



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1984

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ACCORD IS COMMITMENT TO SUCCESS: GOVERNOR
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THE FACT THAT THE AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG WILL BE SIGNED BY THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS WILL BE TAKEN AS A SYMBOL OF A COMMITMENT ON EVERYBODY'S PART TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF THE AGREEMENT, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE TO PEKING THIS AFTERNOON TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY OF THE SIGNING OF THE JOINT DECLARATION.

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF HIS REMARKS AT THE AIRPORT:

+WELL THIS TIME WE ARE VISITING PEKING FOR WHAT WILL BE, I AM SURE, A HISTORIC EVENT - THE SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG. THE FACT THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED BY THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS WILL, I AM SURE, BE TAKEN AS A SYMBOL OF A COMMITMENT ON EVERYBODY'S PART TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF THE AGREEMENT AND THAT WILL CERTAINLY BE OUR OBJECTIVE, AND SO WITH THOSE FEW WORDS, I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON MY RETURN.+

THE GOVERNOR WAS SEEN OFF AT THE AIRPORT BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR SZE-YUEN CHUNG AND THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ROGER LOBO.

ACCOMPANYING THE GOVERNOR WERE THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR ROBIN MCLAREN, AND THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF INTERPRETER, MR Y.P. CHENG.

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GUESTS TO LEAVE FOR PEKING
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THE GROUP OF HONG KONG PEOPLE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY OF THE SIGNING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION WILL DEPART FOR PEKING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THEY WILL BE TRAVELLING ON A CAAC CHARTERED FLIGHT CA1012, ETD 1 PM.

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TRIAD BUREAU DISBANDED +FOR SOUND REASONS+
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THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON STRESSED TODAY THAT THE DECISION TO DISBAND THE TRIAD SOCIETY BUREAU BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE WAS TAKEN FOR SOUND OPERATIONAL REASONS AND WAS NOT AS A RESULT OF ANY BELIEF THAT TRIADS NO LONGER HAD THE CAPACITY TO CONSTITUTE A SERIOUS POTENTIAL THREAT TO LAW AND ORDER.

MR JEAFFRESON EXPLAINED THE BACKGROUND TO THE DECISION AND PUT THE PROBLEM OF TRIAD ACTIVITIES IN PERSPECTIVE, IN COMMENT ON SOME OF THE MORE SENSATIONAL STATEMENTS PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS RECENTLY WHICH MIGHT HAVE CAUSED THE PUBLIC UNNECESSARY CONCERN.

ON THE DECISION TO DISBAND THE TRIAD SOCIETY BUREAU, MR JEAFFRESON SAID THE POLICE HAD AT NO TIME CONSIDERED IT SAFE TO RELAX THEIR VIGILANCE.

+THE COMMISSIONER DECIDED THAT FRONT-LINE POLICE ACTION SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED WHERE IT MATTERED MOST -- ON THE STREETS AT REGIONAL AND DISTRICT COMMAND LEVEL.

+THE LEVEL OF COMMAND THERE, THE RESOURCES TO GATHER TRIAD INTELLIGENCE AND THE NUMBER OF TRAINED OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO COMBAT TRIAD ACTIVITIES WERE ALL INCREASED. THE POLICE HAVE NO CAUSE TO DOUBT THE VALIDITY OR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THAT DECISION,+ HE SAID.

+ALTHOUGH THE BUREAU WAS DISBANDED, THE LEVEL OF CENTRAL CONTROL AND THE ABILITY TO GATHER AND ASSESS INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE ON TRIADS WAS IN FACT INCREASED. WHILE THE BUREAU HAD A LIMITED CHARTER AND WAS HEADED BY A SUPERINTENDENT, THE NEW ORGANISED AND SERIOUS CRIMES GROUP WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING POLICE ACTION AGAINST TRIADS, IS COMMANDED BY A CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT ASSISTED BY SEVERAL SENIOR SUPERINTENDENTS IN CHARGE OF SPECIALISED BUREAUX ALL TASKED TO CONCENTRATE MUCH OF THEIR EFFORTS AGAINST TRIADS AND ORGANISED CRIME.

+IN ADDITION, BOTH THE NARCOTICS AND COMMERCIAL CRIME BUREAUX, EACH HEADED BY CHIEF SUPERINTENDENTS, DEVOTE MUCH OF THEIR TIME TO DEALING WITH TRIAD INVOLVEMENT IN THE AREAS OF THEIR IMMEDIATE RESPONSIBILITY. THE POLICE COMMITMENT TO COMBATTING TRIADS CONTINUES TO FORM A LARGE PART OF THE FORCE'S OVERALL ANTI-CRIME EFFORT,+ MR JEAFFRESON SAID.

+THE 1976-77 ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION ACCURATELY REFLECTED THE FACT THAT TRIADS HAD BECOME TEMPORARILY DISORGANISED AND FRAGMENTED AT THAT PARTICULAR TIME.

+IT IS THE FACT THAT THERE HAS RECENTLY BEEN A RATHER SUDDEN REVIVAL OF TRIAD STRENGTH THAT HAS CAUSED THE CURRENT CONCERN. THE POLICE HAVE ALWAYS CONTINUED TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST THEM.

/+WHAT IS

+WHAT IS NOW A MATTER OF CONCERN IS THAT, IN SPITE OF THIS EFFORT, THE TRIADS SEEM TO HAVE STRENGTHENED RECENTLY AND IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THROUGH ITS WORKING GROUP ON GANGS, IS CONSIDERING WHAT SPECIAL MEASURES MAY BE REQUIRED TO COMBAT THIS NEW THREAT,+ HE SAID.

MR JEAFFRESON POINTED OUT THAT THIS WORKING GROUP WAS NOT JUST A +TALKING-SHOP+.

+IT HAS BEEN TASKED WITH ANALYSING THE PROBLEM AND WITH RECOMMENDING SOLUTIONS TO THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE. THE LATTER IS CHAIRED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY AND INCLUDES IN ITS MEMBERSHIP THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE AND THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY.

+IT IS AN INFLUENTIAL BODY AND IF IT ENDORSES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GROUP, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. THERE ARE NO EASY SOLUTIONS. WHATEVER THE STRATEGY ULTIMATELY RECOMMENDED, ITS EFFECTIVENESS WILL REMAIN IN LARGE PART DEPENDENT UPON THE WILLINGNESS OF THE PUBLIC TO CO-OPERATE BY REPORTING CRIME AND AGREEING TO GIVE EVIDENCE IN COURT,+ HE SAID.

WITH REGARD TO TRIAD ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOLS, MR JEAFFRESON SAID THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST ANY MASSIVE TRIAD INFILTRATION OR +REIGN OF TERROR+ IN HONG KONG'S SCHOOLS AS WAS CLAIMED IN A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE.

+THERE IS EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, TO INDICATE AN INCREASE IN GANG OR BULLY-BOY ACTIVITIES IN CERTAIN SECONDARY SCHOOLS --- SOME OF IT UNDER THE NAME OF TRIADS,+ HE SAID.

+THIS IS A PROBLEM FOUND BY EDUCATION AUTHORITIES IN MOST MAJOR POPULATION CENTRES IN THE WESTERN WORLD, OFTEN ON A MUCH WORSE SCALE THAN ANYTHING EXPERIENCED HERE IN HONG KONG. A MASSIVE EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO DEAL WITH THIS SITUATION. IN JUNE AND JULY OF THIS YEAR ALONE THE POLICE ORGANISED A SERIES OF SEMINARS SUPPORTED BY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON THIS PROBLEM. THE SEMINARS WERE ATTENDED BY 1 100 SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, HEADMASTERS AND TEACHERS. JUNIOR POLICE CALL CLUBS HAVE NOW BEEN FORMED IN 257 SECONDARY AND 103 PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THE EXISTENCE OF THESE CLUBS HAS BEEN SEEN TO HELP REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF SUCH GANG BEHAVIOUR.

+THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, AS THE RESULT OF A FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE INITIATIVE, IS ALSO WORKING ON A PLAN TO INTRODUCE IN-SERVICE TRAINING ON MORAL EDUCATION= GIVE MORE ADVICE TO SCHOOLS ON GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING SYSTEMS= PRODUCE A PAMPHLET ON SOCIAL SERVICES AVAILABLE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS AND TO GET UNIVERSITIES TO RUN MORE TRAINING COURSES ON STUDENT GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING,+ HE SAID.

MR JEAFFRESON POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE HAD ALREADY TAKEN NEW OPERATIONAL MEASURES WHICH HAD HAD SOME SUCCESS; IT WAS NOT SIMPLY A QUESTION OF WAITING FOR THE WORKING GROUP TO REPORT.

/+IT IS

+IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNISE THE THREAT TO LAW AND ORDER THAT TRIADS REPRESENT, BUT LET US BE CAREFUL TO KEEP THAT THREAT IN PERSPECTIVE. IT DOES THE PUBLIC A GRAVE DISSERVICE TO EXAGGERATE THE PRESTIGE AND POWER OF THE TRIADS AND CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF UNNECESSARY ALARM.

+THERE IS A PROBLEM. IT IS NOT A NEW ONE, BUT RATHER A RESURGENCE OF AN OLD ONE. THE POLICE ARE ALREADY TAKING EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO CONTROL IT AND THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE WILL SHORTLY PROPOSE WHAT ADDITIONAL MEASURES MAY BE NECESSARY,+ HE SAID.

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ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT
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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN TERMS OF MONTHS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED IN OCTOBER 1984 FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

WHILE SIGNIFICANT DECREASES IN ORDERS WERE REPORTED BY THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, A SLIGHT INCREASE WAS RECORDED BY THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY.

COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR REMAINED STABLE. A SLIGHT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS REPORTED IN THE TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES. HOWEVER, DECLINES WERE REPORTED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES BECAUSE OF MORE OVERTIME WORK.

ALTHOUGH EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CONTINUED TO FALL, BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ROSE DUE TO SALARY ADJUSTMENTS AND SEVERANCE PAYMENTS BY SOME FIRMS.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, THE EMPLOYMENT LEVEL WAS EFFECTIVELY UNCHANGED. HOWEVER, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FELL.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1984 WILL BE ON SALE SHORTLY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT 3-7212768.

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR OCTOBER 1984
	AUG. 1984	SEPT. 1984	OCT. 1984	
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	-2	-2	-1	4.78
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	-1	-1	1	2.31
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	*	-2	-5	4.08
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-1	-1	-8	3.25
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-2	2	-2	5.47
OTHERS	*	-1	-1	4.35
<u>ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>4.52</u>

/B. EMPLOYMENT AND

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR OCTOBER 1984 HK\$
	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)						
	AUG. 1984	SEPT. 1984	OCT. 1984	AUG. 1984	SEPT. 1984	OCT. 1984	
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>	-3	-4	*	5	-2	2	2 752
FOOD AND DRINKS	2	-4	-2	2	4	-5	3 610
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	-1	-2	*	4	-4	4	2 442
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	-1	-2	1	2	-6	4	2 755
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-10	-12	2	11	3	1	2 654
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-6	-3	-2	7	2	-2	2 336
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-4	-5	*	4	-1	3	2 575
OTHERS	-4	-3	*	3	-2	2	3 749
<u>CONSTRUCTION**</u>	-4	-1	-1	-3	-3	4	4 054
<u>SERVICES</u>	*	*	*	-2	3	-3	5 040
BANKS	*	*	*	-3	-1	*	4 416
HOTELS	*	1	1	*	*	*	3 182
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	*	-4	10	-5	5 293
OTHERS	*	*	1	2	-4	-2	6 077

* CHANGES WITHIN +
-0.5%

** PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS
EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

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CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR TRANSPORT EXTENDED
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PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES WILL BE EXTENDED OVER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

APART FROM ADDITIONAL BUSES, THE FREQUENCY OF RUNNING SCHEDULES FOR BUSES, TRAMS, TRAINS, MAXICABS AND FERRIES WILL BE INCREASED ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND NEW YEAR'S EVE UNTIL EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNINGS, THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

DETAILS OF THE EXTRA SERVICES ARE:

- * THE STAR FERRY'S KOWLOON POINT TO EDINBURGH PLACE ROUTE WILL RUN ALL NIGHT.
- * HYF'S CENTRAL TO JORDAN ROAD FERRY SERVICE WILL OPERATE UNTIL 1 AM.
- * THE MTR'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES WILL BE OPERATED THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. ITS NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICES WILL FINISH BY 12.30 AM ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.
- * KCR SERVICES ON DECEMBER 24, 25, 31 AND JANUARY 1 WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL 1 AM.
- * PEAK TRAM SERVICES WILL BE EXTENDED TO 1.30 AM ON DECEMBER 25 AND TO 1 AM ON JANUARY 1.
- * TRAM SERVICES, EXCEPT AROUND THE HAPPY VALLEY LOOP AND BETWEEN WHITTY STREET AND KENNEDY TOWN, WILL OPERATE ALL NIGHT ON CHRISTMAS EVE. ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, IT WILL RUN UNTIL 3 AM.
- * CMB WILL EXTEND SERVICES ON EIGHT MAJOR ROUTES - NOS. 2, 4, 7, 10, 23, 38, 70 AND 72.

THE LAST DEPARTURES OF ROUTE 2 FROM SHAU KEI WAN AND MACAU FERRY WILL BE AT 1.15 AM AND 2 AM RESPECTIVELY; NO. 4 FROM WA FU AND CENTRAL WILL BE AT 0.30 AM AND 1 AM; NO. 7 FROM SHEK PAI WAN AND CENTRAL AT 2 AM AND 2.30 AM; NO. 10 FROM NORTH POINT FERRY AND KENNEDY TOWN AT 1 AM AND 2 AM; NO. 23 FROM NORTH POINT FERRY AND POKFIELD ROAD AT 0.30 AM AND 1.15 AM; NO. 38 FROM NORTH POINT AND CHI FU FA YUEN AT MIDNIGHT AND 1 AM; NO. 70 FROM ABERDEEN AND CENTRAL AT 0.24 AM AND 1 AM AND NO. 72 FROM ABERDEEN AND CAUSEWAY BAY AT 0.50 AM AND 1.30 AM.

/* KMB WILL

* KMB WILL ALSO BE EXTENDING SERVICES.

THE LAST DEPARTURES OF ROUTE 1A FROM SAU MAU PING TO STAR FERRY WILL BE AT 0.43 AM AND 1.40 AM RESPECTIVELY; NO. 5 FROM CHOI HUNG AND TSIM SHA TSUI AT 2.20 AM AND 3 AM; NO. 5C FROM TSZ WAN SHAN AND TSIM SHA TSUI AT 1.20 AM AND 2 AM; NO. 6 FROM LAI CHI KOK AND STAR FERRY AT 2.18 AM AND 3 AM; NO. 9 FROM PING SHEK AND STAR FERRY AT 0.16 AM AND 1 AM; AND NO. 66M FROM TAI HING AND TSUEN WAN MTR STATION AT 0.30 AM AND 1.15 AM.

* MANY MAXICAB ROUTES WILL ALSO FINISH LATER THAN USUAL; SUCH AS NO. 1 (PEAK TO HMS TAMAR) AT 4 AM; 30 (CAUSEWAY BAY TO ADMIRALTY MTR STATION) AT 3 AM; 32 (NORTH POINT TO CENTRAL) AT 2.30 AM; 3 (TSIM SHA TSUI TO TAI TUNG SUN CHUEN) AT 1.30 AM; 7 (KOWLOON CITY TO TSIM SHA TSUI EAST) AT 3 AM; 31M (ARGYLE MTR STATION TO TSIM SHA TSUI EAST) AT 2 AM.

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GROUP TO SEE PRODUCTIVITY WORK

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MEMBERS OF THE SHAM SHUI PO INDUSTRIAL LIAISON COMMITTEE WILL VISIT THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO STUDY THE FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF VISITS PLANNED BY THE COMMITTEE.

THE COMMITTEE WAS FORMED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE WITH THE AIM OF PROMOTING DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND TACKLING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

THE VISIT WILL BEGIN WITH DISCUSSIONS AT THE PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE HEAD OFFICE AT 2 PM, AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A TOUR OF THE MICROPROCESSOR LABORATORY.

THE PARTY WILL THEN PROCEED TO THE CENTRE'S METAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH AT FREDER CENTRE IN TO KWA WAN TO LOOK AT VARIOUS PRODUCTION METHODS IN LOW-COST AUTOMATION, ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, METAL FINISHING, HEAT TREATMENT AND DIE-CASTING.

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SCHOOL PLACES SHORTAGE DISCUSSED
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) HELD A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF A GROUP CONCERNED WITH THE SHORTAGE OF SCHOOL PLACES IN TUEN MUN.

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY MR ROBERT LO, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PLANNING AND BUILDING), AND ATTENDED BY OTHER SENIOR STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT.

AT THE MEETING THE REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSSED A REPORT THEY RECENTLY COMPILED CONCERNING THE SHORTAGE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES IN TUEN MUN. THE DEPARTMENT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A SHORTAGE WAS EXPECTED IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, AND ASSURED THE GROUP THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WOULD BE DONE TO REMEDY THE SITUATION.

OTHER POINTS RAISED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES RELATING TO THEIR REPORT WERE ALSO NOTED AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD GIVE THEM A WRITTEN REPLY IN DUE COURSE.

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190 000 SEE PUBLIC HOUSING DISPLAY
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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S +BETTER HOMES IN ESTATES+ EXHIBITION, WHICH CLOSED AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI NEW WORLD CENTRE YESTERDAY (SUNDAY), ATTRACTED 190 000 VISITORS.

ENCOURAGED BY THE SUCCESS OF THE EXHIBITION, THE AUTHORITY IS NOW THINKING OF STAGING IT AGAIN ELSEWHERE, IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

+JUDGING FROM THE WAY THE EXHIBITION WAS RECEIVED BY VISITORS, IT WAS A GOOD MEDIUM BY WHICH WE COULD INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IN PROVIDING PERMANENT HOUSING AND EXPLAINING ITS PLANS FOR THE FUTURE,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AUTHORITY TODAY.

THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR DAVID FORD, SAID: +WE IN THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT ARE VERY MUCH INDEBTED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY WHO ENCOURAGED US NOT ONLY TO DESIGN AN EXHIBITION TO CARRY THE HOUSING MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, AND ALSO FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN DOING SO IN A REALLY INTERESTING AND EXCITING WAY. FURTHERMORE, IT WAS THEIR IDEA TO EXTEND THE CELEBRATION TO THE ESTATES AND FROM THAT IDEA THE CONCEPT OF OUR HOUSING FESTIVAL EMERGED.+

THE EXHIBITION HAD BEEN STAGED EARLIER IN THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION HALL, AND HAD DRAWN FAVOURABLE COMMENTS FROM THE PRESS AND VISITORS, BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS.

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WELFARE PAYMENTS

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RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES MAY RECEIVE THEIR ALLOWANCES EARLIER IF THEIR PAYMENT DATES FALL ON THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THOSE WHO ARE TO RECEIVE PAYMENT ON DECEMBER 25 AND 26 CAN CASH THEIR COUPONS ON DECEMBER 20 AND 21 RESPECTIVELY, OR AFTER AT THE DESIGNATED POST OFFICES, NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES OR TREASURY SUB-OFFICES.

RECIPIENTS OF OLD AGE ALLOWANCES AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCE UNDER THE BANK PAYMENT SYSTEM WITH PAYMENT DATE FALLING ON DECEMBER 25, MAY ALSO COLLECT THEIR ALLOWANCES ONE DAY EARLIER, ON DECEMBER 24, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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MORE ROOM FOR CARGO HANDLING

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AN ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY CARGO HANDLING AREA WILL BE BUILT AT A SITE TO THE EAST OF BUTTERFLY ESTATE IN TUEN MUN.

IT WILL EXTEND FOR 270 METRES ALONG THE WATERFRONT TO PROVIDE 6 000 SQUARE METRES OF MUCH-NEEDED SPACE. TENDERS FOR THE WORK, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR AND TAKE FIVE MONTHS TO COMPLETE, ARE BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE EXISTING TEMPORARY CARGO HANDLING AREA, SOUTH OF THE SITE, IS PROVING INADEQUATE TO MEET AN INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR SUCH FACILITIES AS TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG CONTINUE THEIR DEVELOPMENT.

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RICH ACTIVITIES FOR HOLIDAY SEASON

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APART FROM FESTIVE DECORATIONS, A VARIETY OF ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED THROUGHOUT HONG KONG FOR THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS.

+RESIDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THE JOY AND GOODWILL OF THE FESTIVE SEASON WITHOUT HAVING TO TRAVEL TOO FAR FROM THEIR HOMES,+ THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR ALBERT LAM, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (MONDAY).

/+THERE WILL

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+THERE WILL BE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE CHRISTMAS PACKAGE OF MORE THAN 100 ACTIVITIES ORGANISED OR SPONSORED BY VARIOUS DISTRICT BOARDS, THE URBAN COUNCIL, COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND COMMERCIAL FIRMS,+ HE SAID.

LARGE-SCALE EVENTS INCLUDE FUN FAIRS AND CARNIVALS FOR ALL AGES, PARTIES FOR THE ELDERLY, VARIETY SHOWS, DISCO NIGHTS AND A LASER SHOW.

DETAILS OF THE ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE VARIOUS DISTRICT OFFICES.

HE SAID THE FESTIVE LIGHTS IN CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI EAST WOULD REMAIN ON VIEW UNTIL JANUARY.

+AS LARGE CROWDS ARE EXPECTED IN THESE TWO AREAS ON CHRISTMAS EVE, IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN AND ELDERLY MEMBERS TO VISIT THEM BEFORE OR AFTER DECEMBER 24 TO AVOID THE CONGESTION+, MR LAM SAID.

SPECIAL LIGHTINGS AND OTHER DECORATIONS WILL ALSO BE PUT UP IN OTHER DISTRICTS, INCLUDING CHAI WAN, SHAU KEI WAN, TSUEN WAN AND SHA TIN.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER, MR ALAN LUI, WHO GAVE DETAILS OF SPECIAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE HOLIDAY PERIOD.

ON CHRISTMAS EVE, WHEN DEMAND FOR TRANSPORT IS EXPECTED TO BE HEAVIEST, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WILL PROVIDE SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT, THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY, UP TO 1 AM, AND THE PEAK TRAM, UP TO 1.30 AM. THE HONG KONG TRAMWAYS WILL BE RUNNING ALL-NIGHT SERVICES BETWEEN WHITTY STREET AND SHAU KEI WAN.

FERRIES, BUSES AND MAXICABS WILL ALSO BE RUNNING EXTENDED SERVICES.

SPECIAL PEDESTRIAN SCHEMES IN CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI EAST AND TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT BY THE POLICE TO ENSURE MAXIMUM CONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIOD.

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ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR
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USEFUL METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION AND FULL COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS ARE CONTAINED IN THE 1985 EDITION OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR NOW ON SALE AT \$27 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

THE CALENDAR CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED FROM THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY HEADQUARTERS IN NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

IT INCLUDES THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE CALENDAR, AND PROVIDES INFORMATION ON TIMES OF DAILY SUNRISE, SUNSET, MOONRISE, MOONSET, HIGH AND LOW TIDES, AND THE DURATION OF LUNAR ECLIPSES IN 1985.

CLIMATOLOGICAL INFORMATION SUCH AS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF DAYS WITH FOG IS TABULATED TOGETHER WITH THE MEAN VALUES OF TEMPERATURE, RAINFALL, RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND CLOUD AMOUNT.

THE COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS ILLUSTRATE THE SUBTLE INFLUENCE FROM WEATHER ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF DAILY LIFE.

THE PUBLICATION IS THE LATEST IN THE LONG LINE OF BILINGUAL CALENDARS PRODUCED JOINTLY BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, AND THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

APART FROM THE NEW CALENDAR, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY ALMANAC IS ALSO ON SALE, AT \$12 A COPY.

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KWAI CHUNG SCHOOLS SET FOR QUIZ FINAL
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THE GRAND FINAL OF THE KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT INTER-SCHOOL QUIZ ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE QUIZ IS SPONSORED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, AND ORGANISED BY THE KWAI CHUNG SUB-DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE HEADMASTERS OF VARIOUS SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.

IT AIMS TO HELP PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING AND AWARENESS OF THE FUNCTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

THE CONTEST ATTRACTED 27 TEAMS FROM 19 SCHOOLS IN KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT.

THREE SCHOOLS, LAM WOO MEMORIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL, LAI KING CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL AND SHUNG TAK FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION LEE SHIU KEE COLLEGE, HAVE SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THROUGH TO THE FINALS.

/AT TOMORROW'S

AT TOMORROW'S GRAND FINAL, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ANDREW SO, WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING, AND THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO THE WINNERS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A MINI-CONCERT FEATURING THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA AND POPULAR SINGER, JOHNNY YIP DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE PROGRAMME.

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SITTING-OUT ON LAMMA ISLAND

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A NEW SITTING-OUT AREA FOR RESIDENTS IN SOK KWU WAN ON LAMMA ISLAND WILL BE OPENED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM YAP TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE 140 SQUARE-METRE AREA, FEATURES FLOWER POTS, ARBORS, BENCHES AND CONCRETE CHESS TABLES. IT WAS BUILT BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD AT A COST OF ABOUT \$79 000.

+THIS SITTING-OUT AREA IS FOR RESIDENTS, FISHERMEN LIVING IN THE VICINITY, AS WELL AS VISITORS WHO COME TO THE ISLAND OVER THE WEEKENDS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

+THE ENVIRONMENT HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A FAR MORE PLEASANT AREA TO COMPLEMENT THE ADJACENT BASKETBALL COURTS AND MINI-SOCCER PITCHES, AND THE SOUTH LAMMA PUBLIC LIBRARY,+ HE SAID.

+THE SPOT ON WHICH THIS SITTING-OUT AREA WAS BUILT, WAS AN EYESORE FULL OF UNDERGROWTH, HEDGES, AND CONSTRUCTION DÉBRIS DUMPED THERE BY IRRESPONSIBLE PEOPLE,+ HE ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROJECT IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WORKS CARRIED OUT BY THE COMMITTEE, WHICH INCLUDES CLEARING OBSTRUCTIONS FROM BACKLANES, BUILDING PAVILIONS, HANDRAILS, BRIDGES, AND REPAIRS TO FOOTPATHS AND OTHER PROJECTS.

OTHER GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY ARE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, MR YOUNG WING-YAU= AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOUTH LAMMA RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHOW YUK-TONG.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1984

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ROAD TO SERVE FACTORY AREA
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A SINGLE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE BUILT IN CHEUNG SHA WAN IN KOWLOON.

THE 550-METRE-LONG ROAD WILL CIRCUMSCRIBE A FLATTED FACTORIES AREA BEING DEVELOPED NEAR THE WHOLESALE POULTRY MARKET THERE.

THE ROAD WILL PROVIDE VEHICULAR ACCESS TO THE TWO BLOCKS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

WORK ON THE ROAD PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ASSOCIATED FOOTWAY AND ANCILLARY DRAINAGE, IS EXPECTED TO START IN FEBRUARY 1985 AND BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT FOUR MONTHS.

THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT.

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 74.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 439.099 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 540.741 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 92.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HUNG HOM WATER WORK
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN HUNG HOM WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 20) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY MA TAU WAI ROAD, HOK YUEN STREET, KAI MING STREET AND THE SEAFRONT.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1984

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PLB RESTRICTED ZONE

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FROM WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 19), PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE RESTRICTED ALONG A SECTION OF HING FONG ROAD IN KWAI CHUNG, AT THE ROAD BEND OUTSIDE BLOCK 5, KWAI HING ESTATE.

THE RESTRICTIONS ON PLB WILL APPLY FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS.

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GAS SAFETY WORK

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THE GAS ADVISER, MR K. TUNNAH, WILL BE HOLDING A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) ON THE ACHIEVEMENT MADE IN GAS SAFETY IN HONG KONG AND THE WORK DONE BY HIS OFFICE SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT TWO YEARS AGO.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEET THE MEDIA

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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS DEPARTMENT'S DIRECTORATE WILL MEET THE MEDIA AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 15TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON.

THEY WILL PROVIDE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON VARIOUS TRADE MATTERS ARISING DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS.

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