ON 5-8932341 EXT. 271.

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KWAI TSING CELEBRATES TIN HAU FESTIVAL
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MORE THAN 30 000 KWAI TSING RESIDENTS, FISHERMEN AND WORSHIPPERS TODAY (THURSDAY) TOOK PART IN COLOURFUL CELEBRATIONS TO COMMEMORATE THE BIRTHDAY OF THE SEA GODDESS TIN HAU ON TSING YI ISLAND.

STARTING FROM 8.30 AM, THOUSANDS OF SPECTATORS AND WORSHIPPERS WERE ATTRACTED BY THE GRAND PROCESSION OF LIONS, UNICORNS AND COLOURFUL 'FA PAU', PRESENTED BY ORGANISATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY ON THEIR WAY FROM THE TSING YI NEW PIER TO THE ALTAR.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE CELEBRATIONS WAS THE ARRIVAL BY SEA AND LAND OF THE 'FA PAU', FOLLOWED BY A CEREMONY OFFICIATED BY KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN COAK, AT NOON NEAR TSING YI GARDEN.

AMONG OFFICIATING GUESTS WERE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HO TUNG-CHING, TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN AND THE DISTRICT COMMANDER OF KWAI TSING POLICE DISTRICT, MR BRIAN ELEY.

/IN CONNECTION

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IN CONNECTION WITH THE FESTIVAL, A TRADITIONAL 'FA PAU' LOTTERY WAS HELD. THE TEN BEST 'FA PAU' WERE SELECTED AMONG SOME 90 PRESENTED TO CELEBRATE THIS ANNUAL EVENT, ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR CHINESE FESTIVALS.

THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL HAS BEEN CELEBRATED ON TSING YI SINCE 1946 AND HAS SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR BOAT PEOPLE WHO PRAY TO TIN HAU FOR FAIR WEATHER AND GOOD TIDINGS ALL YEAR ROUND. IT IS THE BIGGEST AND LARGEST RELIGIOUS EVENT FOR TSING YI PEOPLE AND RESIDENTS OF THE FISHING VILLAGES ON THE ISLAND.

THE FIVE-DAY CELEBRATIONS THIS YEAR WHICH STARTED ON TUESDAY INCLUDES A CULTURAL EVENT AND A CHINESE OPERA PERFORMANCE.

THE EVENT HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE TSING YI TIN HAU FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE WITH SOME 1 000 PEOPLE FROM MORE THAN 20 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TAKING PART. AMONG THEM WERE THE TSING YI RURAL COMMITTEE, TSING YI TIN HAU TEMPLE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, LOCAL TRADE AND ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS.

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MONG KOK TO HOLD DISTRICT FESTIVAL
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THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD TODAY (THURSDAY) ENDORSED A PROPOSAL TO ORGANISE A DISTRICT FESTIVAL TO ENHANCE RESIDENTS' IDENTIFICATION WITH THE DISTRICT.

THE MAIN THEME OF THE FESTIVAL WILL CENTRE ON +HOME+ AND WILL INCLUDE TOPICS SUCH AS SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS, FAMILY LIFE, IMPROVEMENT ON LIVING CONDITIONS AND HOME SECURITY.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THE FESTIVAL CAN HELP FOSTER RESIDENTS' SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT AND PROMOTE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROSPERITY,+ DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHOW CHUN-FAI, SAID.

+WE ALSO HOPE IT CAN PROMOTE THE IMAGE OF THE BOARD AS WELL AS STRENGTHEN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH AREA COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS,+ HE ADDED.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE A NUMBER OF LARGE-SCALE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS TRADE FAIR, SALES DISCOUNT CAMPAIGN, PARADES, ILLUMINATIONS IN MAJOR STREETS, VARIETY SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS ON LOCAL CHARACTERISTICS WHICH WILL BE HELD BETWEEN DECEMBER AND EARLY JANUARY NEXT YEAR.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A SERIES OF PRE-ACTIVITIES STARTING IN JUNE TO BUILD UP A FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE LEADING TO THE MAIN EVENTS.

/A MONG

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A MONG KOK FESTIVAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, COMPRISING COMMUNITY LEADERS, LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, HAS BEEN FORMED TO CO-ORDINATE THE FESTIVAL.

+THE BOARD HAS AGREED TO SET ASIDE \$300 000 FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS TO SPONSOR THE FESTIVAL. WE ALSO WELCOME DONATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY TO SHOW THEIR SUPPORT TO THE EVENT,+ MR CHOW SAID.

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DB MEMBERS VISIT TELEPHONE COMPANY
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WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY TO SEE ITS OPERATIONS AND THE VARIOUS TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE COMMUNITY.

LED BY DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR MICHAEL CHENG, AND ACCOMPANIED BY WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NG HON-WAH, THE PARTY FIRST WENT TO THE NGAU TAU KOK ENGINEERING CENTRE.

THEY WERE BRIEFED BY THE COMPANY'S REGIONAL MANAGER, MR HO YUI-CHEONG, ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER MAINTENANCE CONTROL WHICH HANDLED REPORTS OF TELEPHONE BREAKDOWNS, AND THE CUSTOMER SERVICES WHICH PROCESSED THE APPLICATIONS OF NEW TELEPHONE LINES.

MEMBERS WERE ALSO INTRODUCED TO THE STARLINE SERVICES WHICH FEATURED SPEED DIALLING, INCOMING CALL ALERT, AND BLOCKING UNWANTED INCOMING CALLS.

THE PARTY THEN PROCEEDED TO THE YUEN CHAU KOK ENGINEERING CENTRE AND SAW AN EXHIBITION OF THE HIGH PERFORMANCE TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK. THE NETWORK PROVIDED A WIDE RANGE OF USES, INCLUDING WIRED TELEVISION, FACSIMILE, AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINE, MOBILE RADIO TELEPHONE AND MANY OTHER TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES.

THE TOUR ENDED AT THE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE CENTRE. MEMBERS LEARNT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT DIALLING (IDD) WAS NOW AVAILABLE TO 151 DESTINATIONS.

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FURTHER DELAY FOR UK POSTAL ITEMS

DUE TO AN ESCALATION IN THE WORK-TO-RULE ACTION BY UNITED KINGDOM CUSTOMS OFFICERS, SEVERAL CATEGORIES OF POSTAL ITEMS TO THE UK WILL BE AFFECTED, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEEDPOST PACKAGES, AIR AND SURFACE PARCELS CONTAINING INACCURATELY DECLARED, UNDER-DECLARED OR UNDECLARED ITEMS OF MERCHANDISE ARE NOW SUBJECT TO SIGNIFICANT DELAY, HE SAID.

IT WAS ANNOUNCED EARLIER THAT SPEEDPOST ITEMS CONTAINING MERCHANDISE, PARTICULARLY THOSE WITH A DECLARED VALUE IN EXCESS OF 100 POUND STERLING WILL BE AFFECTED.

THE PUBLIC WILL BE FURTHER ADVISED AS SOON AS THE SITUATION RETURNS TO NORMAL, HE ADDED.

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THIRD TSUEN WAN AMBULANCE DEPOT

PILED FOUNDATION WORK FOR A FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AMBULANCE DEPOT AT TSUEN WAN STARTED TODAY (THURSDAY) UNDER A CONTRACT AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

IT WILL BE THE THIRD AMBULANCE DEPOT IN TSUEN WAN WHEN IT IS COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER 1988, AND THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE A TOTAL OF 25 AMBULANCE DEPOTS AND STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

THE FOUNDATION WORK WILL BE COMPLETED AT A COST OF \$586 720 BY THE END OF AUGUST, WHILE WORK ON THE TWO-STORY DEPOT WILL START IN SEPTEMBER AND TAKE 12 MONTHS.

THE NEW DEPOT, LOCATED AT WAI TSUEN ROAD OPPOSITE LUK YEUNG SUN CHUEN, WILL HAVE THE CAPACITY FOR FOUR AMBULANCES.

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DETAILS OF ADVANCED RECREATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY LAUNCHED A PILOT SCHEME TO GIVE +ADVANCED RECREATIONAL TRAINING+ TO A SELECTED GROUP OF INMATES WITH THE AIM OF DEVELOPING THEIR POTENTIALS AND TALENTS.

HONG KONG'S NATIONAL SOCCER COACH, MR KWOK KA-MING, AND TABLE-TENNIS HEAD COACH AT THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, MR CHENG CHUNG-YIN, ARE AMONG COACHES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR YOUNG INMATES.

/WELL-KNOWN LOCAL

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WELL-KNOWN LOCAL PAINTER AND LECTURER OF THE EXTRA-MURAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, MR KONG KAI-MING, HAS ALSO BEEN ENGAGED FOR THE ONE-YEAR PAINTING PROGRAMME FOR ADULT PRISONERS.

A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE +ADVANCED RECREATIONAL TRAINING+ WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 11 AM AT LAI KING TRAINING CENTRE. APART FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S TRAINING PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATORS, MR KWOK, MR CHENG AND MR KONG WILL ALSO BE PRESENT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE NEWS CONFERENCE AND TAKE PART IN THE PRESS TOUR OF THE CENTRE'S FACILITIES. TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE PROVIDED. THEY SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT AT 23/F., WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, BY 10.15 AM TOMORROW.

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POSTPONEMENT OF CLEARANCE TO BE DISCUSSED
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THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO POSTPONE THE CLEARANCE OF HING WAH STREET NULLAH DECK.

THE PROPOSED CLEARANCE WAS APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON MARCH 6 TO BE CARRIED OUT IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, PEOPLE AFFECTED HAD FORWARDED THEIR REQUEST TO THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING FOR A THREE-YEAR POSTPONEMENT.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE IMPROVEMENT OF LIGHTING AT REAR LANES; IMPROVEMENT OF FACILITIES AT THE SLOPE BEHIND SO UK BUS TERMINUS; RENOVATION OF PUBLICITY CUBES; PLACEMENT OF PLANTERS ON PAVEMENT AT KING LAM STREET; AND REPAIRING OF A FENCE AT KING LAM STREET SITTING-OUT AREA.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TOMORROW AT 2.15 PM IN THE DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, 39 TONKIN STREET, KOWLOON.

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TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO MEET
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THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED REVISION OF THE SERVICE FOR NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 73.

A PROPOSAL HAD BEEN MADE THAT THE ROUTE, RUNNING BETWEEN FOOK TAK STREET AND TONG YUEN AT SUNG SHAN SAN TSUEN, SHOULD EXTEND ITS SERVICE FURTHER UPHILL TO TERMINATE OUTSIDE TUNG KONG STORE.

IT HAD ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THE ROUTE SHOULD OPERATE BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND TONG TAU PO DURING THE MORNING RUSH HOURS TO BETTER SERVE RESIDENTS IN THE AREA.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 10 AM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD ON THE 13TH FLOOR, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG.

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BEST YOUTH PROJECT AWARD CEREMONY
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, MRS ROSANNA TAM, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE +BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME AWARD 1986-87+ PRESENTATION CEREMONY ON SUNDAY (MAY 3).

THE SCHEME, ESTABLISHED IN 1974, AIMS TO ENABLE YOUTH GROUPS TO INITIATE AND IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE AND MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS WITH SUBSIDIES FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT. OUTSTANDING PROJECTS FROM EACH DISTRICT THEN TAKE PART IN THE TERRITORY-WIDE BEST AWARD COMPETITION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE HALL OF THE HENRY G LEONG YAUMATEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, 60 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET, YAU MA TEI, AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY.

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TSING YI BRIDGE CLOSED FOR MONITORING

TSING YI BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ON SUNDAY (MAY 3) FOR SEVERAL HOURS TO ALLOW ITS STRUCTURE TO BE MONITORED.

THE BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 12.30 AM TO 2.30 AM- 6.30 AM TO 7.30 AM- AND 3 PM TO 4 PM.

DURING THE PERIOD OF CLOSURE, THE BRIDGE WILL BE RE-OPENED TO GENERAL TRAFFIC AT FIVE-MINUTE INTERVALS AND IMMEDIATELY FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES.

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ROAD CLOSED, PROHIBITED ZONE SET UP

TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE, KORNHILL ROAD IN QUARRY BAY WILL BE CLOSED TO EASTBOUND TRAFFIC DAILY FROM 1 AM TO 5.30 AM ON SATURDAY (MAY 2) AND MAY 3.

MOTORISTS HEADING FOR SHAU KEI WAN AND FURTHER EAST WILL HAVE TO USE KING'S ROAD.

MEANWHILE, FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY, NO VEHICLE EXCEEDING FOUR TONNES GROSS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER FUK KWAN AVENUE IN TAI HANG.

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