



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, JULY 16, 1985

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GOVT STANDS FIRM ON +BOAT WIVES+ ISSUE
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THE GOVERNMENT, ON THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, IS STANDING BY ITS DECISION NOT TO PERMIT THE 14 BOAT DWELLING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT WIVES IN YAU MA TEI TYPHOON SHELTER TO REMAIN IN HONG KONG.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT AFTER VERY CAREFULLY CONSIDERING ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES IT HAD BEEN DECIDED AGAIN TO REQUEST THE WIVES TO RETURN TO CHINA AND APPLY FOR ONE-WAY PERMITS TO CROSS THE BORDER.

AS A RESULT OF THIS MORNING'S DECISION LETTERS WERE BEING SENT TO THE 14 WIVES ADVISING THEM TO RETURN TO CHINA VOLUNTARILY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +IF THE LADIES DO NOT RETURN VOLUNTARILY THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION WILL HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO ISSUE REMOVAL ORDERS AGAINST THEM.+

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, IF THE WIVES DID LEAVE VOLUNTARILY THE GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY FOR THE EARLY ISSUE BY THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES OF ONE-WAY PERMITS.

THE 14 BOAT SQUATTER WIVES HAD ARGUED FOR PERMISSION TO REMAIN IN HONG KONG ON THE BASIS THAT:

- * THEIR HUSBANDS WERE FISHERMEN;
- * THEIR REMOVAL WOULD RESULT IN THE BREAKUP OF FAMILIES;
- * THEY DID NOT KNOW THE WIVES WOULD NO LONGER HAVE PERMISSION TO STAY ON THEIR BOATS ONCE THEIR HUSBANDS CEASED TO BE FISHERMEN; AND
- * THE WIVES WOULD HAVE NOWHERE TO GO IN CHINA BECAUSE THEIR HOUSEHOLD REGISTRATION HAD BEEN CANCELLED.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE HUSBANDS OF THE WOMEN WERE NOT WORKING AS FISHERMEN DUALY REGISTERED IN HONG KONG AND CHINA AND, THEREFORE, THEY DID NOT QUALIFY FOR PERMISSION TO REMAIN ON BOATS AS DO THE WIVES OF GENUINE FISHERMEN.

HE SAID: +THE WIVES OF FORMER FISHERMEN OR HONG KONG RESIDENTS SHOULD NOT BE TREATED BETTER THAN GENUINE FISHERMEN'S WIVES AND BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN HERE. THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON GENUINE FISHERMEN'S WIVES IS WELL KNOWN TO THE FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS.+

/THIS COULD

THIS COULD CREATE A +DANGEROUS PRECEDENT+, HE SAID, WHICH COULD LEAD TO HUNDREDS OF OTHER ILLEGALLY RESIDENT WIVES PRESSING FOR SIMILAR TREATMENT.

WORSE STILL, MANY MORE HONG KONG RESIDENTS COULD BE ENCOURAGED TO BRING IN THEIR WIVES ILLEGALLY, AND INSIST ON STAYING, PARTICULARLY AFTER THEY HAD BEEN HERE FOR A FEW YEARS AND, PERHAPS, HAD CHILDREN.

+AND THERE IS THE ADDED PROBLEM,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN, +OF WHAT DO YOU THEN DO ABOUT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT WIVES OR HUSBANDS LIVING ON LAND WITH THEIR FAMILIES?+

HE WENT ON: +THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR DISCRIMINATING IN FAVOUR OF THESE BOAT SQUATTER WIVES. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THERE MAY BE AS MANY AS 80 000 WIVES AND 100 000 CHILDREN IN CHINA WHO WOULD IMMEDIATELY QUALIFY FOR PERMISSION TO COME TO HONG KONG IF OUR CURRENT RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED.+

HE SAID GIVING PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO THE 14 WIVES WOULD +AMOUNT TO PUTTING A PREMIUM ON QUEUE-JUMPING+.

UNDER THE LEGAL ONE-WAY PERMIT SYSTEM ABOUT 8 000 WIVES A YEAR JOINED THEIR HUSBANDS IN HONG KONG IN 1983 AND 1984. IN ADDITION TO THIS ABOUT ANOTHER 8 000 CHILDREN UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE JOINED THEIR PARENTS HERE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THERE WAS NO TRUTH IN THE CLAIM THAT THE WIVES WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ON THEIR REPATRIATION AND WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ISSUE OF ONE-WAY PERMITS.

+AS THESE BOAT SQUATTER WIVES HAVE NOT LOST THEIR CHINESE NATIONALITY,+ HE SAID, +AND AS THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAVE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT HOUSEHOLD REGISTRATION WOULD BE CANCELLED ONLY IN THE CASE OF THOSE ISSUED WITH ONE-WAY PERMITS, THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR BELIEVING THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RE-ESTABLISH THEMSELVES IN CHINA.+

ALSO, THE WIVES ARE FREE TO TAKE THEIR CHILDREN WITH THEM WHEN THEY LEAVE AND MOST OF THE CHILDREN WILL NOT LOSE THEIR +HONG KONG BELONGER+ STATUS IF THEY ARE RAISED IN CHINA.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT: +IN THIS RESPECT THEY ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM OTHER ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT WIVES WHO HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO CHILDREN AND HAVE LIVED HERE ILLEGALLY FOR THREE OR FOUR YEARS BEFORE BEING SENT BACK TO CHINA.

+IN MOST OF THESE CASES THE MOTHERS TOOK THEIR CHILDREN WITH THEM.+

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DANGER FROM ASBESTOS PLASTER IS MINIMAL
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A SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICER HAS ADVISED THE PUBLIC NOT TO BE ALARMED ABOUT THE USE OF ACOUSTIC PLASTER CONTAINING ASBESTOS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S TECHNICAL SECRETARY, MR C. J. KING, SAID A REPORT COMMISSIONED BY BRITAIN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION HAD SHOWN THAT PUBLIC EXPOSURE TO DAMAGED ASBESTOS WAS LIKELY TO CAUSE ONE DEATH IN TEN MILLION A YEAR.

THIS COMPARED WITH 2 000 DEATHS IN TEN MILLION THROUGH ROAD ACCIDENTS AND 50 000 DEATHS IN TEN MILLION CAUSED BY SMOKING.

MR KING SAID: +THERE IS VERY LITTLE DANGER INDEED TO THE CASUAL USER OR EVEN THE REGULAR OCCUPANT OF THESE BUILDINGS.+

SOME CONCERN HAS BEEN SHOWN FOLLOWING REPORTS IN THE LOCAL PRESS THAT AN ACOUSTIC PLASTER - AUDEX - CONTAINING ASBESTOS HAD BEEN USED IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PARTICULARLY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG'S NEW HAKING WONG BUILDING.

MR KING CONFIRMED ONE OF THE REPORTS WHICH STATED THAT TESTS INSIDE THE HAKING WONG BUILDING HAD SHOWN ASBESTOS LEVELS TO BE MUCH LOWER THAN THOSE IN THE STREET.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE DANGER POSED BY THE PLASTER COULD ONLY BE INCREASED IF IT WAS REMOVED DURING DEMOLITION OR ALTERATION OF A BUILDING.

+FOR THIS REASON WE ARE CARRYING OUT AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IN WHICH GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS THIS PLASTER HAS BEEN USED. THIS WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS WHEN ANY WORK IS CARRIED OUT ON THESE BUILDINGS.+

MR KING SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN ASBESTOS SCARE IN BRITAIN AND THIS HAD LED AUTHORITIES TO SPEND 50 MILLION POUND-STERLING ON REMOVAL OF ASBESTOS-CONTAINING MATERIALS FROM BUILDINGS.

NOT ONLY HAD MUCH OF THE WORK BEEN UNNECESSARY, BUT DISTURBING THE MATERIAL HAD IN MANY CASES CAUSED A HIGHER CONCENTRATION OF ASBESTOS FIBRES IN THE AIR, HE SAID.

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+CONCERN FOR ELDERLY IMPORTANT+
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CONCERN AND RESPECT FOR THE ELDERLY WERE AS IMPORTANT AS COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID AT A PARTY FOR THE THOUSAND AGED TODAY (TUESDAY).

SHE SAID IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO NOTE THAT IN RECENT YEARS, MANY YOUNG PEOPLE WERE HELPING SENIOR CITIZENS IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND WERE TAKING PART IN VOLUNTARY WORK.

+THIS WOULD NOT ONLY PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF THE ELDERLY, BUT ALSO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF THE AGED,+ SHE SAID.

ON THE OTHER HAND, MORE ELDERLY PEOPLE WERE WILLING TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, TO MAKE FRIENDS AND TO FOSTER THEIR INTERESTS.

MRS CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT POLICY ON ELDERLY SERVICES FOCUSED ON THREE MAIN AREAS - FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, RESIDENTIAL CARE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT.

ON RESIDENTIAL CARE, SHE REITERATED THAT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WAS REVIEWING THE OVERALL PROVISION OF HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY, WITH THE OBJECT OF MEETING ANY SHORTFALLS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE AND OPERATE SELF-CARE HOSTELS FOR THE ABLE-BODIED ELDERLY, SHE SAID, AND AN OLD PEOPLE'S HOME WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN FUTURE NEW HOUSING ESTATES WITH OVER 6 000 FLATS OR A POPULATION OF 25 000.

ONE THIRD OF THE PLACES IN EACH HOME WOULD BE DESIGNATED FOR THOSE NEEDING CARE AND ATTENTION FACILITIES.

FOR THE FIT AND HEALTHY, THERE ARE AT PRESENT 94 SOCIAL CENTRES WHERE THEY CAN ENJOY THE COMPANY OF THEIR PEERS AND TAKE PART IN LEISURE PURSUITS.

THE NUMBER OF SUCH CENTRES WAS INCREASING BY ABOUT 12 PER YEAR, MRS CHAN SAID.

SHE SAID THE PACE OF EXPANSION OF THIS SERVICE HAD NEVER SLACKENED, BUT STRESSED THAT THIS EXPANSION COULD NOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER PRIORITY SERVICES.

SHE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE SHUN TAK FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION FOR ORGANISING THE PARTY, WHICH SHE SAID HAD SET A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE TO THE COMMUNITY.

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JUNE MUCH CLOUDIER THAN USUAL
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JUNE THIS YEAR WAS MUCH CLOUDIER THAN USUAL, WITH ONLY 94.5 HOURS OF TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE -- 41 PER CENT BELOW THE NORMAL 159.2 HOURS.

THIS WAS THE FIFTH LOWEST ON RECORD FOR JUNE, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY REPORTED TODAY.

BUT THE MEAN MONTH'S PRESSURE OF 1002.2 MILLIBARS WAS THE LOWEST ON RECORD FOR JUNE.

ON JUNE 22, TYPHOON HAL CAME WITHIN 400 NAUTICAL MILES OF HONG KONG, BRINGING OUT THE FIRST TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNAL OF THE YEAR.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE OVER THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, THE WEATHER WAS OVERCAST WITH PERIODS OF RAIN ON JUNE 1. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SUNNY INTERVALS, IT WAS MAINLY CLOUDY WITH LIGHT RAIN AND SCATTERED SHOWERS ON JUNE 2 AND 3.

A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE FORMED OVER SOUTH CHINA EARLY ON JUNE 4 AND MOVED SOUTHWARDS. THE WEATHER CONTINUED CLOUDY WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS ON JUNE 4 AND 5. A WATERSPOUT WAS SIGHTED ABOUT 40 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTH OF HONG KONG IN THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 5. ON JUNE 6, APART FROM SOME ISOLATED SHOWERS, IT WAS CLOUDY WITH SUNNY INTERVALS. HOWEVER, SQUALLY THUNDERSTORMS ACCOMPANIED BY OCCASIONAL HEAVY SHOWERS OCCURRED ON JUNE 7 WHEN THE TROUGH PASSED OVER HONG KONG, CAUSING MINOR FLOODING IN KWAI CHUNG.

APART FROM CLOUDY INTERVALS, THE WEATHER WAS GENERALLY FINE ON JUNE 8 AND 9.

A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE FORMED OVER CENTRAL CHINA EARLY ON JUNE 9 AND MOVED SLOWLY SOUTHWARDS. THE WEATHER TURNED CLOUDY AND SCATTERED SHOWERS WERE REPORTED ON JUNE 10. SUNNY INTERVALS THEN SET IN ON JUNE 11 AND THE WEATHER TURNED FINE ON JUNE 12. THE TROUGH EVENTUALLY CROSSED HONG KONG EARLY ON JUNE 13 AND THE WEATHER BECAME CLOUDY WITH OCCASIONAL THUNDERY SHOWERS. THE TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE REMAINED OVER THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA UNTIL JUNE 16.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE TROUGH, THE WEATHER FROM JUNE 14 TO 16 WAS CLOUDY, WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS. WINDS BECAME STRONG EASTERLY OFF-SHORE AND IN EXPOSED PLACES ON JUNE 14. THEY MODERATED DURING THE DAY ON JUNE 15 BUT BECAME STRONG IN THE EVENING. THE TEMPERATURE DROPPED TO A MINIMUM OF 23.9 DEGREES CELSIUS ON JUNE 14, THE LOWEST OF THE MONTH.

/THE WEATHER

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THE WEATHER BECAME FINE AND SUNNY ON JUNE 17 APART FROM A FEW ISOLATED SHOWERS. HOWEVER, THERE WERE SCATTERED SHOWERS FROM JUNE 18 TO 21 WITH SUNNY INTERVALS REPORTED ONLY IN THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 21.

WHEN TYPHOON HAL CAME WITHIN 400 NAUTICAL MILES OF HONG KONG ON JUNE 22, THE WEATHER TURNED FINE, SUNNY AND HOT WITH A MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 32.2 DEGREES CELSIUS, THE HIGHEST OF THE MONTH.

AS HAL APPROACHED, THE WEATHER BECAME CLOUDY WITH SQUALLY SHOWERS ON JUNE 23 AND WINDS STRENGTHENED FROM THE NORTHWEST. SQUALLY SHOWERS CONTINUED ON JUNE 24 WITH GALE FORCE NORTHWESTERLY WINDS. THE WIND DIRECTION GRADUALLY CHANGED TO THE SOUTHWEST AND STRONG SOUTHWESTERLY WINDS CONTINUED TO AFFECT HONG KONG UNTIL LATER IN THE MORNING OF JUNE 25.

ON JUNE 25, THERE WERE SQUALLY THUNDERY SHOWERS, HEAVY AT TIMES, DAILY RAINFALL OF 208.1 MM WAS RECORDED WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 56 PER CENT OF THE MONTH'S TOTAL. LAND, SEA AND AIR TRAFFIC WAS DISRUPTED AND THERE WERE MINOR LANDSLIPS AND FLOODING IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE TERRITORY. ON THE WHOLE, DAMAGE DUE TO TYPHOON HAL WAS SLIGHT.

THERE WERE HEAVY THUNDERY SHOWERS ON JUNE 26 AND SCATTERED SHOWERS CONTINUED ON JUNE 27. THE WEATHER GRADUALLY IMPROVED ON JUNE 28 AND APART FROM SCATTERED SHOWERS, THERE WERE SUNNY INTERVALS FROM JUNE 28 TO 30.

THREE TROPICAL CYCLONES DEVELOPED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA DURING THE MONTH:

A TROPICAL DEPRESSION FORMED OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ABOUT 40 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTHEAST OF XISHA ON JUNE 17. IT REMAINED ALMOST STATIONARY FOR THE FIRST TWO DAYS AND LANDED OVER HAINAN EARLY ON JUNE 20. IT DISSIPATED ABOUT 60 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTHWEST OF HAIKOU THE SAME DAY.

TYPHOON HAL HAD FORMED ABOUT 860 NAUTICAL MILES EAST OF MANILA ON JUNE 19. IT MOVED WEST-NORTHWESTWARDS AND PASSED CLOSE TO THE NORTH OF LUZON ON JUNE 22. IT CROSSED THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND TURNED NORTH-NORTHWESTWARDS EARLY ON JUNE 24.

HAL LANDED NEAR SHANWEI, ABOUT 65 NAUTICAL MILES EAST-NORTHEAST OF HONG KONG AROUND 2 PM ON JUNE 24, AND FINALLY DISSIPATED ABOUT 140 NAUTICAL MILES NORTH OF HONG KONG ON JUNE 25.

ON JUNE 25, TYPHOON IRMA DEVELOPED ABOUT 880 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTHEAST OF MANILA. IT MOVED NORTHWESTWARDS AT FIRST, BUT TURNED NORTHWARDS ON JUNE 27 OVER THE PACIFIC TO THE EAST OF PHILIPPINES.

/IRMA TOOK

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IRMA TOOK A MORE NORTHEASTERLY TRACK NEAR THE RYUKYUS ON JUNE 29. IT SKIRTED THE COAST OF SOUTHERN HONSHU ON JUNE 30, AND BY THE END OF THE DAY, WAS CENTRED ABOUT 90 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTHWEST OF TOKYO, MOVING NORTHEASTWARDS.

IRMA CAUSED SOME DEATHS, AND DESTRUCTION IN JAPAN.

DURING THE MONTH ONE INCOMING AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER ASSOCIATED WITH TYPHOON HAL, 11 FLIGHTS WERE CANCELLED AND 26 DELAYED.

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON JUNE 7, 13, 25, 26 AND 27. FLOOD WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON JUNE 7, 25 AND 26. A LANDSLIP WARNING WAS ISSUED ON JUNE 25. NO FIRE DANGER WARNINGS WAS ISSUED DURING THE MONTH.

SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>WEATHER SYSTEM</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING</u>	<u>DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING</u>
NORTHEAST MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	JUNE 14 1.00 AM	JUNE 15 8.15 AM
NORTHEAST MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	JUNE 15 11.00 PM	JUNE 16 4.20 PM
NORTHEAST MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	JUNE 18 1.05 PM	JUNE 20 8.10 AM
TYPHOON HAL	1	JUNE 22 10.00 AM	JUNE 23 12.40 AM
	3	JUNE 23 12.40 AM	JUNE 24 4.15 AM
	8 NW	JUNE 24 4.15 AM	JUNE 24 8.00 PM
	3	JUNE 24 8.00 PM	JUNE 25 10.45 AM
NORTHEAST MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	JUNE 29 9.45 PM	JUNE 30 5.00 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

SUNSHINE	94.5 HOURS = 64.7 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
RAINFALL	378.4 MM = 53.4 MM BELOW NORMAL
CLOUDINESS	81 PER CENT = SIX PER CENT MORE THAN NORMAL
RELATIVE HUMIDITY	84 PER CENT = NORMAL

/MEAN MAXIMUM

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MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	29.4 DEG. C. = 1.0 DEG. C. BELOW NORMAL
MEAN TEMPERATURE	27.2 DEG. C. = 0.5 DEG. C. BELOW NORMAL
MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	25.5 DEG. C. = 0.1 DEG. C. BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	24.2 DEG. C. = 0.3 DEG. C. BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	94.4 MM = 56.8 MM BELOW NORMAL

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 32.2 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON JUNE 22.

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 23.9 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON JUNE 14.

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FIRST QUARTER RESTAURANT SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED * * * *

THE VALUES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS AND TOTAL PURCHASES OF THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 WERE ESTIMATED TO BE \$4 580 MILLION AND \$1 974 MILLION RESPECTIVELY, ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, TOTAL RECEIPTS INCREASED BY THREE PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS BUT REMAINED UNCHANGED IN VOLUME TERMS, WHILE TOTAL PURCHASES DECREASED BY TWO PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS. WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER, TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS DECREASED BY FOUR PER CENT IN VALUE AND FIVE PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS, AND TOTAL PURCHASES DECREASED BY THREE PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS.

ANALYSED BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT, FAST FOOD SHOPS RECORDED THE LARGEST INCREASE (18 PER CENT) IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS, FOLLOWED BY BARS (SEVEN PER CENT), OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES (SIX PER CENT), NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (TWO PER CENT) AND CHINESE RESTAURANTS (ONE PER CENT) WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984. IN VOLUME TERMS, FAST FOOD SHOPS AGAIN RECORDED THE LARGEST INCREASE (15 PER CENT) IN TOTAL RECEIPTS, FOLLOWED BY BARS (TWO PER CENT). THE VOLUME OF TOTAL RECEIPTS OF OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES, HOWEVER, REMAINED UNCHANGED, WHILE THOSE OF CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS DROPPED BY ONE PER CENT AND TWO PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

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ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1984, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS WERE RECORDED IN ALL TYPES OF RESTAURANTS. THE SMALLEST DECREASE (ONE PER CENT) WAS RECORDED FOR FAST FOOD SHOPS, AND SLIGHTLY GREATER DECREASES OF THREE PER CENT WERE RECORDED FOR CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES (COMPRISING HERB TEA SHOPS, CREAMERIES AND CATERING OUTLETS SELLING BEAN CURB JELLY, ETC.). FOR NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND BARS, THE DECREASES WERE EIGHT PER CENT. IN VOLUME TERMS, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FAST FOOD SHOPS WENT DOWN BY ONE PER CENT, CHINESE RESTAURANTS BY FOUR PER CENT, OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES BY FIVE PER CENT, NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS BY NINE PER CENT AND BARS BY TEN PER CENT.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED FIGURES FOR TOTAL RECEIPTS AND TOTAL PURCHASES OF THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1984, AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT, WITH THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE OF 1982 TAKEN AS 100. COMPARISONS OF THE FIRST QUARTER 1985 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR THE FIRST AND FOURTH QUARTERS OF 1984 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 WILL BE SHORTLY ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO.: 3-7216024).

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES

	4TH QTR. 1984 (REVISED FIGURES IN HK\$ MILLION)	1ST QTR. 1985 (PROVISIONAL FIGURES IN HK\$ MILLION)
TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS	4 771	4 580
TOTAL RESTAURANT PURCHASES	2 040	1 974

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RESTAURANT
RECEIPTS FOR 4TH QUARTER 1984 AND 1ST QUARTER 1985

(QUARTERLY AVERAGE OF 1982 = 100)

TYPE OF RESTAURANT	INDEX OF TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS	4TH QUARTER 1984	1ST QUARTER 1985	1ST QTR. 1985 COMPARED WITH 4TH QTR. 1984		1ST QTR. 1985 COMPARED WITH 1ST QTR. 1984	
		(REVISED FIGURES)	(PROVISIONAL FIGURES)	POINTS	%	POINTS	%
CHINESE RESTAURANTS	VALUE	126	122	- 4	- 3	+ 2	+ 1
	VOLUME	110	106	- 4	- 4	- 1	- 1
NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS	VALUE	128	118	-10	- 8	+ 2	+ 2
	VOLUME	108	99	- 9	- 9	- 2	- 2
FAST FOOD SHOPS	VALUE	136	135	- 1	- 1	+21	+18
	VOLUME	115	114	- 2	- 1	+15	+15
BARS	VALUE	118	109	- 9	- 8	+ 7	+ 7
	VOLUME	101	91	-10	-10	+ 2	+ 2
OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES	VALUE	109	106	- 3	- 3	+ 6	+ 6
	VOLUME	94	89	- 5	- 5	*	*
ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR	VALUE	127	122	- 5	- 4	+ 3	+ 3
	VOLUME	109	104	- 5	- 5	*	*

NOTES: 1. FIGURES DENOTING CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM UNROUNDED FIGURES.

2. * DENOTES NO CHANGE.

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INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES DOWN
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AS FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY), THE NEW ANNUAL RATE OF INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES WILL BE 3.36 PER CENT (TAX FREE) AS AGAINST THE CURRENT RATE OF 3.6 PER CENT (TAX FREE), THE COMMISSIONER FOR INLAND REVENUE ANNOUNCED TODAY.

INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES IS CALCULATED IN MONTHLY STEPS AND THE NEW RATE WILL BE \$0.28 PER MONTH PER \$100. INTEREST WILL BE CREDITED AS BEFORE IN RESPECT OF COMPLETE MONTHS BETWEEN PURCHASE AND SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX.

INTEREST IS ONLY CREDITED WHEN CERTIFICATES ARE USED TO PAY TAX AND NO INTEREST IS DUE WHERE THE PRINCIPAL VALUE OF A CERTIFICATE IS REPAID BY A CHEQUE.

THE NEW RATE WILL APPLY TO ALL CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 17, 1985.

CERTIFICATES ISSUED BEFORE JULY 17, 1985 WILL CONTINUE TO EARN INTEREST AS FOLLOWS:

- 12.84 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 13, 1984 AND BEFORE AUGUST 10, 1984;
- 10.8 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 10, 1984 AND BEFORE AUGUST 31, 1984;
- 9.6 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 31, 1984 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 5, 1984;
- 8.52 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 5, 1984 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 31, 1984;
- 8.04 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 31, 1984 AND BEFORE NOVEMBER 28, 1984;
- 7.56 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 28, 1984 AND BEFORE DECEMBER 28, 1984;
- 7.08 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 28, 1984 AND BEFORE JANUARY 16, 1985;
- 6.6 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 16, 1985 AND BEFORE JANUARY 30, 1985;
- 5.52 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 30, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 3, 1985;
- 5.04 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 3, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 24, 1985;

/4.56 PER CENT

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- 4.56 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 24, 1985 AND BEFORE MAY 22, 1985;
- 4.08 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 22, 1985 AND BEFORE JUNE 27, 1985; AND
- 3.6 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 27, 1985 AND BEFORE JULY 17, 1985

BUT ALWAYS SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL RULE THAT INTEREST CEASES TO ACCRUE AFTER 36 COMPLETE MONTHS WITHOUT SURRENDER FOR PAYMENT OF TAX.

EXAMPLE: \$1 000 CERTIFICATES PURCHASED ON AUGUST 3, 1985, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985 AND OCTOBER 3, 1985 RESPECTIVELY, SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX DUE ON NOVEMBER 2, 1985 WILL HAVE INTEREST CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

ON \$1 000, AUGUST 3, 1985 TO NOVEMBER 2, 1985
THREE COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$2.80 PER MONTH = \$ 8.40

ON \$1 000, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985 TO NOVEMBER 2,
1985 TWO COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$2.80 PER
MONTH = \$ 5.60

ON \$1 000, OCTOBER 3, 1985 TO NOVEMBER 2,
1985 ONE COMPLETE MONTH AT \$2.80 PER
MONTH = \$ 2.80

\$16.80
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LEAVING FOR LIAISON GROUP TALKS
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MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH SIDE OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP, MR E.P. HO AND MR JOHN BOYD, WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) EVENING TO ATTEND THE FIRST MEETING OF THE GROUP.

THEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY LAW OFFICER (SPECIAL DUTIES), MR FRED BURROWS; PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (GENERAL DUTIES), MR RICHARD HOARE; AND CHIEF INTERPRETER, MR Y.P. CHENG.

THE PARTY WILL LEAVE ON FLIGHT BR 381, ETD 9.30 PM.

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MEET THE PRESS
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THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO AND ACTING DEPUTY SECRETARY, MR L.R. MACCULLOCH WILL MEET THE PRESS TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 4 PM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM TO EXPLAIN THE PROCEDURES FOR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS SET OUT UNDER A NEW SET OF REGULATIONS.

ALSO PRESENT WILL BE: PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (GENERAL) OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR C.M. LEUNG, AND ACTING PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (ELECTORAL SERVICES), MR K.T. LAI.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ELECTORAL PROVISIONS) (PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 1985 WILL BE PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTE TOMORROW. COPIES OF THE GAZETTE AND A CHINESE VERSION OF THE REGULATIONS MAY BE COLLECTED FROM GIS PRESS BOXES AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW.

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WORKING TOWARDS COMMON GOAL
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG TODAY (TUESDAY) CALLED ON THE HEUNG YEE KUK TO URGE OUTSTANDING PEOPLE IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS TO STAND FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

MR CHEUNG MADE THE APPEAL WHILE LEADING A DELEGATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO THE HEUNG YEE KUK THIS AFTERNOON.

HE SAID THE PROVISIONAL RC AND THE FUTURE REGIONAL COUNCIL WOULD BE FACING CHALLENGES AHEAD AND IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD INCLUDE PROFESSIONALS FROM VARIOUS FIELDS.

HE DESCRIBED THE SETTING UP OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL NEXT APRIL AS A MILESTONE IN HONG KONG'S DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS A MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, AS THE COUNCIL ALLOWED LOCAL PEOPLE A DIRECT INVOLVEMENT AND GREATER INFLUENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT.

IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK, MR LAU WONG-FAT, SAID THE KUK AND THE COUNCIL WOULD BE WORKING HARMONIOUSLY TOWARDS THE COMMON GOAL OF IMPROVING THE LIVING STANDARD OF THE RESIDENTS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS.

/MR LAU,

MR LAU, WHO IS ALSO AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL, SAID THAT THROUGH HIS CONTACTS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL DURING ITS MEETINGS, HE COULD SAY THAT ALL THE COUNCIL MEMBERS WORKED WHOLE-HEARTEDLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS.

DURING THE MEETING, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND THE KUK DISCUSSED A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS RELATING TO THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS.

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RENT REVISION FOR 39 POST-1973 PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES
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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS COMPLETED A BIENNIAL RENT REVIEW FOR 39 POST-1973 ESTATES, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE RISING COSTS OF MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE AS WELL AS INCREASES IN RATES OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A HOUSING SPOKESMAN SAID THAT FROM SEPTEMBER 1, NET RENTS FOR THESE ESTATES WOULD BE INCREASED BY \$2.00 TO \$2.80 PER SQUARE METRE.

+FOR THE MAJORITY OR 86 PER CENT OF THE TENANTS INVOLVED, THIS MEANS AN EXTRA OF ONLY \$61 TO \$130 A MONTH, OF WHICH \$15 TO \$29 WILL BE ADDITIONAL RATES PAID TO THE GOVERNMENT.

+SINCE THE LAST RENT REVIEW, RATES HAVE INCREASED TWICE. THE AUTHORITY HAS PAID FOR THE TENANTS A TOTAL OF \$15.8 MILLION ON RATES AND THIS AMOUNT WOULD BE RECOUPED FROM THE TENANTS OVER THE NEXT 24 MONTHS.

+NEW INCLUSIVE RENT LEVELS WILL STILL REMAIN REASONABLE AT \$10.15 TO \$18.62 A SQUARE METRE AND SHOULD BE AFFORDABLE BY TENANTS WHO WILL BE PAYING 8 TO 12 PER CENT OF THEIR HOUSEHOLD INCOME AS RENT.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE RENT REVISION WOULD OFFSET PART OF THE DEFICIT INCURRED IN THE MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ESTATES.

THE RENT REVISION WILL APPLY TO 71 097 FLATS IN 39 POST-1973 ESTATES, WHICH ARE AMONG THE BEST OF THE AUTHORITY'S ESTATES WITH SERVICES AND FACILITIES COMPARABLE TO NEWLY-BUILT ONES.

TENANTS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE RENTS AND RATES BOTH AT EXISTING AND NEW LEVELS, TOGETHER WITH AN EXPLANATORY NOTE.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO BRIEF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE OFFICIALS, LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ON THE RENT REVISION.

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MORE JOBS SOUGHT FOR DISABLED WORKERS
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THERE WERE MANY SKILLED WORKERS AMONG THE DISABLED PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, BUT THEIR POTENTIAL COULD NOT BE REALISED UNTIL EMPLOYERS PROVIDE THEM WITH SUITABLE JOBS, A SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER, MR JOHN SUNG KWAN-CHAK SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR SUNG, WHO HEADS THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, WAS SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE FOR THE SECOND HONG KONG ABILYMPIC, WHICH WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING AND PRESENT SOUVENIRS.

MR SUNG SAID THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE PROVIDES A SERVICE TO EMPLOYERS AND DISABLED PERSONS THROUGH THE SELECTION AND MATCHING OF A PERSON TO A JOB, SO THAT THE ABILITIES OF THE DISABLED PERSON WILL HAVE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR FULL DEVELOPMENT.

HE SAID THAT THERE WERE EMPLOYERS WHO BELIEVED IN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED PERSONS AND WHO HAD HELPED TO IDENTIFY POSTS SUITABLE FOR DISABLED JOB-SEEKERS.

+TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND TO GIVE PUBLIC RECOGNITION TO THESE EMPLOYERS, SO THAT OTHER EMPLOYERS MAY FOLLOW THEIR GOOD EXAMPLES, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HOLDS AN ANNUAL CEREMONY DURING WHICH SOUVENIRS ARE PRESENTED TO THE OUTSTANDING EMPLOYERS,+ HE SAID.

THIS YEAR, THE ANNUAL PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE SECOND HONG KONG ABILYMPIC.

MR SUNG SAID THIS WOULD PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EMPLOYERS AND THE DISABLED WORKERS TO GET TOGETHER AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT EACH OTHER.

THE SECOND ABILYMPIC WOULD ALSO PROVIDE A CHANCE FOR EMPLOYERS TO OBSERVE THE VARIETY OF TASKS THAT DISABLED PERSONS COULD PERFORM, HE ADDED.

MR SUNG SAID THE SKILL CONTEST AT THE ABILYMPIC WOULD GIVE EMPLOYERS CONFIDENCE THAT THERE WERE MANY SKILLED DISABLED WORKERS, AND HE INVITED ALL EMPLOYERS TO VISIT THE CONTEST.

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THREE MORE DAYS FOR EDUCATION GRANTS

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STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDIES UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS HAVE ONLY THREE MORE DAYS TO MAKE THEIR APPLICATIONS, AN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT APPLICATIONS FOR THESE SUBSIDIES IN THE FORM OF SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND INTEREST-FREE LOANS WILL CLOSE ON JULY 19 AND LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, AND FROM VARIOUS DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES LIAISON OFFICES.

CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDIES SHOULD BE HONG KONG RESIDENTS, PREFERABLY UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE. THEY SHOULD TAKE COURSES IN AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY SCIENCE, FISHERY SCIENCE, MARINE BIOLOGY OR ANY APPLIED SCIENCE RELEVANT TO THE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL OR FISHERIES INDUSTRIES OR THEIR RELATED TRADES.

MEANWHILE, APPLICATIONS ARE ALSO OPEN TO STUDENTS IN FORMS 4 TO 7 WHO ARE CHILDREN OF FARMING AND FISHING FAMILIES AND WHO NEED FINANCIAL HELP FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS TO COMPLETE THEIR SECONDARY SCHOOLING AS A PREREQUISITE FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION. APPLICATIONS FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 16.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT APPLICATION PROCEDURE MAY BE MADE TO THE SECRETARY OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT 3-688111 EXT. 510.

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CAREERS EDUCATION SEMINAR

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A SEMINAR ON CAREERS EDUCATION WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY (JULY 19) AT THE INSTITUTE OF CHINESE STUDIES, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE ONE-DAY SEMINAR IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS.

/THE ACTING

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DARWIN CHEN AND THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE SEMINAR, WHICH WILL BE ATTENDED BY ABOUT 100 CAREERS TEACHERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY, WHICH STARTS AT 10 AM, AND THE SEMINAR.

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GROUP GOES TO SEE POLICE TRAINING
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SOUTHERN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE MEMBERS, LED BY THE CHAIRMAN, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER MR EDDY CHAN, WENT TODAY TO SEE POLICEMEN IN TRAINING AT THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL IN WONG CHUK HANG.

WHILE LEARNING FROM THE SCHOOL'S COMMANDANT, MR HUI CHIU-YIN ABOUT THE TRAINING PROGRAMME AND LIVING CONDITIONS THERE, THE MEMBERS ALSO LOOKED IN AT THE GYMNASIUM, INDOOR SHOOTING RANGE, THE LAUNDRY AND JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS' MESS.

THEY THEN SPENT SOME TIME CHATTING WITH POLICE OFFICERS.

THE GROUP WERE ACCOMPANIED BY POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, WESTERN, MR E.J. STEVENSON.

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SERVICE WITH COURTESY
* * * *

SEVEN FRONTLINE OFFICES OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL SEND ABOUT 130 STAFF MEMBERS TO ATTEND CUSTOMER SERVICE SKILLS COURSES WHICH ARE PART OF A TWO-MONTH EXERCISE WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE TO PROMOTE COURTESY IN THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

EIGHTEEN MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC VEHICLES SECTION AND STUDENT TRAVEL OFFICE HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE COURSE ORGANISED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH SINCE IT STARTED IN EARLY JULY.

/THE SEVEN

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THE SEVEN OFFICES TO TAKE PART IN THE EXERCISE ARE THREE LICENSING OFFICES, TWO DRIVING TEST APPOINTMENT OFFICES AND THE ENQUIRIES COUNTER AT THE REGIONAL OFFICES.

TO DEMONSTRATE MANAGEMENT'S SUPPORT FOR THE COURTESY DRIVE, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR JAMES SO, TODAY (TUESDAY) TOURED THE PUBLIC VEHICLES SECTION AND THE STUDENT TRAVEL OFFICE TO DISCUSS THE COURTESY EXERCISE WITH FRONTLINE STAFF.

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DB MEMBERS TOUR TO KWA WAN AREA
* * *

KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE TO KWA WAN SOUTH CONSTITUENCY TO GET TO KNOW THE AREA BETTER.

THIS WAS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF VISITS TO BE MADE BY THE BOARD TO THE EIGHT CONSTITUENCIES IN THE DISTRICT, ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GORDON JONES, THE PARTY WENT TO THE LOK MAN SUN CHUEN TO INSPECT PROGRESS IN MAINTENANCE WORK BEING CARRIED OUT ON TWO BLOCKS AT THE ESTATE. THEY ALSO OBSERVED MINI-BUS OPERATIONS OUTSIDE THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE ESTATE.

AFTER VISITING AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT LOK SHAN ROAD AND THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINT CONSTRUCTION SITE AT KOWLOON CITY ROAD, THEY SPENT SOME TIME AT THE TO KWA WAN ROAD JUNCTION LOOKING AT TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

THEY ALSO INSPECTED A PIG ROASTING FACTORY IN KOWLOON CITY ROAD, TO STUDY ITS ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT ON THE AREA.

AT MA TAU KOK ROAD, THEY SAW THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM THE LARGE NUMBER OF HAWKERS OPERATING IN THE AREA.

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BACKLANE STRUCTURES CLEARED
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SEVENTEEN ILLEGAL STRUCTURES, INCLUDING CANOPIES, WERE DEMOLISHED TODAY (TUESDAY) IN A CLEARANCE OPERATION IN TAI KOK TSUI.

THEY WERE LOCATED AT THE REAR LANES OF LARCH STREET AND TONG MEI ROAD.

ABOUT HALF OF THE STRUCTURES WERE USED FOR STORAGE PURPOSES, AND THE REST INCLUDED FOUR DOMESTIC UNITS, TWO SHOPS AND TWO ABANDONED COCKLOFTS.

THE CLEARANCE OPERATION WAS CO-ORDINATED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE AND CARRIED OUT BY A PRIVATE CONTRACTOR. IT WAS PART OF A REGULAR PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE DISTRICT.

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ALL UNDER ONE ROOF
* * *

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SIX UNITS, WHICH PREVIOUSLY OPERATED AT SEPARATE LOCATIONS, ARE NOW ALL UNDER ONE ROOF IN THE KOWLOON EAST GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE, WHICH CO-ORDINATES SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN THE AREA, AND ITS FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICE, PROBATION OFFICE, JUVENILE COURT PROBATION OFFICE, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT, AND REHABILITATION AND ELDERLY OFFICE, ARE NOW ALL AT 12 LEI YUE MUN ROAD, OPPOSITE THE KWUN TONG SWIMMING POOL.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THESE OFFICES ARE :

DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICE	3-470047
FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE	3-7757034
YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICE	3-7758606
PROBATION OFFICE	3-7750591
JUVENILE COURT PROBATION OFFICE	3-497559
CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT	3-7750548
REHABILITATION AND ELDERLY OFFICE	3-7757040

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TRAFFIC CHANGES ON HONG KONG ISLAND

SEVERAL ROAD SECTIONS IN HAPPY VALLEY WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS, FROM 10-AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 19).

THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF SHAN KWONG ROAD BETWEEN WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD AND YIK YAM STREET; ALONG WITH THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF YIK YAM STREET BETWEEN SHAN KWONG ROAD AND HOUSE NO. 28 WILL BE DESIGNATED 24-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAYS.

IN ADDITION, THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF KING KWONG STREET BETWEEN SING WOO ROAD AND HOUSE NO. 10 WILL BE MADE AN URBAN CLEARWAY, FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

NO MOTOR VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS DURING THE RESTRICTED PERIODS WITHIN THESE ROAD SECTIONS.

ALSO FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 19), TAI LOK STREET BETWEEN SAI WAN HO STREET AND SHAU KEI WAN ROAD WILL BE RE-OPENED TO TRAFFIC, FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF ROAD WORK.

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FIVE FOOTBRIDGES FOR NORTH POINT

WORK WILL START LATER THIS MONTH ON CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE FOOTBRIDGES IN NORTH POINT AND QUARRY BAY.

THE BRIDGES, WITH STAIRCASES AT BOTH ENDS WILL SPAN KING'S ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH NORTH POINT ROAD, TIN CHIU STREET, JAVA ROAD, PAN HOI STREET AND MOUNT PARKER ROAD.

TO MINIMISE INCONVENIENCE TO TRAFFIC, STEEL DECKS OF THE FOOTBRIDGES WOULD BE FABRICATED AT THE SITE OFFICE IN QUARRY BAY AND TRANSPORTED TO CONSTRUCTION SITES FOR ERECTION AT NIGHT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT SAID.

A \$15-MILLION CONTRACT AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE WORK WAS SIGNED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE REGIONAL HIGHWAYS ENGINEER-HONG KONG, MR LEUNG MIN-SUN AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF HENRY BOOT INTERNATIONAL LIMITED.

THE WORK WILL TAKE 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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TENDERS CALLED FOR TSING YI BRIDGE WORK

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THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS CALLED FOR TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE ACROSS THE LIU TO VALLEY ON TSING YI ISLAND.

AS PART OF THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT ON THE ISLAND, THE PROJECT ALSO CALLS FOR THE WIDENING OF THE SOUTHERN APPROACH ROAD OF THE PROPOSED BRIDGE.

THE 170-METRE BRIDGE WILL HAVE A 13.5-METRE CARRIAGEWAY PROVIDING FOUR LANES OF TRAFFIC, TWO IN EACH DIRECTION. IT WILL ALSO HAVE A 2.75-METRE FOOTPATH ON EACH SIDE OF THE CARRIAGEWAY.

WHEN COMPLETED, THE BRIDGE WILL FORM PART OF A ROAD LINK BETWEEN THE CHEUNG HONG ESTATE PHASES IV AND V, CHING WAH COURT HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME AND THE TSING YI NORTH BRIDGE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND TAKE 20 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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GARDEN OPENS IN TOURIST SPOT

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A MODERN PLAYGROUND AND SITTING-OUT AREA OPPOSITE ONE OF THE OLDEST TEMPLES IN HONG KONG - THE MAN MO TEMPLE - HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND OPENED TO THE PUBLIC.

KNOWN AS THE HOLLYWOOD ROAD GARDEN, IT IS BOUNDED BY LADDER STREET, UPPER LASCAR ROW AND HOLLYWOOD ROAD, AN AREA RENOWNED FOR AN ABUNDANCE OF ANTIQUE SHOPS.

FACILITIES PROVIDED IN THIS URBAN COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT INCLUDE VARIOUS TYPES OF CHILDREN'S PLAY EQUIPMENT, FLOWER BEDS, BENCHES, ARBOURS AND PARKLIGHTS.

THE SITE MEASURES SOME 320 SQUARE METRES AND TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST AMOUNTED TO \$470 000.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR THE SUPPLY OF PLANTS
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THE URBAN COUNCIL IS INVITING TENDERS FROM COMMERCIAL NURSERIES FOR THE SUPPLY OF A LARGE QUANTITY OF PLANTS.

THESE INCLUDE TREES, PALM TREES AND SHRUBS. THEY WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE INSTANT IMPROVEMENTS TO LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT AT THE CHOI HUNG ROAD PLAYGROUND, CARPENTER ROAD PARK, CHAI WAN PARK AND SHEUNG SHING STREET PARK.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE AT THE URBAN COUNCIL'S SUPPLIES OFFICE, SIXTH FLOOR, CLUB LUSITANO BUILDING, 16, ICE HOUSE STREET, CENTRAL.

COMPLETED TENDER FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE AND PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT RECEPTION COUNTER, 12TH FLOOR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), ICE HOUSE STREET, BEFORE 9 A.M. ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1985. LATE TENDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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GOING ON LEAVE
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THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, WILL GO ON LEAVE FOR SIX WEEKS FROM FRIDAY (JULY 19).

DURING HIS ABSENCE, MR ALBERT LAM WILL ACT AS SDA IN ADDITION TO HIS DUTIES AS ACTING REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON UNTIL AUGUST 6.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, WHO IS CURRENTLY ON LEAVE, WILL BE ACTING SDA FROM AUGUST 7 UNTIL MR LIAO RETURNS FROM LEAVE ON SEPTEMBER 2.

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FREE CONCERT FOR RESIDENTS

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HUNDREDS OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS WILL BE TREATED TO A FREE CONCERT ON THURSDAY (JULY 18) EVENING AT THE CARITAS CENTRE, CAINE ROAD.

THE SIXTH YOUTH CONCERT IS SPONSORED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD, AND JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURE AND ARTS, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE MID-LEVEL (WESTERN) AREA COMMITTEE.

IT WILL BE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY HALL OF THE CARITAS CENTRE, CAINE ROAD, STARTING AT 8 PM.

THE TWO-HOUR CONCERT WILL INCLUDE FOLK SONGS AND POPULAR MUSIC BY THE EIGHT WINNERS IN THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SINGING COMPETITION, AND PERFORMANCES BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN YOUTH CHOIR.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CONCERT WILL BE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KIM SALKELD; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MID-LEVEL (WESTERN) AREA COMMITTEE, MR YUEN BUN-KEUNG AND SEVERAL OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SIXTH CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT YOUTH CONCERT, STARTING AT 8 PM ON THURSDAY (JULY 18) AT THE COMMUNITY HALL OF CARITAS CENTRE, CAINE ROAD, CENTRAL.

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TRANSPORT GUIDE ON SALE

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A BOOK ENTITLED +GUIDE TO HONG KONG'S BUS, LIGHT BUS, RAIL AND FERRY SERVICES+ IS NOW ON SALE AT \$16 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, CENTRAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

THE PUBLICATION, IN ENGLISH, GIVES DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE ROUTES, FARES AND TIMETABLES OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT, INCLUDING +KAITO+ SERVICES. IT GENERALLY INDICATES THE POSITION OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, BUT INCLUDES THE LATEST INFORMATION ON KCR AND MTR FARES.

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