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PRINTING DEPARTMENT STAFF PRAISED FOR EFFICIENCY

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THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, VISITING THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY), PAID TRIBUTE TO STAFF FOR THEIR HARD WORK IN MEETING PUBLIC DEMAND FOR THE WHITE PAPER ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

HE SAID HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S HIGH EFFICIENCY IN PRODUCING MORE THAN 2.7 MILLION COPIES OF THE WHITE PAPER IN SUCH A SHORT TIME.

SIR PHILIP WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MR HARRIS MYERS AND THE CHIEF PRINTING SUPERINTENDENT, MR DAVID PEARCE.

THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE EARLY 1950S AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ALL PRINTING AND CONVERTED PAPER STATIONERY REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT INCLUDING FORMS, FILES, FOLDERS, BOOKLETS, TICKETS, POSTERS, BOOKS AND ENVELOPES.

MOST OF THESE ITEMS ARE PRODUCED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ITS 5 779-SQUARE-METRE PREMISES IN NORTH POINT. SOME ITEMS OF A SPECIAL NATURE ARE PURCHASED FROM LOCAL COMPANIES.

MR MYERS TOLD SIR PHILIP THAT THE DEPARTMENT HANDLED 3 886 TONNES OF PAPER AND BOARD IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR, ALMOST 14 PER CENT UP OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR. PRINTING EXPENDITURE TOTALLED $67 MILLION.

SIR PHILIP LATER TOURED VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDING THE IDENTITY CARD UNIT AND THE SECURITY SECTION WHERE A LARGE VOLUME OF SECURITY DOCUMENTS IS HANDLED.

MR MYERS SAID OVER TWO MILLION NEW IDENTITY CARDS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED SO FAR.

DURING THE TOUR, SIR PHILIP SAW A WIDE RANGE OF NEW MACHINERY AND WAS BRIEFED ON THEIR DIFFERENT FUNCTIONS. HE WAS ALSO SHOWN THE LATEST PRINTING PROCESSES AND TECHNIQUES INCLUDING COMPUTERISED ENGLISH LANGUAGE TYPESETTING.

EXPENDITURE FOR THE COMPUTERISATION OF THE CHINESE TYPESETTING SYSTEM HAS ALSO BEEN APPROVED, MR MYERS SAID.

TO ENSURE THAT CRAFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS ARE FULLY COMPETENT, SUPPLEMENTARY IN-HOUSE TRAINING IS PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND APPRENTICES ARE ALSO SENT TO THE KWUN TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR DAY-RELEASE TRAINING, HE SAID.

SIR PHILIP WAS ALSO BRIEFED ON PLANS TO RE-HOUSE THE DEPARTMENT IN MORE SUITABLE PREMISES IN MAY, 1985 SO AS TO ACCOMMODATE ALL STORAGE AND TO PROVIDE A MORE EFFICIENT SERVICE.

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INJURED SEAMEN RETURNING TOMORROW

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SIX CREW MEMBERS OF THE WORLD KNIGHT, INJURED WHEN THE TANKER WAS ATTACKED IN THE PERSIAN GULF ON MONDAY, WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THEY WILL BE ARRIVING ON A SPECIAL FLIGHT AT 11.45 AM AND WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO HOSPITAL IMMEDIATELY.

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SPECIAL CHANNELS SET UP FOR VIEWS ON WHITE PAPER

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THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL PROVIDE VARIOUS CHANNELS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE WHITE PAPER ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

THESE CHANNELS INCLUDE A TELEPHONE HOTLINE, SPECIAL VIEW-COLLECTION COUNTERS AND AREA SEMINARS.

+A TELEPHONE HOTLINE (3-421443) WILL BE OPERATIONAL TOMORROW (FRIDAY) DURING OFFICE HOURS TO RECORD RESIDENTS' VIEWS AND OPINIONS,+ DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN MAK, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

+AT THE SAME TIME, SPECIAL COUNTERS MANNED BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF WILL BE SET UP IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS FIVE SUB-OFFICES TO COLLECT RESIDENTS' VIEWS ON THE WHITE PAPER.+

THE BOARD ALSO PLANS TO HOLD VARIOUS AREA SEMINARS IN THE DISTRICT OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

+BOARD MEMBERS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN VISITING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO COLLECT OPINIONS AND VIEWS,+ MR MAK SAID.

LOCAL RESIDENTS CAN ALSO SEND WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE +KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT+ ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING IN TUNG YAN STREET, OR TO THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE DIRECT.

THE TELEPHONE HOTLINE AND THE SPECIAL COUNTERS WILL BE IN OPERATION UNTIL NOVEMBER 15, AND ALL THE VIEWS COLLECTED WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE.

/+WE HOPE .....

+WE HOPE THAT LOCAL RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY THE SO-CALLED 'SILENT MAJORITY', WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF THESE CHANNELS AS EAGERLY AS THEY COLLECTED COPIES OF THE WHITE PAPER,+ MR MAK SAID.

MORE THAN 130 000 COPIES OF THE WHITE PAPER HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE SINCE SEPTEMBER 26.

FOLLOWING A SPECIAL MEETING CALLED LAST WEEK TO DISCUSS THE WHITE PAPER, THE DISTRICT BOARD DECIDED TO PROVIDE SPECIAL CHANNELS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS TO AIR THEIR VIEWS ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

OFFICIAL LETTERS WILL SOON BE SENT TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND POSTERS WILL BE PUT UP TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO USE THE CHANNELS PROVIDED.

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TUEN MUN DB TO DISCUSS WHITE PAPER

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TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE WHITE PAPER ON THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

SIR PATRICK NAIRNE, A MEMBER OF THE MONITORING TEAM OF THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO LISTEN TO VIEWS OF BOARD MEMBERS.

BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS AND COMMENT ON THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR ALAN SCOTT'S BRIEFING TO THEM AT A PREVIOUS MEETING ON THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE REVISED LAYOUT PLAN FOR AREA 10 OF TUEN MUN NEW TOWN, REMEDIAL WORK BEING CARRIED OUT ON TUEN MUN ROAD, AND PROGRESS REPORTS ON MAJOR PROJECTS SCHEDULED TO START IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

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H.K. STILL IN U.S. GSP

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+HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE ACCORDED TARIFF PREFERENCE UNDER THE NEXT GENERATION OF U.S. GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (USGSP) WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE U.S. CONGRESS ON OCTOBER 9, 1984,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE NEW GSP, WHICH WILL EXTEND THE CURRENT GSP PROGRAMME, WILL RUN FOR EIGHT AND A HALF YEARS FROM JANUARY 4, 1985. IT WILL EXPIRE ON JULY 4, 1993.

THE GSP'S CURRENT PROVISIONS RELATING TO COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED BASICALLY. THERE IS HOWEVER, AN ADDITIONAL PROVISION TO BE ESTABLISHED WITH RESPECT TO +INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED WORKER RIGHTS+ IN THE BENEFICIARY COUNTRY.

ON PRODUCT ELIGIBILITY, THE GSP'S CURRENT PROVISIONS FOR EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS FROM ELIGIBILITY WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED WITH ONE EXCEPTION. THAT IS, ANY NEW PRODUCTS IN THE LEATHER-RELATED PRODUCT SECTOR WILL BE DEEMED IMPORT-SENSITIVE AND CANNOT BE INCLUDED IN THE GSP.

+THE IMPACT ON HONG KONG IS UNKNOWN SINCE PRODUCT DETAILS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE BUT CERTAIN LEATHER GOODS FROM HONG KONG ARE CURRENTLY EXCLUDED FROM GSP TREATMENT UNDER THE TERMS OF THE EXISTING SCHEME,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ON GRADUATION (I.E. DENIAL OF PRODUCTS FROM GSP TREATMENT), THE NEW LEGISLATION REQUIRES THE PRESIDENT TO COMPLETE WITHIN TWO YEARS A GENERAL REVIEW ON WHICH PRODUCTS FROM WHICH COUNTRIES ARE +SUFFICIENTLY COMPETITIVE+.

IN THOSE INSTANCES WHERE THE DETERMINATION IS AFFIRMATIVE, LOWER LIMITS SET AT 25 PER CENT AND US$25 MILLION WILL BE APPLIED. OTHERWISE, THE CURRENT LIMITS (50 PER CENT AND US$57.7 MILLION) WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY.

THE SPOKESMAN WELCOMED THE CONTINUED INCLUSION OF HONG KONG UNDER THE GSP.

+WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS HAS DELETED THE MORE OBJECTIONABLE ELEMENTS PROPOSED EARLIER WHICH WOULD AFFECT ADVERSELY HONG KONG'S TRADE UNDER GSP,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID. +WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THIS DEMONSTRATION OF RESISTANCE AGAINST PROTECTIONIST TRADE ATTITUDES IN THE U.S.+

FULL DETAILS OF THE LEGISLATION ARE STILL AWAITED. ON RECEIPT, THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WILL EXAMINE THE IMPACT OF THE GSP ON HONG KONG'S TRADE.

IN 1983, TOTAL U.S. GSP IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG AMOUNTED TO US$3 036 MILLION, OF WHICH US$1 125 MILLION (37 PER CENT) WORTH OF GOODS WERE IMPORTED DUTY FREE.

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HK TO HAVE INSTRUMENTS FOR MEASURING FINE DUST

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SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT WILL SOON BE INSTALLED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO MEASURE THE AMOUNT OF FINE DUST PARTICLES IN THE ATMOSPHERE, ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER, MR MICHAEL CHAN.

THE EXISTING DUST MONITORING EQUIPMENT MEASURES DUST PARTICLES BELOW 100 MICRONS IN DIAMETER -- 1 MICRON BEING 1 MILLIONTH OF A METRE -- WHILE THE NEW EQUIPMENT, KNOWN AS INHALABLE PARTICULATE SAMPLER, MEASURES FINE PARTICLES LESS THAN 10 MICRONS IN DIAMETER.

+FINE PARTICLES ARE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO US BECAUSE THEY CAN CAUSE DAMAGE TO OUR RESPIRATORY SYSTEM. PARTICLES LESS THAN 10 MICRONS IN DIAMETER CAN PENETRATE TO THE LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT. STILL FINER PARTICLES, BELOW 2 MICRONS, CAN DESCEND FURTHER TO THE DEEPEST PART OF THE LUNGS, THE ALVEOLI,+ MR CHAN SAID.

TOTAL SUSPENDED PARTICULATES COME FROM BOTH NATURAL AND ANTHROPOGENIC SOURCES.

NATURAL SOURCES INCLUDE SOIL BLOW-OFF, VOLCANIC ACTIVITY, SALT AEROSOL FROM SEA SPRAY AS WELL AS SPORES, POLLEN AND ORGANIC MATERIAL.

ANTHROPHOGENIC SOURCES INCLUDE FUEL BURNING IN CERTAIN INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES, DIESEL EXHAUST, EARTH MOVING, LAND RECLAMATION AND CONSTRUCTION.

+FINDINGS TO DATE INDICATE THAT TOTAL SUSPENDED PARTICULATE LEVELS IN HONG KONG ARE HIGH BY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND THAT SOURCES OF PARTICULATE MATTER ARE NUMEROUS AND WIDESPREAD. HOWEVER, IT HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED HOW MUCH OF THE TOTAL SUSPENDED PARTICULATES ARE LESS THAN 10 MICRONS,+ MR CHAN SAID.

THE NEW EQUIPMENT WILL BE INSTALLED IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS AT THE EPA'S SIX MONITORING STATIONS IN KWUN TONG, TSIM SHA TSUI, SHAM SHUI PO, CAUSEWAY BAY, CENTRAL-WESTERN AND JUNK BAY.

+SAMPLES WILL BE COLLECTED ONCE EVERY THREE DAYS, PARTICULATES WILL BE COLLECTED OVER A 24-HOUR PERIOD ON A FILTER PAPER.

+THE FILTER PAPER WILL BE WEIGHED BEFORE AND AFTER SAMPLING TO DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF DUST SUSPENDED IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

+THESE SAMPLES WILL THEN BE ANALYSED FOR CHEMICAL AND ELEMENTAL CONTENTS BY THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST. RESULTS WILL BE USED TO ASSESS THE SERIOUSNESS OF DUST POLLUTION, IDENTIFY POSSIBLE SOURCES OF PARTICULATES AND DEVELOP CONTROL MEASURES,+ HE EXPLAINED.

MR CHAN POINTED OUT THAT SOME MITIGATING MEASURES WERE ALREADY BEING TAKEN TO TACKLE THE DUST PROBLEM.

/+SINCE CONSTRUCTION .....

+SINCE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IS A FAIRLY EASILY IDENTIFIABLE SOURCE OF PARTICULATES, THE EPA IS DEVELOPING A CODE OF PRACTICE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BUILDING CONSTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION, TO MINIMISE THE LEVEL OF DUST FROM CONSTRUCTION SITES.

+THE KENNEDY TOWN AND LAI CHI KOK INCINERATORS ARE MAJOR SOURCES OF PARTICULATES. THE INCINERATOR LINES FEEDING ONE OF THE CHIMNEYS AT KENNEDY TOWN HAVE BEEN FITTED WITH ELECTROSTATIC PRECIPITATORS SINCE JULY 1983 TO REMOVE PARTICULATES FROM THE FLUE GAS. THE RESULT HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING.

+WORK IS NOW PROGRESSING TO FIT THE REMAINING INCINERATOR LINES AT KENNEDY TOWN WHILE PLANS ARE IN HAND TO CONTROL PARTICULATE EMISSIONS FROM THE LAI CHI KOK INCINERATOR,+ HE SAID.

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MISSION TO ENCOURAGE MORE INVESTMENT IN HK

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THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL BE SENDING A MISSION TO AUSTRALIA TO ENCOURAGE GREATER AUSTRALIAN PARTICIPATION IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

THE MISSION WILL VISIT SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE AND PERTH BETWEEN OCTOBER 15 AND NOVEMBER 2.

IT WILL BE LED BY MR JOHN LO, A MEMBER OF THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD. THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MISSION ARE MR PAUL WONG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY; MR DAVID CHEUNG, PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT, AND MR RAYMOND CHAN, CONSULTANT.

WHILE IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, THE MISSION, TOGETHER WITH THE METAL TRADES INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, WILL ORGANISE TWO SEMINARS AT WHICH MR LO AND MR WONG WILL DISCUSS HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR AUSTRALIAN BUSINESSMEN.

THE MISSION WILL PAY FOLLOW-UP VISITS TO COMPANIES WHICH HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING MANUFACTURING FACILITIES IN HONG KONG, EITHER AS WHOLLY-OWNED OPERATIONS OR AS JOINT VENTURES WITH HONG KONG INDUSTRIALISTS.

THE MISSION WILL ALSO VISIT PRE-SELECTED COMPANIES TO DISCUSS THE ADVANTAGES OF HONG KONG AS AN OFFSHORE MANUFACTURING BASE.

AUSTRALIA RANKS EIGHTH AMONG OVERSEAS COUNTRIES WITH INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS IN HONG KONG.

OF THE 28 FACTORIES ESTABLISHED HERE WITH AUSTRALIAN INTEREST, 13 ARE WHOLLY-OWNED OPERATIONS AND 15, JOINT VENTURES, WITH INVESTMENTS TOTALLING $161 MILLION.

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TUEN MUN DB MEMBERS TO VISIT UK

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EIGHT TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL LEAVE FOR A ONE-WEEK STUDY TOUR OF THE UNITED KINGDOM ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 13).

ACCOMPANIED BY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RICKY FUNG, THE GROUP WILL CALL ON THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT IN LONDON.

THEY WILL LOOK AT HOUSING, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS, WHICH THEY HOPE WILL BE HELPFUL TO THEM IN PLANNING FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS OF TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

THE PARTY WILL ALSO MEET SOME MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT, LOCAL CHINESE COMMUNITIES AND CHINESE STUDENTS DURING THEIR VISIT.

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INDUSTRIAL LIAISON GROUP FORMED

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE SHAM SHUI PO INDUSTRIAL LIAISON COMMITTEE TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE COMMITTEE WAS FORMED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL INDUSTRIES, THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE, AND THE LABOUR AND THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENTS.

IT WILL SERVE AS A LINK BETWEEN MANUFACTURERS, MANAGERS AND WORKERS IN THE DISTRICT WITH THE AIM OF PROMOTING STRONGER PARTICIPATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO LOOK INTO PROBLEMS RELATING TO FACTORY BUILDING MANAGEMENT, LOADING AND UNLOADING FACILITIES AND TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS IN SHAM SHUI PO.

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+LEADING LIGHT+ RETIRES AFTER 30 YEARS' SERVICE

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THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT, MR EDDIE SHORT, IS RETIRING AFTER 30 YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

SPEAKING AT A GATHERING HELD TODAY (THURSDAY) TO MARK THE OCCASION, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, DR N.K. CHAN, DESCRIBED MR SHORT AS +A LEADING LIGHT IN BOTH HIS PROFESSION AND HIS HOBBY+.

/DR CHAN .....

DR CHAN SAID MR SHORT WAS AN EXPERT AT STAGE LIGHTING, AND THAT HE AND HIS WIFE TOGETHER, FORMED A TEAM WHICH HAD LIT THE SETS OF MANY WELL-ACCLAIMED AMATEUR PRODUCTIONS IN THE CITY HALL AND THE ARTS CENTRE.

IN HIS THREE DECADES WITH THE GOVERNMENT, HE HAD HELD POSTS IN PORT WORKS, THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, DRAINAGE OFFICE, ROADS OFFICE AND THEN THE COMBINED ROADS AND DRAINAGE OFFICE.

PROJECTS WITH WHICH HE WAS INVOLVED DURING THIS PERIOD INCLUDED THE BUILDING OF THE NEW KOWLOON STAR FERRY PIER, THE PLANNING, DESIGNING AND EXECUTING SITE FORMATION AND RECLAMATION FOR THE THEN KWUN TONG NEW TOWN AREA, AND THE CENTRAL RECLAMATION.

FOR EIGHT YEARS SINCE 1973, HE WAS PROJECT MANAGER (TSUEN WAN) DEALING WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LARGEST NEW TOWN IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING SUCH VERY COMPLEX MATTERS AS THE EXTENSION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY TO TSUEN WAN.

HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT IN 1981 AND WAS AWARDED THE OBE IN 1983.

ON BEHALF OF COLLEAGUES IN THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH AND GROUP OF DEPARTMENTS, DR CHAN PRESENTED A SET OF CAMERA EQUIPMENT TO MR SHORT AS A RETIREMENT GIFT.

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TWO MORE MP'S COMING

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TWO MPS, MR MICHAEL MARSHALL (CONSERVATIVE) AND MR CHARLES KENNEDY (SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC), WILL BE COMING TO HONG KONG FOR A WEEK-LONG VISIT.

MR MARSHALL WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING WHILE MR KENNEDY IS SCHEDULED TO FLY IN ON OCTOBER 14 (SUNDAY).

AS PART OF THEIR TOUR, THE TWO MPS WILL MEET COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THEY WILL ALSO VISIT SOUTHERN DISTRICT, A SQUATTER AREA, A HOUSING ESTATE AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, AND ATTEND A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 16.

MR MARSHALL AND MR KENNEDY WILL HOLD PRESS CONFERENCES ON OCTOBER 18 AND OCTOBER 20 RESPECTIVELY. MR MARSHALL WILL DEPART ON OCTOBER 19 AND MR KENNEDY WILL LEAVE ON OCTOBER 21.

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MAKING COUNTRY PARKS BETTER KNOWN
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THE FIRST PURPOSE-BUILT VISITOR CENTRE AT PAK TAM CHUNG WILL BE READY EARLY NEXT YEAR.

IT WILL PROVIDE VISITORS TO THE SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARKS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE FACILITIES AND INTERESTING FEATURES IN COUNTRY PARKS IN SAI KUNG PENINSULA.

THERE WILL ALSO BE DISPLAYS ON THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE SAI KUNG PENINSULA.

THE SUPERSTRUCTURE OF THE $2.5 MILLION CENTRE HAS BEEN COMPLETED, AND A $600 000 CONTRACT FOR THE DESIGN AND SUPPLY OF EXHIBITION MATERIALS AND AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT WAS SIGNED TODAY BETWEEN MR ROY CHILVERS, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND MR PHILIP LAU OF BEST ARTISTIC ADVERTISING AND DECORATION CO LTD.

THE WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK AND TAKE ABOUT THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

+THE CENTRE, WITH A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF 400 SQUARE METRES, IS FLEXIBLE IN THE LAYOUT DESIGN AND CAN BE SUB-DIVIDED INTO A RECEPTION HALL, A MAIN EXHIBITION HALL AND A ROOM FOR SEASONAL DISPLAYS AND AUDIO-VISUAL PRESENTATIONS,+ MR M.K. CHEUNG, ACTING SENIOR CONSERVATION OFFICER OF AFD, SAID.

+THE EXHIBITION WILL INCLUDE DISPLAYS ON LOCAL PLANTS AND ANIMALS, RURAL HISTORY, HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.+

IT IS HOPED THAT PEOPLE WHO VISIT THE CENTRE WILL APPRECIATE THE NEED TO KEEP THE COUNTRY PARKS CLEAN AND GREEN.

THERE ARE NOW TWO OTHER COUNTRY PARK VISITOR CENTRES, ONE IN ABERDEEN AND THE OTHER TAI MEI TUK.

THEY ARE SMALL AND HAVE BEEN ADAPTED FROM OFFICE BUILDINGS.

MR CHEUNG SAID, +MORE VISITOR CENTRES ARE PLANNED FOR OTHER COUNTRY PARKS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, INCLUDING THOSE AT SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK AND ON LANTAU ISLAND.+

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EASTERN ARTS COUNCIL LOOKS FOR MEMBERS

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PEOPLE LIVING IN EASTERN DISTRICT WHO WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN HELPING TO IMPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE HAVE BEEN URGED TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL.

THE COUNCIL, FORMED LAST MONTH WITH THE HELP OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, IS LOOKING FOR MEMBERS TO HELP PROMOTE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

+STUDENTS, RESIDENTS, MEMBERS OF CULTURAL OR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, AND ANYONE WORKING IN THE DISTRICT ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

+THE AIM OF THE COUNCIL IS TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF ARTS AND CULTURE IN THE DISTRICT AND TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN LOCAL ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANISATIONS AND THE GOVERNMENT,+ HE SAID.

THERE IS NO LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS, AND MEMBERSHIP IS OPENED TO GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS. THERE ARE FIVE CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP: LIFE GROUP MEMBER, LIFE ORDINARY MEMBER, GROUP MEMBER, ORDINARY MEMBER AND STUDENT MEMBER.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 884-886 KING'S ROAD; THE CAUSEWAY BAY SUB-OFFICE AT 9-11 WING HING STREET; THE SHAU KEI WAN SUB-OFFICE AT 243 SHAU KEI WAN ROAD; AND THE CHAI WAN SUB-OFFICE AT BLOCK 2, HING WAH ESTATE.

THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE ARTS COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 26 AT 5.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR, 884-886 KING'S ROAD, AND ALL MEMBERS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND.

FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE ARTS COUNCIL AND THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL MEETING CAN BE OBTAINED FROM MISS YVONNE YIP AT 5-573265.

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LAW COURTS BEING BUILT FOR SHA TIN

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A $35.6 MILLION CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SHA TIN LAW COURTS.

THE EIGHT-STOREY BUILDING WILL OCCUPY A 3 510-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT PAK HOK TING STREET NEAR CENTRAL PARK AND THE CULTURAL COMPLEX, BOTH CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

/THERE WILL .....

THERE WILL BE TWO DISTRICT COURTS, FOUR MAGISTRATES' COURTS, A JUVENILE COURT AND A SMALL CLAIMS COURT.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A PRESS ROOM, TWO LIBRARIES, JUDGES' AND MAGISTRATES' CHAMBERS, A LEGAL AID REGISTRY, A SOLICITORS' ROOM, A TEMPORARY CUSTODIAL AREA AND A CANTEEN.

THE TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF THE COURTS BUILDING WILL BE 12 550 SQUARE METRES.

WORK ON THE PROJECT, AWARDED TO KWAN LEE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LTD, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1986.

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150 YOUTHS IN SWIM GALA

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MORE THAN 150 YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THE NORTH DISTRICT WILL BE TAKING PART IN AN ANNUAL SWIMMING COMPETITION TO BE HELD AT THE FANLING SWIMMING POOL ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 13) AFTERNOON.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT APART FROM PROMOTING INTEREST IN SWIMMING, THE GALA IS ALSO AIMED AT SELECTING SWIMMERS FOR FURTHER TRAINING AND DISTRICT-WIDE TOURNAMENTS.

THE EVENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF NORTH DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION, THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE NTSD, HE SAID.

THERE WILL BE 12 EVENTS, LASTING FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM.

THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF NORTH, MR MA IU-KI, WILL PRESENT THE PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF NORTH DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION, MR CHONG KAM-NING, A MEMBER OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, MR TO MAN-KONG, AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER OF NORTH, MR CHENG CHEUK-PING.

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PLAN TO CUT TALL GRASS

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THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL LAUNCH A MAJOR GRASS-CUTTING EXERCISE THIS SATURDAY (OCTOBER 13) AFTERNOON IN MA SHAN VILLAGE IN SHAU KEI WAN, WITH THE HELP OF VOLUNTARY WORKERS FROM THE YMCA WONG CHUEN KIN CENTRE.

THE OPERATION HAS BEEN INITIATED BY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, WHO FEARED THAT THE TALL GRASS COULD PROVIDE A HIDING PLACE FOR CRIMINAL ELEMENTS.

LED BY AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR CHAN YING-LUN AND UNOFFICIAL DB MEMBER, MR LAM TAK-MONG, THE TEAM WILL CUT THE TWO-METRE TALL GRASS ALONG THE STAIRWAY LEADING FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL TO THE MA SHAN VILLAGE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE OFFICE.

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