



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1980

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ICAC LAWS	1
LAND PRODUCTION COMMITTEE RECONSTITUTED	3
NEW WATER AGREEMENT WITH GUANGDONG	4
LAND SALE BY TENDER	5
LETTER B HOLDERS URGED TO BID WHEN LAND IS OFFERED	6
BASALT ISLAND FIRING RANGE OPENS	7
DIRECTOR OF TRADE LEAVES FOR EEC TALKS	8
TREE PLANTING - HELPING NATURE DO ITS WORK	9
EXHIBITION OF MENTAL HEALTH PHOTOS	10
TEACHER LIBRARIANS COURSE WORK ON DISPLAY	10
VIETNAMESE REFUGEE CARDS STANDARDISED	11
SAFE CROSSING FOR PEDESTRIANS AT SAIGON ST	12
MAXICAB FARES REVISED	12
MAXICAB NETWORK EXPANDED	13

MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ICAC LAWS

* * * * *

A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS MAY BE MADE TO HONG KONG'S ANTI-CORRUPTION LAWS FOLLOWING A MAJOR REVIEW OF THE TWO ORDINANCES UNDER WHICH THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION OPERATES.

THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980 AND THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980 WHICH WERE PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE BILLS SEEK TO STRENGTHEN THE ICAC'S POWERS OF INVESTIGATION, INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR SERIOUS CORRUPTION OFFENCES AND TIGHTEN UP EXISTING LEGISLATION.

+THE PROPOSALS ARE AIMED AT MAKING IMPROVEMENTS WHICH EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN TO BE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE ICAC HAS ADEQUATE POWERS TO CARRY OUT ITS TASK,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

AT PRESENT, THE ICAC MUST HAND OVER TO THE POLICE CASES OF BLACKMAIL WHICH ARISE DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF A CORRUPTION OFFENCE. A PROPOSED AMENDMENT WILL GIVE THE ICAC THE DISCRETION TO CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE AND TO CHARGE A CIVIL SERVANT SUSPECTED OF HAVING COMMITTED BLACKMAIL THROUGH THE MISUSE OF OFFICE.

IT IS ALSO PROPOSED TO GIVE THE ICAC THE POWER OF ARREST WHEN OFFENCES OF THEFT OR FALSE ACCOUNTING ARE UNCOVERED IN THE COURSE OF THEIR INVESTIGATIONS.

OTHER NEW OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES WHICH MAY BE INTRODUCED INCLUDE THE DETENTION OF PERSONS FOUND ON PREMISES UNDERGOING AUTHORISED SEARCHES AND THE LOWERING OF THE MINIMUM LEVEL OF OFFICERS EMPOWERED TO DETAIN OR BAIL SUSPECTS, FROM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR TO SENIOR COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION OFFICER.

SEVERAL AMENDMENTS ARE PROPOSED TO A SECTION OF THE ORDINANCE DEALING WITH NOTICES COMPELLING SUSPECTS TO EXPLAIN THEIR WEALTH. IF ACCEPTED, THEY WILL REQUIRE SUSPECTS TO SUPPLY:

- * PARTICULARS OF ASSETS UNDER THEIR CONTROL OVER A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE NOTICE, RATHER THAN ONE YEAR AS AT PRESENT-
- * ALL INFORMATION TO WHICH THEY HAVE ACCESS, RATHER THAN JUST IN THEIR POSSESSION.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDERS DIRECTING SUSPECTS NOT TO DISPOSE OF OR DEAL WITH ANY PROPERTY SPECIFIED IN A NOTICE, THE BILLS PROVIDE FOR:

- * THE REGISTRATION OF RESTRAINING ORDERS IN THE LAND OFFICE, TO WARN PROSPECTIVE BUYERS-
- * NOTICES TO BE SERVED ON BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, DIRECTING THEM NOT TO PAY ANY MONEY TO ACCOUNT-HOLDERS-

* THE GRANTING OF ADDITIONAL EXTENSIONS OF RESTRAINING ORDERS ON PERSONS HOLDING PROPERTY FOR SUSPECTS.

+IT HAS BEEN FOUND THAT CERTAIN CORRUPTION OFFENCES CAN ONLY BE TRIED SUMMARILY AND THEREFORE A PROSECUTION MUST BE INSTITUTED WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE OFFENCE HAS OCCURRED, + THE SPOKESMAN SAID. +IN VIEW OF THE TIME WHICH ELAPSES BEFORE THEY COME TO LIGHT, AND THE NATURE OF THE OFFENCES, IT IS PROPOSED TO EXTEND THE TIME LIMIT OF PROSECUTION ON A TOTAL OF ELEVEN OFFENCES TO VARIOUS PERIODS OF UP TO THREE YEARS.+

AMONG THE MOST SERIOUS CASES INVESTIGATED BY THE ICAC WERE THOSE INVOLVING CONSPIRACIES, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

CHARGES OF CONSPIRACY ARE CURRENTLY BROUGHT UNDER COMMON LAW, WHICH PROVIDES FOR LESSER PENALTIES THAN FOR CORRUPTION OFFENCES. IT IS PROPOSED THAT, IN FUTURE, ANY PERSON CONVICTED OF CONSPIRACY INVOLVING SERIOUS CORRUPTION WILL BE DEALT WITH UNDER THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE.

UNDER EXISTING LEGISLATION, A PERSON CONVICTED OF A CORRUPTION OFFENCE IS DISQUALIFIED FROM BEING A MEMBER OF ANY PUBLIC BODY SPECIFIED IN THE SCHEDULE TO THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE.

+MOST OF THE BODIES LISTED ARE CORPORATIONS AND A 'MEMBER' OF A COMPANY MEANS A SHARE-HOLDER, + THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED. +AS THE ORDINANCE WAS NOT AIMED AT PREVENTING A CONVICTED PERSON FROM BEING A SHARE-HOLDER, THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO REMOVE THE PROHIBITION ON MEMBERSHIP OF SCHEDULED PUBLIC BODIES. THE PROHIBITION WILL STILL APPLY TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE AND URBAN COUNCILS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED GROUPS.

+WHILE THIS EFFECTIVELY EXCLUDES EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, A PROPOSED NEW SECTION OF THE ORDINANCE WILL EMPOWER THE COURTS TO PROHIBIT THE EMPLOYMENT OF CONVICTED PERSONS AS DIRECTORS OR IN OTHER MANAGERIAL POSITIONS WHERE THE COURTS CONSIDER IT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO DO SO.+

THE MAXIMUM PERIOD OF THE ORDER WOULD BE SEVEN YEARS DURING WHICH PERSONS AFFECTED MAY APPLY TO THE COURTS TO HAVE IT VARIED OR CANCELLED. CONTRAVENTION OF THE COURT ORDER WOULD BE PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF \$50 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO 12 MONTHS.

THE REVIEW OF THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE ALSO COVERED PENALTIES FOR VARIOUS SERIOUS CORRUPTION OFFENCES WHICH HAVE REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE 1974.

+TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE GREAT WEALTH THAT CAN BE ACCUMULATED THROUGH CORRUPTION AS EVIDENCED IN COURT CASES SINCE THAT TIME, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN THE PENALTIES ARE REQUIRED IF THEY ARE TO HAVE A DETERRENT OR PUNITIVE EFFECT, + THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PROPOSALS PROVIDE FOR THE MAXIMUM FINE ON A CONVICTION ON INDICTMENT TO BE RAISED FROM \$100 000 TO \$500 000, AND ON A SUMMARY CONVICTION FROM \$50 000 TO \$100 000.

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1980

- 3 -

LAND PRODUCTION COMMITTEE RECONSTITUTED

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND PRODUCTION, WHICH WAS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR IN 1977 TO STUDY LAND PRODUCTION AND TO IDENTIFY NEW AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT, HAS RECENTLY BEEN RECONSTITUTED WITH REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE.

THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED MISS LYDIA DUNN, WHO HAS SERVED AS A MEMBER ON THE COMMITTEE SINCE ITS INCEPTION, AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE. THE OTHER UNOFFICIAL MEMBER ON THE COMMITTEE, MR LI FOOK-WO, HAS ALSO BEEN RE-APPOINTED, AND MR W.C.L. BROWN HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS AN ADDITIONAL UNOFFICIAL MEMBER.

THE OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE RECONSTITUTED COMMITTEE ARE THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MR DEREK JONES, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON, THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MR DONALD LIAO, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR JACK STEAN AND THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY (1), MR TONY SAVAGE.

THESE APPOINTMENTS ARE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR ENDING ON MAY 31, 1981. THEY WERE ANNOUNCED IN TODAY'S ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MR BROWN'S. HIS WILL APPEAR IN A LATER EDITION.

UNDER ITS REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE, THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND PRODUCTION IS REQUIRED TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS FOR NEW LAND, TO RECOMMEND TARGETS FOR THE SUPPLY OF LAND FOR DIFFERENT USERS, TO ASSESS THE ADEQUACY OF GOVERNMENT PROJECTS IN MEETING THESE TARGETS AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW SHORTFALLS, IF ANY, ARE TO BE MET.

THE COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO SUBMIT ITS NEXT REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR IN JANUARY 1981.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

NEW WATER AGREEMENT WITH GUANGDONG

* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR DAVID MCDONALD, RETURNED TO HONG KONG TODAY AFTER SIGNING A NEW WATER AGREEMENT WITH THE GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WILLIAM TUCKER, AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY MR MCDONALD ON BEHALF OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND MR WEI LINJI, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER CONSERVATION AND HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT OF GUANGDONG PROVINCE.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY WERE MR ZHENG DINGSHI, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT OF GUANGDONG PROVINCE= MR ZHANG BIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE GUANGDONG FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE, AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

AFTER THE SIGNING CEREMONY, REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH PARTIES ATTENDED A RECEPTION GIVEN BY MR ZHENG DINGSHI.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED ON HIS RETURN, MR MCDONALD SAID HE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE NEW AGREEMENT.

HE SAID: +UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT THE FORECAST INCREASE IN DEMAND WILL BE MET IN FULL BY THE GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.+

HONG KONG NOW GETS 168 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER FROM CHINA AND UNDER THE TERMS OF THE PREVIOUS AGREEMENT SIGNED IN NOVEMBER 1978, THE TERRITORY IS TO RECEIVE AN ANNUAL SUPPLY OF 182 MILLION CUBIC METRES BY 1982.

+THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL ENSURE SUFFICIENT WATER SUPPLIES FOR HONG KONG WITH AN AVERAGE ANNUAL INCREASE IN SUPPLY OF ABOUT 35 MILLION CUBIC METRES FROM 1983,+ MR MCDONALD SAID.

COMMENTING ON THE DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT, HE SAID THAT IT WAS AN ON-GOING ONE AND THERE WAS NO TERMINAL DATE WHICH WAS A BIG STEP FORWARD.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROVISION MADE IN THE CURRENT AGREEMENT TO CATER FOR ANY REVISION OF REQUIREMENTS TO BE SETTLED BY MUTUAL CONSULTATION WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY.

ON THE COST OF THE WATER TO BE SUPPLIED, MR MCDONALD SAID THAT NO CHANGE WAS PROPOSED TO THE CURRENT COST OF RMB 0.15 YUAN PER CUBIC METRE. HOWEVER, HE WARNED THAT IF OPERATING COSTS INCREASED OVER THE YEARS, A REVISION OF THE EXISTING CHARGES MIGHT PROVE NECESSARY LATER.

TO RECEIVE THE ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES, HONG KONG WILL HAVE TO EXPAND ITS RECEPTION AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES.

+THESE WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN THREE STAGES OVER A PERIOD OF ABOUT 12 YEARS AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF AROUND \$1 100 MILLION,+ MR MCDONALD SAID.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THE WORKS WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RECEPTION TANK AND A LARGE PUMPING STATION AT MUK WU, AN AQUEDUCT FROM MUK WU TO TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR AND A PUMPING STATION AT FANLING. IN ADDITION, THE PUMPS AT TAI PO TAU AND TAI MEI TUK WILL NEED TO BE ENLARGED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LAND SALE BY TENDER
* * * * *

TWO LOTS OF CROWN LAND FORECAST FOR SALE IN THE COMING MONTHS WILL BE SOLD BY TENDER INSTEAD OF AUCTION AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

THE AMENDMENTS WERE MADE TO THE PROVISIONAL LAND SALES FORECAST FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1980, PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED BY THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THEY RELATE TO TWO LARGE SITES — ONE IN HARCOURT ROAD (3 300 SQUARE METRES) AND THE OTHER IN CANTON ROAD AT THE CORNER OF HAIPHONG ROAD (6 600 SQUARE METRES).

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE SALE OF THE FIRST SITE IN HARCOURT ROAD WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE ON MAY 30.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE SAID THAT THESE TWO VALUABLE SITES COULD ACHIEVE EXTREMELY HIGH SALE PRICES WHICH WOULD NOW BE PAYABLE WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF INSTALMENTS AND THE TENDER APPROACH WOULD ALLOW BIDDERS TO ARRANGE THEIR FINANCING ACCORDING TO THE ACTUAL BID MADE.

+THIS WILL ALSO HAVE THE BENEFIT OF GIVING THE GOVERNMENT THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE THE STATUS AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF BIDDERS BEFORE ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1980

- 6 -

LETTER B HOLDERS URGED TO BID WHEN LAND IS OFFERED

* * * * *

A PLOT OF RESIDENTIAL LAND IN SHA TIN WHICH WAS SOLD AT AUCTION LAST DECEMBER FOR \$643.87 PER SQUARE FOOT WOULD HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY HOLDERS OF LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENTS (LETTER B) ISSUED AFTER OCTOBER, 1979, FOR ONLY \$296.25 PER SQUARE FOOT, A NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN WAS COMMENTING ON A STATEMENT SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, MADE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID HE HAD NOTICED RECENTLY THAT NO TENDERS HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENT HOLDERS FOR SITES WITH LOW PLOT RATIOS, ALTHOUGH HE CONSIDERED THAT THESE SITES REPRESENTED AN ATTRACTIVE PROPOSITION.

HE SAID HE ASSUMED HOLDERS WERE HANGING BACK IN ANTICIPATION OF BETTER THINGS TO COME, BUT POINTED OUT THAT NOT EVERYONE COULD BE SUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING PRIME SITES IN TOWN CENTRES. +I MUST ADVISE EVEN THE HOLDERS OF MORE RECENTLY ISSUED ENTITLEMENTS TO APPLY FOR LAND WHEN IT IS OFFERED,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SIX RESIDENTIAL SITES IN SHA TIN OVERLOOKING THE RACECOURSE HAD BEEN OFFERED BY TENDER TO LETTER B HOLDERS IN JANUARY, BUT NO BIDS HAD BEEN RECEIVED. HE SAID THE SITES WOULD BE RE-OFFERED NEXT MONTH OR IN JULY.

+IT IS OBVIOUS FROM THE RESULTS OF THE AUCTION OF THE SHA TIN SITE THAT LETTER B HOLDERS WOULD HAVE OBTAINED IT FOR SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN THE MARKET PRICE,+ HE SAID. +IT IS HARD TO SEE THEREFORE THE REASON FOR RELUCTANCE ON THE PART OF HOLDERS TO BID FOR SUCH SITES.+

HE SAID, SIMILARLY, A 3 230-SQUARE METRE SITE AT TUI MIN HOI, SAI KUNG, WITH A PLOT RATIO OF 4, FAILED TO ATTRACT ANY BIDS WHEN OFFERED TO LETTER B HOLDERS, BUT WAS SOLD FOR \$656 PER SQUARE FOOT WHEN AUCTIONED. IT WOULD HAVE COST A LETTER B HOLDER \$396.25 PER SQUARE FOOT, A PRICE WHICH INCLUDED BOTH THE COST OF THE LETTER B AND THE PREMIUM.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HOLDERS MIGHT BE MISSING SOME GOOD OPPORTUNITIES BY WAITING IN THE HOPE OF PICKING UP A TOWN CENTRE SITE. +SOME OTHER VERY DESIRABLE SITES ARE COMING ONTO THE MARKET AND IT WOULD BE VERY MUCH IN THE HOLDERS' BEST INTERESTS TO BID FOR THEM,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1980

- 7 -

BASALT ISLAND FIRING RANGE OPENS

* * * * *

THE NEW BASALT ISLAND FIRING RANGE IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT WILL COME INTO USE FOR THE FIRST TIME ON MAY 26. FIRING PRACTICE WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 8 AM AND 12 NOON ON THAT DAY AND THE FOLLOWING TWO DAYS (MAY 27 AND 28).

THE NEW RANGE WILL PROVIDE ESSENTIAL TARGET PRACTICE FOR ROYAL NAVY AND MARINE POLICE CRAFT AND REPLACES THE OLD PORT SHELTER RANGE. THE RANGE BOUNDARY INCORPORATES BASALT ISLAND AND THE OPEN SEA TO THE EAST OF IT.

IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY, WARNING POSTERS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT SAI KUNG DISTRICT, AND TO OTHER CONCERNED ORGANISATIONS, CLEARLY SHOWING THE RANGE BOUNDARY, OTHER DANGER AREAS AND THE LOCATION OF FIRING DANGER FLAGS.

SPECIAL NOTICE BOARDS HAVE BEEN SET UP ON PUBLIC PIERS AND AT OTHER SELECTED POINTS, GIVING WARNING OF FIRING AND THE DANGERS OF ENTERING THE RANGE AND OTHER DANGER AREAS.

NOTICES, ANNOUNCING DATES AND TIMES OF FIRING, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE BEFORE EVERY FIRING PRACTICE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL ALSO BE MADE THROUGH THE PRESS, RADIO AND TV.

LAUNCHES AND PATROL CRAFT WILL PATROL THE RANGE BOUNDARY DURING FIRING TO WARN LOCAL FISHING AND OTHER CRAFT.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT ENTRY TO THE RANGE AREA IS PROHIBITED DURING FIRING AND WHEN THE RANGE DANGER FLAGS ARE FLYING. THEY ARE ALSO WARNED NOT TO TOUCH OR PICK UP ANY OBJECT IN THE DANGER AREAS.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, SAI KUNG, MR COLIN BOSHER SAID TODAY HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE NEW RANGE WAS SMALLER AND FURTHER AWAY FROM INHABITED AREAS THAN THE OLD ONE.

+ FIRING SHOULD NOT CAUSE INCONVENIENCE TO RESIDENTS OR VISITORS, AND ONLY MINIMUM INCONVENIENCE TO FISHING BOATS AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

+ IT WILL NOT TAKE PLACE DURING WEEKENDS OR ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND WILL ALWAYS END BY MID-DAY.

/+I AM

+ I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE AREA WILL SUPPORT THE ROYAL NAVY AND MARINE POLICE BY STAYING WELL AWAY FROM THE RANGE DURING FIRING,+ HE SAID.

.....

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE THIS AND ALL SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FIRING PRACTICE AT THE BASALT ISLAND FIRING RANGE THE WIDEST PUBLICITY IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

MAPS SHOWING THE RANGE AREA AND OTHER DANGER AREAS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM GIS PRESS BOXES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DIRECTOR OF TRADE LEAVES FOR EEC TALKS

* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR PETER TSAO, WILL LEAVE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR BRUSSELS FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EEC.

THE DISCUSSIONS WILL COVER THE EEC'S REQUEST FOR THE SUSPENSION OF EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS FOR WOVEN OUTER GARMENT IN CATEGORIES 78 AND 81 FROM APRIL 12 AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NUMBER OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE HK/EEC AGREEMENT.

HE WILL THEN VISIT THE HONG KONG OFFICE IN GENEVA FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE COUNSELLOR FOR HONG KONG AFFAIRS, MR T.H. CHAU, AND WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF A NUMBER OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INCLUDING THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (MFA).

ON RETURN TO BRUSSELS, HE WILL TAKE PART IN A PANEL DISCUSSION ON MAY 29 IN A THREE-DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF THE MFA. CO-PANELISTS INCLUDE AMBASSADOR REITER WEBB, THE UNITED STATES CHIEF TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR, AND MR HORST KRENZLER, THE EEC'S CHIEF TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TREE PLANTING -- HELPING NATURE DO ITS WORK

* * * * *

A TOTAL OF 140 TREES OF VARIOUS SPECIES WERE PLANTED AT RECREATION AND AMENITY AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TODAY (FRIDAY) DURING TREE PLANTING CEREMONIES HELD IN TAI PO, TUEN MUN, AND TSUEN WAN/KWAI CHUNG.

THESE TREE PLANTINGS, PLANNED FOR EVERY NT DISTRICT BY THE NT SERVICES DEPARTMENT, ARE SPONSORED BY VARIOUS DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS AND LOCAL DIGNITARIES.

SCHOOL CHILDREN WERE ALSO INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXERCISES.

THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR H.S. GREWAL SPEAKING AT THE TUEN MUN TREE PLANTING CEREMONY TODAY, SAID THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT OF HIGH QUALITY MUST BE SHARED BY THE COMMUNITY.

+THESE TREE PLANTING DAYS ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS AWAKENING THE PUBLIC'S CONCERN FOR CARE OF PLANTS IN PUBLIC AREAS,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED: +WE CAN SUPPLEMENT THE CARE OF NATURE TO NOURISH AND NURTURE THEM ONLY UP TO A POINT, AND BEYOND THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS WITH THE COMMUNITY TO APPRECIATE THE VALUE OF THESE TREES, TO PROTECT THEM AGAINST VANDALISM, AND TO TREAT THEM WITH THE RESPECT WHICH THEY DESERVE.+

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SOIL, LAY-OUT AND LANDSCAPE OF THE DISTRICTS, DIFFERENT SPECIES OF TREES WERE PLANTED. PLANTED TODAY WERE 60 SAPLINGS OF DELONIX REGIA AND JACARANDA ACUTIFOLIA AT THE OPEN SPACES IN FRONT OF HA HANG VILLAGE ALONG TING KOK ROAD, TAI PO- 30 KAPOK TREES AT SHEK PAI TAU PLAYGROUND, TUEN MUN, AND 50 BAUHINIA BLAKENA AT THE HILL SLOPE BOUNDED BY LAI KING HILL ROAD AND KWAI CHUNG ROAD.

REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, NORTHWEST, OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR J.W. SWEETMAN, WHEN OFFICIATING AT THE TUEN MUN TREE PLANTING CEREMONY, SAID THAT THE TREES, APART FROM HAVING AMENITY VALUE, WOULD ALSO SERVE THE PURPOSES OF WIND BREAKING, SLOPE STABILISATION AND PROVIDING SHADE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE TUEN MUN TREE PLANTING CEREMONY WERE MR BILLY C.L. LAM, CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD AND DISTRICT OFFICER (TUEN MUN), AND MR LAU WONG-FAT, CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE.

THE TAI PO TREE PLANTING CEREMONY WAS OFFICIATED BY MR WONG YUEN-CHEUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK, WHILE THE TSUEN WAN/KWAI CHUNG TREE PLANTING CEREMONY WAS OFFICIATED BY MR HO TZE-PING, CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD.

EXHIBITION OF MENTAL HEALTH PHOTOS
* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR THOMAS LEE, TODAY OPENED A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION WHICH EXPLORES THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH THE LENSES OF PHOTOGRAPHIC CAMERAS.

THE THREE-DAY EXHIBITION IN THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION HALL HAS ON DISPLAY 240 PHOTOGRAPHS PORTRAYING STATES OF MIND RANGING FROM ANXIETY TO RELAXATION.

THE EXHIBITION, ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, OF WHICH MR LEE IS THE VICE-PRESIDENT, AND THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF HONG KONG, IS ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CURRENT MENTAL HEALTH WEEK.

OTHER ACTIVITIES, RELATING MENTAL HEALTH TO THE INDIVIDUAL, HIS LIFE AND WORK, INCLUDE TALKS, LECTURES, FILMS AND SLIDE SHOWS, ESSAY AND POSTER COMPETITIONS, AND A STAGE PLAY.

THE EXHIBITION WILL STILL BE OPEN TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AND ON SUNDAY FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TEACHER LIBRARIANS COURSE WORK ON DISPLAY
* * * * *

TEACHER LIBRARIANS WHO RECENTLY ATTENDED A BASIC TRAINING COURSE IN LIBRARIANSHIP WILL BE SHOWING SOME OF THEIR COURSE WORK TO THE PUBLIC AT AN EXHIBITION TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT PROJECTS SHOWING THE USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES WILL ALSO BE DISPLAYED.

THE EXHIBITION IS AIMED AT DEMONSTRATING WAYS OF INTEGRATING LIBRARY RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES WITH THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

THE 89 TEACHER LIBRARIANS CONTRIBUTING TO THE EXHIBITION HAVE PARTICIPATED IN A TRAINING COURSE WHICH BEGAN LAST DECEMBER. IT WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LIBRARY SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG'S EXTRA-MURAL DEPARTMENT.

THE AIM OF THE COURSE WAS TO ACQUAINT THEM WITH DAILY LIBRARY ROUTINES AND PROCEDURES, BASIC MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES AND THE USE OF LIBRARY SERVICES TO COMPLEMENT THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

MR R.M. CAMERON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS) WILL OPEN THE EXHIBITION, TO BE HELD AT MUNSANG COLLEGE, 8 DUMBARTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

/MEMBERS OF

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1980

- 11 -

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO SEE THE EXHIBITION WHICH WILL BE OPEN FROM 11.30 AM TO 4 PM.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EXHIBITION SHOWING THE USE OF SCHOOL LIBRARY RESOURCES, TO BE HELD FROM 11.30 AM TO 4 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT MUNSANG COLLEGE, 8 DUMBARTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

- - - - 0 - - - -

VIETNAMESE REFUGEE CARDS STANDARDISED

* * * * *

THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT IS TO ISSUE A STANDARD 'VIETNAMESE REFUGEE CARD' TO ALL VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AGED 12 AND OVER IN HONG KONG AWAITING RESETTLEMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THE CARD WOULD PROVIDE A STANDARDISED FORM OF IDENTIFICATION FOR REFUGEES IN THE VARIOUS CAMPS. +IT WILL NOT, HOWEVER, GIVE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ANY RIGHT TO RESIDENCE IN HONG KONG AND WILL BE WITHDRAWN ON THEIR DEPARTURE FOR RESETTLEMENT OVERSEAS,+ HE ADDED.

AT PRESENT, THE FIVE UNHCR CAMPS ISSUE THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE CAMP PASSES THE DESIGN OF WHICH DIFFERS FROM CAMP TO CAMP AND COULD LEAD TO CONFUSION.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT ALTHOUGH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARE EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO APPLY FOR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS AND ARE NOT ENTITLED TO THE ISSUE OF HONG KONG TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, SOME FORM OF TEMPORARY BUT RELIABLE EVIDENCE OF THEIR IDENTITY IS DESIRABLE.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN ISSUING THE STANDARD REFUGEE CARD TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

- - - - 0 - - - -

/12

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1980

- 12 -

SAFE CROSSING FOR PEDESTRIANS AT SAIGON ST
* * * * *

WORK WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON A PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY AT SAIGON STREET IN YAU MA TEI TO PROVIDE A SAFE CROSSING FOR THE PUBLIC AND TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN NATHAN ROAD.

A CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, WORTH MORE THAN \$4.5 MILLION, WAS SIGNED THIS AFTERNOON BETWEEN MR TOM ARMOUR, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE HIGHWAYS (KOWLOON) DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF WING FAI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

A PWD SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE WORK FORMED PART OF A PLAN TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN NATHAN ROAD.

IT WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 33-METRE SUBWAY UNDER NATHAN ROAD WITH ENTRANCES AT SAIGON STREET, AND THE DIVERSION OF STORMWATER DRAINS. THE PROJECT WILL TAKE 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD, TWO-LANE TRAFFIC IN EACH DIRECTION ALONG NATHAN ROAD WILL BE MAINTAINED.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED BY THE HIGHWAYS STRUCTURAL DESIGN DIVISION AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE HIGHWAYS (KOWLOON) DIVISION OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

MAXICAB FARES REVISED
* * * * *

MAXICAB FARES IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE INCREASED FROM SUNDAY (MAY 18).

PRESENT FARES RANGE FROM 40 CENTS TO \$2. THE REVISED RATE RANGES FROM 50 CENTS TO \$3, AN AVERAGE INCREASE OF 35 PER CENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE OCTOBER 1978 MAXICAB FARES ARE RAISED.

THE REVISION, HE SAID, IS LARGELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO INCREASES IN FUEL COSTS, DRIVERS' WAGES AND INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1980

- 13 -

MAXICAB NETWORK EXPANDED

* * * * *

THREE NEW MAXICAB ROUTES WILL BE STARTED ON SUNDAY (MAY 18) TO SERVE POK FU LAM GARDENS AND UPPER BRAEMAR HILL ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND NAM SHAN ESTATE IN KOWLOON.

ROUTE NO 22 FROM POK FU LAM GARDENS TO CENTRAL (STAR FERRY) WILL BE VIA CLAYMORE AVENUE, POK FU LAM ROAD, HIGH STREET, BONHAM ROAD, CAINE ROAD, OLD BAILEY STREET, WYNHAM STREET, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, GARDEN ROAD, COTTON TREE DRIVE SLIP ROAD, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND EDINBURGH PLACE.

THE RETURN TRIP WILL BE FROM EDINBURGH PLACE TO HARCOURT ROAD, COTTON TREE DRIVE, GARDEN ROAD, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, GLENEALY, CAINE ROAD, BONHAM ROAD, POK FU LAM ROAD AND CLAYMORE AVENUE.

THE FULL FARE WILL BE \$2 AND THE SECTION FARE \$1. THE SERVICE WILL OPERATE AT A BASIC FREQUENCY OF SEVEN TO EIGHT MINUTES FROM 6.30 AM TO 9 PM.

MAXICABS ON NEW ROUTE NO 25 FROM UPPER BRAEMAR HILL TO MTR ADMIRALTY STATION WILL GO PAST BRAEMAR HILL ROAD, CLOUD VIEW ROAD, YEE KING ROAD, LAI TAK TSUEN ROAD, TAI HANG ROAD, TUNG LO WAN ROAD, LEIGHTON ROAD, MORRISON HILL ROAD, WAN CHAI ROAD, FLEMING ROAD, LOCKHART ROAD, FENWICK STREET, GLOUCESTER ROAD, HARCOURT ROAD AND ADMIRALTY CENTRE ACCESS ROAD.

ON THE RETURN TRIP, THEY WILL START FROM ADMIRALTY CENTRE ACCESS ROAD, AND TAKE THE ROUTE OF COTTON-TREE DRIVE SLIP ROAD, QUEENSWAY, ARSENAL STREET, LOCKHART ROAD, O'BRIEN ROAD, HENNESSY ROAD, FLEMING ROAD, WAN CHAI ROAD, MORRISON HILL ROAD, LEIGHTON ROAD, HYSAN AVENUE, SUNNING ROAD, PENNINGTON STREET, YEE WO STREET, TUNG LO WAN ROAD, TAI HANG ROAD, LAI TAK TSUEN ROAD, YEE KING ROAD, CLOUD VIEW ROAD AND BRAEMAR HILL ROAD.

THE FARES WILL BE \$1.50 AND \$1 RESPECTIVELY FOR A FULL AND A SECTIONAL JOURNEY. THE MAXICABS WILL RUN AT A BASIC FREQUENCY OF 10 MINUTES FROM 7 AM TO 9 PM.

IN KOWLOON, MAXICAB ROUTE NO 10 FROM NAM SHAN ESTATE TO SHAM SHUI PO FERRY WILL USE TO YUEN STREET, LUNG CHU STREET, TAI HANG TUNG ROAD, WOH CHOI STREET, SHEK KIP MEI STREET, UN CHAU STREET, NAM CHEONG STREET, YEE KUK STREET AND YEN CHOW STREET.

THE RETURN TRIP WILL BE ROUTED VIA YEN CHOW STREET, UN CHAU STREET, CAMP STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TAI PO ROAD, PEI HO STREET, BERWICK STREET, SHEK KIP MEI STREET, WOH CHAI STREET, TAI HANG TUNG ROAD, LUNG CHU STREET AND TO YUEN STREET.

THE FARE ON THIS ROUTE WILL BE 70 CENTS. SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED AT A BASIC FREQUENCY OF SIX MINUTES FROM 6 AM TO 10.30 PM.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -