



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1985

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+UNSCRUPULOUS+ RETAILERS WARNED
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THE GOVERNMENT, ALREADY DRAWING UP BATTLE PLANS TO TACKLE UNSCRUPULOUS RETAILERS WHO THREATEN HONG KONG'S TOURIST AND SHOPPING REPUTATION, TODAY ISSUED A STERN WARNING: BEWARE.

IF SHOPS PERSISTED IN +RIPPING OFF THE SHOPPER+ THEY COULD ALSO BE ASSURED OF RETALIATORY ACTION.

SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES PIERS JACOBS SAID TODAY: +WE ARE DEFINITELY CONCERNED AT THE APPARENT MALPRACTICES OF SOME RETAILERS, PARTICULARLY IN THE MORE TOURIST-ORIENTED AREAS.

+THEY ARE DAMAGING HONG KONG'S STANDING AS A LEADING TOURIST CITY IN THE FAR EAST.+

THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN AWARE OF THE GROWING PROBLEM AND FOR SOME TIME HAS BEEN WORKING ON MEANS OF TACKLING IT. CLOSE CONTACT HAS BEEN MAINTAINED WITH THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION AND THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

+A STRATEGY IS BEING FORMED TO CRACK DOWN ON UNSCRUPULOUS PRACTICES,+ SAID MR JACOBS.

THE PLAN CATERS FOR A THREE-PRONGED ATTACK:

- * MORE EXPEDITIOUS HEARING OF TOURIST'S COMPLAINTS BY THE SMALL CLAIMS TRIBUNAL,
- * PROSECUTION OF OFFENDERS UNDER THE THEFT ORDINANCE AND TRADE DESCRIPTIONS ORDINANCE; AND
- * AMENDMENT OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL ORDINANCE.

MR JACOBS IS NOW DISCUSSING WITH THE REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT THE QUESTION OF MAKING SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR HEARING CASES LODGED BY TOURISTS IN THE SMALL CLAIMS TRIBUNAL.

+THE IDEA,+ HE SAID, +IS TO ENABLE VISITORS TO PRESS THEIR CLAIMS WITHOUT HAVING TO DELAY THEIR DEPARTURE OR TO RETURN TO HONG KONG FOR A HEARING. WE WANT TO RID THEM OF THAT INCONVENIENCE.+

HOPEFULLY, IT WOULD ALSO HAVE A DETERRENT EFFECT ON SOME OF THE RETAILERS.

ON THE SECOND POINT, ACTING ON THE ADVICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS, THE POLICE AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN WORKING OUT DETAILED PLANS TO ENFORCE THE CRIMINAL STATUTES.

/ANY PERSON

ANY PERSON WHO APPLIES A FALSE TRADE DESCRIPTION - AND THAT INCLUDES ORALLY - COMMITS AN OFFENCE UNDER THE ORDINANCE. THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS FIVE YEARS IN JAIL AND A \$500 000 FINE.

MR JACOBS SAID THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSUMER COUNCIL ORDINANCE WOULD PROVIDE THE DEFENCE OF QUALIFIED PRIVILEGE TO THE MASS MEDIA.

THIS MEANS THE MEDIA WOULD BE PROTECTED FROM DEFAMATION SUITS IF THEY CARRIED ACCURATE REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL, SAID MR JACOBS, ADDING: +I AM NOW WORKING WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS ON THE REQUIRED AMENDMENT.+

REPEATING HIS APRIL 17 STATEMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR JACOBS SAID THAT IN HONG KONG BUSINESS WAS BEST CONDUCTED BY BUSINESSMEN WITH A MINIMUM OF BUREAUCRATIC INTERFERENCE.

BUT HE POINTED OUT THAT FREEDOM DEPENDED TO A GREAT EXTENT ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF ETHICAL STANDARDS.

MR JACOBS POINTED OUT THAT IN THE LONG TERM RETAILERS HAD MUCH MORE TO GAIN BY GIVING GOOD VALUE TO CUSTOMERS.

+SHORT-TERM GAIN ACHIEVED AT THE EXPENSE OF CUSTOMERS,+ HE STRESSED, +HELPS NO-ONE AT THE END OF THE DAY.+

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BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD REPORT SUBMITTED
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD, MR JUSTICE POWER, SUBMITTED ITS REPORT TO THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TODAY (MONDAY).

THE REPORT CONTAINS RECOMMENDATIONS ON BROADCASTING POLICIES TO BE ADOPTED AFTER THE EXISTING COMMERCIAL TELEVISION AND RADIO LICENCES EXPIRE IN 1988 AND 1989.

EARLIER, BEFORE THE REPORT WAS OFFICIALLY PRESENTED TO THE ACTING GOVERNOR, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD HAD ASSEMBLED AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TO SIGN IT.

THE REPORT COMPRISES 14 CHAPTERS AND NINE APPENDICES, TOTALLING 564 PAGES.

IT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION SOON.

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THREE LEGCO NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

THREE NOMINATIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH WERE RECEIVED TODAY (MONDAY), BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER RECEIVED SINCE THE OPENING OF NOMINATIONS TO 16.

FOLLOWING ARE THE PERSONAL PARTICULARS OF THE PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES WHOSE NOMINATION FORMS WERE RECEIVED TODAY:

<u>FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>OCCUPATION</u>	<u>CONTACT TEL. NO.</u>
1. MEDICAL	CHIU HIN-KWONG	M	57	MEDICAL PRACTITIONER	5-602492 OR 5-770332
2. ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING	CHENG HON-KWAN	M	58	CONSULTING ENGINEER	5-764343
3. ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING	DR RAYMOND CHUNG-TAI HO	M	46	CIVIL AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	0-6056262

FOLLOWING IS A STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN OF THE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED SO FAR:

<u>ELECTORAL COLLEGE CONSTITUENCY</u> (NO. OF SEATS IN BRACKETS)	<u>NO. OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED</u>
1. URBAN COUNCIL (1)	
2. PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL (1)	
DISTRICT BOARDS:	
3. HK ISLAND (EAST) (1)	1
4. HK ISLAND (WEST) (1)	
/5. KWUN TONG	

5.	KWUN TONG (1)	
6.	WONG TAI SIN (1)	
7.	KOWLOON CITY (1)	
8.	SHAM SHUI PO (1)	
9.	SOUTH KOWLOON (1)	
10.	NEW TERRITORIES (EAST) (1)	
11.	NEW TERRITORIES (WEST) (1)	
12.	NEW TERRITORIES (SOUTH) (1)	
	SUB-TOTAL	1

FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY

1.	COMMERCIAL I (1)	1
	COMMERCIAL II (1)	1
2.	INDUSTRIAL I (1)	1
	INDUSTRIAL II (1)	
3.	FINANCIAL (1)	
4.	LABOUR (2)	2
5.	SOCIAL SERVICES (1)	2
6.	MEDICAL (1)	1
7.	TEACHING (1)	3
8.	LEGAL (1)	2
9.	ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL SURVEYING AND PLANNING (1)	2
	SUB-TOTAL	15

TOTAL: 16

U.S. COURT APPROVES SALE PROPOSAL OF DEAK ASSETS

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THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER AND LIQUIDATOR OF DEAK PERERA FAR EAST LIMITED (DPFE), MR NOEL GLEESON, CONFIRMED TODAY THAT THE NEW YORK BANKRUPTCY COURT HAD APPROVED PROPOSALS, UNDER CHAPTER 11 OF THE U.S. BANKRUPTCY CODE, FOR THE SALE OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF DEAK AND CO INC (DEAK), INCLUDING ITS SHAREHOLDING IN FOREIGN COMMERCE BANK (FOCO BANK), FOR A CONSIDERATION IN THE REGION OF U.S. \$45 MILLION.

HE CONFIRMED THAT NO BETTER OFFER WAS FORTHCOMING WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. COURT AND THE CREDITOR'S COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK.

THE PROCEEDS OF SALE WILL BE HELD TO ORDER OF THE U.S. COURT PENDING RESOLUTION OF THE CLAIMS OF ALL THE CREDITORS AGAINST DEAK.

THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER HAS ASSERTED CLAIMS IN THE U.S. PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF DPFE FOR POTENTIALLY VERY LARGE SUMS. THE STATUS AND FULL EXTENT OF THESE CLAIMS IS THE SUBJECT OF LEGAL ARGUMENT AND NEGOTIATION WITH THE PARTIES IN THE U.S. AND MR GLEESON WAS NOT PREPARED TO FORECAST WHAT THE OUTCOME WOULD BE.

IF NECESSARY, THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER WILL COMMENCE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN THE U.S. TO CLARIFY DPFE'S POSITION. BECAUSE OF THIS AND THE NEED NOW TO DRAW UP A FORMAL REORGANISATION PLAN FOR DEAK AND ITS ASSOCIATED COMPANIES FOR FILING IN THE U.S. COURT, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SAY WHAT DPFE MAY BE ABLE TO RECOVER FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE APPROVED SALE.

HE BELIEVED THAT THE REORGANISATION PLAN REQUIRED BY U.S. LAW IS UNLIKELY TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER IN HONG KONG HAS RETAINED EXPERIENCED NEW YORK BANKRUPTCY LAWYERS TO REPRESENT DPFE'S INTERESTS IN THE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS.

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DB BRIEFED ON PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
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A GROUP OF 34 MEMBERS FROM FOUR DISTRICT BOARDS TODAY DISCUSSED PUBLIC HOUSING POLICIES WITH SENIOR HOUSING OFFICIALS DURING A BRIEFING SESSION AT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

THIS WAS PART OF A SERIES OF PRE-ARRANGED BRIEFINGS ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO UPDATE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ON THE LATEST PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

THE VISITING MEMBERS FROM THE YUEN LONG, SHA TIN, TAI PO AND SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARDS WERE WELCOMED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR FUNG TUNG.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF BRIEFING SESSIONS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER SENIOR HOUSING STAFF ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING, INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION, CONSTRUCTION, ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS.

THE PARTY ALSO TOURED THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S EXHIBITION HALL WHERE THEY WERE SHOWN IN MODELS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAYS ON THE MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING SINCE THE 1950'S.

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SILVER AWARDS FOR 163
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POLICE OFFICERS, POLICE CADETS AND JUNIOR POLICE CALL MEMBERS HAVE AGAIN ACHIEVED REMARKABLE RESULTS IN THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME BY COLLECTING OVER A THIRD OF THE SILVER AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, AT A CEREMONY THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

A TOTAL OF 163 PEOPLE RECEIVED THEIR SILVER AWARDS TODAY.

OFFICIATING AT THE 40TH SILVER AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT KOWLOON REGIONAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS, MR ANNING SAID THE SCHEME'S VERY NOBLE OBJECTIVES, WITH ITS AIMS OF DEVELOPING AND ENCOURAGING YOUTH, ARE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL TO SOCIETY AND WORTHY OF THE COMMUNITY'S SUPPORT.

"I AM CERTAIN THAT OUR PROBLEMS WOULD INCREASE WERE IT NOT FOR SCHEMES SUCH AS THIS, WHICH KEEP SO MANY OF OUR YOUTH OCCUPIED AND AWAY FROM THE VARIOUS NEFARIOUS INFLUENCES WHICH CAN LEAD TO DELINQUENCY," HE SAID.

/'THE POLICE

''THE POLICE RECOGNISED THIS FACT LONG AGO AND HAVE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE SCHEME FOR MANY YEARS.''

MR ANNING NOTED THAT THE HIGH ESTEEM IN WHICH THE POLICE HELD THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME WAS BEST ILLUSTRATED BY THE FACT THAT, AT PRESENT, THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE PROVIDES 20 PER CENT OF THE LOCAL ORGANISING AUTHORITIES, HAVING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALMOST AN EIGHTH OF THE ESTIMATED 35 000 ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE TERRITORY.

POLICE PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHEME WAS NOT JUST TO REAP BENEFITS FROM IT, BUT ALSO TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT, HE SAID. THE EXCHANGES OF VIEWS BETWEEN POLICE OFFICERS AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS LED TO EACH DEVELOPING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE OTHER'S ROLE IN THE SOCIETY.

MR ANNING GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT THE POLICE WOULD CONTINUE TO OFFER THIS DEGREE OF SUPPORT AS THEY ARE CONVINCED THE SCHEME ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF POLICE SERVICE.

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MANPOWER SURVEY TO INCLUDE FUR SECTOR

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THE MANPOWER AND TRAINING NEEDS OF THE FUR SECTOR OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WILL BE LOOKED INTO FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE SURVEY, TO BE CARRIED OUT FROM AUGUST 21 TO SEPTEMBER 6, WILL COVER 1 200 ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE THREE MAJOR SECTORS OF THE INDUSTRY -- GARMENT, KNITWEAR AND FUR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRAINING BOARD SAID THAT THE FUR SECTOR PRESENTED POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER GROWTH IN VIEW OF THE CHANGING TRENDS IN FASHION AND NO QUOTA RESTRICTIONS BEING IMPOSED ON FUR ITEMS.

THE SURVEY WOULD HELP TO ASCERTAIN THE MANPOWER AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS OF THE FUR SECTOR IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, SO THAT APPROPRIATE TRAINING PLANS COULD BE FORMULATED TO MEET DEMAND.

INFORMATION ON THE MANPOWER SITUATION OF THE GARMENT AND KNITWEAR SECTORS WILL ALSO BE VITAL FOR THE BOARD TO REVIEW ITS TRAINING RECOMMENDATION TO THE INDUSTRY.

/EMPLOYERS WERE

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EMPLOYERS WERE ASKED TO CO-OPERATE BY SUPPLYING ACCURATE INFORMATION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT STAFF WILL CALL ON INDIVIDUAL FIRMS TO HELP IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRES.

ALL INFORMATION WOULD BE KEPT IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND RELEASED IN STATISTICAL SUMMARIES ONLY, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY ESTABLISHMENT, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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SUPPORT FOR COURTESY SCHEME
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PETER LEEDS, TOURED THE HONG KONG LICENSING OFFICE AND THE HONG KONG DRIVING TEST APPOINTMENTS OFFICE TODAY TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR THE COURTESY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

THE TWO OFFICES ARE AMONG NINE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FRONTLINE OFFICES TAKING PART IN THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH SCHEME TO PROMOTE COURTESY WHILE SERVING THE PUBLIC.

SINCE JULY, ABOUT 150 STAFF FROM THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ATTENDED CUSTOMER SERVICE SKILLS COURSES UNDER THE SCHEME AND PRE-IMPROVEMENT AND POST-IMPROVEMENT CUSTOMER OPINION SURVEYS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED AT EACH OF THESE FRONTLINE OFFICES.

TOMORROW, THE ACTING DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR RICHARD MEAKIN, WILL VISIT THE KOWLOON LICENSING OFFICE, THE KOWLOON DRIVING TEST APPOINTMENTS OFFICE AND THE KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES REGIONAL OFFICES, WITH THE SAME AIM OF ENCOURAGING GREATER COURTESY AMONG FRONTLINE STAFF.

ON WEDNESDAY, THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT (ADMINISTRATION), MR REGINALD POLE-EVANS, WILL TOUR THE SHA TIN LICENSING OFFICE AND THE HONG KONG REGIONAL OFFICE.

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FRESH WATER RESERVOIR FOR SHA TIN
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR TO THE WEST OF LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD IN SHA TIN.

THE RESERVOIR, WITH A STORAGE CAPACITY OF 30 000 CUBIC METRES, WILL CATER TO THE NEEDS OF THE POPULATION OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND THE LOW-LYING AREAS OF SHA TIN VALLEY.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START AT THE END OF OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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CAUSEWAY BAY TAPS OFF
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 15) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR A LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY VICTORIA PARK ROAD, PATERSON STREET, GREAT GEORGE STREET, EAST POINT ROAD, HENNESSY ROAD AND PERCIVAL STREET, INCLUDING KELLETT ISLAND.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 59.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 348.239 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 481.983 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 82.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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