



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1981

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GOODS SMUGGLERS WILL BE PENALISED

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, DISCLOSED TODAY THAT ILLICIT TRADERS WHO PROFIT IN TWO-WAY SMUGGLING OF GOODS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA WOULD BE PENALISED.

+OUR LEGISLATION HAS BEEN EXAMINED TO SEE HOW MOST EFFECTIVELY WE CAN PREVENT THESE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FOR EXAMPLE CONFISCATION OF THE SMUGGLED GOODS, AND IN SERIOUS CASES, CONFISCATION OF VESSELS OR CANCELLATION OF THE LICENCES OF THEIR MASTERS.+

THE LEGISLATION PROVIDES FOR IMPRISONMENT AS WELL AS FINES SO IT COULD INVOLVE THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT, SIR MURRAY SAID IN A SPEECH GIVEN AT THE ANNUAL PARADE OF THE DEPARTMENT AT ITS STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY.

HE SAID THE SUDDEN INCREASE IN TWO-WAY SMUGGLING, MOSTLY BY BOAT, +COULD SPAWN OUT INTO OTHER CRIMES AND IT COULD CAUSE FRICTION WITH OUR NEIGHBOUR+.

+THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES AND OURSELVES TAKE AN EQUALLY SERIOUS VIEW OF THIS FURTHER MANIFESTATION OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY ACROSS THE FRONTIER,+ HE STRESSED.

IN HIS SPEECH THE GOVERNOR PRAISED THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT FOR ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO FOSTER LOCAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE WELFARE AND REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS.

HE SAID THERE WERE NOW 16 PRISON CHAPLAINS AND OVER 90 MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WHO HAD BEEN APPOINTED AS PRISON VISITORS.

+I AM GRATEFUL FOR WHAT THEY DO, AS I AM TO JUSTICES OF PEACE WHO LAST YEAR MADE AN AVERAGE OF ALMOST ONE VISIT A DAY TO THE DEPARTMENT,+ HE SAID.

SIR MURRAY ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE DETENTION CENTRE PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG AND YOUNG ADULT OFFENDERS HAD CONTINUED AND HAD ATTRACTED GREAT INTEREST ABROAD.

HE TOLD THE PRISONS STAFF: +LARGE NUMBERS OF PRISON ADMINISTRATORS AND OTHERS FROM OVERSEAS VISIT YOUR INSTITUTIONS EACH YEAR. MANY HAVE WRITTEN LETTERS OR PUBLISHED ARTICLES FULL OF PRAISE. IT IS WELL DESERVED.+

ACCOMPANIED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS, MR THOMAS GARNER, SIR MURRAY INSPECTED THE PARADE FORMED BY 205 PRISON OFFICERS FROM VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

HE ALSO PRESENTED COLONIAL PRISON SERVICE MEDALS TO 29 OFFICERS WHO HAVE HAD 18 YEARS' EXEMPLARY SERVICE.

THE BAND, PIPES AND DRUMS OF CAPE COLLINSON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION PROVIDED MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE EVENT. THE GIRLS MARCHING TEAM OF TAI TAM GAP CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION ALSO GAVE A PERFORMANCE.

/THE FOLLOWING

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:

+AS ALWAYS IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO INSPECT THIS ANNUAL PARADE.

+DEMANDS ON THE DEPARTMENT FROM VIETNAMESE REFUGEES HAVE THANKFULLY BEEN REDUCED. BUT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION INEVITABLY INVOLVED YOU- PRISON LABOUR HELPED WITH THE BORDER FENCES- THE ABOLITION OF THE 'TOUCH-BASE' POLICY IN OCTOBER REQUIRED NEW DETENTION FACILITIES AT VICTORIA PRISON. I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU ALL FOR THE WILLING WAY IN WHICH YOU HAVE TACKLED THESE TASKS.

+PERHAPS NOT UNCONNECTED WITH OUR SUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION THERE HAS BEEN A SUDDEN INCREASE IN TWO-WAY SMUGGLING OF GOODS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA, MOSTLY BY BOAT. THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES AND OURSELVES TAKE AN EQUALLY SERIOUS VIEW OF THIS FURTHER MANIFESTATION OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY ACROSS THE FRONTIER. IT COULD SPAWN OUT INTO OTHER CRIMES AND IT COULD CAUSE FRICTION WITH OUR NEIGHBOUR. OUR LEGISLATION HAS BEEN EXAMINED TO SEE HOW MOST EFFECTIVELY WE CAN PREVENT THESE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FOR EXAMPLE CONFISCATION OF THE SMUGGLED GOODS, AND IN SERIOUS CASES, CONFISCATION OF VESSELS OR CANCELLATION OF THE LICENCES OF THEIR MASTERS. THE LEGISLATION PROVIDES FOR IMPRISONMENT AS WELL AS FINES SO YOU COULD BE INVOLVED.

+SADLY, THE DOWNWARD TREND OF RECENT YEARS HAS REVERSED AND MUSTER ROSE FROM AROUND 5 900 IN JANUARY TO OVER 6 600 BY THE END OF THE YEAR. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, THE DEPARTMENT HAS QUICKLY ADAPTED A NUMBER OF ITS INSTITUTIONS TO SUIT THE CHANGING COMPOSITION OF THE PRISON POPULATION. TAI TAM GAP IS NOW A TRAINING CENTRE AND PRISON FOR GIRLS AND PROVIDES A FULL RANGE OF REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES FOR YOUNG FEMALE OFFENDERS. NUMBERS ADMITTED FOR DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT HAVE DECLINED AND HEI LING CHAU NOW ACCOMMODATES ALL ADULT MALES UNDERGOING SUCH TREATMENT. AS A RESULT, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO CONVERT TAI LAM CHUNG INTO A MINIMUM CONTROL SECURITY PRISON.

+THE SUCCESS OF THE DETENTION CENTRE PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS CONTINUES. 95 PER CENT HAVE COMPLETED THEIR 12 MONTH SUPERVISION WITHOUT RECONVICTION. I AM PLEASED TO SEE EQUALLY ENCOURAGING RESULTS FOR YOUNG ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGE OF 21 AND 25 TO WHOM THE PROGRAMME WAS EXTENDED IN 1976. IT HAS ATTRACTED GREAT INTEREST ABROAD AND I CONGRATULATE ALL CONCERNED.

+LARGE NUMBERS OF PRISON ADMINISTRATORS AND OTHERS FROM OVERSEAS VISIT YOUR INSTITUTIONS EACH YEAR. MANY HAVE WRITTEN LETTERS OR PUBLISHED ARTICLES FULL OF PRAISE. IT IS WELL DESERVED.

+THE DEPARTMENT HAS CONTINUED TO FOSTER LOCAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE WELFARE AND REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS. THERE ARE NOW 16 PRISON CHAPLAINS AND OVER 90 MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WHO HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AS PRISON VISITORS. I AM GRATEFUL FOR WHAT THEY DO, AS I AM TO JUSTICES OF PEACE WHO LAST YEAR MADE AN AVERAGE OF ALMOST ONE VISIT A DAY TO THE DEPARTMENT.

/+THE ACHIEVEMENTS

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+THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OWE MUCH TO A FINE TRADITION OF DEDICATION AND DISCIPLINE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF YOUR COMMISSIONER AND HIS OFFICERS. I KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF TRAINING AND AM THEREFORE EXTREMELY PLEASED THAT BUILDING WORK WILL SOON START ON THE EXTENSION OF THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE.

+I CONGRATULATE YOU ALL ON THE SMARTNESS OF YOUR TURN OUT AND COMPLIMENT THE PARADE COMMANDER ON HIS NEW FORMATION. I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN THE YEAR AHEAD.+

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1980

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ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S MERCHANDISE TRADE IN DECEMBER 1980, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE MONTH WAS \$9 391 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$6 270 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$3 120 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT \$11 306 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR DECEMBER WAS \$1 915 MILLION.

FOR THE YEAR 1980 AS A WHOLE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS \$98 260 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$68 185 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$30 075 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT \$111 681 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR LAST YEAR WAS \$13 421 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH 1979, THERE WERE THE FOLLOWING INCREASES BY VALUE: \$12 273 MILLION OR 21.9 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$10 053 MILLION OR 50.2 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, \$22 326 MILLION OR 29.4 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND \$25 844 MILLION OR 30.1 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS.

THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WAS 12 PER CENT (\$13 421 MILLION) IN 1980, SLIGHTLY UP ON THE 11.5 PER CENT (\$9 903 MILLION) RECORDED IN 1979.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID VISIBLE TRADE IN 1980 AS A WHOLE CLEARLY HAD PROSPERED, WITH DOMESTIC EXPORTS, RE-EXPORTS AND IMPORTS ALL RECORDING GROWTH RATES SIGNIFICANTLY ABOVE THE TREND GROWTH RATES IN THE 1970'S.

PARTICULARLY IMPRESSIVE HAD BEEN THE GROWTH OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF UNFAVOURABLE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG'S MAIN MARKETS.

ON RE-EXPORTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID HONG KONG'S ROLE AS AN ENTREPOT FOR THE REGION AS A WHOLE AND FOR CHINA IN PARTICULAR WAS ASSUMING INCREASING IMPORTANCE. THE GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS HAD BEEN ACCELERATING RAPIDLY OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS.

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NEVERTHELESS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE ENTREPOT TRADE, THE GROWTH RATES HAD SLOWED DOWN TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR. COMPARING THE FIGURES FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS OF 1980 WITH THOSE FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1979, DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE BY 12.4 PER CENT, RE-EXPORTS BY 57.3 PER CENT, TOTAL EXPORTS BY 24.1 PER CENT AND IMPORTS BY 27.9 PER CENT.

COMPARING THE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1980 WITH THOSE FOR THE SAME MONTH IN 1979, DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE BY 11.9 PER CENT, RE-EXPORTS BY 65 PER CENT, TOTAL EXPORTS BY 25.3 PER CENT AND IMPORTS BY 35.8 PER CENT.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE RELATIVELY RAPID GROWTH RATE FOR IMPORTS, THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT A BOEING 747 AIRCRAFT WORTH ABOUT \$270 MILLION WAS IMPORTED IN DECEMBER. ALSO ABOUT \$100 MILLION OF FUEL OIL WAS IMPORTED AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT TO BUILD UP HONG KONG'S STRATEGIC RESERVES.

THE FOLLOWING ARE COMPARATIVE TRADE FIGURES AS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY:

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	OCT - DEC 1980	OCT - DEC 1979	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ M	\$ M	\$ M	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	18 252	16 232	+ 2 020	+ 12.4
RE-EXPORTS	8 946	5 686	+ 3 260	+ 57.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	27 198	21 918	+ 5 280	+ 24.1
IMPORTS	31 754	24 818	+ 6 936	+ 27.9
TRADE BALANCE	- 4 556	- 2 900	- 1 656	
	DEC 1980	DEC 1979	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	\$ M	\$ M	\$ M	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	6 270 (66.8%)	5 602 (74.8%)	+ 668	+ 11.9
RE-EXPORTS	3 120	1 891	+ 1 229	+ 65.0
TOTAL EXPORTS	9 391	7 493	+ 1 897	+ 25.3
IMPORTS	11 306	8 328	+ 2 978	+ 35.8
TRADE BALANCE	- 1 915	- 835	- 1 080	

/LAST MONTH

LAST MONTH	DEC	NOV	INCREASE OR	
	1980	1980	DECREASE	
	\$ M	\$ M	\$ M	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	6 270 (66.8%)	5 893 (66.8%)	+ 377	+ 6.4
RE-EXPORTS	3 120	2 933	+ 187	+ 6.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	9 391	8 827	+ 564	+ 6.4
IMPORTS	11 306	10 901	+ 405	+ 3.7
TRADE BALANCE	- 1 915	- 2 074	+ 159	

LAST 12 MONTHS	JAN - DEC	JAN - DEC	INCREASE OR	
	1980	1979	DECREASE	
	\$ M	\$ M	\$ M	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	68 185 (69.4%)	55 912 (73.6%)	+12 273	+ 21.9
RE-EXPORTS	30 075	20 022	+10 053	+ 50.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	98 260	75 934	+22 326	+ 29.4
IMPORTS	111 681	85 837	+25 844	+ 30.1
TRADE BALANCE	- 13 421	- 9 903	- 3 518	

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NOMINATIONS FOR URBCO ELECTION NOW OPEN
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NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 5, OFFICIALLY OPEN TODAY.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED BY MR THOMAS TSO, THE RETURNING OFFICER, IN A GAZETTE NOTICE PUBLISHED TODAY.

THE NOMINATIONS ARE FOR SIX COUNCIL SEATS WHICH WILL BECOME VACANT ON APRIL 1 FOLLOWING THE EXPIRY OF THE PRESENT TERM OF OFFICE OF SIX ELECTED MEMBERS.

THEY ARE MR BROOK A. BERNACCHI, MR PETER CHAN CHI-KWAN, MR AMBROSE CHOI KWOK-CHING, MR EDMUND CHOW WAI-HUNG, MR HENRY HU HUNG-LICK AND MR TSIN SAI-NIN.

+NOMINATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT ROOM 203, HANG CHEONG BUILDING, 5 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG AND SHOULD BE RETURNED TO ME AT THE ADDRESS INDICATED ON THE FORMS NOT LATER THAN MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16,+ SAID MR TSO.

HE REMINDED THAT EACH NOMINATION SHOULD BE MADE ON A SEPARATE NOMINATION PAPER, BEARING THE SIGNATURES OF 10 ELECTORS AND THAT NO ELECTOR MAY NOMINATE MORE THAN SIX CANDIDATES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN TELEPHONE 5-240307 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

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REMINDER ON NEW WAGE CEILING LAW
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THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1981, WHICH RAISES THE WAGE CEILING FOR NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, FROM \$3 500 TO \$6 000 A MONTH, HAS COME INTO OPERATION.

IN GIVING THIS REMINDER, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THIS MEANT THAT NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING AS MUCH AS \$6 000 A MONTH WERE NOW COVERED BY THE ORDINANCE.

+ACCORDINGLY, MATTERS CONCERNING THESE EMPLOYEES, SUCH AS CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT, TERMINATION OF CONTRACT, SEVERANCE PAYMENTS, PROTECTION OF WAGES, AND HOLIDAYS, SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE,+ HE SAID.

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FULL FACILITIES RESUME AT PERSONS REGISTRATION OFFICE
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FROM MONDAY (JANUARY 26), THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE HONG KONG BRANCH AT CAUSEWAY BAY MAGISTRACY BUILDING WILL RESUME ITS FULL RANGE OF REGISTRATION FACILITIES, EXCEPT THOSE FOR ENTRANTS FROM CHINA.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE TEMPORARY REGISTRATION OFFICE AT BLOCK 'G' OF VICTORIA BARRACKS WILL BE CLOSED, SINCE THE RUSH PERIOD DURING THE CHRISTMAS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS IS NOW OVER, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

+ALL APPLICANTS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR REGISTRATION OF IDENTITY CARDS AT BLOCK 'G' OF VICTORIA BARRACKS SHOULD COLLECT THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AT THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE HONG KONG BRANCH, CAUSEWAY BAY MAGISTRACY BUILDING ON THE COLLECTION DATES SHOWN ON THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM,+ HE ADDED.

FROM MONDAY ONWARDS, IMMIGRATION OFFICES AT VICTORIA BARRACKS WILL ONLY DEAL WITH APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY ENTRANTS FROM CHINA.

+THE QUEUING ARRANGEMENTS IN VICTORIA BARRACKS WILL ALSO CHANGE. CALLERS SHOULD USE THE QUEENSWAY ENTRANCE JUST OPPOSITE THE MTR ADMIRALTY STATION, TO GET THEIR APPLICATION FORMS AND TAGS, INSTEAD OF THE COTTON TREE DRIVE ENTRANCE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN MUST BE A SUCCESS

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THE SECOND KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN MUST BE A SUCCESS, SAID THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN THIS EVENING.

APART FROM PUBLIC EDUCATION, THE CAMPAIGN WOULD PROBABLY INTRODUCE NEW LEGISLATION TO PUNISH THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO IGNORE THE NEED FOR A CLEAN HONG KONG, HE STRESSED.

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY AND VARIETY SHOW FOR THE 1980/81 NORTH DISTRICT KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN AT LUEN WO MARKET PLAYGROUND, MR SWEETMAN SAID THE DISTRICT'S CLEAN-UP EFFORT WAS A FORE-RUNNER OF THE ALL-HONG KONG CAMPAIGN TO BE CARRIED OUT TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR.

CALLING ON ADULTS TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO THEIR CHILDREN, MR SWEETMAN SAID CHINESE CUSTOM REQUIRES CHILDREN TO OBEY THEIR PARENTS.

+BUT I OFTEN FIND IN THE CONTEXT OF LITTERING, IT IS THE CHILDREN WHO CRITICISE ADULTS,+ HE REMARKED. +IT IS ALSO THE CHILDREN WHO WILL INHERIT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND WHO WILL GROW UP TO SEE SHEUNG SHUI AND FAN LING GROW UP INTO A PROSPEROUS NEW TOWN.+

MR SWEETMAN CONGRATULATED ALL PRIZE-WINNERS, WHO INCLUDED SEVEN SMALL CHILDREN AT A PAINTING COMPETITION, AND THANKED THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE CAMPAIGN.

ALSO AT THE CEREMONY WAS THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER JOHNSON. HE PRESENTED AWARDS TO THE WINNERS OF CLEAN VILLAGE AND BUILDING COMPETITIONS.

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LOCAL ENTHUSIASM HELPS BUILD CHEUNG CHAU

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LOCAL ENTHUSIASM, WHETHER IN THE FORM OF DONATIONS OR SUGGESTIONS, WILL GREATLY ASSIST GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR CHEUNG CHAU.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID THIS WHEN OFFICIATING AT THE INAUGURATION OF CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE BUILDING TODAY.

THE BUILDING, AT TUNG WAN BEACH, HAS TWO STOREYS AND A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF 400 SQUARE METRES.

HOUSED INSIDE ARE A LIBRARY, CONFERENCE ROOMS AND OFFICES FOR THE RURAL COMMITTEE AND THE ISLAND'S CULTURE AND RECREATION ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION.

ROOMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR USE BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR SERVICES SUCH AS REGISTRATION OF PERSONS AND EMERGENCY RELIEF.

THE LOCAL

THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DONATED OVER \$800 000 FOR THE PROJECT, CONSTRUCTION OF WHICH STARTED 18 MONTHS AGO.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID COMPLETION OF THE NEW BUILDING MARKED AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE REMARKABLE HISTORY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ON CHEUNG CHAU.

+COSTING NEARLY \$700 000 THIS FINE BUILDING WAS BUILT ALMOST ENTIRELY WITH FUNDS RAISED BY CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE.+

HE SAID HE WAS GLAD TO LEARN THAT THERE WAS A PROPOSAL TO USE THE SURPLUS FUNDS RAISED FOR THE PROJECT TO SET UP A DEVELOPMENT FUND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR AND IMPROVE LOCAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID HE HOPED CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE ISLANDS WOULD EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF VARIOUS PROPOSALS, INCLUDING SHORT-TERM MEASURES SUCH AS MODIFYING SCHOOL HALLS, OR OTHER EXISTING FACILITIES TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY, BUT USABLE, COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID CHEUNG CHAU WAS RENOWNED FOR ITS STRONG COMMUNITY SPIRIT.

ITS LONG HISTORY OF COMMUNAL SELF-HELP DEMONSTRATED ITSELF AS EARLY AS THE 19TH CENTURY IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES SUCH AS THE PO ON STUDY, THE SECURITY BUREAU AND THE FONG PIN HOSPITAL.

+IT WAS WITH THE SAME COMMUNITY SPIRIT THAT CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE WAS FORMED IN 1960,+ HE SAID.

SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT, THE COMMITTEE HAD PROMOTED THE WELL-BEING OF THE CHEUNG CHAU COMMUNITY AND PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN FACILITATING THE LINK BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND RESIDENTS OF CHEUNG CHAU.

THE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE COMMENDED PARTICULARLY FOR BEING SO ACTIVE IN COORDINATING AND ORGANISING LOCAL CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND WELL-BEING OF CHEUNG CHAU RESIDENTS, MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

+I AM SURE THAT THE COMPLETION OF THIS NEW BUILDING WILL FURTHER FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE RURAL COMMITTEE AND IMPROVE VARIOUS PUBLIC SERVICES TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL,+ HE SAID.

MR AKERS-JONES CONGRATULATED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE, MR KWONG PING-YAU- THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, MR CHENG CHUEN-KWAI- AND THE CHAIRMAN OF CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE, MR FUNG PAK-TAI, WHO HAD PUT IN A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT IN MAKING THE NEW BUILDING A REALITY.

CHEUNG CHAU, WITH A POPULATION OF OVER 33 000, IS THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED OF THE OUTLYING ISLANDS.

DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ISLAND INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF A TYPHOON SHELTER AT CHEUNG CHAU WAN, WHICH IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED LATER THIS YEAR, AT A COST OF \$65 MILLION.

A 70-ROOM, SEVEN-STORY HOTEL IS BEING BUILT AT TUNG WAN. IT WILL OPEN THIS SUMMER.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS PLANS FOR A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE FOR 3 000 PEOPLE AT PAK SHE.

TV FILM CLIPS ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

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TWO NEW INDUSTRIAL SAFETY MESSAGES ARE BEING BROADCAST ON LOCAL TELEVISION STATIONS.

THE TWO FILM CLIPS ARE PART OF A SERIES OF SIX PRODUCED BY THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES.

THE FIRST FOCUSES ON THE DANGER WHICH OCCURS WHEN MEANS OF ESCAPE IN FACTORIES OR INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ARE LOCKED OR BLOCKED.

THE SECOND DRIVES HOME THE MESSAGE THAT DANGEROUS PARTS OF MACHINERY SHOULD BE EFFECTIVELY GUARDED.

+MEANS OF ESCAPE IN FACTORIES OR INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS SHOULD BE FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION AND MUST NOT BE BLOCKED WHILE PEOPLE ARE WORKING ON THE PREMISES. DANGEROUS PARTS OF A MACHINE NOT PROPERLY GUARDED COULD PROVE FATAL IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY.

THE OTHER FOUR FILM CLIPS, WHICH WILL COME ON AIR SOON, FEATURE THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFETY MEASURES TO PREVENT WORKERS FALLING FROM HEIGHT, SAFETY HINTS ON OPERATING LIFTING APPLIANCES, PROTECTION OF HEARING, AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY.

THE SPOKESMAN CALLED ON EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS TO WATCH THE TELEVISION MESSAGES. +THEY ARE PART OF OUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY. IT IS HOPED THAT THEY WILL REACH ALL PEOPLE CONCERNED,+ HE ADDED.

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ROAD TO BE CLOSED FOR MTR TSUEN WAN DEPOT

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AN UNNAMED ROAD NEAR THE JUNCTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD (TSUEN WAN) WITH SHING MUN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM MARCH 1, 1981, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MTR TSUEN WAN DEPOT AND THE OPERATION OF THE MTR, ACCORDING TO A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

THE ROAD FORMS AN ARC ROUND THE TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOL. VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL WILL BE MAINTAINED UNTIL AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE IS AVAILABLE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

A PLAN SHOWING THE AFFECTED AREA MAY BE INSPECTED DURING OFFICE HOURS AT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE AT FU WAH CENTRE, 210 CASTLE PEAK ROAD= THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE= AND THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 405 NATHAN ROAD.

THE NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY STIPULATED THAT CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

CLAIMS FOR ALLEGED PECUNIARY LOSS OR DAMAGE MUST REACH HIS OFFICE WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THE DATE OF CLOSURE OF THE ROAD.

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WORK TO START ON ABERDEEN COMPLEX

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY AWARDED A CONTRACT OF \$25.3 MILLION TO HING LEE CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ABERDEEN COMPLEX.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY MR JOSE LEI, GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT ON BEHALF OF THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF PWD AND MR WILLIAM S.W. SIT, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

THE MULTI-PURPOSE COMPLEX, DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1982, IS BEING BUILT FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL. IT WILL PROVIDE MODERN MARKETING, RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL AND LIBRARY FACILITIES UNDER ONE ROOF AND REPLACE THE OUTDATED ABERDEEN MARKET IN ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD.

LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD AND CHENGTU ROAD IN THE PERIPHERY OF THE EXISTING CENTRAL AREA OF THE ABERDEEN TOWNSHIP, THE NEW COMPLEX OCCUPIES AN AREA OF 1 858 SQUARE METRES.

THE MARKET PART OF THE COMPLEX WILL OFFER THE STANDARD PROVISIONS INCLUDING 52 MARKET STALLS AND 285 MINI-STALLS ON THE FIRST FOUR FLOORS, WHICH SELL FISH, MEAT, POULTRY, VEGETABLE AND SUNDRY GOODS. A COOKED FOOD CENTRE WITH NINE STALLS WILL BE HOUSED ON THE FOURTH FLOOR. ALL THE STALLS WILL BE SPACIOUS WITH A WIDE WORKING AREA FOR EXCLUSIVE USE BY THE STALL HOLDERS.

A DISTRICT LIBRARY WHICH HAS A GROSS AREA OF MORE THAN 1 700 SQUARE METRES WILL BE PROVIDED ON THE FIFTH FLOOR. THE NEW LIBRARY WILL PROVIDE READING FACILITIES FOR BOTH ADULTS AND YOUNGSTERS AND HAVE AN EXHIBITION AREA, AUDIO-VISUAL AND STUDY ROOMS.

AN URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT DISTRICT OFFICE WILL OCCUPY THE SIXTH FLOOR, WHICH ALLOWS A STANDARD SET-UP OF A DISTRICT OFFICE. THE SEVENTH FLOOR WILL HAVE AN EXHIBITION HALL AND MUSIC PRACTICE ROOM, A LECTURE HALL, AN INDOOR GAMES AREA AND A COFFEE CORNER.

THE EIGHTH FLOOR WILL BE OCCUPIED BY AN INDOOR GAMES HALL WHICH WILL HAVE A GROSS AREA OF MORE THAN 1 500 SQUARE METRES. THERE WILL BE A MULTI-PURPOSE COURT FOR EITHER BASKETBALL, VOLLEY BALL, BADMINTON OR TABLE TENNIS, AND ONE SQUASH COURT AS WELL AS CHANGING ROOMS. IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE A VIEWING GALLERY RUNNING THE LENGTH OF THE ENTIRE BASKETBALL COURT.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1981

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR WORK ON FERRY TERMINAL

A PROPOSAL TO CLOSE PARTS OF THE ROADS AND PUBLIC AREAS FRONTING THE FORMER MACAU FERRY TERMINAL AT CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

THE CLOSURE IS TO ALLOW THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE FOR A NEW FERRY TERMINAL DUE TO OPEN IN 1984.

A PLAN SHOWING THE AFFECTED AREAS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE- THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD- AND THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN), 205A DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL MUST BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO REACH HIS OFFICE NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 23, 1981. CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 23.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN FEBRUARY

FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE ON NINE DAYS AT THE HA TSUEN/CASTLE PEAK RANGE NEXT MONTH.

PRACTICE TIMES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FEBRUARY	2 (MONDAY)	8 AM TO 4 PM
	3 (TUESDAY)	8 AM TO 11 PM
	4 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM TO 5 PM
	9 (MONDAY)	8 AM TO 5 PM
	10 (TUESDAY)	8 AM TO 4 PM
	17 (TUESDAY)	8 AM TO 4 PM
	25 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM TO 10 PM
	26 (THURSDAY)	8 AM TO 2 PM
	27 (FRIDAY)	8 AM TO 4 PM

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA DURING THESE TIMES.

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