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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1980

SUB-OFFICE OF NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE OPENS AT FANLING
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PLANS ARE BEING CONSIDERED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN NORTH DISTRICT WHICH WILL HOUSE ALL THE MAJOR DEPARTMENTS OPERATING THERE.

THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER NORTHWESTERN NEW TERRITORIES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN, SAID THIS TODAY WHEN OPENING A SUB-OFFICE OF NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE AT FANLING.

THE NEW OFFICE, WHICH WAS FORMERLY THE FANLING CROWN LANDS SURVEY CAMP, IS SITUATED NEXT TO FANLING MAGISTRACY IN JOCKEY CLUB ROAD.

IT CONSISTS OF THREE SINGLE-STOREY BUILDINGS WITH A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 400 SQUARE METRES.

MR SWEETMAN SAID THE NEW OFFICE WOULD ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE A RANGE OF SERVICES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN A MORE CONVENIENT LOCATION THAN HITHERTO.

THE ACCOUNTS, PERMITS AND LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS SECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE WOULD WORK FROM THERE ON A FULL-TIME BASIS, HE SAID.

+OFFICES ARE ALSO PROVIDED WHERE LAND AND LIAISON STAFF CAN MEET LOCAL PEOPLE TO DISCUSS THEIR PROBLEMS, ALTHOUGH UNFORTUNATELY MUCH OF THE LAND AND LIAISON WORK WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE TO BE CARRIED OUT FROM THE PRESENT OFFICE IN TAI PO FOR THE TIME BEING.+

PLANS ARE HOWEVER BEING CONSIDERED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN THIS DISTRICT IN DUE COURSE WHICH WILL HOUSE ALL THE MAJOR DEPARTMENTS THAT OPERATE HERE, INCLUDING THE DISTRICT OFFICE, ON A LONG-TERM BASIS, HE SAID

MR SWEETMAN SAID HE HOPED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WOULD MAKE GOOD USE OF THE SUB-OFFICE, WHICH SHOULD SAVE THEM A GREAT DEAL OF TIME AND TROUBLE PREVIOUSLY SPENT ON TRAVELLING TO AND FROM THE MAIN OFFICE IN TAI PO.

HE ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE GUESTS PRESENT AND OTHER PEOPLE LIVING IN THE DISTRICT FOR THEIR CONTINUING CO-OPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS EFFORTS, BOTH WITH REGARD TO THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW TOWN IN THE AREA AND ITS COMMUNITY BUILDING WORK.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER JOHNSON, AND MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD.

THE ACCOUNTS OFFICE IN THE NEW OFFICE, BESIDES HANDLING CROWN RENT MATTERS, WILL ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING WATER CHARGES, RATES, FIXED PENALTY CHARGES AND STAMP DUTY. IT WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM AND FROM 2 PM TO 4 PM FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY, AND FROM 9 AM TO 11.30 AM ON SATURDAY.

/NORTH DISTRICT .....

NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, WHICH IS HOUSED IN THE FORMER TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, COVERS SHA TAU KOK, SHEUNG SHUI, SHEK WU HUI AND FANLING AND A LARGE PART OF THE BORDER AREA. IT BECAME A SEPARATE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION DISTRICT A YEAR AGO TO STREAMLINE ADMINISTRATION.

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EXPANSION AT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES

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THREE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WILL BE EXPANDED WITH THE ADDITION OF ANNEXES IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS TO PROVIDE EXTRA PLACES FOR 1 200 STUDENTS AND TO INTRODUCE TRAINING FACILITIES FOR YACHT AND BOAT BUILDING APPRENTICES.

INCLUDED IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME ARE HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, WHICH WILL HAVE A WATERFRONT BLOCK FOR ITS MARINE AND FABRICATION COURSE, MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND TECHNICAL TEACHERS COLLEGE WHICH WILL HAVE AN ANNEXE CONVERTED FROM THE FORMER VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL, AND LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WHICH WILL HAVE A SECOND STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT.

AN ANNEXE AT LEE WAI LEE WILL HAVE SPACE FOR ANOTHER 18 CLASSROOMS, SIX SPECIAL ROOMS AND EIGHT WORKSHOPS. THE SIX SPECIAL ROOMS COMPRISE AN APPLIED MECHANICS LABORATORY, AN ACCOUNTING MACHINE ROOM, COMMERCIAL STUDIES ROOM AND MODEL OFFICE, AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS ROOM, CHILD CARE TEACHING ROOM, AND A PROJECT ROOM.

THE EIGHT WORKSHOPS WILL BE FOR MOTOR VEHICLE MECHANICS, VEHICLE BODY REPAIR, MACHINE, BENCH FITTING, PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING, AND FOR ELECTRICAL REPAIR, WIRING AND INSTALLATION.

OTHER ADDITIONS INCLUDE A LIBRARY EXTENSION, LECTURE THEATRE, FACILITIES FOR HANDICAPPED STUDENTS, AND A TECHNICAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE FOR DISABLED STUDENTS.

UPON COMPLETION OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE ANOTHER 470 FULL-TIME AND 1 800 PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE STUDENTS. MOST OF THE PLACES WILL BE FOR COURSES TRANSFERRED FROM THE POLYTECHNIC.

AT MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, THE GROUND AND FIRST FLOORS OF THE FORMER VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL WILL BE CONVERTED FOR NEW USE, AND WILL COMPRISE TEN CLASSROOMS, FOUR WORKSHOPS/ LABORATORIES, STAFF ROOMS, STORES AND A BASKETBALL COURT.

THE TOP FLOOR OF THE BUILDING WILL BE TAKEN UP BY THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS COLLEGE AND WILL HAVE FOUR CLASSROOMS, A LANGUAGE LABORATORY AND CONTROL ROOM, A MODEL OFFICE AND COMMERCIAL ROOM, THREE ELECTRICAL AND SCIENCE LABORATORIES, A DRAWING OFFICE CLASSROOM, STAFF ROOMS, STORES AND A HALL FOR ASSEMBLY, EXAMINATIONS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

/TENDERS FOR .....

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE PWD ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE.

WHEN COMPLETED LATE NEXT YEAR, THE ANNEXE AT MORRISON HILL WILL PROVIDE PLACES FOR ABOUT 600 STUDENTS TO BOOST THE ENROLMENT OF 1 420 STUDENTS AT THE INSTITUTE.

THE WATERFRONT ANNEXE FOR HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL BE A WORKSHOP BUILT ON A 700-SQUARE-METRE SITE, PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR THE BUILDING OF TIMBER AND GLASS REINFORCE PLASTIC BOATS.

A MAJOR FEATURE OF THE WORKSHOP WILL BE A WATER TANK - LARGE ENOUGH TO CONTAIN BOATS OF UP TO SEVEN METRES LONG - WHICH WILL BE USED TO TEST THE VIABILITY OF DIFFERENT HULL SHAPES.

THE WORKSHOP WILL ALSO HAVE A TRAVEL HOIST AND WOOD AND METAL WORK MACHINES.

A SMALL FIVE-TONNE CAPACITY CRANE WILL BE PROVIDED TO LIFT BOATS IN AND OUT OF THE WATER.

THE MARINE AND FABRICATION COURSE WILL HAVE PLACES FOR MORE THAN 300 STUDENTS AND WHEN THE ANNEXE IS COMPLETED IN ABOUT OCTOBER 1981, PRACTICAL TRAINING FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR YACHT AND BOAT BUILDING COURSES.

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SENSE OF COMMUNITY IDENTITY BEGINS TO EMERGE IN NORTH DISTRICT

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A CLEAR SENSE OF COMMUNITY IDENTITY AND FOCUS IS BEGINNING TO EMERGE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S NORTH DISTRICT ESTABLISHED A YEAR AGO.

SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID THIS TODAY AT THE DISTRICT'S FESTIVAL GRAND EVENING VARIETY SHOW AT FANLING PLAYGROUND.

+THIS IS AN IMPORTANT AND WELCOME BEGINNING TO A PERIOD OF RAPID AND WIDE-RANGING CHANGE WHICH WILL BE TAKING PLACE WITH THE AMALGAMATION OF THE OLD MARKET CENTRES INTO A NEW TOWN OF 200 000 PEOPLE, THE MAJORITY OF WHOM WILL BE STRANGERS TO THE AREA,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

NORTH DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE TOWNS OF SHEUNG SHUI, SHEK WU HUI, TA KWU LING, FANLING AND SHA TAU KOK AND PART OF THE BORDER AREA, WAS FORMERLY PART OF TAI PO DISTRICT. IT BECAME A SEPARATE DISTRICT LAST OCTOBER TO STREAMLINE ADMINISTRATION.

/MORE THAN .....

MORE THAN 5 000 PEOPLE, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES, LOCAL DIGNITARIES AND STUDENTS, ATTENDED THE VARIETY SHOW WHICH WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF A MONTH OF CELEBRATIONS MARKING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISTRICT'S ESTABLISHMENT.

NEARLY 2 000 STUDENTS, EACH HOLDING A LANTERN, TOURED THE CENTRAL AREAS OF THE MAJOR TOWNS IN THE DISTRICT BEFORE GATHERING AT FANLING PLAYGROUND TO WATCH THE VARIETY PERFORMANCES.

THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER NORTHWESTERN NEW TERRITORIES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN, AND NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER JOHNSON, DOTTED THE EYES OF A DRAGON BEFORE THE SHOW BEGAN.

PERFORMANCES INCLUDED CHINESE FOLK DANCES BY FUNG KAI SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, SINGING BY TELEVISION ARTISTES, DRAGON AND LION DANCES AND A MAGIC SHOW.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID THE VARIETY SHOW HAD BEEN +VERY SUCCESSFUL+, WITH A SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE OF LOCAL PARTICIPATION BY BOTH YOUNG AND OLD, AND SUGGESTED THAT A FESTIVAL OF THIS SORT MIGHT BECOME A REGULAR FEATURE OF THE LIFE OF NORTH DISTRICT.

HE CONGRATULATED ALL THOSE WHO HAD BEEN CONCERNED WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS, AND THANKED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE, MR LIU CHING-LEUNG, AND ALL OTHER MEMBERS FOR THEIR HARD WORK AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESS OF THE EVENT.

THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS INCLUDED A QUIZ CONTEST, A SOCCER TOURNAMENT, A LANTERN DESIGN COMPETITION, A LOGO COMPETITION, AND A CHINESE COUPLETS COMPETITION.

NORTH DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD PROVIDED $15 000 FOR THE FESTIVAL, WHICH COST $120 000. THE BALANCE WAS RAISED FROM PRIVATE DONATIONS.

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$10 000 DONATION FOR COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE IN TUEN MUN

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TO MARK THE OPENING OF A NEW BRANCH IN TUEN MUN, THE OVERSEAS TRUST BANK TODAY PRESENTED A CHEQUE FOR $10 000 TO THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BILLY LAM, TOWARDS THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING THE YAN OI TONG COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE.

THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER, MR DOMINIC CHEUNG, DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY.

THE CENTRE WILL BE THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, BRINGING UNDER ONE ROOF A RANGE OF FACILITIES INCLUDING A ROLLER SKATING RINK, AN INDOOR SWIMMING POOL, A MULTI-PURPOSE GAMES HALL, A GYMNASIUM, A BOWLING CENTRE, BILLIARDS AND TABLE TENNIS ROOMS, SQUASH COURTS, RESTAURANTS AND SHOPS.

/OTHER FACILITIES .....

OTHER FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE A LIBRARY, A GALLERY, MEETING AND STUDY ROOMS, YOUTH AND ADULT ACTIVITY ROOMS AND OFFICES.

THE 4 359 SQUARE METRE SITE ON WHICH THE CENTRE IS TO BE BUILT WAS GRANTED TO THE YAN OI TONG BY PRIVATE TREATY. PILING WORK STARTED RECENTLY AND CONSTRUCTION IS TO BEGIN NEXT YEAR. THE CENTRE IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN 1982.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB DONATED $8 MILLION TOWARDS THE COST AND THE LOTTERIES FUND $9 MILLION. THE BALANCE IS EXPECTED TO BE RAISED BY THE SALE OF TONG PROPERTY AND BY PRIVATE DONATIONS.

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GUANGDONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE DELEGATION TO VISIT HONG KONG

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AN ECONOMIC AND TRADE DELEGATION FROM GUANGDONG PROVINCE WILL VISIT HONG KONG FROM OCTOBER 6 TO 13 AT THE INVITATION OF SIR Y.K. KAN.

THE MISSION WILL BE LED BY MR FENG XUEYAN, DIRECTOR OF THE GUANGDONG FOREIGN TRADE BUREAU. THIS VISIT FOLLOWS THAT BY A TRADE MISSION TO GUANGDONG IN MAY THIS YEAR LED BY SIR Y.K. KAN.

WHILE IN HONG KONG, THE GUANGDONG DELEGATION WILL HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND GUANGDONG.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE GUANGDONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE BY THROUGH TRAIN IN KOWLOON STATION AT 11.26 AM ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 6). THE DELEGATION WILL BE MET BY SIR Y.K. KAN.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE MEDIA TO COVER THEIR ARRIVAL. PRESS REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE ENQUIRY COUNTER, KOWLOON STATION, HUNG HOM, AT 11 AM. THEY SHOULD CARRY THEIR IDENTITY CARDS OR PASSPORTS TO FACILITATE ENTRY INTO THE RESTRICTED AREA. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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SNT OFFICIATES AT INAUGURATION OF
TAI PO ARTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION
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THE FIRST TERM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEWLY FORMED TAI PO ARTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION WAS INAUGURATED TODAY.

SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, OFFICIATING AT THE INAUGURATION, SAID THE CEREMONY WAS SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE IT EMPHASISED THE CHANGE IN THE LONG HISTORY OF TAI PO AS A MARKET TOWN FOR SURROUNDING VILLAGES INTO A MODERN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CENTRE.

IT ALSO DENOTED THE CONSCIOUS DESIRE OF THE PEOPLE OF TAI PO TO BUILD ON THE RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE PAST TO MEET THE ARTISTIC NEEDS OF A MODERN URBAN COMMUNITY IN PRESENT-DAY HONG KONG, HE ADDED.

+WE HAVE TO CREATE A TOWN AT TAI PO IN WHICH PEOPLE WILL LOVE TO LIVE, TO WORK AND TO PLAY.

+THIS MEANS THAT WE MUST CARE FOR EVERY ASPECT IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE, BOTH YOUNG AND OLD, FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE.+

MR AKERS-JONES SAID HE WELCOMED THE FORMATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AND LOOKED FORWARD TO THE MANY ACTIVITIES IT WOULD ORGANISE FOR THE PEOPLE OF TAI PO NOW AND IN THE YEARS TO COME.

TAI PO ARTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION WAS FORMED FOUR MONTHS AGO WITH SUPPORT FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD. IT AIMS TO PROMOTE ARTS AND CULTURE AMONG THE 100 000 RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

FOUR SUB-COMMITTEES HAVE ALSO BEEN FORMED TO ENCOURAGE MUSIC, DRAMA, DANCE AND OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

A CHILDREN'S CHOIR, A DANCE TROUPE AND A DRAMA GROUP ARE NOW BEING ORGANISED.

THE ASSOCIATION ALSO HAS PLANS TO HOLD CONCERTS, EXHIBITIONS, COMPETITIONS AND TRAINING CLASS IN DRAMA, PHOTOGRAPHY, CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY, CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT PLAYING AND FLOWER PLANTING.

MANY OF THE ACTIVITIES THE ASSOCIATION IS ORGANISING ARE BEING FINANCED BY THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD, WHICH HAS EARMARKED $100 000 THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

A DRIVE WAS RECENTLY LAUNCHED TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS. SO FAR OVER 600 PEOPLE, MOSTLY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, HAVE JOINED.

MR AKERS-JONES IS PATRON OF THE ASSOCIATION. TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NICHOLAS NG, IS PRESIDENT AND A LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADER, MR CHEUNG CHE-FANG, IS CHAIRMAN.

TODAY'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY WAS HELD AT THE HALL OF VALTORTA COLLEGE. A CANTONESE OPERA WAS HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS.

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SECTION OF TAI KOK TSUI ROAD CLOSED

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THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TAI KOK TSUI ROAD BETWEEN POK MAN STREET AND ANCHOR STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR SIX WEEKS FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 7) TO FACILITATE RECONSTRUCTION WORK.

DURING THIS PERIOD, NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON TAI KOK TSUI ROAD FROM CHERRY STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA FOO KWAI STREET, POK MAN STREET, KOK CHEUNG STREET AND CHUNG WUI STREET.

POK MAN STREET BETWEEN FOO KWAI STREET AND KOK CHEUNG STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONEWAY WESTBOUND, KOK CHEUNG STREET ONEWAY NORTHBOUND, AND CHUNG WUI STREET ONEWAY EASTBOUND.

ACCESS TO THE SIDE STREETS WILL BE MAINTAINED. TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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DISASTER CONTROL TRAINING FOR CAS

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FOUR SENIOR CIVIL AID SERVICES OFFICERS LEAVE HONG KONG TODAY (SATURDAY) FOR A MONTH'S TRAINING AND A SERIES OF BRIEFING SESSIONS IN AUSTRALIA, SINGAPORE AND THAILAND.

IN AUSTRALIA, THE GROUP WILL UNDERTAKE A TEN-DAY COURSE IN DISASTER CONTROL AND PLANNING AT THE AUSTRALIAN COUNTER DISASTER COLLEGE IN MT MACEDON, VICTORIA.

THE OFFICERS WILL THEN VISIT STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES ORGANISATIONS IN VICTORIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND AND THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES, FOR BRIEFINGS ON EMERGENCY CONTROL OPERATIONS IN AUSTRALIA.

THE GROUP -- COMPRISING CAS' DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (OPERATIONS) MR J.A. FORTUNE= CHIEF STAFF OFFICER, MR SO YUN-LAM= DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (DEVELOPMENT), MR LEUNG NAI-PANG= AND REGIONAL COMMANDER (KOWLOON), MR LAM SUI-FAN -- WILL ALSO STUDY DISASTER CONTROL TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED BY THE SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT.

IN THAILAND, MR FORTUNE WILL DISCUSS WITH ESCAP OFFICIALS IN BANGKOK THE PROGRESS OF DISASTER PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH EAST ASIAN REGION.

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TEMPORARY RE-ROUTING OF KIK YEUNG RD.
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KIK YEUNG ROAD BETWEEN CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND THE BUS TERMINUS WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 6) FOR ABOUT EIGHT WEEKS. THE RE-ROUTING WILL ALLOW FOR THE LAYING OF WATER MAINS ALONG THE STRETCH OF ROAD.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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FIRING PRACTICE ON TUESDAY
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 7) FROM 8 AM TO 4 PM.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED DURING THE TIME OF PRACTICE.

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