



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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QUALITY FOR SUCCESS

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THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR PETER TSAO TODAY (TUESDAY) DESCRIBED OUR FAST AND ACCURATE RESPONSE TO OPPORTUNITIES AS THE MAJOR QUALITY WHICH NOT ONLY HAD HELPED HONG KONG OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES IN PAST YEARS, BUT WAS PAVING THE WAY FOR A PROMISING FUTURE, DESPITE THE PRESENT WORLD-WIDE RECESSION.

ADDRESSING THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF NORTH KOWLOON, MR TSAO POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS THE FACTOR WHICH ENABLED HONG KONG TO MAINTAIN A MINIMUM GROWTH RATE DURING THE ECONOMIC RECESSION, AND WHICH WOULD ENSURE FULL USE WAS MADE OF ADVANTAGES WHEN THE WORLD ECONOMY REVIVED.

CITING EXAMPLES OF 1980 AND 1981 WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY WAS DECLINING, MR TSAO OUTLINED HOW HONG KONG HAD COPED. +DURING THAT TIME, MOST OF THE OVERSEAS TRADERS CHANGED THEIR PURCHASING POLICY BY CLEARING STOCKS, REDUCING IMPORTS AND SHORTENING ORDER PERIODS.

+HONG KONG BENEFITED IN THESE TWO YEARS BECAUSE OUR COMPETITORS COULD NOT REACT AS QUICKLY AS HONG KONG TO THE ORDER REQUIREMENTS OF OVERSEAS BUYERS.+

THE REASONS WHY HONG KONG HAS ABILITIES WHICH ARE LACKING IN OTHERS, ACCORDING TO MR TSAO, ARE:

+HONG KONG PEOPLE ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO, OR PERHAPS CONCENTRATING ON, WAYS OF EARNING MONEY. OUR TRADERS ARE MORE READY THAN OTHERS TO ADAPT THEMSELVES TO CIRCUMSTANCES. HONG KONG'S INFRASTRUCTURE IS WELL-ESTABLISHED. THEREFORE, WHENEVER TRADE OPPORTUNITIES ARISE ALL SUPPORTING FACILITIES, SUCH AS BANKING, CARGO SHIPPING AND COMMUNICATIONS, ARE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE.

+THERE ARE NO COMPLICATED GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS TO BURDEN TRADERS WHEN THEY HAVE TO DEAL WITH OVERSEAS ORDERS IMMEDIATELY. THERE IS SUFFICIENT LOCAL CAPITAL TO FINANCE URGENT TRANSACTIONS, AND THE WELL-KNOWN WORKING ATTITUDE AND SPIRIT OF OUR WORKERS CONTRIBUTE TO OUR REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO HONG KONG'S TRADE PERFORMANCE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, MR TSAO WAS RELUCTANT TO MAKE ANY FORECASTS. +FIRST, WE CANNOT EXPECT A SUBSTANTIAL RISE IN OUR EXPORTS AS LONG AS WORLD ECONOMY IS IN A DOWN-TURN. SECONDLY, WHILE HONG KONG CAN WITHSTAND THE EFFECTS OF WORLD RECESSION FOR A PERIOD OF TIME, AND WE DID SO IN 1980 AND 1981, HONG KONG IS NOT IMMUNED FROM RECESSION.

+THIRDLY, ASSUMING THAT OUR FOREIGN TRADE IS IN THE TIDAL TREND, WE SHOULD NOT LOOK AT ONLY 1982, BUT ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.

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+OUR TRADE SO FAR THIS YEAR HAS BEEN LESS SATISFACTORY COMPARED WITH PAST YEARS, BUT THE PROSPECTS ARE PROMISING. THE ECONOMY OF OUR MAJOR MARKETS WILL SURELY REVIVE, ALTHOUGH NOBODY CAN TELL WHEN. WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT WHEN IT DOES COME, HONG KONG WILL MAKE THE BEST OF IT,+ HE SAID.

+IF THEREFORE WE EXAMINE OUR EXPORT PERFORMANCE OVER A PERIOD, SAY 1980 TO 1985, AND PROVIDED THE WORLD ECONOMY RECOVERS BY, SAY, THE BEGINNING OF 1983, WE ARE MORE THAN LIKELY TO CONCLUDE, AT THE END OF 1985, THAT HONG KONG HAS DONE REMARKABLY WELL, AGAIN.

+LAST BUT NOT LEAST, WHEN OTHER MARKETS RECOVER FROM RECESSION, HONG KONG WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GREATLY INCREASE OUR TRADE, SUCH AS WE DID IN 1974 AND 1975. I AM CONFIDENT THAT HONG KONG HAS THE ABILITY TO DO IT,+ CONCLUDED MR TSAO.

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IMPORTANCE OF CORRECT TIMING STRESSED

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THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CORRECT TIMING IN SUPPLYING INFORMATION TO AND SEEKING ADVICE FROM DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WAS STRESSED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID TSUI.

HE SAID THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMEN SHOULD ON ONE HAND, AVOID PRESENTING A +FAIT ACCOMPLI+ WHERE THERE WOULD BE LITTLE ROOM FOR CONSULTATION AND, ON THE OTHER HAND, AVOID PRESENTING A +HALF-BAKED+ PROPOSAL TO THE BOARD.

HOWEVER, HE FELT THAT, IF GIVEN TIME AND EXPERIENCE, A RIGHT BALANCE COULD BE STRUCK BETWEEN THE TWO EXTREMES WHICH WOULD SATISFY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, DEPARTMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES AND YET WITHOUT INJURING THE PUBLIC'S INTERESTS.

IN A LUNCHEON SPEECH TO THE LIONS CLUB OF BEACON HILL, HE OUTLINED THE GENERAL GUIDING PRINCIPLE ON THE EXTENT OF INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO BOARD MEMBERS.

MR TSUI SAID THE FOLLOWING FACTORS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED, NAMELY: THE PUBLIC'S INTERESTS, THE PRINCIPLE OF SUB JUDICE, THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE FACT THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF DB MEMBERS WAS BEING MADE BY THE GOVERNOR AND THUS THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THE BOARDS.

AS AN EXAMPLE, HE SAID THAT IF A CERTAIN AREA WAS UNDER PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATION FOR URBAN RE-DEVELOPMENT, IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE OR AT THE PUBLIC'S INTERESTS FOR THE INFORMATION AT THAT STAGE TO BECOME PUBLIC INFORMATION. IT MIGHT ENCOURAGE SPECULATIONS AND INSTILL A SENSE OF UNEASINESS AMONG THE RESIDENTS, BECAUSE IN THE END THE PROJECT MIGHT NOT GO FORWARD.

/HE POINTED

HE POINTED OUT THAT A GENERAL FALLACY EXISTED IN THE MINDS OF SOME DISTRICT BOARD CRITICS THAT UNLESS THE BOARDS WERE ABOVE THE +RULE OF LAW+ THE BOARDS WERE POWERLESS.

+THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY OWN MIND THAT ALL THE BOARDS ARE SUBJECT TO 'RULE OF LAW' AND THAT IS A VALUE HIGHLY CHERISHED IN THIS COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

+THE PRINCIPLE OF 'SUB JUDICE' THEREFORE APPLIES AND TO PUT IN LAYMAN'S TERM, MATTERS WHICH ARE OR WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE COURTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY EXCLUDED FROM DISCUSSIONS.+

MR TSUI ADDED THAT THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT BOARD MEMBERS COULD NOT COMMENT ON EXISTING OR DRAFT LEGISLATIONS, WHICH WOULD AFFECT THE DISTRICT, AND BRING THEIR VIEWS TO MEMBERS OF THE UMELCO FOR CONSIDERATION.

+THIS IS A DIFFICULT SUBJECT BUT GIVEN GOOD SENSE AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS- AND HAVING DUE REGARD FOR THE PUBLIC'S INTERESTS AND THE 'RULE OF LAW', I AM CONFIDENT THAT A REASONABLE SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND.+

HE CONTINUED THAT THERE WAS A SMALL DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIATE IN EVERY DISTRICT.

+PART OF THE WORK OF THE SECRETARIATE, BESIDES KEEPING RECORDS OF MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATING WITH THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR OTHER AGENCIES FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS ARISING OUT OF DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS, IS TO PROVIDE MEMBERS WITH INFORMATION.

+HENCE, SOME DISTRICT OFFICES HAVE A SMALL LIBRARY, WITH GOVERNMENT REPORTS, WHITE PAPERS, LOCAL SURVEY REPORTS, SCHOOL MAGAZINES, DISTRICT NEWSPAPERS ETC, PUT THERE FOR MEMBERS' REFERENCE.

+FURTHERMORE, THERE IS AN ADEQUATE LIBRARY IN THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S HONG KONG AND KOWLOON REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WITH ABOUT 7 000 VOLUMES OF BOOKS, WHICH DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS CAN USE.

+THIS IS SUPPLEMENTED BY BRIEFINGS AND SITE VISITS, THE MAIN PURPOSE OF WHICH IS TO GET THE BASIC DISTRICT BACKGROUND INFORMATION ACROSS TO MEMBERS,+ HE SAID.

PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR MAY 1982

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ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY EIGHT PER CENT AND THOSE OF IMPORTS BY SEVEN PER CENT IN MAY 1982 AS COMPARED WITH MAY 1981.

AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) ROSE BY ONE PER CENT.

THE VOLUMES OF EXPORTS DROPPED BY EIGHT PER CENT AND IMPORTS BY 10 PER CENT. THE PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT, WITH THE VOLUME DOWN BY ONE PER CENT, SO THAT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, PRICES WERE UP BY NINE PER CENT AND A DECREASE BY SIX PER CENT WAS RECORDED FOR THE VOLUME.

FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD TO MAY 1982 AS COMPARED WITH THE TWELVE MONTHS TO MAY 1981, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 10 PER CENT AND THOSE OF IMPORTS BY 11 PER CENT. THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS EXPANDED BY FIVE PER CENT AND THAT OF RE-EXPORTS BY 12 PER CENT, GIVING A SEVEN PER CENT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS AS AGAINST A FOUR PER CENT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED. CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE ARE DERIVED FROM CHANGES IN TRADE VALUES, AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP ARE SHOWN BELOW:

CHANGES COMPARING MAY 1982 WITH MAY 1981

	<u>EXPORT VALUE</u>	<u>EXPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>EXPORT VOLUME</u>
CLOTHING (EXCEPT FUR)	+ 1%	+14%	-11%
TEXTILE FABRICS	- 5%	+ 6%	-11%
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	+13%	- 4%	+17%
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	- 5%	+11%	-14%
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	-41%	-14%	-32%
FOOTWEAR	- 8%	+16%	-21%
METAL MANUFACTURES	+10%	+ 9%	+ 1%
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	-15%	-14%	- 2%

/CHANGES COMPARING

CHANGES COMPARING MAY 1982 WITH MAY 1981

	<u>EXPORT VALUE</u>	<u>EXPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>EXPORT VOLUME</u>
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	-26%	-19%	- 8%
ALL COMMODITIES	INSIGNIFICANT	+ 8%	- 8%

THE EXPORT PRICES OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED, FROM SIX PER CENT FOR TEXTILE FABRICS TO 16 PER CENT FOR FOOTWEAR. ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES IN THE EXPORT PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-4%), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-14%), METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-14%), AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS (-19%).

CONSIDERABLE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS REGISTERED FOR TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+17%). ON THE OTHER HAND, SIGNIFICANT DECREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILE MADE-UPS (-14%), FOOTWEAR (-21%) AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-32%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN BELOW:

CHANGES COMPARING MAY 1982 WITH MAY 1981

	<u>IMPORT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT VOLUME</u>
FOODSTUFFS	+ 5%	+ 9%	- 4%
CONSUMER GOODS	+ 2%	+ 5%	- 3%
FUELS	-28%	- 7%	-23%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	- 1%	+ 7%	- 8%
CAPITAL GOODS	-11%	+16%	-23%
ALL COMMODITIES	- 3%	+ 7%	-10%

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FUELS, THE PRICES OF WHICH DROPPED BY SEVEN PER CENT, THE PRICES OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY INCREASED MODERATELY, RANGING FROM FIVE PER CENT FOR CONSUMER GOODS TO 16 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS.

MOST OF THE MAJOR IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS DROPPED IN VOLUME TERMS, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING VEGETABLES, ANIMALS OF BOVINE SPECIES AS WELL AS SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS, WHEAT AND FLOUR AS WELL AS SUGAR ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY.

IN THE CONSUMER GOODS CATEGORY, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES. THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CAMERAS, FLASHLIGHT APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, TEXTILE MADE-UP ARTICLES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES FELL CONSIDERABLY.

IMPORTS OF FUELS FELL BY 23 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MOST RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECLINED AMONG WHICH WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK, MAN-MADE FIBRES AS WELL AS WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR DROPPED SUBSTANTIALLY. THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CLAY AND REFRACTORY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, PLASTIC MOULDING MATERIALS AND BASE METALS EXCLUDING IRON AND STEEL ROSE CONSIDERABLY.

MOST OF THE MAJOR IMPORTED CAPITAL GOODS DECLINED IN VOLUME TERMS, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, OPTICAL, MEASURING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS AND TEXTILE MACHINERY AS WELL. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF OFFICE MACHINES.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN BELOW:

CHANGES COMPARING MAY 1982 WITH MAY 1981

	<u>RE-EXPORT VALUE</u>	<u>RE-EXPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>RE-EXPORT VOLUME</u>
FOODSTUFFS	+14%	+18%	- 4%
CONSUMER GOODS	+ 7%	+ 7%	INSIGNIFICANT
FUELS	-36%	+ 3%	-37%
RAW MATERIALS, AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	+ 7%	+13%	- 5%
CAPITAL GOODS	+32%	+17%	+13%
ALL COMMODITIES	+10%	+11%	- 1%

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORT VOLUME VARIED, RANGING FROM A 37 PER CENT DECREASE FOR FUELS TO A 13 PER CENT INCREASE FOR CAPITAL GOODS.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE MAY 1982 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS+, AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT HK\$2 PER COPY.

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PARKING ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN CAUSEWAY BAY
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METER-PAID PARKING FACILITIES ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS WILL SOON BE INTRODUCED IN THE BUSY DISTRICT OF CAUSEWAY BAY.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, THE ACTING CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER, MR CHARLES LEUNG SAID THE PROPOSAL WAS RECENTLY ENDORSED BY THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD.

HOWEVER, CHARGES WILL ONLY BE LEVIED BETWEEN 10 AM AND 10 PM.

MR LEUNG SAID THE VARIETY OF ENTERTAINMENT AND SHOPPING FACILITIES IN CAUSEWAY BAY ATTRACTS MORE TRAFFIC - BOTH VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN - DURING WEEKENDS AND ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

+IN FACT, IT HAD BEEN OBSERVED THAT THE PRIVATE MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS IN THE CAUSEWAY BAY AREA LEVIED HIGHER PARKING FEES TOGETHER WITH A MINIMUM CHARGE ON SUNDAYS AND ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

+THIS CLEARLY ILLUSTRATES A HIGH DEMAND FOR PARKING SPACES IN THIS DISTRICT DURING HOLIDAYS AND THE PRESENT SOLUTION IS TO DETER LONG TERM PARKING SO THAT MORE MOTORISTS CAN USE THE ON-STREET PARKING SPACES,+ HE SAID.

IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, MR LEUNG ADDED, THE NEW SCHEME WILL BE IMPLEMENTED EARLY IN SEPTEMBER.

THE PLAN COVERS CLEVELAND STREET, PERCIVAL STREET, LOCKHART ROAD AND JAFFE ROAD SECTIONS EAST OF THE PERCIVAL STREET JUNCTION, HYSAN AVENUE, SUN WUI ROAD, HOI PING ROAD, SUNNING ROAD, YUN PING ROAD, LAN FONG ROAD, PAK SHA ROAD, LEE GARDEN ROAD AND RUSSELL STREET.

MEANWHILE, THE PARKING METERS INSTALLED IN SHAU KEI WAN AND CHAI WAN WILL BE IN USE FROM 8 AM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 5).

THE METERED SPACES ARE ON THE KERBSIDE LANES OF TAI HONG STREET, SHUN FOO STREET, TAI SHEK STREET, SAI WAN HO STREET, TAI FOO STREET, SUN SING STREET, NGOI MAN STREET, SAN HA STREET AND CHAI WAN ROAD.

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GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FOR AUGUST

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT ANOTHER GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY THIS MONTH. THE SURVEY STARTED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR AND IS CARRIED OUT ON A CONTINUOUS MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS BY THE PERMANENT FIELD STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION.

A RANDOM SAMPLE OF ABOUT 5 000 HOUSEHOLDS HAVE BEEN SELECTED THROUGHOUT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY. SOME OF THESE HOUSEHOLDS HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN THE MAY 1982 SURVEY AND WILL BE INTERVIEWED FOR THE SECOND TIME IN ORDER TO MEASURE MORE ACCURATELY THE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THE LAST SURVEY.

AN OFFICIAL LETTER, IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH, HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SAMPLED HOUSEHOLDS TO EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY AND TO SEEK THEIR COOPERATION.

ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, WHO WILL IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH DEPARTMENTAL IDENTITY CARDS, WILL VISIT THE SAMPLED HOUSEHOLDS DURING THE MONTH TO COLLECT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION.

QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED IN THE SURVEY INCLUDE: AGE, SEX AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF INDIVIDUALS; ACTIVITY STATUS, OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY, EARNINGS, AND HOURS OF WORK FOR THOSE WORKING; TENURE, RENT AND INCOME OF HOUSEHOLDS. IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE OTHER QUESTIONS SUCH AS HOUSEHOLD DURABLES OWNED BY HOUSEHOLDS; MORTGAGE PAYMENT FOR HOME-PURCHASE; EMPLOYMENT OF DOMESTIC HELP; CHANGE OF ACTIVITY STATUS AND LOCALISED EMPLOYMENT.

ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY WILL BE TREATED AS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL NOT BE REVEALED TO ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION OUTSIDE THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 68.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY, OR 395.8 MILLION CUBIC METRES, EQUIVALENT TO 255 DAYS' CONSUMPTION.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 258 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 44.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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DUTY ON LIQUOR AND TOBACCO BASED ON METRIC QUANTITIES

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IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S DECLARED POLICY OF PROMOTING THE METRIC SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS, THE USE OF IMPERIAL UNITS IN THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES ORDINANCE WILL BE ABOLISHED FROM TODAY (AUGUST 3).

WITH THE GENERAL ADOPTION OF THE METRIC SYSTEM IN EUROPE AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, THE MAJORITY OF IMPORTS OF DUTIABLE COMMODITIES ARE NOW IN METRIC UNITS. TO AVOID UNNECESSARY CONVERSIONS, THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT DECIDED TO BRING THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES ORDINANCE IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL TRADE PRACTICES. MOREOVER, THE OIL INDUSTRY HAS GONE METRIC SINCE JANUARY 1, 1981.

IT IS ENVISAGED THAT ONLY THE LIQUOR AND TOBACCO TRADE WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE CHANGEOVER FROM IMPERIAL TO METRIC UNITS FOR ASSESSMENT OF DUTY, COMPLETION OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND RETURNS, AND TREATMENT OF DUTIABLE STOCKS.

AS IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY THAT ON CONVERSION THERE SHOULD BE NO REVISION OF FEES, THE NEW SCHEDULE OF DUTY RATES USING METRIC UNITS WILL ENTAIL NO SIGNIFICANT REVENUE CHANGES OR COSTS TO THE TRADE, THOUGH THERE MAY HAVE TO BE A DEGREE OF ROUNDING UP AND DOWN.

WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, DUTY ON BRANDY AND WHISKY WILL BE LEVIED AT \$27.05 AND \$21 PER LITRE RESPECTIVELY. BEER IS ASSESSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS ORIGINAL GRAVITY WHICH, IF NOT EXCEEDING 1030 DEGREES, THE DUTY PAYABLE WILL BE \$37.20 HECTOLITRE (100 LITRES). CHINESE TYPE SPIRITS OF ALCOHOLIC STRENGTH OF 30 PER CENT BY VOLUME ARE CHARGED AT \$384.95 PER HECTOLITRE. DUTY ON IMPORTED AND LOCALLY MANUFACTURED CIGARETTES IS CALCULATED AT \$43.65 AND \$44.45 PER KILOGRAM RESPECTIVELY.

ANYONE WHO WISHES TO KNOW MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE CHANGES MAY CONTACT THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE TICD DUTIABLE COMMODITIES OFFICE AT 2 RUMSEY STREET, 10TH FLOOR, HONG KONG (TELEPHONE: 5-456182 EXT. 255).

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HONG KONG IN TYPHOON OPERATIONAL EXPERIMENT

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THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY IS PARTICIPATING IN A TYPHOON OPERATIONAL EXPERIMENT (TOPEX) IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIA AND PACIFIC AREA.

THE FIRST OPERATIONAL EXPERIMENT OF TOPEX WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM AUGUST 1 TO OCTOBER 15, 1982 AND A SCIENTIFIC OFFICER OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY HONG KONG HAS BEEN SENT TO TOKYO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXPERIMENT.

EACH YEAR ABOUT THIRTY TROPICAL CYCLONES DEVELOP IN THE NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC AND ABOUT HALF OF THEM INTENSIFY INTO TYPHOONS. THESE TYPHOONS CAN CAUSE HEAVY LOSSES BOTH IN LIFE AND PROPERTY. IN 1979 FOR EXAMPLE TWENTY-TWO TROPICAL CYCLONES IN THE PHILIPPINES CAUSED 137 DEATHS, 73 PEOPLE INJURED AND A TOTAL DAMAGE EQUIVALENT TO 280 MILLION HONG KONG DOLLARS WHILE IN JAPAN THREE TROPICAL CYCLONES RESULTED IN 131 PEOPLE DEAD OR MISSING AND DAMAGE AMOUNTING TO 7 700 MILLION HONG KONG DOLLARS.

IN THE SAME YEAR IN HONG KONG 12 PEOPLE WERE KILLED DURING TYPHOON HOPE AND THE COST OF DAMAGE WAS IN EXCESS OF 17 MILLION HONG KONG DOLLARS.

IN ORDER TO MITIGATE THESE LOSSES, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP) AND THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION (WMO) HAVE LAUNCHED THE TYPHOON OPERATIONAL EXPERIMENT FOR 1982 AND 1983. WMO MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN THIS EXPERIMENT INCLUDE CHINA, HONG KONG, JAPAN, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THAILAND AND VIETNAM.

DURING THE EXPERIMENT, AN EXPERIMENT SUB-CENTRE (ESC) WILL BE SET UP BY EACH PARTICIPATING MEMBER. IN ADDITION, AN INTERNATIONAL EXPERIMENT CENTRE (IEC) WILL BE ORGANISED IN TOKYO BY SCIENTISTS SECONDED FROM THESE COUNTRIES OR TERRITORIES.

TESTS ON THE VARIOUS SYSTEMS FOR TYPHOON ANALYSIS, FORECASTING AND WARNING IN THE REGIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE IEC AS WELL AS THE ESCS DURING ACTUAL TYPHOON CONDITIONS TO IDENTIFY DEFICIENCIES IN THESE SYSTEMS AND IMPROVE THE CAPABILITIES OF COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

MORE OBSERVATIONAL DATA WILL ALSO BE COLLECTED TO STUDY THE GENERATION, DEVELOPMENT AND DECAY OF TYPHOONS IN THE AREA.

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TAI PO SITE SOLD FOR DEVELOPMENT

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT HAS SOLD A 6.48-HECTARE SITE IN TAI PO TO POINSETTIA LAND CO. LTD. FOR A COMPREHENSIVE LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE SITE, LOCATED NEAR TAI PO KAU ON A VERY DESIRABLE ELEVATED PLATFORM WITH EXTENSIVE VIEWS OVER TOLO HARBOUR, WAS PUT OUT TO CASH TENDER EARLY THIS YEAR.

THERE WERE A TOTAL OF NINE TENDERS RECEIVED.

MR VICTOR LEUNG, DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER OF TAI PO, SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE INTEREST SHOWN BY THE DEVELOPERS AS IT CLEARLY INDICATED THE CONFIDENCE IN THE LONG TERM FUTURE OF THE RAPIDLY GROWING TAI PO NEW TOWN AND THE DEMAND FOR HIGH CLASS HOUSING IN THE TOWN.

+SIMILAR CONCEPT OF DISPOSING LAND IS ALSO BEING FOLLOWED ELSEWHERE IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

THE CONDITIONS OF SALE REQUIRED THAT A DEVELOPMENT SCHEME BE SUBMITTED FOR THE SITE, WHICH SHOULD INCLUDE PROPOSALS FOR THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, INTERNAL ROADS, HOUSE TYPES TO BE ERECTED AND THE LIKE.

AND, THE DEVELOPMENT RESTRICTION OF THE SITE WILL BE 0.3 PLOT RATIO OVER AN AREA OF 5.47 HECTARES AND BUILDINGS OF TWO STOREYS OVER CARPORTS NOT EXCEEDING 7.62 METRES IN HEIGHT.

MR LEUNG SAID ALL THE TENDERS RECEIVED WERE CONSIDERED IN DETAIL AND THE SUBMISSION BY POINSETTIA LAND CO. LTD. WAS ACCEPTED BECAUSE IT DISPLAYED GOOD DESIGN CONCEPT OF HOUSES WITH ASSOCIATED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, AND THE PROPOSED LAYOUT WAS IN HARMONY WITH THIS EXCELLENT RESIDENTIAL SITE.

THE PREMIUM TENDERED BY THE COMPANY WAS \$27 001 000.

REFERRING TO THE MASTER PLANS SUBMITTED BY THE COMPANY, MR LEUNG SAID THAT THEY PROVIDED FOR 76 DETACHED HOUSES WITH TWO HOUSE TYPES, THE AREA OF WHICH WOULD BE 195 SQUARE METRES AND 230 SQUARES METRES, LOCATED ON ROADS BRANCHING OUT FINGER-STYLE AROUND A CENTRAL RESIDENTIAL CORE.

THE DEVELOPMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY 1986.

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2881 3 AUGUST 1982 TUESDAY

CYC MOVEMENT SERVES HONG KONG
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, TODAY (TUESDAY) DESCRIBED THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB MOVEMENT AS A MAJOR FACTOR IN COMMUNITY BUILDING.

SPEAKING AT A RECEPTION FOR EIGHT OUTSTANDING MEMBERS WHO WILL FLY TO AUSTRALIA THIS FRIDAY FOR AN EIGHT-DAY VISIT, THE DIRECTOR SAID THE CYC ENCOURAGED YOUNG PEOPLE TO SEE BEYOND THEMSELVES INTO A WIDER WORLD AND TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF CONCERN AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR OTHERS.

+IT IS PRACTICAL CIVIC EDUCATION, IN WHICH ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS. IT IS ALSO A VERY ENJOYABLE FORM OF EDUCATION, WITH THE EMPHASIS ON HEALTHY, POSITIVE ACTIVITIES,+ HE SAID.

MR HAYE SAID THE PRINCIPAL AIM OF THE CYC SCHEME, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN FEBRUARY 1978, WAS TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE A PRIDE IN THEIR COMMUNITY AND TO ACCEPT ACTIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT - QUALITIES WHICH SOME PEOPLE CONSIDERED SOMETIMES LACKING IN HONG KONG.

THE CYC NOW HAS A TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF OVER 65 000 WITH 555 PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS, BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY, HE SAID.

MR HAYE SAID THE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE CLUB WAS VERY WIDE. THEY INCLUDED VISITS, DEBATES, SEMINARS, COMPETITIONS AND EXHIBITIONS RELATED TO SUCH THEMES AS CONSERVATION, FIRE PROTECTION, CONSUMER EDUCATION, ANTI-CORRUPTION, ROAD SAFETY, KEEPING HONG KONG CLEAN AND OTHERS WHICH MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG.

THE AUSTRALIA TRIP IS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB (CHARITIES) LIMITED FOR CYC MEMBERS WHO HAD CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE COMMUNITY.

DURING THEIR EIGHT-DAY STAY IN AUSTRALIA, THEY WILL VISIT SCHOOLS AND FAMOUS HISTORICAL SPOTS.

THE PREMIUM TENDERED BY THE COMPANY WAS \$27 001 000.

REFERRING TO THE MASTER PLANS SUBMITTED BY THE COMPANY, MR LEUNG SAID THAT THEY PROVIDED FOR 78 DETACHED HOUSES WITH TWO HOUSE TYPES, THE AREA OF WHICH WOULD BE 195 SQUARE METRES AND 230 SQUARE METRES LOCATED ON ROADS BRANCHING OUT FINGER-

URBAN CLEARWAY IN TAI WO HAU
* * *

CLEARWAY RESTRICTION ON THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TAI WO HAU ROAD BETWEEN TEXACO ROAD AND TAI HA STREET WILL BE EXTENDED EASTWARDS UP TO SHEK TAU STREET FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 5).

WITHIN THE SECTION, ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS AT ANYTIME.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1982

- 13 -

UK YOUTH GROUP VISITS SWD COMMUNITY CENTRE

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SIX YOUNG BRITONS WHO ARE HERE UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S NEWLY-OPENED COMMUNITY CENTRE IN SHEUNG SHUI TO SEE ITS VARIOUS ACTIVITIES PROVIDED FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

THE GROUP, FROM THE COUNTY OF SOUTH GLAMORGAN, WALES, WILL SPEND THREE WEEKS IN HONG KONG VISITING VARIOUS PLACES.

THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE, OPENED IN MARCH THIS YEAR, SERVES AS A FOCAL POINT FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGE GROUPS IN SHEUNG SHUI, TA KWO LING, SHA TAU KOK AND FANLING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. IT HAS A MEMBERSHIP OF 2 200.

THE GROUP WAS EARLIER BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE IN HONG KONG BY THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER IN SHA TIN, MR LAU KAI-CHUEN.

DURING THEIR STAY HERE, THEY WILL ALSO HAVE A LOOK AT THE RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ANTI-NARCOTICS BEACH CONCERT

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THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AND RADIO 2 OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG WILL JOINTLY PRESENT AN ANTI-NARCOTICS BEACH CONCERT ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 8) AT 3 PM AT REPULSE BAY.

DETAILS OF THE CONCERT WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT 3 PM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 5) IN THE LOBBY OF BROADCASTING HOUSE, RTHK, BROADCAST DRIVE.

ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WILL BE MR C.M. LEUNG, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY (NARCOTICS) AND MISS M.Y. CHEUNG, ACTING DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CONFERENCE.

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