



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1977

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HK FACES SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FROM EEC IMPORTS CUT	1
JORDAN EXPLAINS STATUS OF TEXTILE TALKS WITH EEC	3
MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR SHA TIN SEWAGE PLANT ..	5
COMPUTER FILING SYSTEM FOR IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT	6
SOCIAL SECURITY GREEN PAPER TO BE RELEASED	7
CHRISTMAS AEROGRAMME ON SALE	7
FIRING PRACTICE	8
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS	8
COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR TO VISIT SHIPYARD	9
COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS TO OPEN ANTI-DRUG VARIETY SHOW	9

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1977

- 1 -

HONG KONG FACES SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES
IF EEC CUTS BACK ON OUR TEXTILE AND CLOTHING EXPORTS
* * *

THE CONSEQUENCES FOR HONG KONG WILL BE VERY SERIOUS INDEED IF THE EEC ARE ALLOWED TO SUCCEED WITH THEIR THREAT OF CUTTING BACK ON OUR EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. DAVID JEAFFRESON, SAID THIS TODAY AT THE OPENING OF A TWO-WEEK SEMINAR FOR 55 LOCAL FINANCIAL JOURNALISTS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION.

+SUCH IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EEC AS A MARKET FOR US THAT A CUT BACK OF THE SIZE THEY ARE PROPOSING WOULD RESULT IN A REDUCTION OF OUR INCREASE IN PUBLIC EXPENDITURE OF TWO OR THREE PER CENT A YEAR WITH DAMAGING CONSEQUENCES TO OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR DEVELOPING SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC,+ HE WARNED.

MR. JEAFFRESON WAS EXPLAINING TO THE JOURNALISTS FIVE BUDGET GUIDELINES AND THE REASONING BEHIND THEM.

HE SAID WE NEEDED TO HAVE SOME IDEA AS TO THE RATE AT WHICH PUBLIC EXPENDITURE COULD GROW IN REAL TERMS, AND, BASED ON HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE 70S, WE HAD CONCLUDED THAT THIS RATE WAS ABOUT 10 PER CENT A YEAR.

+THIS IS VERY HIGH AND IT WILL HAVE TO BE ADJUSTED DOWNWARDS QUICKLY IF WE SEE CLOUDS ON THE HORIZON,+ HE SAID.

+THERE IS ONE PARTICULARLY BLACK CLOUD THERE. THIS IS THE THREAT - AND IT IS A VERY REAL THREAT - IMPOSED BY THE EEC TO CUT BACK QUITE DRASTICALLY ON OUR EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

+I DON'T PROPOSE NOW TO GO INTO THE RIGHTS AND WRONGS OF WHAT THE EEC ARE DOING, BUT THE CONSEQUENCES FOR HONG KONG WILL BE VERY SERIOUS INDEED IF THE EEC ARE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE.+

MR. JEAFFRESON GAVE FIVE BUDGET GUIDELINES: THE SIZE OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR= THE RELATIONSHIP OF CAPITAL AND RECURRENT ACCOUNTS= THE RESIDUAL DEFICIT ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT= DIRECT AND INDIRECT TAXATION= AND THE FUTURE.

ON THE SIZE OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR, HE SAID ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS WAS THE TRADE ORIENTATED NATURE OF OUR ECONOMY.

+THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT WE DEPEND ON THE OUTSIDE WORLD FOR MOST THINGS - OUR FOOD, OUR RAW MATERIALS, SEMI-MANUFACTURES, OUR CAPITAL GOODS AND OUR CONSUMER GOODS GENERALLY.

+TO PAY FOR THE REQUIREMENTS OF OUR PEOPLE AND THEIR INDUSTRIES, WE HAVE TO EXPORT VIRTUALLY OUR ENTIRE PRODUCTION FROM MANUFACTURING. IN CONSEQUENCE, OUR VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS ARE VALUED AT ROUGHLY TWICE OR 200 PER CENT OF OUR GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.

/BY CONTRAST,

+BY CONTRAST, INVISIBLE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR BRITAIN WERE ONLY 50 PER CENT OF THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT,+ MR. JEAFFRESON REMARKED.

+THIS FACT MEANS THAT WE ARE VERY DEPENDENT ON FORCES OVER WHICH WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO CONTROL,+ MR. JEAFFRESON CONTINUED.

+ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT, THEN, THAT WE MAKE SURE THAT THE SIZE OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR, OVER WHICH WE DO HAVE SOME CONTROL, IS CONTAINED BY WHAT THE ECONOMY WILL PERMIT.+

THIS CONSIDERATION DID NOT APPLY IN THE CASE OF COUNTRIES WITH MUCH MORE CLOSED ECONOMIES THAN OURS. FOR A FAILURE TO MAINTAIN EXTERNAL COMPETITIVENESS IN THEIR CASE COULD BE MASKED AND AT LEAST PARTLY ABSORBED IN THE RELATIVELY LARGE SECTORS OF SUCH ECONOMIES NOT CONCERNED WITH EXTERNAL TRANSACTIONS. EVEN SO, THESE COUNTRIES WERE CLEARLY BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED WITH THE SIZE OF THEIR PRIVATE SECTOR.

MR. JEAFFRESON SAID THAT IN THE FOUR YEARS 1973/74 - 1976/77, THE PUBLIC SECTOR REPRESENTED 17.2 PER CENT OF THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, AN INCREASE OF ONE FIFTH COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS FOUR YEARS.

+A PUBLIC SECTOR OF THIS RELATIVE SIZE IS CLEARLY NOW WITHIN THE ECONOMY'S CAPABILITY: IF NECESSARY, IT COULD BE LIFTED A LITTLE FURTHER WITHOUT DETRIMENT AS IT WILL BE IN 1977/78 WHEN, ACCORDING TO THE BUDGET SPEECH, IT WILL RISE TO 17.6 PER CENT, UP BY ONE THIRTEENTH ON 1976/77 WHEN IT WAS 16.4 PER CENT,+ HE SAID.

ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF CAPITAL AND RECURRENT ACCOUNTS, MR. JEAFFRESON SAID WE LIKED TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR RECURRENT COMMITMENTS GROW IN RELATION TO RECURRENT REVENUE.

+WE HAVE TAKEN THE VIEW THAT RECURRENT EXPENDITURE SHOULD ABSORB NO MORE THAN 80 PER CENT OF RECURRENT REVENUE AND THAT AT LEAST 60 PER CENT OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE SHOULD BE FINANCED BY THE SURPLUS ON RECURRENT ACCOUNT,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE RESIDUAL DEFICIT ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT, MR. JEAFFRESON SAID THAT THE 20 PER CENT REMAINING AFTER EXPENDITURE OF 80 PER CENT OF RECURRENT REVENUE WAS THEN AVAILABLE FOR FINANCING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

+WHAT IF THIS 20 PER CENT IS INADEQUATE FOR THE PURPOSE?+ HE ASKED.

+THE ANSWER IS TO USE CAPITAL REVENUE, WHICH MEANS FOR HONG KONG THE YIELD FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S MAIN CAPITAL ASSET WHICH IS, OF COURSE, LAND.+

THE YIELD FROM THE SALE OF LAND WAS ERRATIC. IT DEPENDED ON THE AMOUNT OF LAND AVAILABLE FOR SALE AND THE PRICE IT FETCHED. BUT WE AIMED TO ACHIEVE THE GUIDELINE THAT, EVERY YEAR, WE SELL ENOUGH TO BRING IN SUFFICIENT MONEY TO FINANCE AT LEAST HALF OF THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE WHICH HAD NOT BEEN COVERED BY RECURRENT REVENUE.

- 3 -

IF NEITHER THE RECURRENT REVENUE AVAILABLE NOR CAPITAL REVENUE WERE SUFFICIENT TO FINANCE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, THE ANSWER WAS TO INCUR DEBT.

BUT MR. JEAFFRESON POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE NUMEROUS EXAMPLES OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAD BORROWED EXTENSIVELY ONLY LATER TO FIND THEMSELVES OPPRESSIVELY BURDENED BY THE INTEREST THEY HAD TO PAY AND BY THE TASK OF TRYING TO REPAY THE LOANS.

DEALING WITH DIRECT AND INDIRECT TAXATION, MR. JEAFFRESON SAID THAT THE 15 PER CENT RATE OF DIRECT TAX WAS FIXED AT THE LEVEL IT WAS THOUGHT THE ECONOMY COULD BEAR WITHOUT SUFFERING ADVERSE EFFECTS.

BUT IT WAS A LOW RATE BY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND WE HAD TO RELY HEAVILY ON THE OTHER TWO TAX GROUPS - INDIRECT TAXES ON PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES AND THE MISCELLANEOUS GROUP.

HE SAID THE STANDARD RATE OF 15 PER CENT WAS +NOT UNCHANGEABLE.+

MR. JEAFFRESON SAID THE RATIO OF DIRECT TO INDIRECT TAXES ESTIMATED FOR 1977/78 WAS 55 : 45, COMPARED WITH A GUIDELINE OF 45 : 55, AND THE RATIO OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT TAXATION TAKEN TOGETHER TO THE MISCELLANEOUS GROUP WAS 73 : 27, INSTEAD OF 65 : 35.

+THUS WE DIVERGED FROM THE RATIOS, BUT WE DID SO CONSCIOUSLY, HAVING CALCULATED THAT THE CONSEQUENCES WOULD NOT BE TOO SERIOUS.+

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STATEMENT BY MR. DAVID JORDAN, DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, ON STATUS OF TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EEC
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THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM MR. D.H. JORDAN (WHO IS STILL IN EUROPE) ON THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EEC ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG TEXTILE EXPORTS TO THE COMMUNITY FROM JANUARY 1, 1978. THE STATEMENT SUMS UP HIS VIEWS AS AT THE TIME OF THE SUSPENSION OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS BY THE EEC ON NOVEMBER 8.

+THE HONG KONG DELEGATION ARRIVED IN BRUSSELS ON OCTOBER 8 TO BEGIN TWO DAYS LATER, AT THE REQUEST OF THE COMMUNITY, TO NEGOTIATE A NEW TEXTILES AGREEMENT TO RUN FROM JANUARY 1, 1978.

+WE CAME READY TO NEGOTIATE, IN GOOD FAITH, UNDER THE TERMS OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (THE MFA)= AND EVEN PREPARED TO CONSIDER REASONABLE DEPARTURES FROM ITS TERMS, WHERE A CASE COULD BE MADE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DOCUMENT TO WHICH HONG KONG AND, LET ME EMPHASISE, THE EEC SUBSCRIBED DURING A MEETING OF THE GATT TEXTILES COMMITTEE IN THE SUMMER WHEN THE FUTURE OF THE MFA WAS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

+WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS FINALLY STARTED, A WEEK LATE BECAUSE THE COMMUNITY HAD DIFFICULTY AGREEING A MANDATE, IT SOON BECAME APPARENT THERE WERE THREE MAIN AREAS OF DIFFICULTY.

/+FIRST,

+FIRST, AS WE HAD ALREADY BEEN LET TO ANTICIPATE, THE EEC IDEA OF DISCRIMINATING AGAINST A FEW MAJOR SUPPLIERS, INCLUDING HONG KONG, TO CUT QUOTAS BACK EVEN MORE SEVERELY THAN IN THE CASE OF OTHERS. THIS WAS SO THAT THESE QUANTITIES COULD BE ALLOCATED TO OTHER SUPPLIERS.

+SECONDLY, THE BASIC DRAFT AGREEMENT PRODUCED BY THE EEC PROVIDED FOR A SYSTEM OF IMPORT CONTROL WHICH, IF IMPLEMENTED, WOULD MEAN LOWER PRICES FOR EXPORTERS AND HIGHER PROFITS FOR IMPORTERS.

+THIRDLY, THE COMMUNITY HAD EVOLVED A SYSTEM OF CATEGORISATION AND CLASSIFICATION (BASED ON THEIR STILL UNPUBLISHED CUSTOMS CLASSIFICATION FOR 1978) WHICH WOULD, WITHOUT DOUBT, CAUSE APPALLING DISRUPTION TO THE TRADE AT BOTH ENDS AND HAVE THE EFFECT OF REDUCING ACTUAL EXPORTS STILL FURTHER.

+THESE, IN THE WORDS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ANOTHER COUNTRY FACED WITH THE EEC'S DEMANDS, WE COULD ONLY REGARD AS RADICAL, NOT REASONABLE, DEPARTURES FROM THE MFA AND AS SUCH QUITE UNJUSTIFIED.

+THE EEC TRIED TO PRESENT AS MEANINGFUL CONCESSIONS THE RIGHT TO EXPORT CONTROL - ALTHOUGH THERE IS NOT, I BELIEVE, A SINGLE AGREEMENT UNDER THE MFA THAT PROVIDE FOR IMPORT CONTROL - AND SO-CALLED 'SECURITY', WHICH MEANT AN UNDERTAKING TO ABIDE BY AN AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO FREELY BY THEM. THE PRICE FOR THESE 'CONCESSIONS' WAS AGREEMENT TO DISCUSS NOT WHETHER BUT ONLY HOW MUCH OF OUR TRADE SHOULD BE REDISTRIBUTED TO OTHERS.

+AFTER WE HAD, AT THE REQUEST OF THE EEC NEGOTIATOR, RECESSED FOR A WEEK, WE OFFERED ON NOVEMBER 4 A PACKAGE PROPOSAL. THIS WAS DONE BECAUSE IT WAS APPARENT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE GETTING NOWHERE. THE PROPOSALS WENT A LONG WAY TO MEET THE EEC DEMANDS AND INVOLVED WHAT WERE IN OUR VIEW REASONABLE DEPARTURES FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE MFA.

+THE COMMUNITY HAS ADMITTED THAT THESE PROPOSALS WERE A REAL MOVE FORWARD BY HONG KONG AND THAT THEY MET THE EEC'S REQUIREMENT THAT IMPORTS SHOULD BE STABILISED AT THE 1976 LEVEL.

+THIS WAS A VERY SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSION BY HONG KONG. IN OUR VIEW IT WAS ON THE VERY EDGE OF WHAT COULD BE CONSIDERED 'REASONABLE DEPARTURES' FROM THE MFA. IT INVOLVED CONSIDERABLE CUTBACKS ON OUR 1977 QUOTA LIMITS. AND IT WAS MADE DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD NOT, APART FROM VERY GENERAL REMARKS ABOUT THE STATE OF ITS TEXTILE INDUSTRIES AND UNSUPPORTED STATEMENTS THAT PARTICULAR PRODUCTS ARE PARTICULARLY 'SENSITIVE', PROVIDED ANY OBJECTIVE JUSTIFICATION FOR ANY PARTICULAR RESTRAINT OR LIMIT.

+OUR PROPOSALS WERE TOTALLY REJECTED BY THE COMMUNITY ON THE SOLE GROUNDS THAT WE HAD NOT OFFERED THE 'SACRIFICES' THAT THE EEC HAD CONTINUALLY SAID IT REQUIRES FROM DOMINANT SUPPLIERS.

- 5 -

+THIS IS NOT A DEMAND FOR WHICH WE CAN FIND JUSTIFICATION ON ECONOMIC OR LEGAL GROUNDS. IT BEARS NO RELATION TO THE MFA OR TO THE DOCUMENT TO WHICH WE AND THE EEC SUBSCRIBED ENVISAGING THE POSSIBILITY OF 'JOINTLY AGREED REASONABLE DEPARTURES' FROM THE MFA.

+IN VIEW OF THE INDEFINITE SUSPENSION OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS BY THE EEC, THE HONG KONG DELEGATION AND THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD IS RETURNING TO HONG KONG. WE SHALL BE PREPARED TO RETURN TO BRUSSELS WHEN THERE IS AN INDICATION FROM THE EEC THAT THEY ARE READY TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS ON A MEANINGFUL BASIS. IT IS STILL OUR EARNEST WISH TO REACH A FAIR, EQUITABLE AND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT.+

NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE REMINDED THAT HONG KONG'S TEXTILES NEGOTIATING TEAM IS ARRIVING THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON ON SWISSAIR 302 (E.T.A. 1530 HRS.). YOU ARE REMINDED THAT THE TEAM, HEADED BY MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE AIRPORT'S PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ABOUT HALF AN HOUR AFTER ARRIVAL. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO MEET G.I.S. OFFICERS IN THE AIRPORT'S PRESS ROOM 30 MINUTES BEFORE THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

\$225 MILLION CONTRACT FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT
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THE MAIN CONTRACT FOR THE NEW \$225 MILLION SHA TIN SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT WILL BE SIGNED ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14).

THE CONTRACT FORMS PART OF THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PLANT WHICH IS PARTLY FINANCED BY A \$95 MILLION LOAN FROM THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

THE SIGNING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, 21ST FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, AT 11 A.M.

TELEVISION CREWS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE NOT LATER THAN 10.45 A.M. SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE AMPLE TIME TO SET UP THEIR CAMERAS.

MR. WONG KWOK-CHOY, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE CONSULTANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE P.W.D.'S CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW AFTER THE SIGNING CEREMONY.

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COMPUTERISED SYSTEM FOR RETRIEVING RECORDS IN IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HAS SET UP A NEW INDEXING SYSTEM WITH THE INSTALLATION OF A COMPUTER, WHICH WILL CONSIDERABLY REDUCE THE TIME SPENT IN THE RETRIEVING OF RECORDS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

THE NEW SYSTEM WILL BE LINKED UP WITH THE NEWLY DEVELOPED MICROFILM SYSTEM AND IT WILL COME INTO OPERATION LATER THIS YEAR TO HELP LESSEN THE TIME NEEDED TO SHUFFLE THROUGH A MOUNTAIN OF FILES AND DOCUMENTS IN ORDER TO RECOVER DATA ON A PARTICULAR PERSON.

+WHEN THE WHOLE SYSTEM IS FULLY OPERATIONAL, INFORMATION ABOUT A PARTICULAR PERSON WILL BE AVAILABLE WITHIN SECONDS BY CHECKING WITH THE COMPUTER AND MICROFILMS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

+AT PRESENT, TRACING A FILE FOR REFERENCE CAN, AT TIMES, BE QUITE TIME CONSUMING AND, IN SOME CASES, SEVERAL SECTIONS ARE INVOLVED DUE TO THE DECENTRALISATION OF FILES FOR EASY MANAGEMENT. THE MICROFILM SYSTEM WILL HELP TO BRING ALL RECORDS UNDER ONE ROOF, AND THE COMPUTERISED INDEX SYSTEM GIVES RISE TO A MUCH MORE ACCURATE AND QUICKER WAY OF PROVIDING THE NECESSARY CLUE TO LOCATE THE RECORD OF A PARTICULAR PERSON+.

THE MICROFILMING UNIT, WHICH WAS SET UP LAST YEAR AS PART OF THE \$1.6 MILLION COMPUTER-BASED MICROFILM PROJECT FOR THE DEPARTMENT, HAS SUCCESSFULLY MICROFILMED SOME HALF A MILLION FILES AND DOCUMENTS IN ITS FIRST YEAR'S OPERATION.

IT WAS ESTABLISHED TO TACKLE THE STORAGE PROBLEM OF THE EVER INCREASING NUMBER OF PAPER FILES AND THEIR SAFE CUSTODY.

THE UNIT STARTED MICROFILMING THE STOCK OF 2.3 MILLION FILES AND DOCUMENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT LAST OCTOBER. IN ADDITION, ABOUT 45,000 NEW FILES ARE OPENED EACH MONTH, WHICH ARE ALSO TO BE FILMED. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT IT WILL TAKE ANOTHER FOUR YEARS TO FINISH THE WHOLE PROCESS OF FILMING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +WHEN MICROFILMING OF ALL THE PAPER RECORDS IN THE DEPARTMENT IS COMPLETED IN FOUR YEARS' TIME, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE STORAGE AREA FOR MICROFILMED RECORDS WILL OCCUPY ONLY ONE-EIGHTH OF THE EXISTING AREA REQUIRED FOR PAPER RECORDS.+

+IN ADDITION, THE UNIT WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE ALL THE DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS PUT UNDER ONE CENTRALISED CONTROL THUS MINIMISING THE RISK OF RECORDS BEING LOST OR DAMAGED,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1977

- 7 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

GREEN PAPER ON SOCIAL SECURITY TO BE ANNOUNCED
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A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN CONNECTION WITH A GREEN PAPER ON SOCIAL SECURITY DEVELOPMENT ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14) AT 3 P.M.

ATTENDING THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE MR. THOMAS LEE, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. T.S. HEPPELL, SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISER AND MR. LU YU-HUA, SENIOR PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF SOCIAL SECURITY DIVISION.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE G.I.S. THEATRE ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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CHRISTMAS AEROGRAMME ON SALE AT POST OFFICES FROM MONDAY
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THE POST OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT CHRISTMAS PICTORIAL AEROGRAMMES WILL BE PLACED ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES AT 10 CENTS EACH FROM MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14).

THE DESIGN OF THE AEROGRAMME IN CHINESE PAPER CUT STYLE DEPICTING SANTA CLAUS WITH HIS SLEIGH WAS PRODUCED BY GOVERNMENT ARTISTS.

CHRISTMAS AEROGRAMMES ARE A CONVENIENT WAY OF SENDING SEASONAL GREETINGS ABROAD.

IT COMBINES BOTH A PERSONAL LETTER AND A GREETING AND CAN BE POSTED TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD AS FIRST CLASS AIRMAIL FOR ONLY 60 CENTS.

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/8

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1977

- 8 -

FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 16 AND 18).

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE :

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
NOVEMBER 16 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
NOVEMBER 18 (FRIDAY)	8.30 A.M. - 5 P.M.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS
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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WAN CHAI FROM MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14) TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS IN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

STARTING FROM 10 A.M. ON THAT DAY, WAN CHAI GAP ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC UNTIL ABOUT MID-DECEMBER WHILE THE SECTION OF SHIP STREET, SOUTH OF QUEEN'S ROAD EAST WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC UNTIL ABOUT MID-JANUARY NEXT YEAR.

MOTORISTS ARE ALSO ADVISED THAT WITH EFFECT FROM TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 15), THE EXISTING 30 M.P.H. SPEED LIMIT ZONE ON TAI PO ROAD IN WO CHE WHICH ENDS AT ABOUT 623 FEET NORTHEAST OF THE JUNCTION OF SHA TIN BY-PASS WILL BE EXTENDED FURTHER NORTHEASTWARDS TO A POINT 525 FEET NORTHEAST OF THE ENTRANCE TO THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY WORKSHOP AT HO TUNG LAU.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE TWO AREAS TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1977

- 9 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR TO VISIT SHIPYARD

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. PETER WILLIAMS, WILL VISIT THE CHUNG WAH SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED AT NO. 41, YAU TONG MARINE LOT, CHA KWO LING ROAD, KWUN TONG, AND THE SUNNEX PRODUCTS LIMITED AT NO. 27, SHING YIP STREET, KWUN TONG ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14) AFTERNOON.

HE WILL FIRST STOP AT THE CHUNG WAH SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED AT ABOUT 2 P.M. BEFORE GOING TO THE SUNNEX PRODUCTS LIMITED AT ABOUT 3.30 P.M.

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COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS TO OPEN ANTI-DRUG VARIETY SHOW

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. E.I. LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A THREE-HOUR SPORTS AND ANTI-DRUG VARIETY SHOW TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT 7 P.M. AT THE MAPLE STREET PLAYGROUND.

THE SHOW, WHICH FORMS PART OF THE CURRENT ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN IN SHAM SHUI PO, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ADDICTS.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EVENT.

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