



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1991

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FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1991

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GOVERNOR LEAVES FOR DUTY VISIT TO LONDON

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, LEFT LAST (THURSDAY) NIGHT FOR LONDON ON A REGULAR DUTY VISIT.

SIR DAVID WILL MEET THE PRIME MINISTER, MR JOHN MAJOR; THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, MR DOUGLAS HURD; THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, LORD CAITHNESS AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

HE WILL ALSO MEET MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA IN LONDON.

SIR DAVID WOULD DISCUSS A WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES WITH MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS DURING HIS VISIT.

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON THE AIRPORT ISSUE, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WOULD GIVE HIS VIEWS AND TO THE EXTENT THAT HE COULD, LOCAL PEOPLE'S VIEWS ON THE ISSUE.

"THERE ARE OF COURSE A DIVERSITY OF VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT LIKE EVERYTHING, BUT I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THE GENERAL VIEW IN HONG KONG IS THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO GET ON WITH BUILDING AN AIRPORT," HE SAID.

"BUT WE WANT TO KNOW THAT WE CAN DO IT, CARRY THROUGH THE PROJECT IN A SENSIBLE WAY BEFORE WE ACTUALLY LAUNCH INTO IT," HE ADDED.

"THERE IS NO POINT IN STARTING OFF ON SOMETHING LIKE THAT UNLESS YOU KNOW THAT YOU'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT THE WHOLE THING THROUGH," SIR DAVID SAID.

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PDB SEES NO REASON TO INTERVENE IN MID STREAM OPERATIONS

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THE PORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD HAS ACCEPTED A RECOMMENDATION FROM ITS MID STREAM OPERATIONS COMMITTEE THAT NO "ARTIFICIAL" RESTRAINTS SHOULD BE PLACED ON MID STREAM CARGO HANDLING ACTIVITIES.

THE BOARD'S CHAIRMAN, MR JOHN GRAY, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE BOARD HAD ALSO ACCEPTED THE COMMITTEE'S ASSESSMENT OF PORT CARGO FORECASTS UP TO THE YEAR 2011.

THESE SUGGEST THAT TOTAL VOLUMES OF PORT CARGO COULD BE EXPECTED TO RISE TO 218 MILLION TONNES BY 2006 AND 284 MILLION TONNES BY 2011.

/GIVEN THAT

GIVEN THAT THERE WOULD BE INCREASING CONTAINERISATION, UP TO 20 ADDITIONAL CONTAINER BERTHS WOULD BE NEEDED BY THE YEAR 2006, INCREASING OUR LAND-BASED CONTAINER CAPACITY TO SOME 13 MILLION TEU'S (20-FOOT EQUIVALENT UNIT). THIS CAPACITY MAY NEED TO REACH 26 MILLION TEU'S BY 2011.

IN ACCEPTING THE REPORT, ALL THREE OF THE COMMITTEES SET UP BY THE BOARD AT ITS FIRST MEETING IN AUGUST LAST YEAR -- THE MID STREAM OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, THE RIVER TRADE CARGO ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE, AND THE SHIP REPAIR FACILITIES COMMITTEE -- HAVE NOW COMPLETED THEIR TASKS.

TO PROVIDE PROPER IMPETUS TO THE BOARD'S FUTURE WORK, TWO STANDING COMMITTEES -- ONE DEALING WITH PORT LAND AND TRANSPORT MATTERS AND ONE WITH CONTAINERS -- HAVE RECENTLY BEEN ESTABLISHED.

THE MAIN FINDINGS OF THE RIVER TRADE CARGO ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE WERE THAT:

- * PRESENT RIVER TRADE CARGO FACILITIES ARE OF THE CORRECT TYPE FOR THE TRADE, AND SOME SPARE CAPACITY IS PRESENT;
- * PRIVATE WHARVES AND TEMPORARY WATERFRONTS, FACILITIES FOR SAND/AGGREGATES, AND PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS WILL NEED FURTHER DEVELOPMENT BY 1993, 1994 AND 1995 RESPECTIVELY; AND
- * A RIVER TRADE TERMINAL IN TUEN MUN IS DESIRABLE.

AS REGARDS SHIP REPAIR, THE BOARD'S COMMITTEE REAFFIRMED THAT THE PORT OF HONG KONG REQUIRES SHIP REPAIR FACILITIES FOR BOTH OCEAN GOING SHIPS AND LOCAL CRAFT.

AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF COMPETING PRIORITIES FOR LAND AND LABOUR, THE COMMITTEE CONCLUDED THAT THE SCALE OF EXISTING SHIP REPAIR FACILITIES IS LIKELY TO BE INADEQUATE TO MEET FUTURE DEMAND AND THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONSIDER THE NEED:

- * TO PROVIDE IN ITS INFRASTRUCTURAL PLAN, FOR THE DOCKYARD INDUSTRY TO EXPAND;
- * TO IDENTIFY SITES FOR ADDITIONAL SHIPYARDS; AND
- * TO ENSURE THAT THERE ARE SUFFICIENT SITES PROVIDED FOR BOATYARDS.

THE COMMITTEE ADVISED THAT THE POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF SHIP REPAIR CAPACITY IN CHINA IS UNLIKELY TO HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL CAPACITY IN HONG KONG, BUT NOTED THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSTRAINT IS AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF TRAINED LABOUR.

AS REGARDS MID STREAM OPERATIONS, MR JOHN GRAY SAID BOARD MEMBERS AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO ARTIFICIAL RESTRAINTS IMPOSED.

HE SAID THE MAJORITY OF BOARD MEMBERS WERE OF THE VIEW THAT IT WAS NEITHER NECESSARY NOR DESIRABLE TO PLACE RESTRAINTS ON CONTAINER HANDLING IN THE STREAM SO AS TO DIVERT MORE VESSELS TO THE CONTAINER TERMINALS.

IN THE MEDIUM TO LONG TERM THE DIVERSION OF CONTAINER VESSELS FROM THE STREAM TO TERMINALS WAS INEVITABLE BECAUSE OF OPERATIONAL RESTRICTIONS CAUSED BY INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND BECAUSE THE BUOYAGE SYSTEM WAS EXPECTED TO REACH FULL CAPACITY BY 1996.

HE SAID WHILST THE TERMINAL OPERATORS WOULD CLEARLY HAVE LIKED THIS DIVERSION TO TAKE PLACE EARLIER, THIS COULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY IMPOSING ARTIFICIAL RESTRAINTS ON MID STREAM OPERATIONS, SOMETHING THE BOARD DID NOT BELIEVE WAS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

IN THE MEANTIME, SHORT TERM LAND SUPPORT FOR MID STREAM OPERATIONS SHOULD BE PHASED OUT AND LAND WITH A MORE PERMANENT TENURE PHASED IN.

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LEVEL OF DUTY-FREE FUEL FOR GOODS VEHICLES TO BE REGULARISED

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A NEW SET OF REGULATIONS SETTING OUT THE RATE OF DUTY-FREE CONCESSION FOR FUEL IN THE FUEL TANKS OF GOOD VEHICLES ARRIVING FROM CHINA WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON AUGUST 1, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1991, WHICH ARE GAZETTED TODAY, ARE DESIGNED TO PUT AN END TO AN ABUSE BY SOME DRIVERS OF GOODS VEHICLES WHO BRING IN LARGE QUANTITIES OF DUTY-FREE FUEL FROM CHINA FOR RESALE IN HONG KONG, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AT PRESENT, FUEL IN WHATEVER QUANTITY IN THE FUEL TANKS OF ANY VEHICLES ARRIVING FROM CHINA IS EXEMPT FROM DUTY.

"AS THE RETAIL PRICE OF DIESEL IN HONG KONG IS CURRENTLY 50 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN CHINA, SOME CROSS-BORDER GOODS VEHICLES, PARTICULARLY DUMP TRUCKS, HAVE BEEN DELIBERATELY FITTED WITH ENLARGED FUEL TANKS SO AS TO BRING IN LARGE QUANTITIES OF DUTY-FREE DIESEL FOR RESALE IN HONG KONG," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT REVENUE LOSS TO THE GOVERNMENT IS ABOUT \$72 MILLION A YEAR.

UNDER THE NEW REGULATIONS, THE RATE OF DUTY-FREE CONCESSION FOR A GOODS VEHICLE WITH CYLINDER CAPACITY BELOW 3,000 CUBIC CM IS SET AT 100 LITRES, THAT FOR VEHICLES WITH CYLINDER CAPACITY BETWEEN 3,000 CUBIC CM AND 10,000 CUBIC CM IS 200 LITRES AND THAT FOR GOODS VEHICLES WITH OVER 10,000 CM CYLINDER CAPACITY, 300 LITRES.

"WHEN SETTING THE RATE OF DUTY-FREE CONCESSION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY TO ASCERTAIN THE USUAL FUEL TANK CAPACITY OF GOODS VEHICLES," HE SAID.

"FUEL IN THE NORMAL-SIZE FUEL TANKS OF GOODS VEHICLES WILL CONTINUE TO BE EXEMPT FROM DUTY AS THE QUANTITY OF FUEL WILL NOT EXCEED THE DUTY-FREE CONCESSION.

/"THE FUEL

"THE FUEL EXEMPT FROM DUTY IS FOR USE IN THE FUEL EXEMPT FROM DUTY IS FOR USE IN THAT VEHICLED ONLY AND RESALE OF THE FUEL IN HONG KONG IS ILLEGAL," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

STARTING FROM EARLY NEXT (JULY) MONTH, LEAFLETS EXPLAINING THE NEW MEASURES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO DRIVERS OF GOODS VEHICLES AT CUSTOMS CONTROL POINTS AT MAN KAM TO, SHA TAU KOK AND LOK MA CHAU.

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BUILDINGS IN MONG KOK DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY HAS DECLARED THE BUILDING AT NO. 930 CANTON ROAD IN MONG KOK AS DANGEROUS AND NO. 932 OF THE SAME STREET LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY (FRIDAY), THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR (PGBS) SAID THE STRUCTURES WERE THREE-STORY PRE-WAR BUILDINGS, WITH NO. 930 CONSTRUCTED OF TIMBER ROOF AND FLOORS AND NO. 932 CONSTRUCTED OF CONCRETE BEAMS, FLOORS AND ROOF.

BOTH BUILDINGS HAVE LOADBEARING BRICK AND MASONRY WALLS AND WITH PROJECTING VERANDAHS ON THE UPPER FLOORS, AND SHARING A COMMON STAIRCASE.

THE BUILDINGS UNDERWENT REPAIRS IN 1979 AND HAVE BEEN PLACED UNDER PERIODIC SURVEILLANCE BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE SINCE 1982. THE BUILDING AT NO. 932 WAS REPAIRED AGAIN IN 1987.

AN INSPECTION OF THE BUILDING AT NO. 930 IN APRIL THIS YEAR SHOWED THAT MOVEMENT OF THE STRUCTURE HAD OCCURRED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS AND DETERIORATION IN THE CONCRETE BEAMS AND FLOOR SLABS AND TIMBER FLOORS AND STAIRS AND THE ROOF WAS IN EVIDENCE.

FURTHERMORE DISTORTION OF THE VERANDAH SUPPORTING PIERS ON THE PAVEMENT HAS BEEN OBSERVED.

IT IS NOTED THAT WITH THE APPARENT CONTINUING MOVEMENT OF THE BUILDING THESE PIERS ARE MOST LIKELY BE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL HORIZONTAL PRESSURES THAT THEY WERE NOT DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND.

THE PGBS SAID THE BUILDING AT NO. 930 HAD DETERIORATED TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT IT WAS NOW CONSIDERED TO BE BEYOND VIABLE REPAIR AND SHOULD BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED AS BEING DANGEROUS, IN ORDER TO PROTECT LIVES AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

HE SAID THE BUILDING AT NO. 932 WHILE IN A BETTER CONDITION, WAS ALSO SUBJECT TO APPARENT MOVEMENT AND IT WAS FELT THAT IT COULD NOT SAFELY WITHSTAND THE DEMOLITION OF NO. 930, AND, THEREFORE SHOULD BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED AS BEING LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON AUGUST 21 WERE POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY.

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MEANWHILE, THE THREE-STORY PRE-WAR BUILDINGS AT NO. 446-448 RECLAMATION STREET IN MONG KOK WERE ALSO DECLARED LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

THE PGBS SAID THE BUILDINGS WERE CONSTRUCTED OF LOADBEARING BRICK AND MASONRY WALLS WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE FLOORS, BEAMS AND ROOF AND PROJECTING VERANDAHS ON THE UPPER FLOORS, AND SHARING A COMMON STAIRCASE.

THE BUILDINGS UNDERWENT REPAIR IN 1983 AND HAVE BEEN UNDER PERIODIC SURVEILLANCE BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE SINCE THEN.

AN INSPECTION OF THE BUILDINGS IN APRIL THIS YEAR SHOWED THAT THE STRUCTURES WERE IN A VERY DILAPIDATED STATE WITH CRACKS AND SPALLING OF THE CONCRETE BEAMS AND FLOOR SLABS PARTICULARLY OF GROUND FLOOR, MEZZANINE AND SECOND FLOORS.

IN ADDITION, MOVEMENT OF THE BUILDINGS HAD OCCURRED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS AND APPEARED TO BE CONTINUING.

THE BUILDINGS ARE NOW CONSIDERED TO BE BEYOND VIABLE REPAIR AND SHOULD BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED AS BEING LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS, IN ORDER TO PROTECT LIVES AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON AUGUST 21 WERE POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY.

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MARKET MAKERS APPOINTED TO SFC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED 12 MARKET MEMBERS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AC) OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (SFC) FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR WITH EFFECT FROM JUNE 1 UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES ORDINANCE, THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK, ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

NINE OF THEM ARE RE-APPOINTED FROM THE PRESENT MEMBERSHIP. THEY ARE MR RONALD ARCULLI, MR CHAN SUN-SUN, MR VICTOR FUNG KWOK-KING, MR RAYMOND KWOK PING-LUEN, MR PETER NORRIS, MR LINCOLN SOO HUNG-LEUNG, MR CHARLES SOO CHEN-JEN, MR ROBERT THOMAS AND MR ZHANG XUE-YAO.

THE THREE NEW APPOINTEES ARE MR RICHARD MARGOLIS, MR WATARU YAMAGUCHI AND MR LINCOLN YUNG.

THE AC CONSISTS OF 15 MEMBERS, NAMELY THE 12 GOVERNOR-APPOINTED MARKET MEMBERS, TWO SFC EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY THE SFC, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SFC WHO PRESIDES AT AC MEETINGS.

"THE AC ADVISES THE SFC ON POLICY MATTERS RELATED TO THE MARKETS. ITS MEMBERS ARE DRAWN FROM A WIDE SPECTRUM OF THE SECURITIES, FUTURES AND INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INDUSTRIES, AS WELL AS FROM THE RELEVANT PROFESSIONS," MR NENDICK SAID.

"THE AC PROVIDES A READY ACCESS TO THE SFC OF OUTSIDE EXPERT ADVICE, IN PARTICULAR FROM SECURITIES MARKET PRACTITIONERS.

"IT THEREFORE PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT LINK BETWEEN THE SFC AND THE MARKETS," HE ADDED.

MR RICHARD MARGOLIS IS THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SMITH NEW COURT FAR EAST LTD.

MR WATARU YAMAGUCHI IS THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF DAIWA SECURITIES.

MR LINCOLN YUNG IS THE DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR OF NANYANG HOLDINGS LTD.

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ROADS PROPOSED FOR SHEK O SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT
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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO BUILD NEW ROADS AT SHEK O, HONG KONG ISLAND TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SEWERS AND A SCREENING PLANT FOR IMPROVING BEACH WATER QUALITY THERE.

THE PROPOSED ROADWORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A VEHICULAR ACCESS FROM SHEK O ROAD TO THE PROPOSED SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT AT ROCKY BAY, AND A FOOTPATH ALONG THE EASTERN BEACH AT ROCKY BAY.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MARCH NEXT YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1993.

FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD, AN 80-METRE SECTION OF SHEK O ROAD AT SHEK O HEADLAND WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM DAILY TO FACILITATE THE SEWER CONSTRUCTION.

EMERGENCY ACCESS TO THE HEADLAND WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN REQUIRED.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY). THE NOTICE CAN ALSO BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE.

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC CAN ALSO GO TO THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO INSPECT THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;
- * HONG KONG SOUTH DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 20TH FLOOR, SOUTHERN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI; AND
- * SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, SHOP 25, GROUND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

/ANY PERSON

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ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 20 THIS YEAR.

HE SHOULD DESCRIBE HIS INTEREST AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE WORKS OR THE USE.

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NO SIGNIFICANT POLLUTION DONE BY DUCK AND GOOSE FARMS
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THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED THAT GOOSE AND DUCK FARMS DO NOT NORMALLY CAUSE SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, AND THEREFORE IT FEELS THAT GOOSE AND DUCK FARMERS NEED NOT APPLY FOR ANY LIVESTOCK KEEPING LICENCES.

SINCE SUCH FARMS DO NOT CAUSE SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE, THEY SHOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENT OF ANY EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE OR CAPITAL GRANT PAID TO ASSIST FARMERS WHO NEED TO INSTALL LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SYSTEM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT HAD STRESSED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROSECUTION OF SUCH FARMERS SO LONG AS THEY CONTINUED TO USE EXISTING OPERATING METHODS, WHICH DID NOT CAUSE ANY SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

MEANWHILE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID: "THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT GOOSE AND DUCK FARMS CAUSE SIGNIFICANT POLLUTION TO HONG KONG'S RIVERS AND STREAMS.

"THE MAJORITY OF SUCH FARMS ARE OPERATED ON ENCLOSED PONDS WHICH ARE BASICALLY ZERO EFFLUENT DISCHARGE SYSTEMS.

"SOME OPERATE ON A FREE-RANGE BASIS ON LAND: WHILE THESE PRODUCE SOME EFFLUENT, THIS IS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE UNACCEPTABLY SEVERE."

HE SAID: "WHERE GOOSE OR DUCK FARMERS WISH TO GO OUT OF BUSINESS BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN THE INDUSTRY UNCONNECTED WITH INSTALLATION OF LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SYSTEMS, THEY SHOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR CASH ASSISTANCE FROM THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME, WHICH WAS NOT AGREED BY THE LEGISLATION FOR THIS SORT OF SITUATION."

AT A MEETING WITH THE GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY (THURSDAY), DUCK FARMER REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THEY MIGHT STILL BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION, DESPITE THE INDICATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT THAT PROSECUTIONS WOULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN.

THEY ALSO SAID DUCK AND GOOSE KEEPING WOULD CAUSE POLLUTION PROBLEMS ANYHOW AND SHOULD, LIKE PIG AND CHICKEN KEEPING, BE CONTROLLED UNDER THE NEW LICENSING SCHEME AND BE ENTITLED TO CAPITAL GRANT, OR TO EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE WHENEVER ANY FARM WENT OUT OF BUSINESS.

/THE GOVERNMENT

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WISHED TO BE AS FLEXIBLE AS POSSIBLE.

HE SAID: "SINCE THOSE GOOSE AND DUCK FARMS OPERATING ON LAND DO DISCHARGE SOME EFFLUENT INTO STREAMS, THE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE REQUEST OF THE FARMERS AND GRANT CAPITAL GRANT OR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE TO LAND-FARMERS.

"HOWEVER, THIS COULD NOT BE AGREED FOR POND-FARMERS SINCE THEY WERE OPERATING WHAT WAS BASICALLY A ZERO-EFFLUENT SYSTEM."

HE EMPHASISED THAT CAPITAL GRANT OR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE WAS NOT COMPENSATION OF ANY KIND. TO GRANT CASH ASSISTANCE TO GOOSE AND DUCK FARMERS WHO NEEDED NOT DO ANYTHING IN RESPECT OF INSTALLATION OF WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEMS WOULD DEFEAT THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHEME, AND WOULD BE A WASTE OF TAXPAYERS' MONEY.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROCESS APPLICATIONS FROM DUCK AND GOOSE FARMERS FOR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN INVITED TO APPLY.

WIDE PUBLIC CONSULTATION WITH FARMERS WILL CONTINUE SO THAT THEIR VIEWS CAN BE CONSOLIDATED AND SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION BEFORE A FINAL DECISION IS TO BE MADE ON ANY CHANGES TO LEGISLATION.

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TWO NT LOTS FOR SALE BY AUCTION

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS OFFERING TWO LAND LOTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR SALE BY AUCTION ON JULY 17 AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE.

THE AUCTION WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

LOCATED AT AREA 47A, FANLING, THE FIRST LOT MEASURES ABOUT 13,530 SQUARE METRES. IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN) PURPOSES, BUT RESIDENTIAL ONLY ABOVE LEVEL THREE.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 43,269 SQUARE METRES IS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1994.

THE OTHER LOT, LOCATED AT AREA 26D, KWAI CHUNG, IS A 1,536-SQUARE-METRE SITE DESIGNATED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES, EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADES.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 4,608 SQUARE METRES WITHIN 36 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF AGREEMENT.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND SALE PLANS INSPECTED AT, THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE KOWLOON DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

CONDITIONS OF SALE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, TSUEN WAN, SAI KUNG, KWAI TSING, TAI PO, NORTH AND ISLANDS.

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NEW LITHOTRIPTER INSTALLED IN QMH

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MANY PATIENTS WITH STONES IN THE URINARY TRACT WILL BE SPARED THE RISK AND PAIN OF SURGERY FOLLOWING THE INSTALLATION OF A LITHOTRIPTER FOR EXTRA-CORPOREAL SHOCK WAVE LITHOTRIPSY FOR TREATMENT OF STONES IN QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL.

THE EQUIPMENT IS DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB (RHKJC) AND IS THE FIRST LITHOTRIPTER INSTALLED IN A GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL.

IT WAS TODAY (FRIDAY) OFFICIALLY HANDED OVER TO THE NEW LITHOTRIPTER UNIT OF QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL BY MR CHAU CHAM-SON, STEWARD OF THE RHKJC WHICH HAS GENEROUSLY DONATED \$16 MILLION TO THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER ACCESSORIES.

AT THE HANDING-OVER CEREMONY, THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT THANKED THE RHKJC FOR ITS GENEROSITY, THROUGH WHICH MEDICAL SERVICES WILL BE IMPROVED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE NEW MACHINE WILL BE USED MAINLY FOR STONES IN THE URINARY TRACT.

"THE LITHOTRIPTER, WHICH IS ONE OF THE THIRD GENERATION MODELS, IS MUCH IMPROVED THAN OLDER DESIGNS.

"IT WILL HAVE BOTH X-RAY AND ULTRASOUND SYSTEM FOR LOCALISATION SO THAT ALL STONES, WHETHER THEY ARE RADIO-OPAQUE OR NOT, CAN BE DETECTED EASILY."

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW LITHOTRIPTER IS A VERY POWERFUL MACHINE AND STONE DISINTEGRATION CAN USUALLY BE ACHIEVED IN ONE TREATMENT.

MOREOVER, TREATMENT IS PERFORMED WITHOUT ANAESTHESIA IN OVER 90 PER CENT OF PATIENTS.

"SOME PATIENTS REQUIRE ONLY AN INJECTION OF PAIN-KILLING DRUG AND MANY DO NOT NEED ANY DRUGS AT ALL DURING THE TREATMENT.

"THIS MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR PATIENTS TO BE DISCHARGED ON THE SAME DAY. THE STONES, FRAGMENTED INTO SMALL PIECES, WILL BE PASSED OUT WITH URINE SPONTANEOUSLY," HE EXPLAINED.

PATIENTS WILL USUALLY EXPERIENCE SOME REDDISH URINE AND MILD PAIN WHEN FRAGMENTS ARE PASSED OUT, AND COMPLICATIONS ARE RARE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE SCOPE OF TREATMENT MAY BE EXTENDED TO STONES IN OTHER BODY SYSTEM SUCH AS BILE DUCT STONES, WHICH IS A COMMON DISEASE IN THIS LOCALITY.

APART FROM SERVING PATIENTS FROM HONG KONG ISLAND, THE NEW MACHINE WILL PROVIDE TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS FROM OTHER REGIONS IN THE TERRITORY.

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PROPOSED DREDGING AND RECLAMATION AT SIU CHIK SHA

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO DREDGE AND CONSTRUCT A VERTICAL SEAWALL AND CARRY OUT RECLAMATION AT SIU CHIK SHA IN TSEUNG KWAN O TO PROVIDE A BARGING POINT FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING EXPLOSIVES AND REFUSE.

THE SEAWALL WILL BE ABOUT 80 METRES LONG. RECLAMATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 7,975 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED.

WORK IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN AUGUST THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 1992.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 20 THIS YEAR.

THE NOTICE OF SUCH OBJECTION SHOULD DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

THE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER) AND AT THE TSEUNG KWAN O DISTRICT SUB-OFFICE, UNIT 121-122, GROUND FLOOR, PO NING HOUSE, PO LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O, SAI KUNG.

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DRAGON BOAT RACE FOR NEW YORK CITY

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THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK YESTERDAY (THURSDAY, NEW YORK TIME) ANNOUNCED THAT THE FIRST-EVER, TRADITIONAL DRAGON BOAT RACE WILL BE HELD IN NEW YORK ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 4.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK, THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, MR KERRY MCGLYNN, SAID: "THERE ARE ALREADY TREMENDOUS COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL LINKS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND HONG KONG, AND THESE TIES ARE GETTING STRONGER.

/"WE WANTED

"WE WANTED TO PUT ON THIS DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL FOR NEW YORK TO SHOW ONE OF THE MANY COLOURFUL SIDES OF HONG KONG, AND TO SHARE WITH NEW YORK THE DRAMA, TRADITION AND FUN THAT HONG KONG HAS ALWAYS ENJOYED WITH THIS EVENT.

"WE HOPE THAT THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW SUMMER TRADITION IN NEW YORK."

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK, MR JOHN MCLEAN, SAID THIS EXCITING RACE OF CHINESE DRAGON BOATS IN THE HUDSON RIVER WOULD PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE SOMETHING NEW AND DIFFERENT IN NEW YORK CITY'S DIVERSE CULTURAL EVENTS CALENDAR.

THE WINNING TEAM WOULD BE FLOWN TO HONG KONG BY DELTA AIR LINES TO REPRESENT THE UNITED STATES IN THE HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL RACES ON JUNE 13 AND 14 NEXT YEAR, SAID MR JEFF NIVEN, DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF MARKETING FOR DELTA AIR LINES, THE OFFICIAL CARRIER OF THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL.

DRAGON BOAT TEAMS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING CREWS FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, THE WESLEYAN DRAGON BOAT ASSOCIATION IN CONNECTICUT, THE VIRGINIA DRAGON BOAT TEAM, THE BAY AREA OF SAN FRANCISCO AND AN ALL-WOMEN'S TEAM FROM PORTLAND, OREGON, ARE SCHEDULED TO COMPETE, SAID MR W. RODERICK RICHARDS, CHAIRMAN OF THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

SEVERAL TEAMS FROM NEW YORK CITY, INCLUDING ONE FROM THE NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT, ARE TO TAKE PART IN THE REGATTA OFF THE WORLD FINANCIAL CENTRE AND BATTERY PARK CITY IN LOWER MANHATTAN.

ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. DRAGON BOAT ASSOCIATION, MR BOB MORRO, THE REGATTA, WHICH BEGINS AT 12 NOON, WOULD BE HELD IN ELIMINATION HEATS OF SEVERAL BOATS RACING THE 640-METRE COURSE BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND NORTH COVES WITH A FINAL RACE DETERMINING THE FASTEST CREW IN THE WINNER-TAKE-ALL COMPETITION.

AS PART OF THE HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL, A CHINESE VILLAGE WILL BE SET UP ALONG THE WORLD FINANCIAL CENTRE AND WILL INCLUDE BOOTHS OFFERING TRADITIONAL CHINESE FOOD AND CRAFTS.

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TSEUNG KWAN O CLINIC TO START OPERATION NEXT MONTH

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THE NEW TSEUNG KWAN O JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC, LOCATED AT PO LAM ROAD IN TSEUNG KWAN O, WILL BEGIN OPERATION FROM JULY 4.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE CLINIC WILL PROVIDE GENERAL OUT-PATIENT, MATERNAL AND CHILD SERVICES TO TSEUNG KWAN O NEW TOWN RESIDENTS.

THE NEW CLINIC WILL BRING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CLINICS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO 53.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS DONATED \$6.75 MILLION FOR THE PROJECT.

OPERATION HOURS OF THE VARIOUS SERVICES OF THE CLINIC ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SERVICE		OPERATION HOURS
GENERAL OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT	MONDAY - FRIDAY	9 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 5 PM
	SATURDAY	9 AM - 1 PM
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRE		
* CHILD HEALTH SERVICE	MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY	9 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 5 PM
	TUESDAY AND FRIDAY	2 PM - 5 PM
* FAMILY PLANNING AND POST-NATAL SERVICE	MONDAY	2 PM - 5 PM
* ANTE-NATAL SERVICE (OLD CASES)	TUESDAY	9 AM - 1 PM
* ANTE-NATAL SERVICE (NEW CASES)	THURSDAY	2 PM - 5 PM
* FAMILY PLANNING	WEDNESDAY	2 PM - 5 PM
	FRIDAY	9 AM - 1 PM
* COMPREHENSIVE OBSERVATION SERVICE	MONDAY TO FRIDAY	9 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 5 PM
	SATURDAY	9 AM - 1 PM

ALL UNITS WILL BE CLOSED ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	20.6.91	380
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	21.6.91	+225
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-225
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 114.6 *+0.1* 21.6.91		

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

	20.6.91	21.6.91
MATURING IN 1 WEEK	7.82 PCT	7.67 PCT
1 MONTH	7.74 PCT	7.62 PCT
3 MONTHS	7.65 PCT	7.55 PCT
6 MONTHS	7.63 PCT	7.55 PCT
12 MONTHS	7.59 PCT	7.56 PCT
TOTAL BILLS TRANSFERRED	1,902 MN	3,149 MN

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