



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
LAW COMMISSION OFFERS PROPOSALS ON STATEMENTS	1
COMMENTS ON LAW REFORM COMMISSION REPORT INVITED	4
FIFTH MEETING POSTPONED	5
YWCA PRAISED FOR ROLE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE	5
CS TO MEET THE MEDIA	5
VISIT TO AIRPORT FIRE CONTINGENT	6
OFF FOR TALKS ON WEATHER	6
YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL SITE FOR JAPANESE FIRM	6
HK TEAM RETURNING	7
TUEN MUN TO GET NEW FIRE STATION	8
GAS WORKERS TAKE SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE	8
JOINT GRADUATION	9
TENDERS INVITED TO OPERATE LIGHT REFRESHMENT KIOSK	9
SELECT COMMITTEE TO MEET	10
DRIVE TO CLEAN UP FRUIT MARKET	10
NEW YOUNG SINGING TALENT SOUGHT	11
STREET CLOSURE CONTINUES	11
WATER STORAGE FIGURES	12

LAW COMMISSION OFFERS PROPOSALS ON STATEMENTS

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THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF HONG KONG HAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS COVERING ADMISSION OF STATEMENTS IN COURTS WHICH IT SAYS ARE ESSENTIAL IN TACKLING THE PROBLEM EFFECTIVELY - BUT WHICH WILL ALSO BE CONTROVERSIAL.

THE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE COMMISSION ARE INTENDED TO DEAL WITH A FEATURE OF CRIMINAL TRIALS IN HONG KONG WHICH HAS IN RECENT YEARS BECOME A PROBLEM.

THIS IS THE VERY LARGE NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH A CONFESSION STATEMENT MADE TO THE POLICE IS CHALLENGED AT TRIAL AND SOUGHT TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE EVIDENCE ON THE GROUND THAT IT WAS IMPROPERLY OBTAINED.

THE PROPOSALS ARE BASED ON THE UNANIMOUS REPORT OF A SUB-COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF A HIGH COURT JUDGE, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NON-LAWYERS. IT WAS CHAIRED BY MR T.S. LO.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMISSION SAID THAT IN MAKING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS THE COMMISSION REALISES THAT +SOME OF THE PROPOSALS WILL BE CONTROVERSIAL.+

HE SAID: +IT IS CONVINCED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE PROBLEMS SURROUNDING THIS ASPECT OF HONG KONG'S SYSTEM OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ARE TO BE TACKLED EFFECTIVELY, THE DOVETAILING PROPOSALS IT HAS PUT FORWARD WILL HAVE TO BE IMPLEMENTED.+

THE COMMISSION BELIEVES THE PACKAGE WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS ENSURING THAT SUSPECTS IN POLICE CUSTODY WERE PROPERLY TREATED.

THE COMMISSION ALSO BELIEVES:

- * THE LARGE NUMBER OF TRIALS WITHIN A TRIAL - OR +VOIR DIRE+ - THAT OCCUR AT PRESENT WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED;
- * LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES' TREATMENT OF SUSPECTS WOULD BE MORE STRICTLY CONTROLLED;
- * JURIES WOULD BE ABLE TO HEAR COMMENT FROM THE JUDGE AND THE PROSECUTION, AS WELL AS THE DEFENCE, ON THE SILENCE OF THE ACCUSED WHEN QUESTIONED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES;
- * SUSPECTS WOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLAIN MORE QUICKLY OF ALLEGED MISTREATMENT;
- * THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONCOCTING FALSE ALLEGATIONS WOULD BE GREATLY REDUCED;
- * A CONFESSION STATEMENT WOULD MORE RARELY HAVE TO BE KEPT FROM THE JURY; AND
- * THE JURY WOULD MORE OFTEN BE ENTRUSTED TO DECIDE WHETHER A CONFESSION STATEMENT WAS TRUE OR FALSE.

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HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT WHILE THE SUB-COMMITTEE WAS UNANIMOUS IN ITS VIEWS, THE COMMISSION ITSELF ONLY DECIDED BY A MAJORITY VOTE ON ONE OF THE PROPOSALS. THIS WAS WHETHER THE JURY SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO DRAW AN ADVERSE INFERENCE FROM AN ACCUSED'S REFUSAL TO ANSWER QUESTIONS PUT BY THE POLICE AND WHETHER THE JUDGE AND THE PROSECUTION, AS WELL AS THE DEFENCE, SHOULD BE ABLE TO COMMENT TO THE JURY ABOUT IT.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED: +THIS DIVISION OF OPINION REFLECTS THE DIFFERING VIEWS EXPRESSED BY LAWYERS HERE AND IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.+

BY A MAJORITY DECISION THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES THE JURY SHOULD BE ABLE TO DRAW AN ADVERSE INFERENCE AND THE JUDGE AND THE PROSECUTION SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO COMMENT.

IN MAKING THE RECOMMENDATION, THE COMMISSION MAINTAINS THAT THE ACCUSED PERSON SHOULD BE WARNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THAT IF HE REFUSES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS THERE COULD BE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES - THE JURY COULD INFER HE WAS TRYING TO CONCEAL HIS GUILT BUT THIS INFERENCE COULD NEVER ON ITS OWN LEAD TO A CONVICTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN HONG KONG THE DEFENCE CHALLENGED THE ADMISSIBILITY OF CONFESSION STATEMENTS IN ALMOST 90 PER CENT OF CASES - AGAINST ONLY 10.5 PER CENT OF THE CASES IN THE CROWN COURT IN ENGLAND.

AND, IN HONG KONG, IN CASES WHERE THE PROSECUTION SEEKS TO RELY ON A CONFESSION STATEMENT, ALMOST HALF THE TIME OF THE COURT IS SPENT ON THE VOIR DIRE.

THE COMMISSION MAINTAINS THAT APART FROM THE TIME AND EXPENSE OF VOIR DIRES, THERE WERE THREE SERIOUS EFFECTS:

- * PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE INTEGRITY AND COMPETENCE OF THE POLICE WAS UNDERMINED;
- * THERE WAS THE SUSPICION THAT A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ACQUITTED IF THEIR CONFESSIONS HAD BEEN ADMITTED; AND
- * PUBLIC CONCERN WAS INCREASED THAT THE ACCUSED WAS NOT RECEIVING FAIR TREATMENT AT THE HANDS OF THE POLICE.

THE CENTRAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE REPORT IS THAT WHERE THE PROSECUTION WISHES TO INTRODUCE A CONFESSION STATEMENT AT A TRIAL, THE ACCUSED MUST BE BROUGHT BEFORE AN INDEPENDENT EXAMINER WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BEING CHARGED.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED: +THE EXAMINER WILL ASK THE ACCUSED A SERIES OF QUESTIONS DESIGNED TO ELICIT ANY COMPLAINTS AS TO HIS TREATMENT BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

+IF THE ACCUSED MAKES NO COMPLAINT AT THIS STAGE HIS STATEMENT BECOMES AUTOMATICALLY ADMISSIBLE AT THE TRIAL, WITHOUT THE NEED FOR A VOIR DIRE.

+WHERE A COMPLAINT IS MADE TO THE EXAMINER, HE MAY TAKE STEPS TO ARRANGE FOR THE ACCUSED TO BE MEDICALLY EXAMINED AND TO REMOVE HIM FROM POLICE CUSTODY INTO THAT OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

+AT THE SUBSEQUENT TRIAL THE VOIR DIRE WILL BE HELD IN THE SAME MANNER AS AT PRESENT.+

THIS WOULD NOT PREVENT AN ACCUSED FROM CHALLENGING THE TRUTH OR ACCURACY OF ANY STATEMENT. BUT THE CHALLENGE WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE IN THE COURSE OF THE TRIAL AND IN THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY.

THE COMMISSION CONSIDERED IT ESSENTIAL THAT THE EXAMINER SHOULD BE INDEPENDENT OF THE POLICE, THE JUDICIARY AND THE PROSECUTION AUTHORITIES. HE SHOULD BE BILINGUAL AND HAVE THE SAME DEGREE OF AUTHORITY AND PUBLIC STANDING AS A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

+AN EXAMINER COULD BE EXPECTED TO UNDERTAKE HIS DUTIES FOR UP TO THREE HOURS ON ONE DAY A MONTH - SO A TOTAL OF AROUND 960 EXAMINERS WOULD BE NEEDED,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

THE COMMISSION BELIEVES THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE EXAMINER SYSTEM WOULD ACHIEVE A NUMBER OF MAJOR OBJECTIVES:

- * IT WOULD PROVIDE A MEANS OF MONITORING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES;
- * IT WOULD DISCOURAGE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FROM MALTREATING AN ACCUSED;
- * IT WOULD REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VOIR DIRE PROCEEDINGS AND CUT COURT COSTS AND TIME;
- * IT WOULD TEND TO DISCOURAGE FALSE ALLEGATIONS BY AN ACCUSED; AND
- * THERE WOULD BE AN ENHANCEMENT OF THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE POLICE AND OF THEIR MORALE.

THE REPORT CONTAINS A LARGE NUMBER OF OTHER INTERCONNECTED PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE POWERS OF THE POLICE TO QUESTION PEOPLE, WARNING GIVEN TO ACCUSED PERSONS, AND THE RIGHTS OF SUSPECTS HELD IN CUSTODY.

THE REPORT ALSO COVERS THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE VARIOUS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COMMISSION AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEE HAD CARRIED OUT EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL LEGAL BODIES, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND INTERESTED ORGANISATIONS.

THE REPORT IS NOW ON SALE TO THE PUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN GIVEN A COPY.

+IT WILL BE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO DECIDE WHETHER TO IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSALS,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 4 -

COMMENTS ON LAW REFORM COMMISSION REPORT INVITED
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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY THANKED THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION FOR ITS COMPREHENSIVE REPORT AND PROPOSALS COVERING CONFESSION STATEMENTS AND THEIR ADMISSIBILITY IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS, AND INVITED COMMENTS FROM BOTH THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND THE PUBLIC.

+SOME OF THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTROVERSIAL AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO INTENTION OF MAKING ANY DECISION ON THEM UNTIL THE VARIOUS ISSUES HAVE BEEN OPENLY DEBATED AND ALL COMMENTS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE PROPOSALS HAD BEEN MADE AFTER EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH THE LEGAL PROFESSION, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, WHO WERE ALSO REPRESENTED ON THE SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSION TO LOOK INTO THE ISSUE.

+THIS REPORT IS THE CULMINATION OF ALMOST FOUR YEARS OF WORK SINCE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND CHIEF JUSTICE ASKED THE COMMISSION TO CONSIDER CONFESSION STATEMENTS AND THEIR ADMISSIBILITY IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE QUESTIONS RAISED WERE:

- * TO WHAT EXTENT ARE CURRENT LAWS AND PROCEDURES ON CONFESSION STATEMENTS AS APPLIED IN HONG KONG SUITED TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL; AND
- * WHAT CHANGES, IF ANY, IN LAW OR PROCEDURE WERE NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE?

+WHILE THE SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH DRAFTED THE REPORT WAS UNANIMOUS IN ITS VIEWS, THE COMMISSION ITSELF WAS DIVIDED ON THE PROPOSAL THAT A JURY SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO DRAW AN ADVERSE INFERENCE FROM AN ACCUSED'S REFUSAL TO ANSWER POLICE QUESTIONS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IT IS WELL UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS IS A CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT IN HONG KONG AS WELL AS ELSEWHERE,+ HE SAID. +GOVERNMENT REGARDS IT AS MOST IMPORTANT THAT THE MATTER RECEIVES A THOROUGH PUBLIC AIRING SO THAT INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION CAN PUT FORWARD THEIR VIEWS.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID NO DEADLINE HAD BEEN FIXED FOR SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS AS THIS WOULD DEPEND ON GENERAL REACTION.

COMMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, HONG KONG, HE SAID.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 5 -

FIFTH MEETING POSTPONED

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THE TWO SIDES OF THE SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION HAVE AGREED THAT THE DATE OF THE COMMISSION'S FIFTH MEETING WILL BE POSTPONED TO OCTOBER 17. THE POSTPONEMENT IS TO ENABLE FURTHER DETAILED STUDY OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION RELATED TO THE LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAMME.

YWCA PRAISED FOR ROLE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

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THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION HAS ACHIEVED GREAT SUCCESS IN ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE AN ACTIVE SHARE IN THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY, LADY YOUDE SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING SERVICE OF THE HONG KONG Y.W.C.A. IN THE CITY HALL, LADY YOUDE SAID THIS WAS DONE THROUGH ITS YOUTH CENTRES, HOSTELS AND A SERIES OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSES FOR YOUNG WORKING PEOPLE.

OVER THE YEARS, SHE SAID, THE ASSOCIATION HAD PROVIDED AN INCREASING RANGE OF PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES FOR ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY -- FROM NURSERIES FOR THE VERY YOUNG TO SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY.

+DURING LAST YEAR, OVER 800 000 PEOPLE ENJOYED THE USE OF THESE FACILITIES. THIS IS IMPRESSIVE TESTIMONY TO THE CONTRIBUTION THE ASSOCIATION MAKES TO HONG KONG TODAY,+ SHE SAID.

SHE THEN THANKED ALL THOSE WHOSE EFFORTS AND ENTHUSIASM OVER THE YEARS HAD MADE THE ASSOCIATION A SUCCESS.

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CS TO MEET THE MEDIA

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL MEET THE MEDIA TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 4 PM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE SESSION.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 6 -

VISIT TO AIRPORT FIRE CONTINGENT

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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS ARRANGING A PRESS VISIT TO THE AIRPORT FIRE CONTINGENT TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 10 AM.

THE TOUR, ARRANGED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE TO THE AIRPORT MAIN FIRE STATION TO SEE THE SPECIALISED FIRE APPLIANCES AND RESCUE EQUIPMENT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE EVENT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING BY 9.40 AM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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OFF FOR TALKS ON WEATHER

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THE DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR PATRICK SHAM, LEFT HONG KONG THIS MORNING TO ATTEND THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE ESCAP-WMO TYPHOON COMMITTEE IN BEIJING.

THE COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW THE WORK IT DID THIS YEAR IN PROMOTING AND CO-ORDINATING EFFORTS TO MINIMISE TYPHOON DAMAGE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO FORMULATE THE MEDIUM- TO LONG-TERM PLANS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE WARNING SERVICES TO MITIGATE DAMAGE CAUSED BY TYPHOONS.

MR SHAM WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON OCTOBER 15.

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YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL SITE FOR JAPANESE FIRM

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A JAPANESE COMPANY TODAY (MONDAY) SIGNED A CONTRACT AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOR OVER 15 000 SQUARE METRES OF LAND AT THE YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

THE PRESIDENT OF NIPPON HUME CONCRETE (HK) LIMITED, MR HIROSHI MIZOBE, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION, MR JOHN YAXLEY, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CORPORATION, MR LI FOOK-WO, ATTENDED THE CEREMONY.

/THE AREA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 7 -

THE AREA INVOLVED IS 15 741 SQUARE METRES AT A PREMIUM OF \$800 PER SQUARE METRE AND THE TOTAL LAND PREMIUM AMOUNTS TO \$12 593 448. THE COMPANY, A SUBSIDIARY OF NIPPON HUME PIPE COMPANY LIMITED OF JAPAN, WILL PRODUCE PRETENSIONED SPUN HIGH STRENGTH CONCRETE PILES.

STATISTICS SHOW THAT OF THE 54.4 HECTARES OF INDUSTRIAL LAND AVAILABLE AT TAI PO ESTATE, 83 PER CENT HAS BEEN SOLD. AT YUEN LONG ESTATE, HOWEVER, 3.07 HECTARES OF THE TOTAL INDUSTRIAL LAND AREA HAS BEEN GRANTED - MOSTLY LAST YEAR. APPLICATIONS FOR AN ADDITIONAL 6.7 HECTARES ARE BEING PROCESSED.

WITH THE BIG DEMAND FOR LAND AT TAI PO THE PREMIUM THERE HAS INCREASED FROM \$800 TO \$950 PER SQUARE METRE.

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF NIPPON HUME, MR OSAMU TAKIYAMA, DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY, MR TAKESHI HIRAOKA, AND MR MINORU OKAWAUCHI, GENERAL MANAGER OF HKIEC, MR G.O. WHITTAKER, MANAGER OF HKIEC, MR FRANCIS LEUNG, AND FROM THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, MR PAUL WONG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MR PHILIP MACKLEY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, AND MR C.L. CHU, PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT.

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HK TEAM RETURNING
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THE HONG KONG TEAM ATTENDING THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL ABILYMPICS FOR THE DISABLED AT COLOMBIA, SOUTH AMERICA, WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 9). THEY WILL TRAVEL ON SQ 1, ETA 8.10 AM.

THE TEAM, WHICH WON THREE GOLD, ONE SILVER AND ONE BRONZE MEDALS DURING THE ABILYMPICS, WILL MEET THE PRESS AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM ON ARRIVAL. THE COMMISSIONER FOR REHABILITATION, MR MARTIN LEWIS, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION, WILL ALSO BE PRESENT.

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YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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TUEN MUN TO GET NEW FIRE STATION
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THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION ON A 2 650-SQUARE-METRE SITE OFF WONG CHU ROAD IN TUEN MUN.

THE NEW FOUR-STOREY STATION WILL INCLUDE FACILITIES SUCH AS A FOUR-BAY APPLIANCES ROOM, COMMUNICATION ROOM, EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT STORE, WORKSHOP, BARRACKS, CANTEEN, AN EXERCISE ROOM AND STORES.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A DRILL YARD AND A DRILL TOWER.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN DECEMBER 1985 AND BE COMPLETED IN A YEAR.

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GAS WORKERS TAKE SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE
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SOME 400 SERVING LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS WORKERS WILL BE TAKING A TRAINING COURSE OFFERED BY THE NEW GAS INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE EIGHT-DAY COURSE, SPREAD OVER EIGHT WEEKS, IS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE SKILLS STANDARD AND SAFETY AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF DOMESTIC GAS APPLIANCE INSTALLERS IN HONG KONG.

THE FIRST GROUP OF 96 WORKERS WHO STARTED THEIR TRAINING TODAY (MONDAY), LIKE ALL OTHER WORKERS ENROLLED IN THE COURSE, ARE SPONSORED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS.

EVERY WORKER WILL BE RELEASED ONE DAY EACH WEEK TO ATTEND THE COURSE. THIS IS A UNIQUE FEATURE OF THE COURSE AND IS DESIGNED TO MINIMISE DISRUPTION OF WORK.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, DR FRANCIS TIEN SAID THAT THE RESPONSE FROM LOCAL LPG DEALERS AND CONTRACTORS WAS ENCOURAGING.

+IN THE INTERESTS OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CUSTOMERS' PROTECTION, ALL WORKERS INVOLVED IN THE INSTALLATION OR SERVICES OF GAS APPLIANCES SHOULD BE PROPERLY TRAINED. THE FIRST PRIORITY OF THE GAS INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE IS TO TRAIN EXISTING WORKERS IN THE INDUSTRY IN THE CORRECT MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE SAFE INSTALLATION OF GAS APPLIANCES,+ HE SAID, AFTER TOURING THE CENTRE WITH THE COUNCIL'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MR MORRIS MORGAN.

AFTER ALL 400 SERVING GAS WORKERS HAVE UNDERGONE THEIR TRAINING BY MID-1986, THE GAS INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE WILL OFFER A NEW ONE-YEAR, FULL-TIME COURSE OF GAS UTILISATION FITTERS FOR FORM 3 SCHOOL LEAVERS.

THE CENTRE IS ONE OF SEVEN INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES IN THE KWAI CHUNG TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEX OPERATED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 9 -

JOINT GRADUATION

A JOINT GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL AT 11.30 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN, AND UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR WONG LAM, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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TENDERS INVITED TO OPERATE LIGHT REFRESHMENT KIOSK

THE URBAN COUNCIL IS INVITING TENDERS TO OPERATE A LIGHT REFRESHMENT KIOSK AT VICTORIA PEAK GARDEN IN MOUNT AUSTIN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER WILL BE AWARDED A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT FROM THE DATE OF SIGNING THE CONTRACT. THE CURRENT MONTHLY RENT IS HK\$5,888.00.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE TOP FLOOR, CENTRAL MARKET BUILDING, 80, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

COMPLETED TENDER FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE AND PLACED BY HAND IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT RECEPTION COUNTER ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), ICE HOUSE STREET, BEFORE 9 A.M. ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1985. LATE TENDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 10 -

SELECT COMMITTEE TO MEET
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO EXAMINE TWO ISSUES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MAINTENANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS.

THESE ARE THE RESULTS OF A RECENT OPERATION BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AGAINST THE UNHYGIENIC HANDLING AND TRANSPORTATION OF FOOD AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR REFUSE DISPOSAL DURING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE KWAI CHUNG INCINERATION PLANT FOR MAINTENANCE.

THE OPEN MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM AT THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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DRIVE TO CLEAN UP FRUIT MARKET
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SHOP OWNERS AT YAUMATEI'S FRUIT MARKET AT SHEK LUNG STREET TODAY (MONDAY) PUT UP BANNERS URGING SUPPORT FOR THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S MASSIVE CLEAN-UP IN THE AREA.

DURING THE WEEK-LONG OPERATION, ORGANISED BY THE YAUMATEI DISTRICT BOARD, A SPECIAL CLEANSING SQUAD OF 21 WORKERS WILL ATTEMPT TO CLEAR HEAPS OF RUBBISH FROM THE MARKET.

VEHICLES WITH LOUD SPEAKERS WILL ALSO BE DELIVERING KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN MESSAGES AND APPEALING TO PEOPLE TO KEEP THE PLACE CLEAN.

A USD SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE CLEAN-UP OPERATION WAS PART OF YAUMATEI DB'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME AND NEEDED THE COOPERATION OF THE PUBLIC.

HE ADDED THAT PROSECUTION ACTION AGAINST LITTER-BUGS WOULD BE STEPPED UP AFTER THE OPERATION.

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/11

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 11 -

NEW YOUNG SINGING TALENT SOUGHT

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THE YOUTH CHOIR AND THE CHINESE FOLK SINGING CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE FROM THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH ARE LOOKING FOR NEW TALENT.

PERSONS, BETWEEN 15 AND 23 YEARS OLD, WHO CAN READ MUSIC REASONABLY WELL ARE WELCOME TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE YOUTH CHOIR AND THOSE BETWEEN SEVEN AND 12, CAN JOIN THE CHINESE FOLK SINGING CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE AS MEMBERS.

SINCE ITS INAUGURATION IN 1980, THE YOUTH CHOIR HAS BEEN UNDER INTENSIVE TRAINING BY INSTRUCTORS OF THE MUSIC OFFICE. OVER THE YEARS, THE CHOIR HAS DEVELOPED A POLISHED STYLE OF SINGING AND HAS BENEFITED CONSIDERABLY FROM THE ADVICE OF PROMINENT LOCAL AND OVERSEAS CHORAL CONDUCTORS.

THE CHINESE FOLK SINGING CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE WAS FORMED IN 1981 TO PROMOTE CHINESE FOLK SINGING. IT HAS SINCE PERFORMED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, INTRODUCING A GREAT VARIETY OF CHINESE FOLK SONGS, INCLUDING SOME NOT OFTEN HEARD.

BOTH CHOIRS REHEARSE ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AT THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE OF THE MUSIC OFFICE-THE CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE FROM 2 PM TO 4 PM AND THE YOUTH CHOIR FROM 4.30 PM TO 6.30 PM.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE ALL OVER HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS OCTOBER 21. QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AN AUDITION AT A LATER DATE.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT MISS EUDORA CHIU (YOUTH CHOIR) AT 5-283257 AND MISS ELAINE CHAN (CHINESE FOLK SINGING ENSEMBLE) AT 3-7149255.

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STREET CLOSURE CONTINUES

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THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CHEUNG MOU STREET BETWEEN CHEUNG YEE STREET AND LAI CHI KOK ROAD, IMPLEMENTED IN CONNECTION WITH EMERGENCY REPAIR ARISING FROM THE BURSTING OF WATER MAINS, WILL CONTINUE FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS.

TRAFFIC FROM LAI CHI KOK ROAD HEADING FOR CHEUNG SHUN STREET WILL BE DIVERTED INTO TAI NAN WEST STREET AND CHEUNG YEE STREET.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985

- 12 -

WATER STORAGE FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY)
STOOD AT 79.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 465.415 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 498.743 MILLION
CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 85.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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