



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR TO REVIEW HONG KONG AFFAIRS	1
GOVERNOR SEES CONTINUING NEED FOR VOLUNTARY WORK	1
HK GROUP RETURNING TOMORROW	2
TWO MP'S COMING	3
\$76-MILLION MORE ON NEW TOWN WORKS	3
GREATER DIVERSITY IN COMPUTER INDUSTRY URGED	4
DISTRICT BOARDS' VITAL ROLE STRESSED	5
CRIME FIGHTERS VISIT PRISON	6
IOC PRESIDENT STOPS IN HONG KONG	6
PILOT SCHEME TO CONTROL HAWKING PROVES EFFECTIVE	7
BANK'S NAME TO BE CHANGED	8
CARE IN USE OF FIRES URGED	9
LEARN-TO-SWIM COURSES OFFERED	9
EFFORT TO TEACH METRIC GOES ON	10
MAINS WORK IN KOWLOON CITY	11
CARRIAGEWAY CLOSURE	11

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

- 1 -

GOVERNOR TO REVIEW HONG KONG AFFAIRS
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL REVIEW THE AFFAIRS OF HONG KONG AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 4).

THE PROCEEDINGS WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM, AND WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RADIO.

RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG WILL BROADCAST THE MEETING ON RADIO ONE (CHINESE SERVICE) AND RADIO THREE (ENGLISH SERVICE).

COMMERCIAL RADIO WILL ALSO BROADCAST IT LIVE ON CHINESE CHANNEL ONE AND THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

AFTER THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS, THE COUNCIL WILL ADJOURN UNTIL OCTOBER 10 FOR THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING.

THE COUNCIL WILL RESUME ON OCTOBER 24, WHEN THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WILL MOVE A MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

A NUMBER OF UNOFFICIALS WILL SPEAK ON THE MOTION THAT DAY, AND ON THE FOLLOWING DAY IF NECESSARY.

OFFICIAL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO REPLY TO THE POINTS RAISED BY THEIR COLLEAGUES ON NOVEMBER 7 AND ON THE FOLLOWING DAY IF NECESSARY.

SPEECHES BY THE UNOFFICIALS AND OFFICIALS WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RTHK RADIO ONE CHINESE SERVICE AND RADIO THREE ENGLISH SERVICE.

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GOVERNOR SEES CONTINUING NEED FOR VOLUNTARY WORK
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TONIGHT THAT HE SAW A CONTINUING NEED FOR THE KIND OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE OFFERED BY THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES OVER THE YEARS AHEAD.

LIKE OTHER AUXILIARY SERVICES, THE GOVERNOR SAID, THE AMS PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN TIMES OF EMERGENCIES AND NATURAL DISASTERS.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL AMS OFFICERS MESS DINNER HELD AT THE FURAMA HOTEL, SIR EDWARD SAID HE WAS SURE THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG APPRECIATED GREATLY THE DEDICATED SERVICES GIVEN FREELY AT ALL TIMES BY MEMBERS OF THE AMS.

/+ON BEHALF

+ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY, I SHOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

FOR 34 YEARS, OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE AMS, THE GOVERNOR SAID, HAD CONTINUED TO AUGMENT THE REGULAR SERVICES IN VARIOUS WAYS AND IN A MOST EFFICIENT MANNER.

+INDEED, WHEREVER AND WHENEVER HELP AND ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THE REGULAR MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, AMS PERSONNEL ARE TO BE FOUND -- IN HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, ON REGULAR AMBULANCES, IN COUNTRY PARKS, ON PUBLIC BEACHES DURING THE SWIMMING SEASONS, AND REGULARLY IN ALL METHADONE TREATMENT CLINICS,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE COMMISSIONER OF AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES, DR K.L. THONG, IN HIS WELCOMING ADDRESS PRAISED THE GOVERNOR FOR HIS PART IN BRINGING ABOUT A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO THE SINO-BRITISH DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

DR THONG SAID SIR EDWARD'S PRESENCE WAS PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED AS HE HAD MADE SUCH A MAGNIFICENT EFFORT TO BE WITH THEM IN SPITE OF THE HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES AND BUSY SCHEDULES PLACED ON HIM.

+ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE AMS, I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE HIS EXCELLENCY ON A MOST DIFFICULT TASK CONCLUDED WITH GREAT SKILL AND DISTINCTION,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING OF THE AMS, DR THONG SAID THAT SINCE ITS INCEPTION 34 YEARS AGO, THE SERVICES HAD GREATLY EXPANDED IN MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICES.

+TODAY, WE CAN BOAST OF A TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF SOME 6 000 WHO ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS DEDICATED IN PROVIDING A VALUABLE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY,+ DR THONG SAID.

SOME 200 MEMBERS AND GUESTS ATTENDED THE DINNER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

HK GROUP RETURNING TOMORROW
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THE HONG KONG DELEGATION LED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WILL RETURN FROM PEKING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTER TAKING PART IN THE CELEBRATIONS OF THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

THE GROUP WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT CA 105, ETA 12.25 PM.

PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN COVERING THE GROUP'S ARRIVAL SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING BY 11.35 AM TOMORROW.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

- 3 -

TWO MP'S COMING
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TWO CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, SIR NICHOLAS BONSOR AND MR PETER TEMPLE-MORRIS WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW (OCTOBER 3) FOR A NINE-DAY VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THEY WILL VISIT CHI MA WAN VIETNAMESE REFUGEES CLOSED CENTRE, KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT, A HOUSING ESTATE, A SQUATTER AREA, AS WELL AS EASTERN DISTRICT WHERE THEY WILL MEET MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THEY WILL ALSO MEET UMELCO MEMBERS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, URBAN COUNCIL MEMBERS AND A GROUP OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN.

THEY WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 10 BEFORE DEPARTING THE FOLLOWING DAY.

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\$76-MILLION MORE ON NEW TOWN WORKS
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A \$76-MILLION CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED FOR A SERIES OF GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN FANLING NEW TOWN.

THE WORKS, COMMISSIONED BY THE TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WILL INCLUDE REALIGNING A 2.7-KILOMETRE STRETCH OF THE MA WAT RIVER BETWEEN WO HOP SHEK INTERCHANGE AND THE RIVER INDUS, TOGETHER WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEVEN BOX CULVERTS.

A 7.3-METRE WIDE BRIDGE WITH A 2.3-METRE WIDE FOOTPATH ON EACH SIDE AND A 3.5-METRE WIDE CYCLETRACK ON ONE SIDE WILL ALSO BE BUILT.

THE CONTRACT ALSO COVERS THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIX FOOT BRIDGES, INCLUDING ONE FOR BOTH PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS, 10 KILOMETRES OF FOOTPATHS AND CYCLETRACKS, AND FOUR CAR AND LORRY PARKS.

ABOUT 10 HECTARES OF LAND WILL BE FORMED FOR INDUSTRIAL, GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY USES, AND ANOTHER 10 HECTARES OF RECREATIONAL LAND ALONG THE REALIGNED RIVER BANKS WILL BE LANDSCAPED.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START NEXT WEEK AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN THREE YEARS.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

- 4 -

GREATER DIVERSITY IN COMPUTER INDUSTRY URGED
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THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY, TODAY (TUESDAY) CALLED ON HONG KONG INDUSTRIALISTS TO EXPAND MORE QUICKLY INTO DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE COMPUTER INDUSTRY.

+THIS IS AN INDUSTRY WHOSE EVER DEVELOPING TECHNOLOGY HAS VIRTUALLY UNLIMITED APPLICATIONS,+ SAID MR YAXLEY, WHEN HE OPENED THE HONG KONG ELECTRONICS FAIR 1984 BEING HELD AT THE HONG KONG EXHIBITION CENTRE.

+CONSUMER PRODUCTS SUCH AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS, TOYS AND DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES STILL ACCOUNT FOR A SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTION OF THE BUSINESS. BUT PARTS AND COMPONENTS FOR COMPUTERS, PRINTED CIRCUITS, INTEGRATED CIRCUITS AND THE LIKE ARE ASSUMING A GREATER SHARE OF THE MARKET, AND I HOPE TO SEE THIS SECTOR EXPAND AS THE INDUSTRY BECOMES MORE SOPHISTICATED AND, AS ELECTRONICALLY CONTROLLED PROCESSES BECOME A MORE COMMON FEATURE IN THE PRODUCTION LINES OF OTHER TYPES OF ENTERPRISE.

+THE SPEED WITH WHICH NEW MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMPUTER PERIPHERALS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN GRASPED REFLECTS OUR MANUFACTURERS' WELL-KNOWN FLEXIBILITY AND ADAPTABILITY AND I AM SURE THAT AS CONFIDENCE IN LOCAL INVESTMENT CONTINUES ITS PRESENT EXPANSIONIST PHASE, THE TREND TOWARDS FURTHER DIVERSIFICATION WILL INCREASE. THIS WILL OF COURSE ALSO BE HELPED BY THE CONTINUING STRONG INTEREST OF OVERSEAS INVESTORS IN HONG KONG - AN INTEREST WHICH THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT IS WORKING HARD, BOTH LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS, TO ENCOURAGE,+ MR YAXLEY SAID.

SPEAKING ON MANPOWER TRAINING FOR THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY, MR YAXLEY POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THERE WERE ALREADY COURSES OFFERED BY THE TWO UNIVERSITIES AND THE POLYTECHNICS, HOWEVER, THERE REMAINED A PRESSING NEED FOR LOCAL GRADUATES TO GAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

+I SHOULD LIKE TO MAKE A SPECIAL PLEA HERE TO EMPLOYERS TO TAKE PART IN THE ENGINEERING GRADUATE TRAINING SCHEME ORGANISED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, TO ENABLE GRADUATES TO QUALIFY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THEIR PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTE AND TO PROVIDE A POOL OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED ENGINEERS WITH PRACTICAL ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE.

+FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TOWARDS THE SALARIES OF THESE TRAINEES AND I SUGGEST THAT EMPLOYERS HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE AND EVERYTHING TO GAIN BY TAKING PART IN THIS SCHEME,+ MR YAXLEY SAID.

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- 5 -

DISTRICT BOARDS' VITAL ROLE STRESSED
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THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME SHOULD PROVIDE HONG KONG WITH A GOOD PLATFORM ON WHICH TO BUILD THE FUTURE, BOTH SOCIALLY AND POLITICALLY, YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BOWEN LEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE SAID DISTRICT BOARDS PLAYED A VERY ACTIVE ROLE IN FEEDING BACK TO THE GOVERNMENT VIEWS OF RESIDENTS FROM DIFFERENT DISTRICTS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

+THE BOARDS WOULD EXPECT THEMSELVES TO BE MORE AND MORE INVOLVED AS PART OF THE CONSULTATION MACHINERY ON CENTRAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND ACTIONS IN FUTURE,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST, MR LEUNG OUTLINED THE WORK AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD SINCE ITS INCEPTION ABOUT TWO AND A HALF YEARS AGO.

HE SAID THE BOARD HAD CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO ENVIRONMENTAL, TRAFFIC, AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS, AS WELL AS PROMOTING VARIOUS RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

THESE INCLUDED CLEARING REAR LANES AND REMOVING OBSTRUCTION FROM STREETS, IDENTIFYING AND SOLVING VARIOUS TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT PROBLEMS, SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS, LAUNCHING CAMPAIGNS TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY, CLEANLINESS AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME, AND CARRYING OUT OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

MR LEUNG ALSO SUGGESTED A NUMBER OF WAYS TO IMPROVE FURTHER PUBLICITY ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD MEETINGS.

+THE AGENDA OF THE MEETINGS COULD BE PUBLISHED PRIOR TO EACH MEETING SO THAT RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT INTERESTED IN PARTICULAR SUBJECTS COULD ATTEND THE MEETINGS,+ HE SAID.

+IN ADDITION, DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF THE BOARD COULD BE SUMMARISED FOR PUBLICATION.+

MR LEUNG ALSO URGED ALL REGISTERED VOTERS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS ON MARCH 7 NEXT YEAR BY EITHER GOING TO POLLS OR STANDING AS CANDIDATES.

+I WOULD EXPECT THE DISTRICT BOARD TO BE MORE ACTIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE VIEWS OF THE RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT AT ITS NEXT TERM OF OFFICE WHEN THE NUMBER OF ELECTED MEMBERS ON THE BOARD WILL BE DOUBLED,+ HE ADDED.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

- 6 -

CRIME FIGHTERS VISIT PRISON
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TWELVE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE VISITED THE MAXIMUM SECURITY STANLEY PRISON TODAY.

LED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDY CHAN, THE GROUP WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE SUPERINTENDENT IN CHARGE, MR NG WAI-MAN.

THEY THEN TOURED THE VARIOUS FACILITIES IN THE INSTITUTION AND WERE BRIEFED ON THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAMMES FOR PRISONERS.

THEY ALSO SAW PRISONERS WORKING ON TRAFFIC SIGNS, GARMENTS, ENVELOPES AND SHOW MAKING, AND SOME OTHERS RECEIVING TRAINING IN TELEVISION AND RADIO REPAIR.

THE PRISON HAS A POPULATION OF 1 400.

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IOC PRESIDENT STOPS IN HONG KONG
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THE PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, MR JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) HE WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE ALLOWS THE TERRITORY AFTER 1997 TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS, INCLUDING SPORTING EVENTS, IN THE NAME OF HONG KONG, CHINA.

MR SAMARANCH MADE THE BRIEF STOP IN HONG KONG EN ROUTE TO BANGKOK FROM CHINA TODAY.

MR SAMARANCH WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMATEUR SPORTS FEDERATION AND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG, MR A. DE O. SALES; THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON; THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, MR DICKEN YUNG; THE ASF AND OC'S SECRETARY GENERAL, MR RAMON YOUNG; AND THE SPANISH CONSUL GENERAL, MR LUIS ENRIQUE VALERA, THE MARQUES DE AUNON.

ACCOMPANIED BY IOC'S VICE PRESIDENT, MR ASHWINI KUMAR= THE PRESIDENT OF OLYMPIC COUNCIL OF ASIA, SHEIK FAHAD AL-AHMAD AL-SABAH, AND THEIR STAFF, MR SAMARANCH AND HIS WIFE ARRIVED AT ABOUT 12.40 PM.

MR SAMARANCH AND HIS PARTY LATER ATTENDED A LUNCH HOSTED BY MR SALES. THE PARTY LEFT HONG KONG SHORTLY BEFORE 4 PM WHILE MRS SAMARANCH STAYED BEHIND FOR A BRIEF VISIT.

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- 7 -

PILOT SCHEME TO CONTROL HAWKING PROVES EFFECTIVE
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THE PILOT SCHEME TO BETTER CONTROL HAWKING IN WAN CHAI AND YAU MA TEI HAS SHOWN SIGNS OF SUCCESS SINCE ITS INTRODUCTION THREE MONTHS AGO.

COMMENTING ON THE PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE SCHEME, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL SAID NOT ONLY WERE THERE FEWER ILLEGAL HAWKERS IN THE TWO DISTRICTS, BUT THE HAWKER BLACKSPOTS THERE HAD BEEN REDUCED IN NUMBER AND SIZE.

HE SAID IMPROVEMENTS WERE ALSO SEEN IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION OF HAWKER PERMITTED PLACES AND VARIOUS PITCH SITES.

THE SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN JUNE THIS YEAR FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS WITH THE AIM OF IMPROVING THE COST EFFECTIVENESS AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY OF HAWKER CONTROL.

+UNDER THE SCHEME, EACH GENERAL DUTIES TEAM (GDT) IS PROVIDED WITH A LARGER NUMBER OF FOREMEN EMPOWERED TO MAKE ARRESTS.

+THE PROVISION OF RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND THE ADOPTION OF REVISED OPERATIONAL TACTICS HAVE ALSO GREATLY ENHANCED MOBILISATION CAPABILITY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

GENERAL DUTIES TEAMS CAN BE DEPLOYED MORE FLEXIBLY TO COVER A WIDER SCOPE OF OPERATION.

EXPLAINING THE STRATEGY AND TACTICS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID EACH OF THE TWO DISTRICTS WAS DIVIDED INTO OPERATIONAL ZONES FOR RAIDING OPERATIONS AND SECTIONAL PATROLS.

+FOR HAWKER CONCENTRATION AREAS, RAIDING OPERATIONS WERE SUPPLEMENTED BY SECTIONAL PATROLS AND SURPRISE RAIDS,+ HE SAID.

+IN THE CASE OF HAWKER PERMITTED PLACES AND HAWKING SITES IN THE VICINITY OF THEATRES, SCHOOLS AND MARKETS, THE TACTICS WAS TO DETER HAWKERS FROM TAKING ROOT BY THE POSTING OF GDT PERSONNEL ON SITE BEFORE AND DURING NORMAL TRADING HOURS.

+IN ADDITION, SPECIAL OPERATIONS WERE MOUNTED TO SEIZE HAWKER HANDCARTS DURING NON-HAWKER BUSINESS HOURS AND TO CLAMP DOWN ON ILLEGAL FOOD FACTORIES WHICH SUPPLIED COOKED FOOD TO ILLEGAL HAWKERS.+

FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT SCHEME, THE AVERAGE MONTHLY NUMBERS OF ARRESTS OF HAWKERS IN WAN CHAI AND YAU MA TEI BETWEEN JUNE AND AUGUST WERE 1 134 AND 1 694 RESPECTIVELY, COMPARED WITH 784 AND 884 IN MAY.

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- 8 -

ALSO, THE NUMBER OF UNLICENSED HAWKERS TRADING IN WAN CHAI HAD DROPPED FROM 377 IN JUNE TO 197 IN AUGUST, AND THAT IN YAU MA TEI, FROM 900 TO 867.

+WE ARE VERY ENCOURAGED BY THE ACHIEVEMENT SO FAR. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY IN FACE OF CONTINUED RESISTANCE, PARTICULARLY FROM ILLEGAL HAWKERS.

+THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SCHEME CLOSELY AND A FULL ASSESSMENT WILL BE MADE BY THE END OF THE TRIAL PERIOD,+ HE SAID.

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BANK'S NAME TO BE CHANGED
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VARIOUS ORDINANCES WHICH CONTAIN REFERENCES TO THE CHARTERED BANK, WILL BE AMENDED TO REFLECT ITS NEW NAME OF STANDARD CHARTERED BANK.

THE AMENDMENTS ARE PROPOSED UNDER A CHARTERED BANK (CHANGE OF NAME) BILL 1984, TO BE PUBLISHED ON FRIDAY (OCTOBER 5).

THEY ARE NECESSARY BECAUSE THE CHARTERED BANK, WHICH BELONGS TO THE STANDARD CHARTERED BANK GROUP, WILL BE CALLED THE STANDARD CHARTERED BANK FROM NEXT YEAR.

THE BILL WILL ALSO ALLOW THE BANK TO CONTINUE TO ISSUE ITS STOCK OF BANK NOTES BEARING ITS OLD NAME FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS.

IT WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 10, AND IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE ITS THIRD READING ON NOVEMBER 21.

COMMENTS ON ITS PROVISIONS MAY BE SENT IN WRITING TO UMELCO AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, AT ADMIRALTY CENTRE, TOWER 11, 18 HARCOURT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

- 9 -

CARE IN USE OF FIRES URGED
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY SOUGHT PUBLIC HELP IN PREVENTING THE OUTBREAK OF FIRES.

URGING CAUTION, PARTICULARLY DURING THE DRY SEASON, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT ALSO REMINDED PEOPLE GOING TO THE CEMETERIES TO WORSHIP TO BE CAREFUL WITH THE USE OF JOSS STICKS AND OTHER OFFERINGS FOR BURNING.

HE GAVE THE FOLLOWING ADVICE TO WORSHIPPERS:

- * REMOVE ALL GRASS NEAR THE GRAVESIDE BEFORE LIGHTING ANY ITEM.
- * BURN JOSS STICKS AND CANDLES ONLY IN METAL CONTAINERS.
- * MAKE SURE ALL FIRES ARE EXTINGUISHED BEFORE LEAVING.
- * SOUND THE ALARM AT FIRST SIGN OF AN OUTBRACK OF FIRE.

AS FOR PICNICKERS, HE URGED THEM TO BARBECUE ONLY AT DESIGNATED AREAS.

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LEARN-TO-SWIM COURSES OFFERED
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APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL'S FINAL SERIES OF THE +LEARN-TO-SWIM+ COURSES DUE TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN OCTOBER 22 AND NOVEMBER 24 THIS YEAR.

THE COURSES WILL CONSIST OF 15 ONE-HOUR SESSIONS AT BEGINNER, INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED LEVELS.

THE BASIC REQUIREMENT FOR ENROLMENT AT THE BEGINNER LEVEL IS THAT PARTICIPANTS MUST BE 10 YEARS OF AGE OR ABOVE. AS FOR THE OTHER TWO CLASSES, PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE ABLE TO SWIM 50 METRES FOR THE INTERMEDIATE LEVEL AND 400 METRES FOR THE ADVANCED LEVEL WITHOUT AID.

AS THE SWIMMING SEASON IS NEARING AN END, THE COURSES WILL OFFER A WELCOME CHANCE FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO LEARN TO SWIM OR TO PERFECT THEIR SKILLS IN THE SPORT, SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN.

THE BEGINNER CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT MORRISON HILL SWIMMING POOL, WHILE THE INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE AT TAI WAN SHAN, LAI CHI KOK, CHAI WAN AND MORRISON HILL SWIMMING POOL COMPLEXES.

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AT THE END OF THE INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED CLASSES, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE TESTED EITHER FOR THE HONG KONG SWIMMERS' AWARDS OR THE SWIMMING TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION SURVIVAL AWARDS.

DETAILS AND ENROLMENT FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE COUNCIL'S SWIMMING POOLS MENTIONED ABOVE BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5 PM DAILY UNTIL OCTOBER 22.

ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

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EFFORT TO TEACH METRIC GOES ON
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THE METRIC SCALE COUNTER IS BEING SENT ROUND THE MARKET PLACE AGAIN, AS PART OF THE CONTINUING EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE USE OF METRIC UNITS AT THE GRASS-ROOTS LEVEL.

STARTING FROM TODAY AT THE WAN CHAI MARKET, UNTIL THE END OF JANUARY, THE COUNTER WILL BE SET UP IN EIGHT POPULAR MARKETS IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES, ON A ROTATION BASIS. IT WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON THREE TIMES A WEEK, FOR A PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS IN EACH MARKET.

STALL-KEEPERS AND MARKET-GOERS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO TRY OUT THE DUAL CALIBRATION WEIGHING SCALES AT THE COUNTER, AND INSTRUCTIONAL AND PUBLICITY MATERIALS, SUCH AS STICKERS, CONVERSION CARDS AND METRIC DIALS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED.

THE COUNTER IS MANNED BY ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY STAFF PROVIDED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE SCHEME.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE METRICATION COMMITTEE SAID THAT WHEN THE SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR, IT GENERATED A BIG AMOUNT OF INTEREST FROM SHOPPERS AND STALL-HOLDERS IN MORE THAN 20 DIFFERENT MARKETS.

SINCE THEN, THESE HAD BEEN A GROWING AWARENESS OF METRIC SCALES, HE SAID.

THE COUNTER WILL REMAIN AT THE WAN CHAI MARKET UNTIL OCTOBER 13.

FROM OCTOBER 15 ONWARDS, IT WILL MOVE TO SHAU KEI WAN MARKET, WANG TAU HOM ESTATE FU MOU MARKET, TO KWA WAN MARKET, NORTH KWAI CHUNG MARKET, WONG TAI SIN MARKET, TUEN MUN YAN OI MARKET, KWUN CHUNG MARKET.

STALL-HOLDERS AT THESE MARKETS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT THE SCHEME BY SELLING THEIR PRODUCTS IN METRIC UNITS.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

- 11 -

MAINS WORK IN KOWLOON CITY

SALT WATER SUPPLY TO KOWLOON CITY WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 10 AM TO 11 PM ON FRIDAY (OCTOBER 5) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY NGA TSIN WAI ROAD, TAK KU LING ROAD, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST AND NGA TSIN LONG ROAD.

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CARRIAGEWAY CLOSURE

THE NORTH-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD BETWEEN HUNG MUI KUK ROAD AND TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC 1 AM TO 5 AM BETWEEN OCTOBER 4 (THURSDAY) AND 8, TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORK.

DURING THE ROAD CLOSURE, TRAFFIC HEADING FOR SHA TIN WILL BE REROUTED VIA HUNG MUI KUK ROAD AND CHE KUNG MIU ROAD.

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