



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1985

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GOVERNOR STRESSES CLOSE TRADE LINKS WITH U.S.

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THE NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR THE AMERICAS OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION IS A FURTHER SYMBOL OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG'S CLOSE FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL LINKS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID THIS AT THE OPENING CEREMONY IN NEW YORK THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE OPENING OF THE +FINE NEW HEADQUARTERS+ UNDERLINED THE CONTINUING DYNAMIC ROLE WHICH HONG KONG EXPECTED TO PLAY IN THE YEARS TO COME.

IT WAS A DISTINGUISHED GROUP WHICH GATHERED OUTSIDE THE BUILDING WITH EVERYONE COOPERATING EXCEPT THE WEATHER. SNOW COVERED THE GROUND AND CONTINUED TO FALL HEAVILY DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY, WITH THE TEMPERATURE AROUND FIVE DEGREES BELOW ZERO (CELSIUS).

A BRIGHT RED RIBBON WAS STRETCHED TIGHTLY BETWEEN TWO STANCHIONS AT THE DOORWAY, WITH RED BUNTING DECORATING VARIOUS SURROUNDING WALLS.

THE GOVERNOR AND LADY YOUDE, WHO WERE ELEGANTLY DRESSED FOR THE OCCASION, WERE MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, MR MICHAEL SANDBERG, AND INTRODUCED TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BANK'S PARTY.

THEY WERE FOLLOWED BY NEW YORK MAYOR ED KOCH. THE MAYOR THEN SPOKE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND NEW YORK CITY, STATING THAT THEY WERE VERY MUCH ALIKE, BOTH BEING MULTI-ETHNIC AND BOOMING. BOTH CITIES, HE SAID, DO A THRIVING BUSINESS IN TEXTILES, FASHION AND PRINTING.

THE GOVERNOR THEN DELIVERED HIS SPEECH, WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY A LION DANCE. SIR EDWARD DOTTED ONE EYE OF THE LION WHILE MAYOR KOCH DOTTED THE OTHER AND THE MULTI-COLOURED LION CAME TO LIFE AMID THE DIN OF EXPLODING STRINGS OF FIRECRACKERS. THE BRIGHT YELLOW AND RED LION WAS BROUGHT IN FROM NEW YORK'S BUSTLING CHINATOWN WITH EIGHT CHINESE YOUNGSTERS.

AFTER THE LION DANCE, SIR EDWARD CUT THE RIBBON TO DECLARE THE BANK OPEN. THE CEREMONY ENDED WITH A RECEPTION.

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF SIR EDWARD'S ADDRESS AT THE OPENING:

+MR SANDBERG, MAYOR KOCH, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

+THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORDS OF WELCOME.

+I TOO AM GLAD TO BE HERE TODAY FOR THE OPENING OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION'S NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR THE AMERICAS.

/+THIS IS .....

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+THIS IS AN IMPORTANT OCCASION. IT DOES REFLECT THE GROWING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NEW YORK AND HONG KONG AS TWO OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST FINANCIAL CENTRES AND AS SUPPORTERS OF FREE ENTERPRISE. HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL LINKS WITH THE UNITED STATES ARE CLOSE AND OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO US. I WARMLY WELCOME THIS FURTHER SYMBOL OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE LINKS.

+IT IS JUST A YEAR AGO THAT I AND A NUMBER OF MY HONG KONG COLLEAGUES VISITED NEW YORK TO PROMOTE FURTHER THE BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US AND ASSURE YOU OF OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE. THE OPENING OF THESE FINE NEW HEADQUARTERS UNDERLINES THE CONTINUING DYNAMIC ROLE WHICH HONG KONG EXPECTS TO PLAY IN THE YEARS TO COME.

+I CONGRATULATE YOU, MR SANDBERG, THE BANK AND ALL THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH THE OPENING TODAY AND WISH THE BANK CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ITS OPERATIONS.+

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HK HOPES FOR FAVOURABLE U.S. REPLY ON TEXTILES,  
GOVERNOR SAYS AT HK BANK N.Y. OFFICE OPENING

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HONG KONG WAS HOPING FOR A FAVOURABLE REPLY BEFORE LONG TO REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REGULATIONS FOR TEXTILE IMPORTS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID IN NEW YORK TODAY.

THE REGULATIONS, SIR EDWARD SAID, HAD DISRUPTED LEGITIMATE TRADE UNDER THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT AND HAD CAUSED MUCH HARDSHIP TO HONG KONG'S KNITWEAR INDUSTRY.

THE GOVERNOR WAS SPEAKING AT THE LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION AT THE PIERRE HOTEL, NEW YORK, TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE BANK'S HEADQUARTERS FOR THE AMERICAS.

POINTING OUT +THE WELL KNOWN FACT THAT HONG KONG FIRMLY BELIEVES IN, AND ACTIVELY PREACHES, FREE TRADE,+ SIR EDWARD SAID HONG KONG WAS +WIDE OPEN TO U.S. IMPORTS.+

+AND ALL MAY COMPETE IN OUR MARKET PLACE WHETHER WITH GOODS, OR FINANCIAL AND OTHER SERVICES. WE ADHERE STRICTLY TO THE DISCIPLINES OF THE WORLD'S TRADING SYSTEM, IN PARTICULAR THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE AND THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT.

+ONE RECENT PROBLEM HAS BEEN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REGULATIONS FOR TEXTILE IMPORTS INTRODUCED LAST AUGUST BY THE UNITED STATES,+ HE SAID.

/HONG KONG .....

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HONG KONG HOPED, THE GOVERNOR SAID, THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD RESPOND FAVOURABLY BEFORE LONG TO HONG KONG'S REPRESENTATIONS WITHIN THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF OUR BILATERAL AGREEMENT AND THE MFA. +

IN THIS CONTEXT, SIR EDWARD SAID, HONG KONG WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO CONTINUE TO ACCEPT HONG KONG AS A BENEFICIARY OF THE U.S. GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES UNDER THE RECENTLY ENACTED TRADE AND TARIFF ACT.

+THIS STATUS IS IMPORTANT TO US,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

+IN 1983 ABOUT U.S.\$1.1 BILLION WORTH OF IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG BENEFITED FROM THE GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES.

HE NOTED THAT THERE WERE PROVISIONS IN THE ACT REQUIRING THE U.S. PRESIDENT TO REVIEW THE PRODUCTS AND IMPORTS FROM BENEFICIARY TERRITORIES UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM, AND SAID HONG KONG WOULD GIVE ITS FULL COOPERATION TO ANY SUCH REVIEW.

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT THE U.S. WAS THE LARGEST SOURCE OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, ACCOUNTING FOR 54 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL.

THERE WERE 130 FACTORIES IN HONG KONG WHOLLY OR PARTLY OWNED BY U.S. INTERESTS, EMPLOYING 39 700 WORKERS, OR OVER FOUR PER CENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE. THEIR SALES IN 1983 AMOUNTED TO U.S.\$1.68 BILLION, NEARLY 10 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE YEAR, SIR EDWARD SAID.

BY ANY STANDARDS, HE SAID, HONG KONG WAS ABLE TO OFFER A STRONG PROSPECTUS TO THOSE SEEKING TO DO BUSINESS HERE.

REFERRING TO THE SINO-BRITISH NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT DURING THAT PERIOD, +THE WORLD SAW A QUESTION MARK OVER OUR FUTURE AFTER 1997.+

IT TOOK TWO YEARS OF NEGOTIATION, OFTEN DIFFICULT AND ALWAYS INTENSIVE, BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM TO PRODUCE THE ANSWER. AND DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS, CONDUCTED IN CONFIDENCE, HONG KONG PASSED THROUGH SOME ROUGH WATER, HE SAID.

THROUGHOUT, THE HONG KONG POPULATION AND THE REST OF THE WORLD COULD ONLY GUESS AT THE OUTCOME.

+WHEN IT EMERGED, THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT PROVED A TRIBUTE TO GOOD SENSE. IT OWED MUCH TO THE IMAGINATION OF CHINESE LEADERS WHO RECOGNISED THAT, IF THE CONFIDENCE ON WHICH THE STABILITY AND PROGRESS OF HONG KONG DEPENDS IS TO BE MAINTAINED, HONG KONG NEEDS TO CONTINUE WITH ITS OWN DISTINCTIVE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

/GIVING SOME .....

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GIVING SOME DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT, SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT THAT IT PROBABLY HAD NO PRECEDENT IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

IT WAS NOT SURPRISING THUS THAT THERE WERE QUESTIONS ASKED AS TO WHETHER IT WOULD WORK.

+NO ONE CAN GIVE CAST-IRON GUARANTEES ABOUT THE FUTURE. BUT I BELIEVE THAT IT WILL, BECAUSE IT IS FREELY ACCEPTED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS AS A LEGALLY BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, BECAUSE THE WORD AND PRESTIGE OF BOTH COUNTRIES ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO IT, AND BECAUSE IT IS IN THEIR JOINT AND INDIVIDUAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INTEREST THAT IT SHOULD BE A SUCCESS,+ HE SAID.

QUOTING THE PRIME MINISTER, MRS MARGARET THATCHER, AS SAYING IN HONG KONG LAST DECEMBER THAT +HONG KONG IS A GOING CONCERN WITH A FUTURE STRETCHING INTO THE NEXT CENTURY AND BEYOND,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID HE SHARED THAT CONVICTION.

+IN CONSEQUENCE, I BELIEVE HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE A WORTHY MEMBER OF THE WORLD TRADING COMMUNITY AND A CONSTRUCTIVE PARTNER IN OUR MUCH VALUED TRADING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S.,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THERE WAS A RENEWED AIR BOTH OF ACHIEVEMENT AND OPTIMISM IN HONG KONG, AND THIS WOULD BE REFLECTED IN FUTURE OPERATIONS FROM THE BANK'S AMERICAS HEADQUARTERS, SIR EDWARD SAID.

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LADY YOUDE RECEIVES PLAQUE FOR CHARITY WORK  
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IN NEW YORK CITY, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON, LADY YOUDE, ACCOMPANIED BY THE GOVERNOR, ATTENDED A TEA RECEPTION IN HER HONOUR IN HER CAPACITY AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG.

THE RECEPTION WAS GIVEN BY THE UNITED WAY OF NEW YORK CITY AND THE TRISTATE AREA, (NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY AND CONNECTICUT) AT THE ESSES HOUSE FACING CENTRAL PARK. MORE THAN 200 GUESTS ATTENDED, INCLUDING MR. CHUNG KING FAI AND THE GROUP OF ARTISTS FROM HONG KONG WHO WILL BE GIVING TWO CANTONESE DRAMA PERFORMANCES ON BROADWAY TO HELP THE UNITED WAY TO RAISE FUNDS.

IN HIS WELCOMING REMARKS, MR. JOSEPH CALABRESE OF THE UNITED WAY SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG FOUNDED IN 1968, HAS BEEN RATED AS ONE OF THE BEST IN THE WORLD. HE THEN PRESENTED A PLAQUE TO LADY YOUDE WITH THE INSCRIPTION OF : "UNITED WAY OF NEW YORK CITY EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO LADY PAMELA YOUDE, PRESIDENT, COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG FOR EXTENDING HER VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP AND FRIENDSHIP TO THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK CITY".

/LADY YOUDE .....

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LADY YOUDE RESPONDED BY THANKING THE UNITED WAY FOR PROVIDING A FRIENDLY OPPORTUNITY FOR SUPPORTERS OF THE UNITED WAY AND THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG TO COME TOGETHER TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES IN THE COMMON CAUSE OF SERVING THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITIES. SHE CONGRATULATED ALL WHO WORKED SO HARD FOR THE UNITED WAY AND CONVEYED TO THEM THE BEST WISHES FROM THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG. SHE ALSO WISHED MR. CHUNG KING FAI AND HIS GROUP OF ARTISTS FROM HONG KONG SUCCESS IN THEIR DRAMA PERFORMANCES ON BROADWAY.

ON HER FIRST DAY HERE, LADY YOUDE ACCOMPANIED BY HONG KONG BANK OFFICIALS WIVES, VISITED THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, WHICH HOUSES FAMOUS COLLECTIONS OF MEDEVIAL, EGYPTIAN AND ORIENTAL ART. SHE SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN THE DR. SACKLER'S FAMOUS COLLECTION OF ORIENTAL ART. LADY YOUDE HAS A DEEP INTEREST IN THINGS CHINESE AS SHE NOT ONLY SPEAKS THE LANGUAGE BUT IS THE AUTHOR OF A BOOK ON CHINA.

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UMELCO MOTIVE FOR UK VISIT UNDERSTOOD - SIR PHILIP  
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MEMBERS OF UMELCO HAD EVERY RIGHT TO GO TO LONDON TO ATTEND THE DEBATE ON THE HONG KONG BILL, AND THE GOVERNMENT UNDERSTOOD THEIR MOTIVES, THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

+I THINK THE UMELCO PRESS STATEMENT MADE PERFECTLY CLEAR THAT THEY ARE GOING TO SEE MINISTERS AND TO LISTEN TO THE DEBATE. THE PROCEDURE THAT THE HONG KONG BILL WILL FOLLOW THROUGH PARLIAMENT IS WELL UNDERSTOOD BY MEMBERS OF UMELCO AND THEY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS OF THE BILL,+ HE SAID.

SIR PHILIP WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CIVIL SERVICE CAREERS EXHIBITION AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON MR ENOCH POWELL'S MOTION THAT THE HONG KONG BILL SHOULD NOT RECEIVE A SECOND READING, SIR PHILIP SAID HE HEARD ON THE RADIO THIS MORNING THAT SIR PETER BLAKER THOUGHT THAT THE CHANCE OF IT SUCCEEDING WAS REMOTE.

+AND I SHOULD THINK SIR PETER BLAKER IS RIGHT,+ HE SAID.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER GOVERNMENT WOULD REOPEN VOTER REGISTRATION, SIR PHILIP POINTED OUT THAT 1.4 MILLION PEOPLE HAD REGISTERED AS VOTERS AND THAT WAS ABOUT 50 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL CONSTITUENCY.

+HOW MANY POTENTIAL FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY VOTERS ARE INCLUDED IN THAT 1.4 MILLION REGISTERED VOTERS, I DON'T KNOW.

/+WE MADE .....

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+WE MADE IT VERY CLEAR IN THE GREEN PAPER AND THE WHITE PAPER, AND IN SUBSEQUENT PUBLICITY, THAT TO BE A VOTER IN A FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY ONE HAD TO BE A REGISTERED VOTER FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

+NOW OBVIOUSLY THAT PUBLICITY DID NOT, SHALL WE SAY, REACH ALL THOSE IT SHOULD HAVE REACHED. I DON'T THINK THAT WAS OUR FAULT.

+BUT IF THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT THE WHOLE PROCESS OF ASSEMBLING MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FROM FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES IS LIKELY TO BE FRUSTRATED IN ANY WAY BY VIRTUE OF THE FACT THAT MANY MEMBERS OF FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE, THEN OBVIOUSLY WE SHALL HAVE TO SEE IF WE CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, BY SOME DEVICE OR ANOTHER,+ HE SAID.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON REPORTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING RELAXING REGULATIONS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS TO TAKE PART IN POLITICS, SIR PHILIP SAID, +I READ THAT STORY. AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, IT IS TOTALLY SPECULATIVE.+

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT OF THE WALLED CITY, THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR SAID, +THE WALLED CITY IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF HONG KONG.+

ASKED WHY HE WAS LEAVING HONG KONG ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETIREMENT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR, SIR PHILIP SAID, +I HAVE BEEN A CIVIL SERVANT FOR 34 YEARS. I THINK IT'S TIME THAT I RETIRE AND REJOIN MY FAMILY IN ENGLAND.+

ASKED ON WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO AFTER HIS RETIREMENT, HE SAID, +LIKE ALL ELDERLY CIVIL SERVANTS, I ALWAYS LEAVE THAT FOR THE LAST MINUTE. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I AM GOING TO DO.+

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#### PROSPECTS IN CIVIL SERVICE STILL GOOD x x x

THERE WERE STILL GOOD OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, SAID TODAY.

NOTING THE CONCERN OF SOME STUDENTS ABOUT FUTURE CHANCES OF JOINING THE CIVIL SERVICE, SIR PHILIP ADDED:

+LET ME MAKE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT, SIMPLY BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT IS, FOR THE TIME BEING, SEEKING TO STABILISE THE SIZE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE DOES NOT MEAN A MORATORIUM ON RECRUITMENT IN 1985-86. FAR FROM IT.+

SIR PHILIP WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE CIVIL SERVICE CAREERS EXHIBITION THIS MORNING IN THE FONG SHU CHUEN HALL, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

/THE GOVERNMENT .....

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THE GOVERNMENT WAS THE LARGEST SINGLE EMPLOYER IN HONG KONG, ACCOUNTING FOR 6.8 PER CENT OF THE EMPLOYED LABOUR FORCE. IT OFFERED A WIDE VARIETY OF JOBS, MANY OF WHICH WERE APPROPRIATE TO THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OFFERED BY THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, SIR PHILIP SAID.

THERE HAD BEEN A STEADY INTAKE OF POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES INTO THE CIVIL SERVICE IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.

+IN 1984, FOR EXAMPLE, SOME 220 GRADUATES FROM THE POLYTECHNIC JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE; THAT IS TO SAY, NEARLY ONE OUT OF EVERY 12 GRADUATES FROM THE POLYTECHNIC THAT YEAR TOOK UP EMPLOYMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT, A NOT INSIGNIFICANT RATIO,+ HE SAID.

SIR PHILIP POINTED OUT THAT, GIVEN THE SIZE OF THE 170 000 CIVIL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT, AND AN ANNUAL WASTAGE RATE OF ABOUT FOUR PER CENT, SOME 7 000 RECRUITS AT ALL LEVELS AND IN ALL GRADES HAD TO BE TAKEN ON EACH YEAR JUST TO REPLACE WASTAGE.

IN ADDITION, THERE WOULD BE PROVISION, EVEN IN THE DRAFT ESTIMATES FOR NEXT YEAR, 1985-86, FOR 2 500 NEW POSTS IN KEY AREAS OF ACTIVITY LARGELY OFFSET BY COMPENSATING SAVINGS IN OTHER AREAS OF ACTIVITY.

ALTHOUGH THE OVERALL SIZE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE WOULD REMAIN LARGELY UNCHANGED AND THE INTAKE OF NEW RECRUITS WOULD NOT MATCH THE HIGH NUMBERS OF THE 1970'S AND EARLY 1980'S, JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CIVIL SERVICE WERE EXPECTED TO BE ABOUT 10 000 IN THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR, HE SAID.

+THIS MEANS THAT THERE ARE STILL GOOD OPPORTUNITIES, THEREFORE, FOR GRADUATES OF THIS POLYTECHNIC IN THE CIVIL SERVICE,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

ANOTHER QUESTION IN THE MINDS OF MANY PEOPLE WAS THE KIND OF GOVERNMENT HONG KONG WOULD HAVE IN THE FUTURE, AND WHETHER RECRUITS COULD ANTICIPATE A WORTHWHILE AND CONTINUING CAREER IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, HE SAID.

THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION, SIR PHILIP SAID, WAS TO BE FOUND IN THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

+THERE IT IS CLEARLY STATED THAT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG AND THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION WILL BE DEDICATED TO THE TWIN OBJECTIVES OF MAINTAINING THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL STABILITY AND THE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG OVER THE NEXT 62 YEARS, AT THE LEAST,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

ONLY WITH AN INDEPENDENT CIVIL SERVICE COULD THESE OBJECTIVES BE ACHIEVED, HE SAID.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE WAS RECOGNISED BY THE INCLUSION OF A SPECIFIC SECTION IN ANNEX I OF THE JOINT DECLARATION WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE CONTINUATION BEYOND 1997 OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE CIVIL SERVICE ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE NO LESS FAVOURABLE THAN BEFORE, AND FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING SYSTEMS OF MANAGEMENT AND DISCIPLINE.

SIR PHILIP ALSO SAID:

+THE PROVISIONS IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, AND THE TOTAL COMMITMENT, PUBLICLY DECLARED, OF BOTH THE BRITISH AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENTS TO ITS FULL IMPLEMENTATION, PROVIDE THOSE OF US WHO ARE PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE WITH THE CONFIDENCE TO PLAN AND RECRUIT FOR THE FUTURE.

+THEY ALSO PROVIDE A FIRM ASSURANCE TO THOSE WHO ARE THINKING ABOUT A CAREER IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.+

THE EXHIBITION, THE SEVENTH OF ITS KIND TO BE ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE STUDENT AFFAIRS UNIT OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, REPRESENTED MUCH HARD WORK AND CONCERTED EFFORT TO PROVIDE STUDENTS OF THE POLYTECHNIC AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE WIDE RANGE OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, HE SAID.

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#### GROUP TO LOOK INTO POLLUTION CONTROL WORK

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THE GOVERNMENT, WITH THE ENDORSEMENT OF EPCOM, HAS SET UP A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE HOW ITS POLLUTION CONTROL EFFORTS COULD BE GIVEN MORE IMPETUS AND BE MADE MORE EFFECTIVE.

THE WORKING GROUP, CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR T.H. CHAU AND CONSISTING BASICALLY OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RESOURCE BRANCHES IN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, WILL DRAW UP THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE NEXT SIX TO NINE MONTHS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE POLLUTION CONTROL AND MONITORING DEPARTMENTS.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL THEN BE ASKED TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS, WHICH WILL AIM AT RATIONALISING AND CENTRALISING THE GOVERNMENT'S ORGANISATION FOR POLLUTION CONTROL.

AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD TODAY, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, EXPLAINED THAT AT PRESENT, THE ON-THE-GROUND WORK OF POLLUTION CONTROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IS CARRIED OUT BY AT LEAST EIGHT DEPARTMENTS AS PART OF THEIR RANGE OF RESPONSIBILITIES.

/FOR EXAMPLE, .....

FOR EXAMPLE, THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT DEAL WITH DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF NOISE POLLUTION, WHILE THE LATTER AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLLING DIFFERENT FORMS OF AIR POLLUTION NUISANCES. SIMILARLY, MONITORING OF WATER QUALITY IS BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IS ENGAGED FULL-TIME IN CO-ORDINATING PROGRAMME PLANS AND HELPING TO FORMULATE POLLUTION CONTROL POLICY AND LEGISLATION, BUT HAS NO EXECUTIVE CONTROL OR ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS, MR CHAMBERS SAID.

A REAPPRAISAL OF THE PRESENT ORGANISATION STRUCTURE HAS SHOWN THREE MAIN DEFECTS:

- \* IT IS UNDULY COMPLEX AND FRAGMENTED, MAKING MORE DIFFICULT THE EPA'S COORDINATING FUNCTIONS, ESPECIALLY IF DIFFERENCES OF VIEW CANNOT BE RESOLVED;
- \* WITHOUT EXECUTIVE OR STATUTORY FUNCTIONS, THE EPA DOES NOT HAVE THE FIRST-HAND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE NECESSARY TO ITS POLICY ADVISORY ROLE; AND
- \* SINCE SO MANY DEPARTMENTS ARE INVOLVED IN POLLUTION CONTROL ACTIVITIES, THIS CAN SOMETIMES LEAD TO PROLONGED DEBATE AND HENCE DELAY IN TAKING ACTION.

MR CHAMBERS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THIS COMPLICATED SYSTEM COULD BE CONFUSING TO INDUSTRIALISTS, WHO NEED TO KNOW HOW TO COMPLY WITH POLLUTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS, AND WHICH DEPARTMENT OR DEPARTMENTS ARE CHARGED WITH ENFORCING THE CONTROLS WHICH THEY ARE REQUIRED TO MEET. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ALSO BE CONFUSED WHEN THEY WISH TO REPORT INSTANCES OF POLLUTION TO THE RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT.

ANOTHER DRAWBACK IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM IS THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE DUAL ROLES OF SOME DEPARTMENTS WHICH ARE INVOLVED IN POLLUTION CONTROL AT THE SAME TIME AS THEY OPERATE PLANT AND FACILITIES WHICH ARE A MAJOR SOURCE OF POLLUTION. THEY HAVE TO OBSERVE THE LAW, AND ARE SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS, BUT IT IS MORE APPROPRIATE THAT THEY SHOULD ALSO BE SUBJECT TO EXTERNAL CONTROL, SURVEILLANCE AND ENFORCEMENT.

THE WORKING GROUP NOW SET UP WILL LOOK INTO ALL THE IMPLICATIONS OF GIVING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AN ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE AND OPERATIONAL ROLE. THIS WOULD INVOLVE TRANSFERRING TO THE EPA THE STATUTORY FUNCTIONS OF THE CONTROL AUTHORITIES UNDER THE MAIN POLLUTION CONTROL LEGISLATION, WHILE LEAVING WITH DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF ANTI-POLLUTION FACILITIES.

+IN OTHER WORDS, THE INTENTION IS THAT THE EPA WOULD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF LEGISLATION, INCLUDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF LICENSING AND PERMIT SYSTEMS, THE POLICING OF POLLUTION OFFENCES, THE INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS AND THE PROSECUTION OF OFFENDERS.

+IT WOULD ALSO ASSUME PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR IDENTIFYING THE NEED FOR CONTROL LEGISLATION TO HELP IN STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO COMBAT POLLUTION,+ MR CHAMBERS SAID.

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FOUR NON-TECHNICAL QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW BOARD  
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THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR PETER TSAO TODAY SET OUT FOUR QUESTIONS WHICH HE THOUGHT WERE THE CRUCIAL NON-TECHNICAL ISSUES WHICH THE BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD HAD TO ADDRESS.

THEY WERE WHETHER THE PUBLIC WERE GETTING VALUE FOR MONEY FOR THE BROADCASTING SERVICES; IF THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION WAS NO OR A QUALIFIED YES, WHAT WAS THE BEST MEANS FOR IMPROVING THE PROGRAMMES; WHAT RESOURCES COULD BE AFFORDED; AND LASTLY WHAT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE.

MR TSAO WAS SPEAKING AT THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON LUNCH TODAY.

ON THE QUESTION OF VALUE FOR MONEY, MR TSAO POINTED OUT THAT AT PRESENT EVERYONE IN HONG KONG PAID FOR THE VISUAL ENTERTAINMENT FED INTO PEOPLE'S HOMES, ALBEIT INDIRECTLY, THROUGH THE COST OF ADVERTISING IN THE PRODUCTS THEY BOUGHT.

IF THERE WAS ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE TV LICENSEES PUTTING BACK SUFFICIENT OF THEIR PROFITS INTO THE PRODUCTION OF HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMMES, THE NEXT THING TO CONSIDER WAS THE BEST MEANS FOR IMPROVING THE TYPE, QUALITY AND BALANCE OF THE PROGRAMMES.

FURTHERMORE, IT COULD BE ASKED WHETHER IMPROVEMENT SHOULD BE DONE BY GOVERNMENT REGULATION AND SUPERVISION, BY ADJUSTING THE FINANCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE LICENCES, OR BY GOVERNMENT TAKING A LEAD THROUGH THE DIVERSION OF RESOURCES INTO MORE PUBLIC TELEVISION BROADCASTING.

MR TSAO SAID THAT THE QUESTION OF RESOURCES COULD NOT BE IGNORED.

+RESOURCES ARE LIMITED WHETHER THEY BE CALCULATED AS THE SIZE OF THE ADVERTISING MARKET FROM WHICH THE LICENSEES AND GOVERNMENT DERIVE REVENUE, OR AS THE WILLINGNESS OF TAXPAYERS TO SEE PART OF THEIR TAXES DIRECTED TOWARDS GOVERNMENT FUNDED ENTERTAINMENT AND INFORMATION MEDIA,+ HE SAID.

/THIS QUESTION .....

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THIS QUESTION WAS FUNDAMENTAL NOT ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS BUT ALSO IN THE CONSIDERATION OF PARTICULAR ISSUES, SUCH AS RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN TYPES OR TIMES OF ADVERTISING AND THE REPERCUSSIONS THESE MIGHT HAVE ON THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE LICENSEES, MR TSAO ADDED, QUOTING THE EXAMPLE OF CIGARETTE ADVERTISING.

AS REGARDS THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN BROADCASTING, HE SAID THE REVIEW BOARD HAD TO EXAMINE IT WITH A CRITICAL EYE. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT, IN THE FORM OF RTHK, WAS THE FIRST BROADCASTER IN HONG KONG AND RTHK HAD GROWN AND HAD ACHIEVED SOME NOTABLE SUCCESSES.

BUT THE QUESTION WAS WHETHER THERE WAS ANYTHING IN THE MODERN WORLD WHICH THE GOVERNMENT DID WHICH COULD NOT BE DONE AS WELL OR BETTER AND MORE EFFICIENTLY BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR, HE SAID.

MR TSAO NOTED THAT THE REVIEW BOARD WOULD PRESENT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT IN JULY THIS YEAR, WHILE THE EXISTING TELEVISION BROADCASTING LICENCES WOULD EXPIRE IN 1988.

+THIS LEAVES US WITH PLENTY OF TIME FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION, AND WE INTEND TO MAKE FULL USE OF IT BEFORE SUBMITTING FINAL PROPOSALS IN SUMMER, 1986,+ HE SAID.

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#### CHILD CARE STRATEGY EXPLAINED

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A BALANCED PROVISION OF DIFFERENT SERVICES MUST CONTINUE TO BE THE STRATEGY IN PLANNING FOR RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE SERVICES, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE DIOCESE OF HONG KONG AND MACAU TODAY (THURSDAY).

SHE SAID IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO DEVELOP THE PRESENT FOUR MAIN RESOURCES - ADOPTION, FOSTER CARE, CHILDREN'S HOMES AND SMALL GROUP HOMES - AS THE CORNERSTONES OF SUCH SERVICES.

ADOPTION SERVICE, SHE SAID, WAS OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE IN THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF CHILD CARE SERVICES, PROVIDING THE MOST SATISFACTORY FORM OF LONG TERM PLACEMENT FOR CHILDREN ORPHANED OR GIVEN UP BY THEIR NATURAL PARENTS.

REFERRING TO PUBLIC CONCERN OVER ADOPTION PROCEDURES, MRS CHAN SAID THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT PLACED THE HIGHEST PRIORITY ON PROVIDING AN EFFICIENT ADOPTION SERVICE, BECAUSE THIS WAS CLEARLY IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF CHILDREN CONCERNED.

/THE DEPARTMENT, .....

THE DEPARTMENT, SHE ADDED, WAS UNDERTAKING A COMPLETE RE-EXAMINATION OF THE PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES GOVERNING ADOPTION PLACEMENT, TO TRY TO SHORTEN THE TIME TAKEN TO PLACE CHILDREN WITH THEIR FUTURE ADOPTIVE PARENTS.

SPEAKING OF FOSTER CARE, SHE SAID, IT PROVIDED SUBSTITUTE CARE FOR CHILDREN IN A NORMAL FAMILY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A TRAINED SOCIAL WORKER.

THIS WAS A PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE FORM OF PLACEMENT FOR BABIES AND VERY YOUNG CHILDREN WHO HAD NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL LOVE AND ATTENTION, AND PHYSICAL CARE.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL FOSTER CARE UNIT ENABLED THE CENTRALISING OF PUBLICITY FOR THE SERVICE AND PROVIDED +NEW IMPETUS+ TO THE RECRUITMENT OF FOSTER HOMES, SHE SAID.

SINCE 1983 THE UNIT HAD RECEIVED SOME 800 ENQUIRIES FROM PEOPLE INTERESTED IN BECOMING FOSTER PARENTS.

SOME 200 HOMES HAD BEEN STUDIED TO ASSESS THEIR SUITABILITY TO RECEIVE FOSTER CHILDREN, AND 90 NEW HOMES HAD BEEN GIVEN APPROVAL TO RECEIVE CHILDREN. THERE WERE NOW 96 CHILDREN PLACED IN FOSTER HOMES.

MRS CHAN SAID SHE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE PLANNING TARGET OF 120 PLACES WOULD BE ACHIEVED BY THE END OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE SERVICE, SHE SAID, DEPENDED ON THE ABILITY TO RECRUIT SUFFICIENT FOSTER PARENTS.

WITH REGARD TO SMALL GROUP HOMES, SHE SAID THEY CATERED FOR GROUPS OF EIGHT CHILDREN, OF DIFFERENT AGES, LIVING TOGETHER IN THE CARE OF HOUSE-PARENTS IN ORDINARY PUBLIC HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

THIS TYPE OF CARE HELPED MINIMISE FEELINGS OF ISOLATION FROM THE GENERAL COMMUNITY AND ENABLED SIBLINGS TO REMAIN TOGETHER OR FOR SINGLE CHILDREN TO DRAW COMFORT AND SUPPORT FROM NEWLY ACQUIRED +BROTHERS+ AND +SISTERS+ IN A HOME-LIKE ATMOSPHERE, SHE SAID.

MARKED IMPROVEMENTS HAD BEEN NOTICED IN THE WELL-BEING AND BEHAVIOUR OF CHILDREN TRANSFERRED TO THE HOMES FROM LARGER INSTITUTIONS, MRS CHAN SAID.

THE NUMBER OF SMALL GROUP HOMES WOULD BE INCREASED FROM THE PRESENT FIVE WITH 40 PLACES TO EIGHT WITH 64 PLACES THIS YEAR, AND THE DEPARTMENT AIMED AT OPENING AN ADDITIONAL THREE NEW HOMES EACH YEAR OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CHILD CARE SERVICES HAD NOT IGNORED THE LARGER CHILDREN'S HOMES.

+WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO IMPROVE STAFFING STANDARDS CONSIDERABLY IN THE LAST YEAR AND BY PROVIDING MORE CHILD CARE STAFF, HAVE ENSURED THAT THE CHILDREN IN CARE RECEIVE MORE INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION,+ SHE SAID.

MAJOR NEW PROJECTS UNDER PLANNING INCLUDE THE REPROVISIONING OF THE RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE SECTION OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME, AND THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S CENTRE IN KOWLOON.

IN ADDITION, THE SHA KOK CHILDREN'S HOME, WITH A CAPACITY FOR 40 YOUNG CHILDREN, WAS DUE TO OPEN THIS SUMMER.

THE DEPARTMENT AND SUBVENTED WELFARE AGENCIES FACED FORMIDABLE CHALLENGES IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE SERVICES OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

+BUT I BELIEVE WE ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION,+ SHE SAID.

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STRADDLE CARRIERS COMMISSIONED  
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THE DELIVERY OF THREE VAST MOBILE STRADDLE CARRIERS TODAY (THURSDAY) DEMONSTRATED THE DETERMINATION IN KEEPING OUR CONTAINER PORT AT THE FOREFRONT OF EFFICIENCY, WITHOUT WHICH OUR COMMERCE CANNOT FLOURISH.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR ERIC HO, AT THE COMMISSIONING CEREMONY OF THE STRADDLE CARRIERS.

STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EFFICIENT PORT, MR HO POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG CAME INTO BEING AS AN ENTREPOT AND, WITH INDUSTRIALISATION, QUICKLY CLIMBED WITHIN THE TOP 20 IN THE WORLD TABLE OF TRADING ENTITIES.

+NOW WE ARE RE-EMERGING AS AN ENTREPOT FOR THE REGION IN ADDITION TO MAINTAINING OUR OWN COMMERCE.

+NEEDLESS TO SAY, MODERN TRADE MEANS CONTAINERS, AND OUR CONTAINER PORT IS RIGHTLY RENOWNED FOR THE GROWTH AND SPEED OF ITS THROUGHPUT,+ HE SAID.

MR HO PRAISED THE FORESIGHT OF MODERN TERMINAL'S MANAGEMENT IN PLACING THE ORDERS FOR THE STRADDLE CARRIERS +WHEN FAINTER HEARTS MAY HAVE THOUGHT THE FUTURE UNCERTAIN+.

HE SAID HE WAS ALSO PLEASED THAT +THESE MARVELS OF MODERN ENGINEERING+ HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN PEINER AND HONG KONG UNITED DOCKYARD, REPRESENTING A FIRST FOR BOTH PARTNERS - AND FOR HONG KONG IN THIS FIELD.

+LOCATED AS WE ARE AT THE CENTRE OF THE WORLD'S MOST DYNAMIC AREA OF ECONOMIC GROWTH, THIS SUCCESS MUST AUGUR WELL FOR THE FUTURE FOR ALL CONCERNED - NOT LEAST BECAUSE OF THE WORK ALREADY UNDER WAY ON THE RECLAMATION OF THE ADJACENT CREEK FOR TERMINAL 6 OF THIS CONTAINER PORT, TO CATER FOR THE EXPECTED GROWTH IN OUR CONTAINER THROUGHPUT.+

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ELECTION EFFORT URGED

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, TODAY (THURSDAY) URGED PEOPLE WHO ARE KEEN TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY TO TAKE PART IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS ON MARCH 7 BY REGISTERING THEMSELVES AS CANDIDATES AND ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO DO THE SAME.

MR HSU MADE THE APPEAL AT THE TOPPING-OUT CEREMONY OF THE TAOIST CHING CHUNG CARE AND ATTENTION HOME IN YUEN LONG.

+HONG KONG IS NOW FACING A BRIGHT FUTURE AND WE SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BUILD A MORE DEMOCRATIC AND BETTER SOCIETY,+ HE SAID.

+TAKING PART IN DISTRICT BOARD ACTIVITIES WILL ENABLE THE EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AND A MORE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM.+

MR HSU ALSO PRAISED THE TAOIST CHING CHUNG KOON FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY SERVICES.

THE CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY AT SHA CHAU LEI, YUEN LONG, IS A GOOD EXAMPLE.

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DB ELECTIONS EXPLAINED

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MR C.M. LEUNG, A PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, AND MR LEE LAP-SUN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (ELECTORAL SERVICES) OF THE COUNCILS AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH, WILL GIVE A BACKGROUND BRIEFING TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TOMORROW (FRIDAY) ON MATTERS CONCERNING THE COMING DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

THEY WILL SPEAK ON THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES, CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

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COMPUTER CONTEST ORGANISED FOR SCHOOLS

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THREE WINNERS OF A +COMPUTER ASSISTED LEARNING SOFTWARE CONTEST+ ORGANISED FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE PART IN THE SINGAPORE YOUTH SCIENCE FORTNIGHT 1985.

THE SINGAPORE YOUTH SCIENCE FORTNIGHT IS HELD EACH SUMMER TO STIMULATE THE IMAGINATION AND TO DEVELOP CREATIVITY IN YOUNG PEOPLE, BY PROVIDING THEM WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN THAT SCIENCE IS A VITALLY IMPORTANT FIELD OF STUDY.

THE COMPETITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF A LOCAL COMPANY.

IT AIMS AT PROMOTING COMPUTER PROGRAMMING IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, FOSTERING THE ENJOYMENT OF LEARNING SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS THROUGH THE USE OF COMPUTERS, AND ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING OF THE CAPABILITIES AND LIMITATIONS OF COMPUTER APPLICATION, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

CONTESTANTS SHOULD BE SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN HONG KONG, AND AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 20 ON JANUARY 1, 1985.

THE COMPUTER-BASED SOFTWARE ENTERED FOR THE CONTEST SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO ASSIST IN THE LEARNING OF SCIENCE SUBJECTS OR MATHEMATICS.

AN ENTRY MAY BE AN ILLUSTRATION OR SIMULATION OF A SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLE, A USEFUL TOOL FOR PROBLEM SOLVING, A GAME WHICH ENCOURAGES APPLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, OR AN ELECTRONIC TUTOR.

A MINIMAL HARDWARE CONFIGURATION OF A MICROCOMPUTER WITH EITHER A CASSETTE RECORDER OR A FLOPPY DISK DRIVE AS BACKING STORAGE AND A PRINTER IS ASSUMED TO BE USED FOR EACH ENTRY.

IF OTHER PERIPHERALS ARE EMPLOYED, THE CONTESTANT MAY BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THEM FOR DEMONSTRATION PURPOSES TO THE PANEL OF JUDGES.

EACH ENTRY SHOULD INCLUDE THE PROGRAM STORED ON FLOPPY DISK OR TAPE, A USER GUIDE, A SET OF ALL OTHER MATERIALS WHICH SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR THE USERS OF THE SOFTWARE, AND A FULL DOCUMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM.

ALL WRITTEN MATERIALS SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN ON A-4 PAPER OR IN THE FORM OF COMPUTER PRINTOUTS.

ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH SCHOOL HEADS BY MARCH 15 TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (PHYSICS), SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG.

/+EACH ENTRY .....

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+EACH ENTRY WILL BE JUDGED ON ITS SCIENTIFIC CONTENT, ITS USER-FRIENDLINESS, THE EXTENT TO WHICH IT CAN PROVIDE FOR AN INTERESTING AND EFFECTIVE LEARNING PROCESS FOR THE USER AND HOW WELL IT HAS EXPLOITED THE POTENTIALS OF THE MICROCOMPUTER IN ITS DESIGN,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APART FROM THE TRIP TO SINGAPORE, THE FIRST PRIZE WILL INCLUDE A \$1 000 BOOK COUPON, THE SECOND PRIZE A \$500 BOOK COUPON AND THE THIRD PRIZE A \$200 BOOK COUPON. THERE WILL ALSO BE FIVE CONSOLATION PRIZES OF A \$200 BOOK COUPON EACH.

FOR ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE COMPETITION, STUDENTS CAN TELEPHONE THE SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION ON 5-8392470 OR 5-8392474.

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NEW SITTING-OUT AREA FOR RESIDENTS  
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A LONG TIME EYESORE ON KING LAM STREET IN SHAM SHUI PO -- 121 SQUATTER HUTS -- WAS REMOVED TODAY (THURSDAY) AND THE SITE WILL BE TURNED INTO A SITTING-OUT AND AMENITY AREA.

AND THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$150 000 FOR RE-PAVING THE SITE, TREE PLANTING AND OTHER CIVIL WORKS FOR THIS MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

WORK WILL START SHORTLY AND THE SITTING-OUT AREA IS EXPECTED TO BE READY IN ABOUT FIVE MONTHS.

THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES WERE DEMOLISHED IN A CLEARANCE OPERATION JOINTLY CONDUCTED BY THE HOUSING AND LANDS DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE POLICE.

NINETY-FOUR FAMILIES WITH 221 PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE CLEARANCE HAVE BEEN RESETTLED IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE FLATS OR TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA UNITS IN THE URBAN AREA.

IN ADDITION, OPERATORS OF 28 INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS WERE GIVEN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TOTALLING \$500 000.

THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES, MAINLY USED AS DOMESTIC UNITS, WORKSHOPS AND GARAGES, HAD BEEN A SUBJECT OF FREQUENT COMPLAINTS FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS.

AT A MEETING IN AUGUST 1983, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED A PROPOSAL TO CLEAR THE ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS AND OTHER RELATED NUISANCE.

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YOUTH PROBLEMS STUDIED  
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A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THE FINDINGS OF A STUDY ON YOUTH PROBLEMS IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 11 AM IN THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, ON THE 1ST FLOOR OF FOU WAH CENTRE, 210 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED BY A WORKING GROUP FORMED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD.

THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE WORKING GROUP, MRS CHONG YUK TAK-FUN.

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ANTI-DRUG DRIVE ON MOVE  
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR G.L. MORTIMER, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE LAUNCHING OF THE MOBILE PUBLICITY VAN OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) AT 11.30 AM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 20) AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT, CENTRAL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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ARTS FESTIVAL TRAFFIC PLAN  
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EDINBURGH PLACE EAST BETWEEN THE EASTERN END OF THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND QUEEN'S PIER IN CENTRAL, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 9 AM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 19) UNTIL 11 PM THE FOLLOWING DAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1985 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL.

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WRECK INSPECTION COMPLETED  
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CHINESE AUTHORITIES IN CANTON HAVE JUST COMPLETED INSPECTION OF A WRECK, SUSPECTED TO BE THAT OF THE BARQUENTINE OSPREY, A MARINE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

UPON RECEIPT OF A WRITTEN REPORT FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE WILL CAREFULLY CONSIDER ITS CONTENTS, PRIOR TO FORWARDING IT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HE ADDED.

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PUBLIC TOILET FOR YUEN LONG  
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A PUBLIC TOILET WILL BE BUILT ON HONG KING STREET IN YUEN LONG TOWN.

IT WILL HAVE SEPARATE CUBICLES FOR THE DISABLED AND A STOREROOM.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO TAKE SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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