DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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NO PLANS TO CHANGE THE FUNCTIONS OF EXCO: MINISTER

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, MR ALASTAIR GOODLAD SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS WHATSOEVER TO CHANGE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER A MEETING WITH THE BRITISH SENIOR TRADE COMMISSIONER, MR STEPHEN DAY, MR GOODLAD SAID THAT THE CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MIGHT BE SOMETHING WHICH THE GOVERNOR-DESIGNATE MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER.

"THERE ARE NO PLANS THAT I'M AWARE OF TO CHANGE THE FUNCTIONS OF EXCO," THE MINISTER SAID.

LATER IN THE AFTERNOON, MR GOODLAD SAID AFTER VISITING THE WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE, THAT THE BEST THING FOR THOSE WHO HAD BEEN SCREENED OUT WAS TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMELAND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE DETENTION CENTRE, HE SAID HE HOPED THAT WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED SPEEDILY AND EASILY AND THAT THE PEOPLE WOULD BE SETTLED BACK INTO VIETNAM.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE NUMBER OF NEW ARRIVALS HAD BEEN REDUCED TO SEVEN THIS YEAR WHILE THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS TO GO BACK WAS AT A RECORD HIGH.

MR GOODLAD SAID THAT THE ENORMOUS RESOURCES THAT HAD BEEN DEVOTED BY THE HONG KONG AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENTS WERE VERY WELL DEPLOYED.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR APRIL

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THE RATE OF INFLATION CONTINUED TO MODERATE IN APRIL THIS YEAR.

ACCORDING TO THE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS & STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) WAS 8.9% HIGHER THAN IN APRIL 1991.

THIS COMPARED WITH 9.5% IN THE PRECEDING MONTH AND THE PEAK FIGURE OF 13.9% IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

THE CPI(B) AND THE HANG SENG CPI IN APRIL 1992 WERE HIGHER BY 9.2% AND 9.7% RESPECTIVELY THAN IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

THEIR CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN MARCH WERE 9.7% AND 10.1%.

/THE COMPOSITE .....

THE COMPOSITE CPI, WHICH WAS COMPILED BASED ON THE COMBINED EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF HOUSEHOLDS COVERED BY THE THREE CPIS, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 9.2% IN APRIL 1992 OVER THE SAME MONTH IN 1991. THE CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN MARCH WAS 9.7%.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, WELCOMED THE CONTINUED MODERATION IN CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION, NOTING THAT THIS WAS THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE MONTH IN WHICH THE INFLATION RATE FELL BELOW DOUBLE DIGIT LEVEL.

THE FURTHER DECELERATION IN THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATES OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) IN APRIL 1992 WHEN COMPARED TO MARCH 1992, WAS PARTLY DUE TO LESS RAPID INCREASE IN RENT.

ANOTHER CONTRIBUTING FACTOR WAS THE INCREASE IN BUS FARE IN LATE MARCH LAST YEAR, WHICH THUS CONSTITUTED A HIGH BASE OF COMPARISON FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL THIS YEAR.

A FURTHER FACTOR WAS THE CONTINUING EFFECT OF THE BUDGET PACKAGE THIS YEAR, WHICH SHOULD HAVE A MODEST DEFLATIONARY EFFECT.

COMPARING APRIL 1992 WITH APRIL 1991, THE PRICES OF ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO REGISTERED DECREASES (-10.8% IN CPI(A) AND -6.0% IN CPI(B)).

RELATIVELY SLOWER INCREASES IN PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR DURABLE GOODS (2.7% IN BOTH CPIS); FUEL AND LIGHT (6.0% AND 5.7%); TRANSPORT (6.0% AND 6.1%); MISCELLANEOUS GOODS (6.9% AND 6.4%); AND CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (8.8% AND 8.7%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, RELATIVELY FASTER INCREASES IN PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR FOOD (EXCLUDING RESTAURANT MEALS) (10.3% IN CPI(A) AND 9.4% IN CPI(B)); MEALS AT RESTAURANTS (10.9% IN BOTH CPIS); SERVICES (11.3% AND 11.0%); AND HOUSING (11.3% AND 11.5%).

COMPARING APRIL 1992 WITH MARCH 1992, THE CPI(A) WAS HIGHER BY 1.2%, THE CPI(B) BY 1.3%, AND THE HANG SENG CPI BY 0.8%. THIS COMPARISON WAS, HOWEVER, AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS.

THE INCREASES IN THE INDICES WERE LARGELY DUE TO HIGHER PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND OUTERCLOTHING, AND HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEALS AT RESTAURANTS.

RENT FOR SOME PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS WERE ALSO HIGHER IN APRIL ALTHOUGH THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE HAD MODERATED WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH.

FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED APRIL 1992, THE CPI(A) WAS, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 9.6% THAN IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDED APRIL 1991. THE CORRESPONDING FIGURE WAS 9.7% FOR THE CPI(B).

FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY TO APRIL 1992, BOTH THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) WERE, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 9.8% THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1991.

/FOR THE .....

FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED APRIL 1992, THE CPI(A) WAS, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 11.1% THAN IN THE PRECEDING 12-MONTH PERIOD. THE CORRESPONDING FIGURE WAS 10.9% FOR THE CPI(B).

ON A SEASONALLY ADJUSTED BASIS, BOTH THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 1.0% PER MONTH DURING THE THREE MONTHS ENDED APRIL 1992.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR APRIL 1992, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT $9 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19/F, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDICES, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 805 6403.

DETAILS REGARDING THE HANG SENG CPI ARE CONTAINED IN THE HANG SENG CPI REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

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/TABLE 1 .....

Table 1 Consumer Price Indices and Rates of Increase for April 1992
(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

Component	CPI(A)		CPI(B)		Hang Seng CPI		Composite CPI	
	Index for Apr.92	% change over Apr.91	Index for Apr.92	% change over Apr.91	Index for Apr.92	% change over Apr.91	Index for Apr.92	% change over Apr.91
Food	124.4	+10.6	124.8	+10.3	122.8	+9.9	124.3	+10.3
Meals bought away from home	127.9	+10.9	127.8	+10.9	123.7	+10.4	127.0	+10.8
Food, excluding meals bought away from home	120.9	+10.3	120.7	+9.4	121.3	+9.1	120.9	+9.8
Housing	128.0	+11.3	127.4	+11.5	128.5	+11.3	127.9	+11.4
Fuel and light	115.6	+6.0	115.0	+5.7	114.8	+4.9	115.2	+5.7
Alcoholic drinks and tobacco	160.8	-10.8	152.8	-6.0	149.0	-3.2	156.3	-8.2
Clothing and footwear	118.8	+8.8	120.0	+8.7	121.9	+16.7	120.4	+11.4
Durable goods	107.3	+2.7	106.8	+2.7	109.3	+4.8	107.7	+3.3
Miscellaneous goods	114.4	+6.9	113.3	+6.4	112.8	+5.7	113.6	+6.4
Transport	122.1	+6.0	122.2	+6.1	123.5	+6.1	122.5	+6.1
Services	125.4	+11.3	123.9	+11.0	120.4	+9.3	123.3	+10.6
All items	124.0	+8.9	123.4	+9.2	122.9	+9.7	123.5	+9.2

The 1989/90-based consumer price indices are based on the expenditure patterns derived from the 1989/90 Household Expenditure Survey. The CPI(A) is based on the expenditure pattern of about 50% of urban households in Hong Kong, which had an average monthly expenditure of $2,500-$9,999 a month in 1989/90. The CPI(B) is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 30% of urban households, which had an average monthly expenditure of $10,000-$17,499 in the same period. The Hang Seng CPI is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 10% of urban households, which had an average monthly expenditure of $17,500-$37,499 in 1989/90.

Whereas the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI are based on the expenditure patterns of groups of households with different magnitudes of household expenditure, the Composite CPI is compiled based on the expenditure pattern of all these households taken together. Thus, while the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI show the impact of consumer price changes on different groups of households, the Composite CPI shows the impact of consumer price changes on the household sector generally.

/TABLE 2 .....

Table 2 Consumer Price Indices for October 1990 - April 1992
(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

Year/month	CPI(A)	CPI(B)	Hang Seng CPI	Composite CPI
1990 October	105.8	105.9	106.7	106.1
November	106.5	106.7	107.8	106.9
December	107.4	107.6	108.1	107.7
1991 January	108.3	108.4	108.6	108.4
February	110.3	110.1	110.2	110.2
March	111.9	111.1	110.7	111.3
April	113.9	113.0	112.0	113.1
May	114.0	113.6	113.4	113.7
June	114.6	114.1	113.9	114.2
July	115.4	114.8	113.9	114.8
August	116.0	115.3	114.6	115.4
September	116.8	116.1	115.8	116.3
October	117.2	116.8	117.4	117.1
November	117.7	117.6	118.7	117.9
December	118.1	118.3	118.5	118.3
1992 January	119.7	119.3	119.4	119.5
February	121.8	121.2	121.0	121.4
March	122.5	121.9	121.8	122.1
April	124.0	123.4	122.9	123.5

/CHART 1 .....

Chart 1 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in CPI(A)

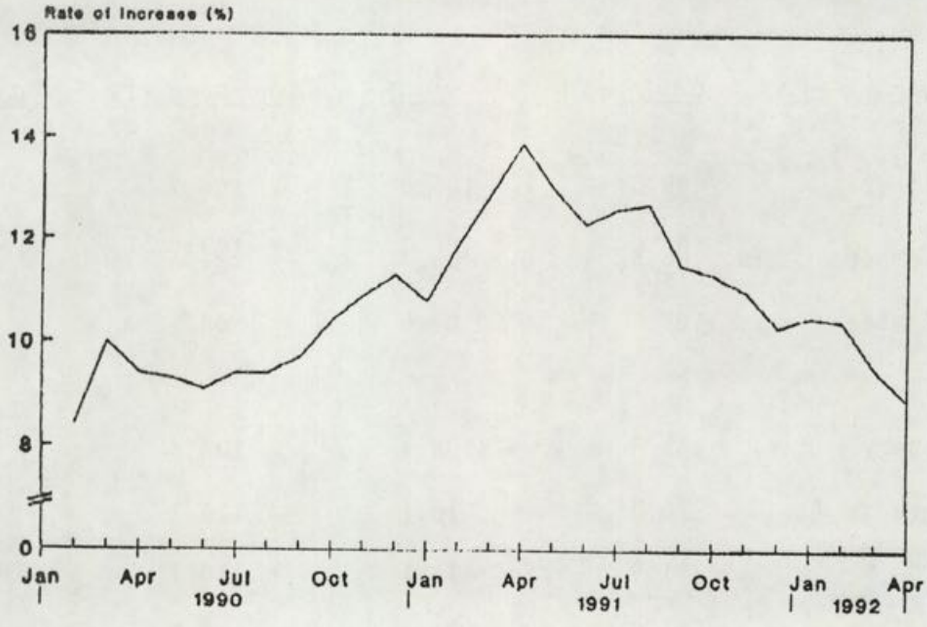
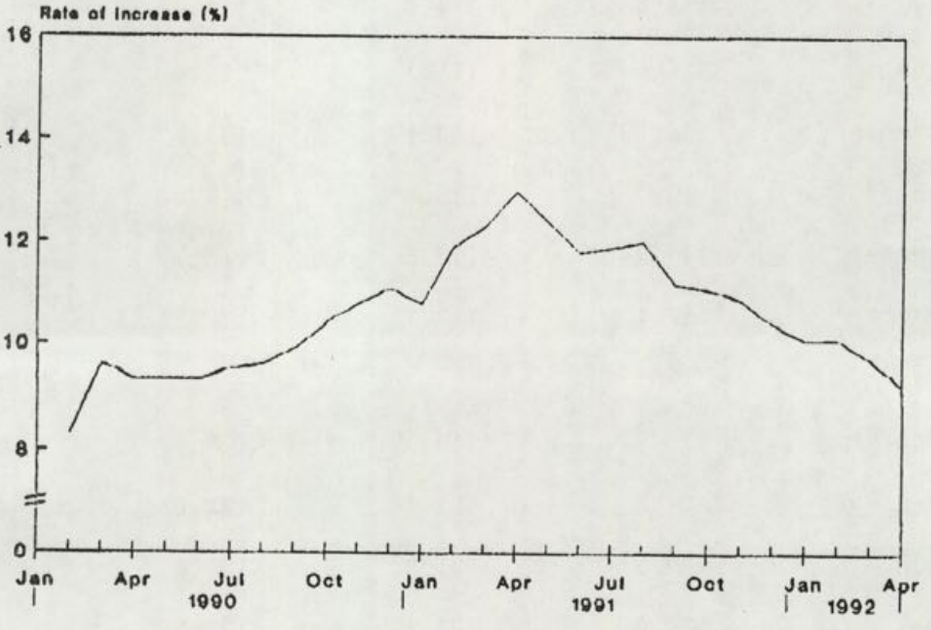


Chart 2 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in CPI(B)



/CHART 3 .....

Chart 3 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
In Hang Seng CPI

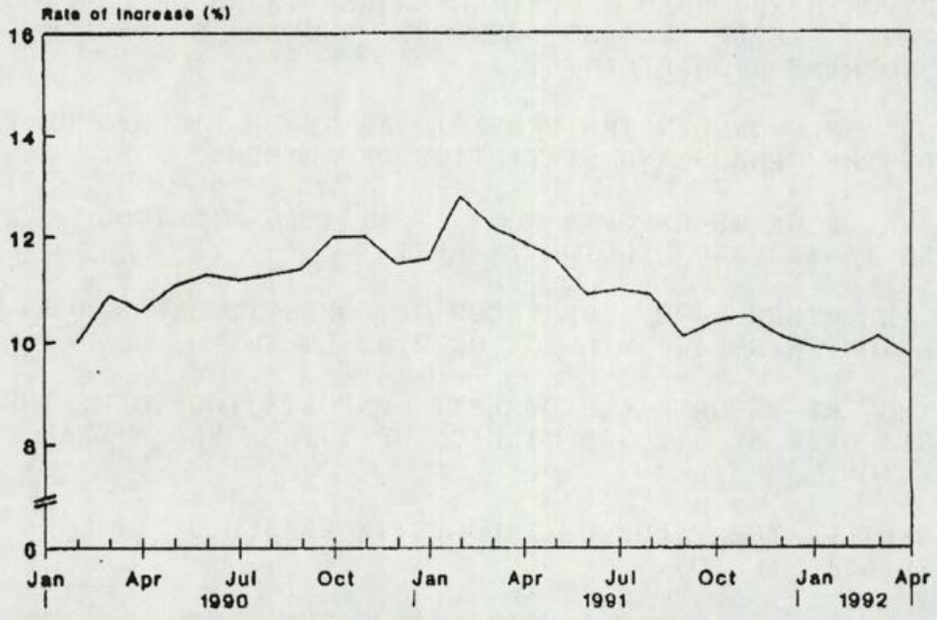
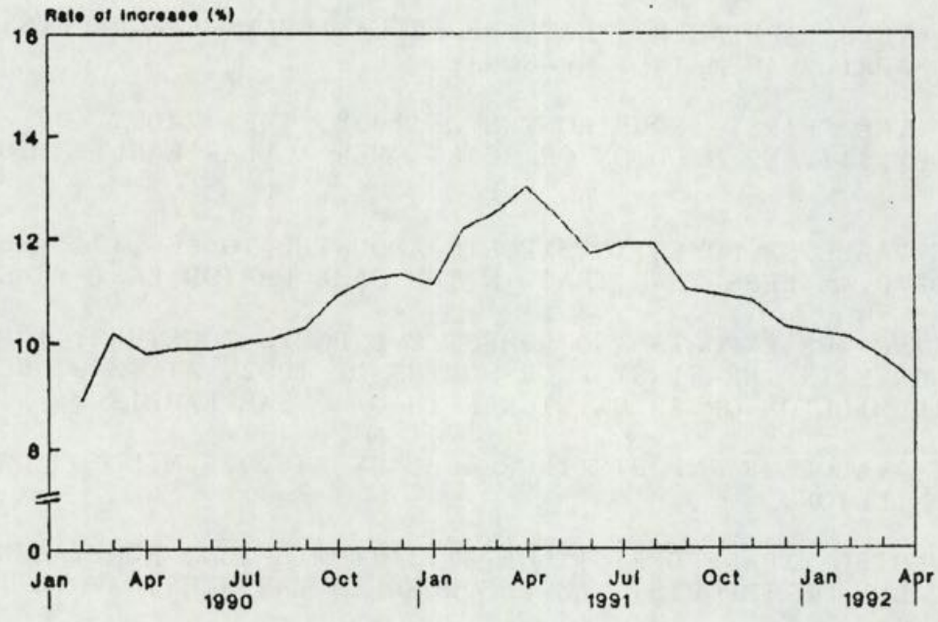


Chart 4 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
In Composite CPI



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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR APRIL PUBLISHED

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RE-EXPORTS RECORDED A FURTHER MARKED INCREASE LAST MONTH OVER A YEAR EARLIER, WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS SHOWED A DECLINE. IMPORTS CONTINUED TO RISE SIGNIFICANTLY.

THESE ARE SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY $11,816 MILLION OR 28.5% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO $53,330 MILLION IN APRIL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN APRIL, AT $17,718 MILLION, WAS $464 MILLION OR 2.6% LOWER.

TAKING RE-EXPORTS AND DOMESTIC EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY $11,352 MILLION OR 19.0% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO $71,048 MILLION.

MEANWHILE, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY $12,734 MILLION OR 19.3% TO $78,551 MILLION.

AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE MONTH WAS SMALLER THAN THAT OF TOTAL IMPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF $7,503 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 9.6% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED LAST MONTH.

THIS COMPARED WITH THE DEFICIT OF $6,121 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 9.3% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN APRIL 1991.

IT THUS APPEARED THAT THE RELATIVELY LARGE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT IN APRIL WAS MAINLY SEASONAL.

IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1992, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY $47,069 MILLION OR 32.3% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO $192,942 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AMOUNTED TO $66,424 MILLION, $259 MILLION OR 0.4% LESS THAN THAT IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

TAKING RE-EXPORTS AND DOMESTIC EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1992, AT $259,366 MILLION, WAS $46,810 MILLION OR 22.0% HIGHER THAN A YEAR EARLIER.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY $48,015 MILLION OR 21.0% TO $276,507 MILLION.

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF $17,141 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 6.2% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1992.

/THIS CCMPARED .....

THIS COMPARED WITH THE DEFICIT OF $15,936 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 7.0% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN COMMENTED THAT THE SUSTAINED RAPID INCREASE IN RE-EXPORTS, AGAINST THE VIRTUALLY STATIC DOMESTIC EXPORT PERFORMANCE, REFLECTED THE CONTINUING RELOCATION OF INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES ACROSS THE BORDER.

THIS WAS RESULTED IN AN INCREASING PROPORTION OF GOODS BEING SHIPPED OUT OF HONG KONG AS RE-EXPORTS RATHER THAN AS DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

THE SHARE OF RE-EXPORTS IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS ROSE TO 74% IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1992, COMPARED WITH 69% IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1991.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, IMPORTS RETAINED FOR LOCAL USE INCREASED FURTHER, BY 7.3% IN VALUE TERMS.

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PRESS RELEASE
TRADE FIGURES FOR APRIL, 1992

The Census and Statistics Department has released the following provisional merchandise trade figures for April:-

MERCHANDISE:			
	Domestic Exports	:	$17,718 million
	Re-exports	:	$53,330 million
	Total Exports	:	$71,048 million
	Imports	:	$78,551 million
	Trade balance	:	$7,503 million (in deficit)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Latest 3 months	Feb 92 to Apr 92 HK$ Mn.	Feb 91 to Apr 91 HK$ Mn.	Increase HK$ Mn.	Increase %
Domestic Exports	52,259	47,506	4,753	10.0
Re-exports	153,933	106,853	47,080	44.1
Total Exports	206,192	154,359	51,833	33.6
Imports	220,598	167,831	52,767	31.4
Trade balance	-14,406	-13,472	-934	

Same month last year	April 1992 HK$ Mn.	April 1991 HK$ Mn.	Increase HK$ Mn.	Increase %
Domestic Exports	17,718	18,182	-464	-2.6
(% of Total Exports)	(24.9%)	(30.5%)		
Re-exports	53,330	41,514	11,816	28.5
Total Exports	71,048	59,696	11,352	19.0
Imports	78,551	65,817	12,734	19.3
Trade balance	-7,503	-6,121	-1,382	

Last month	April 1992 HK$ Mn.	March 1992 HK$ Mn.	Increase HK$ Mn.	Increase %
Domestic Exports	17,718	17,052	666	3.9
(% of Total Exports)	(24.9%)	(25.0%)		
Re-exports	53,330	51,222	2,108	4.1
Total Exports	71,048	68,274	2,774	4.1
Imports	78,551	73,873	4,678	6.3
Trade balance	-7,503	-5,599	-1,904	

Calendar year to-date	Jan-Apr 1992 HK$ Mn.	Jan-Apr 1991 HK$ Mn.	Increase HK$ Mn.	Increase %
Domestic Exports	66,424	66,683	-259	-0.4
(% of Total Exports)	(25.6%)	(31.4%)		
Re-exports	192,942	145,873	47,069	32.3
Total Exports	259,366	212,556	46,810	22.0
Imports	276,507	228,492	48,015	21.0
Trade balance	-17,141	-15,936	-1,205	

Last 12 months	May 91 to Apr 92 HK$ Mn.	May 90 to Apr 91 HK$ Mn.	Increase HK$ Mn.	Increase %
Domestic Exports	230,787	229,691	1,096	0.5
Re-exports	581,909	445,863	136,046	30.5
Total Exports	812,696	675,554	137,142	20.3
Imports	826,997	687,702	139,295	20.3
Trade balance	-14,301	-12,148	-2,153	

25th May, 1992
CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

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CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT FOR LANTAU FIXED CROSSING AWARDED

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT HAS ENTERED INTO A $106 MILLION CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT WITH SIR WILLIAM HALCROW AND PARTNERS LTD TO PROVIDE THE GOVERNMENT WITH MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING (LFC) PROJECT.

THE FIRM HAS A LONG ASSOCIATION WITH HONG KONG WHICH IS THE BASE FOR HALCROW ASIA PARTNERSHIP LTD, PART OF THE HALCROW GROUP.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID HALCROW SUBMITTED THE LOWEST PRICE FOR THE WORK. IT WAS CHOSEN FROM A SHORTLIST OF FOUR INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY FIRMS FROM THE UK, U.S. AND CANADA.

"HALCROW WAS ALSO GIVEN THE HIGHEST TECHNICAL MARKS BY AN ASSESSMENT PANEL CHAIRED BY THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LFC OFFICE, TRANSPORT BRANCH, AND NEW AIRPORT PROJECTS CO-ORDINATION OFFICE," HE SAID.

THE PANEL CONSIDERED SUBMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PREDETERMINED CRITERIA AND WEIGHTINGS, APPROVED BY THE ENGINEERING AND ASSOCIATED CONSULTANTS SELECTION BOARD WHICH INCLUDE THE CONSULTANTS' EXPERIENCE, RESPONSE TO THE BRIEF, APPROACH TO COST-EFFECTIVENESS, METHODOLOGY, AND STAFFING.

THE ASSESSMENT PANEL NOTED PARTICULARLY HALCROW'S RECENT EXPERIENCE IN THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT OF MAJOR CABLE SUPPORTED BRIDGES INCLUDING THE RECENTLY COMPLETED DARTFORD BRIDGE IN LONDON.

IT IS NORMAL PRACTICE TO ENLIST TECHNICAL AND EXPERTISE SUPPORT INTO A GOVERNMENT TEAM TO CLOSELY MONITOR A PROJECT OF SUCH A LARGE SIZE WITH THE VIEW OF ENSURING THAT THE PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED ON TIME AND WITHIN BUDGET.

UNDER THE AGREEMENT, HALCROW WILL SECOND STAFF WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN MAJOR SUSPENSION AND OTHER BRIDGE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT TO THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT'S LFC OFFICE.

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NEW ROADS PROPOSED FOR TSEUNG KWAN O

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO BUILD A NEW ROAD NETWORK IN TSEUNG KWAN O NEW TOWN TO TIE IN WITH THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW SETTLEMENT.

THE NEW ROADS WILL CONNECT TWO NEW AREAS, WHICH WILL BE DEVELOPED AT THE EXISTING TIU KENG LENG COTTAGE AREA AND TIU KENG WAN, TO OTHER PARTS OF TSEUNG KWAN O NEW TOWN AND KOWLOON.

/WHEN DEVELOPMENT .....

WHEN DEVELOPMENT IS COMPLETED, THE TWO NEW AREAS WILL PROVIDE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING FOR ABOUT 86,000 PEOPLE TOGETHER WITH COMMERCIAL AND ANCILLIARY COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

THE PROPOSED ROAD PROJECT WILL START IN LATE 1993 AND WILL TAKE ABOUT FOUR YEARS TO COMPLETE.

TO FACILITATE THE ROADWORKS, A SECTION OF THE PO LAM ROAD SOUTH AND AN UNNAMED ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICLES, BUT STILL BE RETAINED AS FOOTPATH. FOOTPATHS AFFECTED BY THE WORKS WILL ALSO BE CLOSED.

IN FUTURE, NEW PEDESTRIAN ROUTES WILL BE PROVIDED THROUGH THE WORKS AREA TO LINK UP WITH FOOTPATHS IN THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE UPON COMPLETION OF THE WORKS.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED ROAD PROJECT IS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GAZETTE.

THE PLAN SHOWING THE ROADWORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES DURING OFFICE HOURS:

* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, G/F, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;

* DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SAI KUNG, 3/F, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG;

* SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, 2/F, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG; AND

* TSEUNG KWAN O SUB-OFFICE, SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, ROOM 121-122, G/F, PO NING HOUSE, PO NING ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL MUST SEND HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, 2/F, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, CENTRAL NO LATER THAN JULY 21, 1992, DESCRIBING HIS INTEREST AND MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSAL.

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TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES AT CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL FURTHER DISCUSSED

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MET TODAY (TUESDAY) TO FURTHER DISCUSS CONGESTION AT THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL (CHT) AND OVERLOADING OF GOODS VEHICLES.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO CONSIDERED FARE INCREASES SOUGHT BY THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY (HYF).

MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALWAYS TRIED TO REDUCE AND CONTAIN CONGESTION AT CHT IN THE CONTEXT OF OVERALL DEMAND FOR CROSS HARBOUR TRAFFIC.

/THIS HAD .....

THIS HAD RESULTED IN THE OPENING OF THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING IN 1989, THE DECISION TO BUILD THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES TO EASE THE CONGESTION AT CHT.

THE MEETING IN GENERAL AGREED THAT THE CONGESTION IS INCURRING A SOCIAL COST TO THE COMMUNITY IN TERMS OF MAN-HOUR LOSS TO MOTORISTS AND PASSENGERS QUEUING UP TO GET THROUGH THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

MEMBERS FELT THAT GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING NOW PROVIDES AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE, A PASSAGE TAX INCREASE SHOULD BE SUPPORTED IF OTHER TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES FAILED TO TACKLE THE CONGESTION PROBLEM EFFECTIVELY.

SOME MEMBERS WISHED TO SEE THAT REVENUE GENERATED FROM ANY TAX INCREASE SHOULD BE PLOUGHED BACK TO TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF CROSS HARBOUR BUSES AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WOULD BE ABLE TO ABSORB PASSENGERS WHO WOULD WISH TO MAKE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT AS A RESULT OF A RISE IN TUNNEL PASSAGE TAX.

THEY ALSO DISCUSSED WHETHER PASSAGE TAX INCREASE SHOULD BE LIMITED TO CONGESTION HOURS OF A DAY OR ON A 24-HOUR BASIS.

IN THEIR FURTHER DELIBERATION OF THE ISSUE, MEMBERS TOOK INTO ACCOUNT VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE OMELCO TRANSPORT PANEL AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

AS THERE WERE STILL SOME POINTS TO BE CLARIFIED, THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING ON THE MATTER IN MID-JUNE.

ON THE OVERLOADING OF GOODS VEHICLES, MEMBERS NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN CONSULTATION WITH TWO MORE TRADE GROUPS - THE MOTOR TRANSPORT WORKERS GENERAL UNION AND HK AND KOWLOON TAXI AND LORRY OWNERS ASSOCIATION.

THE TWO BODIES POINTED OUT THAT MANY DRIVERS OVERLOADED THEIR VEHICLES TO AVOID ADDITIONAL TRIPS, AND IN THE ABSENCE OF ON-VEHICLE WEIGHT INDICATORS, SOME DRIVERS COULD NOT TELL WHETHER THEIR VEHICLES HAD BEEN LOADED EXCESSIVELY.

THEY WERE ALSO WORRIED ABOUT THE PROPOSAL TO MAKE OVERLOADING INDIVIDUAL AXLES AN OFFENCE BECAUSE FOR OPERATIONAL REASONS, DRIVERS NORMALLY STORED GOODS AT THE FRONT OF THEIR VEHICLES.

THE TAC ENDORSED THE PROPOSAL OF INCREASING THE FIXED PENALTY FOR OVERLOADING, MAKING VEHICLE OWNERS LIABLE FOR OVERLOADING OFFENCES AND INTRODUCING INTEGRATED ON-VEHICLE WEIGHT INDICATORS WHICH ARE ALREADY USED IN SOME COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE FARE INCREASE APPLICATION FROM HYF WAS ALSO CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE PROPOSED FARE RISE WAS DUE PRIMARILY TO RISING OPERATING COSTS AND THE KEEN COMPETITION FACING HYF'S CROSS-HARBOUR SERVICES.

HYF'S FARES WERE LAST INCREASED IN NOVEMBER 1990 AND THE LEVEL OF INFLATION SINCE THEN WAS CLOSE TO 18% AS MEASURED BY THE CPI(A).

WHEN ASSESSING THE APPLICATION, TAC MEMBERS NOTED HYF'S SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLANS IN 1992, INCLUDING -

* THE ADDITION OF A SECOND AIR-CONDITIONED DOUBLE-DECKER TO THE TUEN MUN - CENTRAL SERVICE AND EXTENSION OF SELECTED SAILINGS TO WAN CHAI;

* ADDITIONAL SAILINGS ON THE TSING YI - CENTRAL SERVICE DURING THE PEAK HOURS;

* FREQUENCY IMPROVEMENTS ON THE CHEUNG CHAU - CENTRAL SERVICE; AND

* THE SPLITTING OF THE MUI WO/PENG CHAU - CENTRAL SERVICE, PROVIDING MORE DIRECT SERVICES WITH SHORTER JOURNEY TIMES.

MEMBERS ALSO OBSERVED THAT HYF HAD MADE CONSCIOUS EFFORTS TO KEEP COSTS DOWN AND TO GENERATE MORE NON-FAREBOX REVENUE. THEY INCLUDE -

* CURTAILMENT OF THREE LOSS-INCURRING SERVICES IN 1991 AND FURTHER RATIONALISATION OF SERVICES IN THE INNER HARBOUR IN 1992; AND

* MORE EXTENSIVE ADVERTISING ON HULLS OF VESSELS AND PIER TOPS.

MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT HYF PLANNED TO INTRODUCE A 50% DISCOUNT FOR ELDERLY PASSENGERS AGED 65 OR ABOVE WHO TRAVELLED DURING THE OFF-PEAK HOURS ON WEEKDAYS.

MEMBERS TOOK ACCOUNT OF WRITTEN REPRESENTATION ADDRESSED TO THE TAC.

TAC'S RECOMMENDATION ON HYF'S FARE INCREASE APPLICATION WOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

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SUBSCRIPTION FEES OF TRADE CIRCULARS TO BE REVISED

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TRADE DEPARTMENT PUBLISHES REGULARLY INFORMATION CIRCULARS TO KEEP LOCAL TRADERS ABREAST OF THE LATEST TRADING SCENES.

THE CIRCULARS, AT PRESENT SUBSCRIBED BY NEARLY 20,000 TRADERS, INCLUDE NOTICES TO EXPORTERS, COMMERCIAL INFORMATION CIRCULARS AND CERTIFICATION BRANCH CIRCULARS.

/THE NOTICES .....

THE NOTICES TO EXPORTERS CONTAIN INFORMATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VARIOUS TEXTILE CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS AS WELL AS REPORT ON QUOTA UTILISATION IN INDIVIDUAL RESTRAINT MARKETS AND PROVIDE LISTS OF QUOTA HOLDERS AND THEIR HOLDINGS.

COMMERCIAL INFORMATION CIRCULARS PROVIDE INFORMATION ON TRADE POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND TARIFFS CONCERNING BOTH TEXTILES AND NON-TEXTILES MATTERS IN HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS MARKETS.

MEANWHILE, CERTIFICATION BRANCH CIRCULARS GIVE INFORMATION RELATING TO CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN AND CERTIFICATION OF PREFERENCES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM NEXT MONDAY (JUNE 1), FEES FOR SUBSCRIBING TO THE DEPARTMENT'S MAILING SERVICE OR FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION SERVICE FOR THESE CIRCULARS WILL BE REVISED.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES WILL BE ADJUSTED AS FOLLOWS:

	EXISTING ANNUAL FEE	NEW ANNUAL FEE
	$	$
* NOTICE TO EXPORTERS (SERIES 1 TO 3)	125 PER SERIES	135 PER SERIES
* NOTICE TO EXPORTERS (SERIES 1A TO 3A)	55 PER SERIES	60 PER SERIES
* COMMERCIAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR	120	130
* CERTIFICATION BRANCH CIRCULAR	60	65

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SUBSCRIPTION FEES WERE INTENDED TO COVER OPERATING COSTS AND THE DEPARTMENT MADE NO PROFIT FROM THE SERVICE.

IN ADDITION, FEES FOR OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT'S TRADE CIRCULARS WILL ALSO BE REVISED.

DEPENDING ON THE POSTAL ZONE AND CLASS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS, ALL FEES WILL BE ADJUSTED UPWARD BY ABOUT 8.7%.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE AVAILABLE, FREE OF CHARGE, COPIES OF CIRCULARS TO TRADE AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS AS WELL AS TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC VISITING THE DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR SUBSCRIPTION TO MAIL SERVICE OR FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION SERVICE FOR THE CIRCULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE INFORMATION COUNTER OF TRADE DEPARTMENT TOWER, 700 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON. ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE ON 398 5595.

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CUSTOMS AND EXCISE COMMISSIONER CALLS FOR SUPPORT
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THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR CLIVE OXLEY, TONIGHT (TUESDAY) CALLED FOR CO-OPERATION ON CUSTOMS WORK IN A SPEECH TO THE LIONS CLUB OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

"OBVIOUSLY NONE LIKES TO HAVE PERSONAL BAGGAGE OR COMMERCIAL CONSIGNMENTS CHECKED BY A CUSTOMS OFFICER BUT, SHOULD IT EVER HAPPEN TO YOU, I WOULD ASK YOU TO REMEMBER THE PLUS SIDE AND TO APPRECIATE THE REASONS," HE SAID.

IF THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DID NOT EXIST, FIRSTLY, SOME HK$7 BILLION WOULD BE LOST IN ANNUAL REVENUE FROM DUTIABLE COMMODITIES.

"TEXTILE ORIGIN AND QUOTA FRAUD WOULD INCREASE DRAMATICALLY, PERHAPS TO THE EXTENT THAT OUR MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS SUCH AS THE USA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WOULD TAKE ECONOMIC ACTION AGAINST US.

"FURTHERMORE, THE ILLEGAL IMPORT OF DANGEROUS DRUGS, FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION WOULD ALSO ESCALATE WITH ALL THE UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES THIS WOULD HAVE," MR OXLEY SAID.

ON CUSTOMS AND EXCISE IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT, HE SAID THAT A NEW DIMENSION IN CUSTOMS OPERATIONS WAS THE NEED FOR TRADE FACILITATION.

"THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF CUSTOMS WORK WAS TO IMPOSE CONTROL WHETHER FOR FISCAL OR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES.

"HOWEVER, WITH THE EVER GROWING VOLUME OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ITS EVER GREATER IMPORTANCE TO THE ECONOMIES OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED, IT HAS BECOME NECESSARY TO SPEED UP CUSTOMS CONTROL PROCESS WITHOUT LOSING EFFICIENCY IN ORDER TO AVOID UNDUE DELAY TO NORMAL COMMERCIAL PROCEDURES," HE SAID.

HE SAID A HIGH RISK MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUE HAD ALREADY BEEN DEVELOPED IN HONG KONG TO SPEED UP EXISTING OPERATION.

"THIS INVOLVES THE USE OF INFORMATION, EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE TO BUILD UP PROFILES FOR INDIVIDUALS OR COMPANIES WHO ARE LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.

"WHAT NOW HAPPENS IS THAT AN OVERALL SYSTEM OF OBSERVATION OR MONITORING IS MAINTAINED BOTH OVER CARGO AND OVER TRAVELLERS AND, ALTHOUGH SOME RANDOM OR PERCENTAGE CHECKS ARE STILL MADE, THE MODERN TREND IS TO BASE EXAMINATIONS MORE AND MORE ON THE INTELLIGENCE WE BUILD UP.

"AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THIS TECHNIQUE IS INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION INSOFAR AS THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IS INVOLVED.

/"A NEW .....

"A NEW SMUGGLING TREND IN ONE COUNTRY COULD FOR EXAMPLE BE RAPIDLY INTRODUCED IN ANOTHER AND IT IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL THAT DETAILS ARE EXCHANGED BETWEEN ADMINISTRATIONS AS SOON AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE."

MR OXLEY SAID FORTUNATELY MODERN TECHNOLOGY WAS BEGINNING TO BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE ON THE OTHER HAND.

"ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE IS BEING USED INCREASINGLY AND I CAN FORESEE IN THE RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE, A TIME WHEN PAPERLESS TRADING WILL BECOME THE RULE RATHER THAN THE EXCEPTION.

"IN ORDER TO REGULATE SUCH TRADING, IT IS OF COURSE NECESSARY FOR CUSTOMS TO REMAIN ABREAST OF, IF NOT AHEAD OF, MODERN TRENDS AND TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH ALL MODERN TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS.

"THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE TREND OF THE FUTURE AND WILL EASE THE PROCEDURAL BURDEN ON BOTH TRADES AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICES."

ON SMUGGLING, MR OXLEY SAID ONE OF THE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OCCURRED WAS THE IMPROVED CO-OPERATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINESE CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS.

"IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITHIN HONG KONG TO FACILITATE THE CONTROL OF SMUGGLING.

"THESE INCLUDE THE REQUIREMENT TO POSSESS A CARRIAGE LICENCE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF CONSUMER GOODS IN SMALL VESSELS WITHIN HONG KONG WATERS AND CONTROLS ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF SPEEDBOATS.

"AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL ANTI-SMUGGLING TASK FORCE HAS ALSO BEEN ESTABLISHED IN WHICH MY OFFICERS WORK ALONGSIDE WITH POLICE OFFICERS AND PERSONNEL OF THE ROYAL NAVY."

MR OXLEY HOWEVER CITED TWO BASIC PROBLEMS WHICH "NEITHER THE ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES NOR THE PASSAGE OF NEW LEGISLATION COULD ELIMINATE COMPLETELY".

"THESE ARE HONG KONG'S LONG AND CONVOLUTED COASTLINE AND THE SHEER VOLUME OF LEGITIMATE TRAFFIC, WHICH CAN UNFORTUNATELY ALSO CONCEAL ILLEGITIMATE TRAFFIC, BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA.

"THE ONLY WAY TO RESOLVE THESE IS BY THE IMPROVED EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT MUCH PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN THIS DIRECTION," MR OXLEY SAID.

FINALLY, HE SAID: "I WOULD LIKE YOU TO REMEMBER THE COMPLEX AND HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL LIAISON WHICH ASSISTS HONG KONG CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY AND WHICH HELPS TO ENSURE THAT TRAVEL AND COMMERCE ALIKE REMAIN PROPERLY REGULATED WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY.

"IT ALSO FACILITATES THE GROWING PROSPERITY OF AN INCREASINGLY CLOSELY KNIT GLOBAL ECONOMY."

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INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES

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THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE PUBLISHED ON MAY 25 CONTAINS A LEGAL NOTICE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS AUTHORISED A DECREASE IN THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES.

AS FROM MAY 27, THE NEW ANNUAL RATE OF INTEREST WILL BE 3.6% (TAX FREE) AS AGAINST THE CURRENT RATE OF 4.56% (TAX FREE).

INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES IS CALCULATED IN MONTHLY STEPS AND THE NEW RATE WILL BE $0.3 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 MAY 27.

CERTIFICATES WHICH WERE ISSUED BEFORE MAY 27 THIS YEAR WILL CONTINUE TO EARN INTEREST AS FOLLOWS:

7.32% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 12, 1989 AND BEFORE AUGUST 9, 1989;

6.84% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 9, 1989 AND BEFORE MARCH 7, 1990;

7.08% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MARCH 7, 1990 AND BEFORE APRIL 4, 1990;

8.04% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 4, 1990 AND BEFORE AUGUST 15, 1990;

7.56% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 15, 1990 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 24, 1990;

7.08% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 24, 1990 AND BEFORE JANUARY 30, 1991;

6.60% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 30, 1991 AND BEFORE MAY 29, 1991;

7.56% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 29, 1991 AND BEFORE JULY 3, 1991;

6.60% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 3, 1991 AND BEFORE AUGUST 14, 1991;

6.00% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 14, 1991 AND BEFORE SEPTEMBER 18, 1991;

/5.52% .....

5.52% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 18, 1991 AND BEFORE NOVEMBER 6, 1991;

5.04% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 6, 1991 AND BEFORE MAY 6, 1992; AND

4.56% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 6, 1992 AND BEFORE MAY 27, 1992.

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 MAY 27, 1992, JUNE 27, 1992 AND JULY 27, 1992 RESPECTIVELY, SURRENDERED IN PAYMENT OF TAX DUE ON AUGUST 26, 1992 WILL HAVE INTEREST CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

ON $1,000, MAY 27, 1992 TO AUGUST 26, 1992 3 COMPLETE MONTHS AT $3.00 PER MONTH	= $9.00
ON $1,000, JUNE 27, 1992 TO AUGUST 26, 1992 2 COMPLETE MONTHS AT $3.00 PER MONTH	= $6.00
ON $1,000, JULY 27, 1992 TO AUGUST 26, 1992 1 COMPLETE MONTH AT $3.00 PER MONTH	= $3.00
	$18.00

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS
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TENDER DATE	26 MAY 92	26 MAY 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q222	H265
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 1,600 MN	HKD 810 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 500 MN	HKD 200 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	2.72 PCT	3.24 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	2.73 PCT	3.25 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 71 PCT	ABOUT 70 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	2.82 PCT	3.32 PCT

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 1 JUNE 1992 -

TENDER DATE	2 JUNE 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q223
ISSUE DATE	3 JUNE 92
MATURITY DATE	2 SEPT 92
TENOR	91 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HK$500 + 100 MN

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	DATE	$ MILLION
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	25.5.92	1,388
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	26.5.92	-302 *
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-98
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+700 **

* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED -400 MN
OTHER FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED +98 MN
** O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED ON 27.5.92

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 111.6 *+0.0* 26.5.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

TERMS	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.85 PCT
1 MONTH	2.58 PCT
3 MONTHS	2.74 PCT
6 MONTHS	3.25 PCT
12 MONTHS	3.92 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
18 MONTHS	2311	6.25	102.44	4.58
21 MONTHS	2402	5.50	101.03	4.93
24 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.76	5.16

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 18,507 MN (RECORD HIGH)

CLOSED 26 MAY 1992

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