



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

| <u>CONTENTS</u> | <u>PAGE NO.</u> |
|--|-----------------|
| REGIONAL COMMISSIONER EXPLAINS HIS NEW JOB | 1 |
| GOVERNOR VISITS NGAU TAU KOK AND SHAM SHUI PO | 3 |
| MANUAL ON PRACTICE AND STANDARDS TO PREVENT SLOPE FAILURES | 4 |
| REPORT ON U.S.-HK TEXTILE TALKS CONSIDERED | 6 |
| BAN ON EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 14 | 7 |
| COMMUNITY GROUPS URGED TO USE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD FUNDS | 8 |
| IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT FACING CHALLENGES ON ALL FRONTS | 9 |
| JAPAN OFFERS TWO SCHOLARSHIPS TO HK STUDENTS | 10 |
| SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICE TO PLEASURE GARDEN | 10 |
| JAPANESE YOUTH GROUP PAYS COURTESY CALL ON S.W.D. | 11 |
| LADY MACLEHOSE TO VISIT CHILDREN'S CAMP | 12 |

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 1 -

REGIONAL COMMISSIONER EXPLAINS HIS NEW JOB

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THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING POPULATION AND ECONOMY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS CALLED FOR A MORE DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY TO ENSURE THAT GOVERNMENT'S FUNCTIONS ARE EFFICIENTLY CARRIED OUT AND CO-ORDINATED ON THE GROUND, THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF THE NORTHWESTERN NEW TERRITORIES, MR. JIMMY SWEETMAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE SAID : +HONG KONG HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN GOVERNED UNDER A VERY CENTRALISED SYSTEM.

+AND IT IS PROBABLY ONLY BECAUSE OF THE PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES LEASE THAT A DEGREE OF DECENTRALISATION IN THE FORM OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION CAME ABOUT IN THE FIRST PLACE.+

MR. SWEETMAN, ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE TAI PING SHAN LIONS CLUB, DESCRIBED HIS POST AS +A PRELIMINARY STEP IN BRINGING ABOUT A GREATER DEGREE OF DECENTRALISATION IN THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG+.

THE NORTHWEST REGION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL COMPRISE FOUR DISTRICTS -- TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, TAI PO AND A NEW NORTH DISTRICT, STRETCHING FROM KWU TUNG TO SHA TAU KOK.

THE IDEA OF HAVING A NORTHWEST REGION, MR. SWEETMAN SAID, WAS TO CONCENTRATE THE EFFORTS OF ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND IN RESPONSE TO THE DESIRES OF THE PEOPLE GOING TO LIVE IN THE REGION TOWARDS PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE NEW ENVIRONMENT- WORKING IN BETTER PLANNED FACTORIES AND ENJOYING THE SPREAD OF AMENITIES FROM THE SOPHISTICATED TOWN CENTRES TO THE EASILY ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL AREAS TO GIVE THEM AND THEIR CHILDREN A BETTER LIFE THAN THEY COULD HOPE FOR IN THE ALREADY OVER-DEVELOPED AND OFTEN OVER-PRICED URBAN AREA.

MR. SWEETMAN SAID HE WAS NOT A +SUPER DISTRICT OFFICER+ AND THE DAY-TO-DAY ADMINISTRATION WOULD CONTINUE TO BE UNDER THE DISTRICT OFFICERS' CONTROL, THUS ENABLING HIM TO REVIEW PROGRESS AND WORK OUT AND IMPLEMENT NEW POLICIES.

BROADLY SPEAKING, HE CONTINUED, THE DUTIES WOULD CONSIST OF CO-ORDINATING AND MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT POLICY- ENSURING THAT THIS POLICY WAS EXPLAINED TO THE PEOPLE AND THEIR OPINIONS ON IT AND SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGES WERE CONSIDERED AND CONVEYED TO THE GOVERNMENT- AND PROVIDING A HIGH STANDARD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE REGION.

+MY FIRST TASK OF CO-ORDINATING AND MONITORING WILL CENTRE ON THE NEW TOWN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WHERE PROGRESS IN DEVELOPMENT WORK, COMMUNITY BUILDING, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS AND TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT MATTER IS REVIEWED EVERY TWO MONTHS,+ MR. SWEETMAN SAID.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 2 -

IN THIS ASPECT, HE POINTED OUT, HE ALSO HAD TO ENSURE THAT OUTSIDE THE NEW TOWNS LAND WAS PROPERLY USED AND THAT SUFFICIENT NEW LAND WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

+IN MY SECOND MAIN LINE OF DUTY,+ MR. SWEETMAN CONTINUED, +I HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS, RURAL COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OTHER SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS, AS WELL AS MY PERSONAL CONTACT, TO ENSURE THAT THE PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED MORE AND MORE IN MAKING DECISIONS ON THEIR FUTURE AND THEY OBTAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO DO.+

HOWEVER, HE SAID, THIS AIM COULD NOT BE ACHIEVED UNLESS ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN THE REGION WERE SEEN TO HAVE NOT ONLY A SENSIBLE POLICY FOR DEALING WITH THEIR PARTICULAR PROBLEM, BUT ALSO WERE CAPABLE AND ENTHUSIASTIC ENOUGH TO SOLVE THEM.

HE EMPHASISED THAT HIS THIRD DUTY - THAT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - WAS OF EQUAL IF NOT GREATER IMPORTANCE.

+ALTHOUGH WE ARE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS IN AIR POLLUTION, THE HEAVY CONCENTRATION OF PIG AND CHICKEN FARMING IN THE REGION, PARTICULARLY, IN THOSE AREAS UPSTREAM OF THE NEW TOWNS PRESENTS US WITH A GREAT CHALLENGE,+ MR. SWEETMAN SAID.

HE INDICATED THE IMPORTANCE OF SOLVING THIS PROBLEM BY COMPARING POLLUTION IN RURAL AREAS WITH THAT IN A TOWN.

+IT IS ESTIMATED THAT POLLUTION CAUSED BY PIG FARMING IN THE YUEN LONG PLAIN ALONE IS THE EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF A TOWN OF 800,000 PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

ON HOUSING, HE SAID THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS WELL-KNOWN, AND EVEN IN THESE TIMES OF CAUTION IN PUBLIC SPENDING, THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME WAS BEING MAINTAINED.

+THE PRIVATE SECTOR ALSO HAS A LARGE CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO THE BUILDING UP OF THE REGION, AND I AM HAPPY TO ENCOURAGE LARGE-SCALE COMPREHENSIVE PRIVATE PARTICIPATION IN THE REGION'S DEVELOPMENT,+ MR. SWEETMAN SAID.

+HOWEVER, IT IS USELESS TO BUILD NEW HOMES WITHOUT THE ESSENTIAL INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND WITHOUT THE SCHOOLS, CLINICS AND HOSPITALS WHICH ANY PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY INSISTS UPON.+

HE SAID THE NEEDS OF TRANSPORT WERE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF THE RELATIVE ISOLATION OF THE REGION FROM THE MAIN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CENTRES OF HONG KONG.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979.

IN THE WEST, HE SAID, TUEN MUN HAD ITS HIGHWAY WHICH CONTINUED TO BE IMPROVED AND WITH THE HEAVY POPULATION CONCENTRATION TO BE BUILT UP BETWEEN THE NEW TOWN AND YUEN LONG, THERE WERE AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR A MODERN TRAMWAY SYSTEM.

+IN THE EAST, WE ARE TO HAVE AN ELECTRIFIED FREQUENT SERVICE OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WHICH WITH ITS CONNECTIONS WITH THE M.T.R. WILL MAKE ATTRACTIVE THAT PART OF THE REGION AS A COMMUTER'S DORMITORY.

+NEITHER MUST WE FORGET THE FERRIES AND IN FUTURE THERE SEEMS TO BE GOOD SCOPE FOR AND A LOT OF GEOGRAPHICAL LOGIC IN PROVIDING SPEEDIER FERRIES BETWEEN TUEN MUN AND THE URBAN AREA AND INDEED TO AND FROM MACAU AND THE NEIGHBOURING PARTS OF CHINA, PARTICULARLY IN THESE DAYS OF EVER-INCREASING OIL PRICES,+ HE ADDED.

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GOVERNOR VISITS NGAU TAU KOK AND SHAM SHUI PO
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS ON A VARIETY OF GENERAL AND DISTRICT ISSUES TODAY (THURSDAY) WHEN HE VISITED NGAU TAU KOK AND SHAM SHUI PO.

SUBJECTS RAISED INCLUDED THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEE PROBLEMS, LUNCHEON FACILITIES FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN SHAM SHUI PO AND KWUN TONG, PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND A TOWN HALL FOR KWUN TONG, AND MEDICAL FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN SHAM SHUI PO.

THE GOVERNOR FIRST VISITED THE CARITAS CENTRE IN NGAU TAU KOK WHERE HE WAS MET BY THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (KWUN TONG), MR. C.M. LEUNG. FROM THERE HE WENT TO THE SHAM SHUI PO CITY DISTRICT OFFICE IN LAI CHI KOK ROAD WHERE HE WAS MET BY THE CDO, MR. STEPHEN IP.

SIR MURRAY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. MICHAEL LEUNG, AND MR. HAROLD KWOK, CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER (KOWLOON), DURING HIS TOUR OF THE TWO DISTRICTS.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 4 -

MANUAL ON PRACTICE AND STANDARDS TO
PREVENT SLOPE FAILURES
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THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS PREPARED A COMPREHENSIVE MANUAL SETTING OUT THE PRACTICE AND STANDARDS CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO PREVENT SLOPE FAILURES IN HONG KONG.

THE TEXT HAS ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED AND THE MANUAL WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY.

IT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE CONCERNED WITH CONSTRUCTION ON SLOPES.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE PWD'S GEOTECHNICAL ADVISER, MR. STANLEY RODIN, IN AN ADDRESS TO THE ZONTA CLUB OF KOWLOON TODAY (THURSDAY).

+THE MANUAL DEALS WITH A VERY WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS AND IS CONCERNED WITH THE INVESTIGATION, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF WORKS CONNECTED WITH SLOPES,+ MR. RODIN SAID.

HE ALSO LISTED THE PREVENTIVE WORKS CARRIED OUT BY THE PWD ON SLOPES PROVIDING THE GREATEST RISK TO THE PUBLIC:

- * IN EARLY 1977, THE PWD CARRIED OUT PREVENTIVE WORKS ON 39 FILL SLOPES IN 17 PUBLIC HOUSING AREAS AT A COST OF \$21 MILLION.
- * IN THE 1977-78 DRY SEASON PROGRAMME, ANOTHER 36 FILL SLOPES NEAR HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC HOUSING BLOCKS WERE DEALT WITH AT A COST OF \$40 MILLION.
- * IN THE 1978-79 PROGRAMME, PREVENTIVE WORKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED OR ARE IN HAND ON A FURTHER 23 FILL SLOPES ON CROWN LAND NEAR SQUATTER AREAS, SCHOOLS, PUBLIC HOUSING AND PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL AREAS AT A COST OF \$36 MILLION.

THEREFORE, MR. RODIN SAID, 98 FILL SLOPES WHICH PROVIDED THE GREATEST RISK TO THE PUBLIC HAD BEEN MADE SAFE.

AND, HE STRESSED, A FURTHER PROGRAMME OF PREVENTIVE WORK ON SLOPES WAS BEING PLANNED FOR THE NEXT DRY SEASON.

MR. RODIN EXPLAINED THE HISTORY OF THE VAST SLOPE IDENTIFICATION AND STABILISATION WORK CARRIED OUT SINCE THE PO SHAN ROAD DISASTER OF 1972.

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE DETAILED STUDY OF CUT SLOPES WAS COMPLETED IN 1974 AND ABOUT 1,000 ITEMS OF PREVENTIVE OR REMEDIAL WORK WERE RECOMMENDED AND CARRIED OUT.

THE SECOND PHASE OF THE STUDY FOLLOWED, INVOLVING A MORE DETAILED INVESTIGATION OF CUT SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS IN 30 AREAS. MUCH OF THE PREVENTIVE WORKS RECOMMENDED FOR THESE AREAS HAS BEEN COMPLETED OR IS IN HAND.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 5 -

AT PRESENT, STUDIES OF SLOPES IN ANOTHER 16 AREAS ARE UNDERWAY.

TOWARDS THE END OF 1976 THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED THAT EVERY SINGLE SIZEABLE CUT OR NATURAL SLOPE IN THE TERRITORY THAT MIGHT AFFECT THE SAFETY OF PEOPLE OR PROPERTY SHOULD BE INSPECTED.

AS A RESULT OF THIS INSPECTION, MR. RODIN SAID, MORE THAN 8,000 CUT SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS WERE IDENTIFIED.

+ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, WE ALSO MADE A PRELIMINARY INSPECTION OF ALL SIZEABLE FILL SLOPES IN THE TERRITORY. AS A RESULT, ABOUT 2,300 FILL SLOPES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED,+ HE SAID.

FORTUNATELY, MR. RODIN ADDED, THE VAST MAJORITY OF THESE SLOPES WERE FOUND TO BE SATISFACTORY AND REQUIRED LITTLE OR NO PREVENTIVE WORK.

NEVERTHELESS, HE SOUNDED A NOTE OF WARNING: THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTORS MUST BE PREPARED TO PAY FOR THE HIGH GEOTECHNICAL STANDARDS NECESSARY TO ENSURE SAFETY AND ECONOMY IN THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF SLOPES.

HE SAID THAT THE STANDARDS OF SITE INVESTIGATION BORINGS AND LABORATORY TESTING BY MANY HONG KONG SPECIALIST SITE INVESTIGATION CONTRACTORS WERE FAR FROM SATISFACTORY.

+THIS RESULTS WHEN CLIENTS SEEK THE CHEAPEST JOB,+ HE SAID.

MR. RODIN WENT ON: +THIS OFTEN MEANS LITTLE OR NO PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL SUPERVISION OF THE SITE INVESTIGATION AND LABORATORY TESTING. SOMETIMES, THIS COULD BE MISLEADING AND DANGEROUS SINCE, FOR EXAMPLE, VITAL PIECES OF GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION CAN BE EASILY MISSED FROM THE BOREHOLE DATA.+

IN ADDITION TO BEING PREPARED TO PAY FOR THE HIGH GEOTECHNICAL STANDARDS, HE EMPHASISED, BOTH THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS MUST ENSURE BY THEIR OWN INSPECTION OF THE SITE FORMATION WORKS THAT THESE STANDARDS WERE, IN FACT, BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE CONTRACTOR.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 6 -

REPORT ON U.S.-HK TEXTILE TALKS CONSIDERED

MR. DAVID JORDAN, DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE BOARD HAD CONSIDERED A REPORT ON THE RECENT UNITED STATES-HONG KONG TEXTILE TALKS.

THE REPORT WAS COMPILED BY MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, DIRECTOR OF TRADE, FOLLOWING HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH A U.S. DELEGATION LED BY THE CHIEF TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR, AMBASSADOR MICHAEL B. SMITH, IN MANILA FROM JULY 20-22.

THE REPORT COVERED THE U.S. DELEGATION'S PRESENTATION AS TO THE CURRENT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DEMAND OF THE U.S. TEXTILE INDUSTRY FOR TIGHTER RESTRICTIONS ON HONG KONG AND SOME OTHER SUPPLIERS.

IT ALSO RECORDED THE U.S. DELEGATION'S SUGGESTIONS FOR CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS TO BE MADE TO THE CURRENT FIVE-YEAR HONG KONG-UNITED STATES TEXTILE AGREEMENT.

IN REACTION TO THE REPORT, MEMBERS POINTED OUT THAT AT THE RECENT U.S. MANAGEMENT LABOUR TEXTILE COMMITTEE MEETING ON JUNE 5, 1979, U.S. OFFICIALS HAD SAID THAT TEXTILE AND APPAREL IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE JANUARY-APRIL PERIOD OF 1979 DECLINED BY 395 MILLION SQUARE YARDS SIMILAR TO THE FIGURE OF THE SAME PERIOD IN 1978, AND U.S. OFFICIALS HAD GUESSED THAT TEXTILE AND APPAREL IMPORTS IN 1979 WOULD BE ABOUT 10 PER CENT LOWER THAN IN 1978.

IN APRIL 1979, U.S. IMPORTS OF COTTON, WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBRES, TEXTILES AND APPAREL HAD DECLINED BY SEVEN PER CENT FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTH AND BY 33 PER CENT FROM APRIL 1978.

U.S. IMPORTS OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL FROM HONG KONG IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WERE ALMOST 16 PER CENT LOWER THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR IN QUANTITY TERMS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, HONG KONG'S IMPORTS OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL FROM THE UNITED STATES WERE WORTH OVER \$166 MILLION IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, AN INCREASE OF 74 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1978.

MEMBERS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION THIS YEAR IN THE U.S. TEXTILE AND APPAREL INDUSTRY WAS VIRTUALLY THE SAME AS IT WAS IN 1977, THE YEAR IN WHICH THE FIVE-YEAR TEXTILE AGREEMENT WAS NEGOTIATED.

THE BOARD WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED AT THE U.S. INDUSTRY'S ATTITUDE TO THE FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT. THESE PROVISIONS ASSIST U.S. DOMESTIC PRODUCERS BY PREVENTING OVER-CONCENTRATION OF EXPORTS IN CATEGORIES WHERE DEMAND WAS WEAK.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 7 -

+IN THE LIGHT OF THIS SITUATION, MEMBERS FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO SEE WHY HONG KONG SHOULD BE ASKED TO CONSIDER ANY MODIFICATIONS TO THE CURRENT BILATERAL AGREEMENT,+ MR. JORDAN SAID.

+THE SUBJECT WILL BE CONSIDERED FURTHER BY THE BOARD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE NEW DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR. PETER TSAO, TAKES UP HIS POST. THIS IS EXPECTED TO BE IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT MONTH,+ HE ADDED.

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BAN ON EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 14

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CHILDREN UNDER 14 YEARS OLD WILL NOT, AS A GENERAL RULE, BE ALLOWED TO WORK IN EITHER THE INDUSTRIAL OR NON-INDUSTRIAL SECTOR WHEN THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN REGULATIONS 1979 COME INTO OPERATION ON SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THE PROHIBITION, WHICH HAD BEEN ENFORCED IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR FOR A LONG TIME, WAS BEING EXTENDED TO THE NON-INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TO ASSIST IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF COMPULSORY JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION.

THE REGULATIONS, MADE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL AFTER THE EMPLOYMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1979 WAS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 18, WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE REGULATIONS PROHIBIT GENERALLY THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 14 UNLESS THEY FELL WITHIN SPECIFIC EXCEPTIONS.

CHILDREN WHO HAVE ATTAINED 13 YEARS MAY, WITH THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THEIR PARENTS, ENGAGE IN PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT IN NON-INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS AIMED AT PROTECTING THEIR HEALTH AND MORALS.

THE REGULATIONS ALSO STIPULATE THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BE EMPLOYED:

- * IN ANY OF THE OCCUPATIONS LISTED IN THE SCHEDULE TO THE REGULATIONS-
- * BEFORE 7 A.M. OR AFTER 7 P.M.-
- * DURING SCHOOL HOURS ON A SCHOOL DAY-
- * FOR MORE THAN TWO HOURS ON A SCHOOL DAY-
- * FOR MORE THAN FOUR HOURS ON ANY OTHER DAY DURING THE SCHOOL TERM, AND
- * DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS FOR MORE THAN EIGHT HOURS ON ANY DAY.

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ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO WORK IN, AMONG OTHER PLACES, BARS, DANCE HALLS, BILLIARD SALOONS, MAHJONG, TIN KAU OR GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS, KITCHENS OF HOTELS, BOARDING HOUSES, COOKED-FOOD SHOPS, CAFES AND RESTAURANTS, PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT, ABATTOIRS, HAIR-DRESSING SALOONS OR MASSAGE PARLOURS.

THEY WILL ALSO NOT BE ALLOWED TO HANDLE DANGEROUS MACHINES OR DELIVER DANGEROUS GOODS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE REGULATIONS ALSO PROVIDE FOR:

- * THE KEEPING OF RECORDS BY EMPLOYERS OF CHILDREN-
- * THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR TO REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE OF PARENTAL CONSENT AND VALID SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES, OR TO ARRANGE FOR THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF THE CHILDREN IF NECESSARY-
- * THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES FOR VARIOUS OFFENCES IN THE FORM OF FINES RANGING BETWEEN \$2,000 AND \$10,000, AND
- * FOR THE GOVERNOR TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE.

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COMMUNITY GROUPS URGED TO USE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD FUNDS

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COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG WISHING TO ORGANISE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES WERE TODAY (THURSDAY) URGED TO APPROACH THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD FOR SPONSORSHIP.

THE APPEAL CAME FROM AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE BOARD, MR. CHAN KAI-CHUNG WHEN HE OFFICIALLY OPENED A NEW PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE AT LEI MUK SHUE ESTATE.

THE NEW CENTRE -- THE SIXTH SO FAR IN KWAI CHUNG -- BRINGS TO EIGHT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PESCS IN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT.

MR. CHAN SAID : +IF YOUR ORGANISATION WISHES TO EMBARK ON ANY MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES BUT CANNOT DO SO BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT FUNDS, YOU MAY APPLY TO THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD FOR SPONSORSHIP THROUGH YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE.+

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PROVISION OF HEALTHY RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR VARIOUS STRATA OF THE LOCAL POPULATION.

+FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR, TWO-THIRDS OF THE ALLOCATED FUNDS OF \$1.75 MILLION FOR THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD HAS BEEN SET ASIDE FOR THE PROMOTION OF SPORTING, RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE TSUEN WAN COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

+OUT OF THE AMOUNT, \$90,000 HAS BEEN RESERVED SPECIALLY FOR THE SPONSORSHIP OF ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY LOCAL MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THIS ASSISTANCE WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS FOSTERING THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG LOCAL PEOPLE.+

THE NEW CENTRE WAS SET UP IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF WIDENING ITS CONTACT WITH THE PUBLIC TO EXPLAIN ITS POLICIES AND BETTER SERVE THEM IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY.

SINCE EARLY 1977, TWO TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICES AND SEVEN PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN DENSELY-POPULATED AREAS IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG. TO COPE WITH INCREASING DEMAND, MORE CENTRES ARE BEING PLANNED.

IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING AN ENQUIRY SERVICE, THE NEW CENTRE WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES TO ORGANISE USEFUL ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS IN THE LEI MUK SHUE AND NEIGHBOURING AREAS.

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IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT FACING CHALLENGES
ON ALL FRONTS
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT IS NOW FACING CHALLENGES ON ALL FRONTS WITH THE ARRIVAL OF VERY LARGE NUMBERS OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND CHINESE IMMIGRANTS, BOTH LEGAL AND ILLEGAL, UNOFFICIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, THE HON. ALLEN LEE PENG-FEI SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

ADDRESSING THE PASSING-OUT PARADE OF 82 ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AND SIX IMMIGRATION ASSISTANTS AT THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT PARADE GROUND, MR. LEE SAID NO ONE WOULD DENY THAT THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN WORKING UNDER GREAT PRESSURE IN RECENT MONTHS.

IN ADDITION TO THE HANDLING OF REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS, MR. LEE SAID THERE HAD BEEN UNPRECEDENTED INCREASES IN DEMAND FOR THE ISSUE OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, VISAS AND OTHER IMMIGRATION SERVICES.

POINTING OUT THAT THESE CHALLENGES WERE FORMIDABLE, MR. LEE SAID: +YOU MUST UNDERTAKE A VERY BUSY JOB AND WORK FOR LONG PERIODS UNDER GREAT PRESSURE.

+YOU MUST REMAIN POLITE AND TACTFUL EVEN WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES MAKE THIS DIFFICULT.

+YOU MUST UPHOLD AND ENFORCE THE LAW FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE COMMUNITY BUT YOU MUST UNDERTAKE YOUR TASK WITH HUMANITY AND KINDNESS.+

MR. LEE POINTED OUT THAT OFFICERS ON THE PASSING-OUT SQUAD HAD LAID THE FOUNDATION ON WHICH TO BUILD A CAREER, ADDING THAT THEY MUST CONTINUE TO LEARN BY EXPERIENCE, BY FURTHER STUDY, BY READING AND BY GAINING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PEOPLE AND THE SOCIETY.

+ALL THESE WILL HELP YOU TO CARRY OUT YOUR DUTIES WITH GREATER UNDERSTANDING AND SO WITH A GREATER SENSE OF FULFILMENT,+ MR. LEE ADDED.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 10 -

JAPAN OFFERS TWO SCHOLARSHIPS TO HK STUDENTS

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TWO SCHOLARSHIPS ARE BEING OFFERED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO HONG KONG STUDENTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES UNDER THE MOMBUSHO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME FOR THE 1980 ACADEMIC YEAR.

ONE OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL MAJOR IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE AT THE TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES AND THE OTHER IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES AT A NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

APPLICANTS MUST BE OVER 18 AND UNDER 22 YEARS OF AGE ON APRIL 1, 1980. THEY MUST BE WILLING TO RECEIVE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN JAPANESE.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OF EITHER OF THE TWO UNIVERSITIES IN HONG KONG OR POSSESS HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

THE AWARDS ARE FOR FIVE YEARS FROM APRIL, 1980 TO MARCH, 1985 AND WILL COVER TUITION, ACCOMMODATION, LIVING EXPENSES AND RETURN PASSAGE.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE ENROLLED AT THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL ATTACHED TO THE TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES AND WILL BE GIVEN A ONE-YEAR COURSE ON THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND SUCH OTHER SUBJECTS AS ARE NECESSARY TO PREPARE THEM FOR THE FOUR-YEAR BACHELOR'S DEGREE COURSE.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, ROOM 1522, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG.

ALL COMPLETED FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THIS OFFICE NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 1979.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE JAPANESE INFORMATION AND CULTURAL OFFICE, CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN, WILL CONSIDER APPLICATIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

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SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICE TO PLEASURE GARDEN

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICE INTRODUCED ON JULY 8 TO THE PLEASURE GARDEN IN SHA TIN RACE COURSE WILL CONTINUE ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS THIS SUNDAY.

HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT THE CONTINUATION OF THIS SERVICE WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON THE RESPONSE IT RECEIVES FROM THE PUBLIC.

THE SPECIAL TRAIN WILL LEAVE KOWLOON STATION IN HUNG HOM AT 10.29 A.M. AND ARRIVE AT MONG KOK STATION AT 10.34 A.M. TO PICK UP PASSENGERS. IT WILL THEN DEPART FROM MONG KOK STATION AT 10.36 A.M. AND ARRIVE AT THE RACE COURSE STATION AT 10.50 A.M.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 11 -

ON THE RETURN JOURNEY, THE TRAIN WILL LEAVE RACE COURSE STATION AT 4.10 P.M. IN ADDITION, ONE ORDINARY PASSENGER TRAIN DEPARTING FROM TAI PO MARKET STATION WILL BE RE-ROUTED VIA THE RACE COURSE STATION AT 1.21 P.M. TO PICK UP PASSENGERS WISHING TO LEAVE THE PLEASURE GARDEN EARLIER.

ONLY ORDINARY CLASS RETURN TICKETS VALID FOR THE DATE OF ISSUE WILL BE SOLD AT THE KOWLOON AND MONG KOK STATIONS. TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE RACE COURSE STATION FOR DOWN-TRAINS TO KOWLOON NOR AT NEW TERRITORIES STATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL TRAINS.

THE FARE FOR ADULTS WILL BE \$4 EACH AND FOR CHILDREN \$2 EACH.

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JAPANESE YOUTH GROUP PAYS COURTESY CALL ON S.W.D.
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THE VISITING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE OF NAGANO PREFECTURE, JAPAN, MR. K. OHSAWA, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF A 480-MEMBER JAPANESE YOUTH GROUP, +YOUNG HOPE,+ TODAY(THURSDAY) PAID A COURTESY CALL ON THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

THEY WERE GREETED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, AND THE DEPARTMENT'S REGIONAL OFFICER FOR WEST KOWLOON, MR. LU YU-HUA.

DURING THE VISIT, MR. LEE WELCOMED THE GROUP AND EXCHANGED SOUVENIRS WITH THEM. MR. OHSAWA ALSO PRESENTED SOUVENIRS TO 10 HONG KONG YOUTH WORK ORGANISATIONS.

MR. OHSAWA AND THE YOUTH GROUP, LED BY MR. K. TAKANAMI, ARRIVED IN HONG KONG THIS MORNING ON BOARD THE SHIP +CORAL PRINCESS.+ THEY ARE ON A GOODWILL TOUR OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES.

THE TOUR, AN ANNUAL EVENT, IS THE SIXTH TO BE ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NAGANO PREFECTURE, ABOUT 100 MILES NORTHWEST OF TOKYO, FOR THE WORKING YOUTHS OF THE PREFECTURE.

MR. OHSAWA IS HOSTING A PARTY LATER TODAY ON BOARD THE +CORAL PRINCESS+ FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL YOUTH GROUPS AND STUDENTS STUDYING THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE.

THE SHIP WILL LEAVE HONG KONG FOR MANILA TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1979

- 12 -

LADY MACLEHOSE TO VISIT CHILDREN'S CAMP

LADY MACLEHOSE WILL VISIT A CHILDREN'S CAMP AT CHEUNG CHAU ON SATURDAY.

THE CAMP, FUNDED BY THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME, IS ORGANISED BY THE CARITAS - HONG KONG.

ABOUT 300 STUDENTS, AGED BETWEEN NINE AND 11, FROM EIGHT LOCAL SCHOOLS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE THREE-DAY CAMP TO BE HELD AT TWO ADJOINING CAMP SITES -- THE MING FAI AND OI FAI CAMPS ON THE ISLAND.

LADY MACLEHOSE WILL FIRST ARRIVE AT MING FAI CAMP BY ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE HELICOPTER AND WILL THEN PROCEED ON FOOT TO OI FAI CAMP.

DURING THE VISIT, LADY MACLEHOSE WILL SEE CHILDREN ENGAGED IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER LADY MACLEHOSE'S VISIT TO THE CHILDREN'S CAMP AT CHEUNG CHAU ON SATURDAY.

A MARINE DEPARTMENT LAUNCH WILL TAKE PRESS MEMBERS TO CHEUNG CHAU, DEPARTING FROM QUEEN'S PIER, CENTRAL, AT 8.20 A.M. G.I.S. STAFF WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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