



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1991

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1991

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FULL WATER SUPPLY UNTIL END OF OCTOBER

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED THAT THE PRESENT FULL WATER SUPPLY WILL BE MAINTAINED UNTIL AT LEAST THE END OF OCTOBER.

THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WONG KWOK-LAI, SAID THIS WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE IMPROVED STORAGE LEVEL IN THE RESERVOIRS AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT RAINFALL AND CHINA'S AGREEMENT TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL WATER TO HONG KONG.

BUT HE ADDED THAT WHETHER IT WAS NECESSARY TO IMPOSE WATER RESTRICTIONS LATER THIS YEAR WOULD DEPEND ON THE RAINFALL RECEIVED IN THE REMAINDER OF THE CURRENT WET SEASON.

A FULL REVIEW OF THE TOTAL RESOURCES WILL BE MADE AT THE END OF OCTOBER.

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TODAY (WEDNESDAY), FUNDS TALLING \$105.8 MILLION WERE APPROVED FOR THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL WATER FROM CHINA AND OTHER RELATED NON-RECURRENT COMMITMENTS.

"FOLLOWING THE APPROVAL OF THE NECESSARY FUNDS, A FORMAL AGREEMENT MAY NOW BE ENTERED INTO WITH CHINA FOR SECURING THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF WATER," MR WONG SAID.

HE RECALLED THAT A PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED EARLY THIS MONTH WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES IN CANTON, UNDER WHICH CHINA WILL SUPPLY A FURTHER 145 MILLION CUBIC METRES (MCM), POSSIBLY 151 MCM IF CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT, IN ADDITION TO THE 570 MCM ALREADY AGREED FOR 1991-92.

AS AT 9 AM TODAY, THE STORAGE LEVEL STOOD AT 238.45 MCM OR 40.7 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY.

THIS COMPARED WITH 312.552 MCM OR 53.3 PER CENT AT THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR. AT THE BEGINNING OF JUNE THIS YEAR, THE AMOUNT STOOD AT JUST 129 MCM, REPRESENTING 22 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL STORAGE.

IN THE MEANTIME, MR WONG ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO DO EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO CONSERVE WATER AND AVOID WASTAGE.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1991

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STUDY OF WESTERN HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THE APPOINTMENT OF APH CONSULTANTS TO CARRY OUT THE WESTERN HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES THAT WILL COMMENCE ON SEPTEMBER 9 THIS YEAR.

THE AREA INVOLVED IN THE STUDY COVERS THE WATERS BETWEEN CHEUNG CHAU AND LAMMA ISLAND TO INCLUDE HEI LING CHAU AND SUNSHINE ISLAND.

THE PROJECT MANAGER OF THE PORT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR C.L. AU, EXPLAINED THAT THE AIM OF THE STUDY IS TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY, EXTENT AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION OF OFF-SHORE PORT FACILITIES IN THE WESTERN HARBOUR TO MEET FUTURE DEMAND.

IT IS INTENDED THAT THE OFF-SHORE PORT FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED IN THE WESTERN HARBOUR INCLUDE AN ANCHORAGE AREA PROTECTED BY A BREAKWATER TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT WEST LAMMA CHANNEL, AND A TYPHOON SHELTER AT HEI LING CHAU.

THE BREAKWATER BETWEEN LAMMA AND CHEUNG CHAU WILL ALSO PROVIDE PROTECTION TO THE PORT FACILITIES AT THE LANTAU PORT PENINSULA.

IN ADDITION, THE STUDY WILL ALSO EXAMINE THE PROVISION OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNELS FOR OCEAN-GOING SHIPS AS WELL AS FERRIES TO MACAU AND OTHER OUTLYING DISTRICTS.

THE STUDY, SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF NEXT YEAR, WILL ALSO INVESTIGATE THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING A RECLAMATION BEHIND THE PROPOSED BREAKWATER FOR SPECIAL INDUSTRIAL USES.

APH CONSULTANTS, A JOINT VENTURE FORMED BY ACER CONSULTANTS (FAR EAST) LTD, AU POSFORD CONSULTANTS LTD AND FREDERIC R HARRIS INC, IN ADDITION TO THIS STUDY, ARE ALSO UNDERTAKING THE LANTAU PORT PENINSULA DEVELOPMENT STUDY.

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JOINT ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OPERATION MOUNTED

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A TERRITORY-WIDE ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OPERATION JOINTLY MOUNTED BY THE POLICE, AND THE LABOUR AND IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENTS RECENTLY HAS RESULTED IN THE ARRESTS OF 63 PERSONS.

THE OPERATION WAS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUOUS EFFORT TO FLUSH OUT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

OF THE ARRESTED PERSONS, 38 WERE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS CAUGHT AT THE BORDER. THEY HAVE BEEN SENT TO SAN UK LING FOR REPATRIATION.

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THE REMAINING 25 HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION. THOSE FOUND TO BE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WILL BE REPATRIATED.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN REITERATED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ANY AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

"OUR LATEST OPERATION SHOULD DRIVE HOME THE POINT THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE TO THIS POLICY. ANYONE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE IS ONLY CHEATING HIMSELF," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT APART FROM CONTINUOUS CHECKS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, THERE WAS NO LET-UP IN ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION EFFORTS AT THE BORDER.

"A HIGH STATE OF VIGILANCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE MAINTAINED BY THE POLICE AND THE SECURITY FORCES BOTH AT THE LAND AND SEA BORDERS," HE SAID.

DURING THE JOINT OPERATION, WHICH BEGAN AT 5 AM YESTERDAY AND ENDED AT 5 AM TODAY, THE POLICE HAD STEPPED UP THEIR IDENTIFICATION SPOT CHECKS IN PUBLIC PLACES AND CARRIED OUT CHECKS AT SUSPICIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

AS A RESULT, A TOTAL OF 11,737 PERSONS, 2,187 VEHICLES AND 371 VESSELS WERE STOPPED FOR IDENTIFICATION CHECKS.

THREE PERSONS WERE SUMMONSED AND 13 PERSONS CHARGED FOR FAILING TO PRODUCE PROPER PROOF OF IDENTITY. A FURTHER 10 PERSONS WERE WARNED IN RESPECT OF THIS OFFENCE, WHICH CARRIES A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$1,000.

ON THE LABOUR FRONT, INSPECTORS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT VISITED 2,765 ESTABLISHMENTS TO WEED OUT ANY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO MAY BE WORKING, AND TO CHECK THAT EMPLOYERS FULFIL THEIR LEGAL OBLIGATION OF KEEPING PROPER RECORDS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES.

A TOTAL OF 9,853 EMPLOYEES HAD THEIR PROOF OF IDENTITY CHECKED DURING THE OPERATION.

TWENTY-TWO ESTABLISHMENTS WERE FOUND NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR INSPECTION A RECORD OF EMPLOYEES.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THEY COULD BE FINED UP TO \$50,000 AND JAILED FOR UP TO A YEAR IF THEY WERE FOUND TO BE EMPLOYING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

PEOPLE URGED TO TAKE UP CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES

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HONG KONG PEOPLE SHOULD STRIVE TO BOOST THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITIES THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN MORE COMMUNITY BUILDING PURSUITS, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ADDRESSING A JOINT LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUB DISTRICT 303, MR LAN ENCOURAGED THEM TO REFLECT, THROUGH THE MANY CHANNELS, THEIR CRITICISMS OR SUGGESTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THE ADMINISTRATION MORE EFFICIENT.

"TO HELP FULFILL THIS OBJECTIVE, ELIGIBLE ELECTORS SHOULD EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC DUTY BY CASTING THEIR VOTES IN HONG KONG'S FIRST DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE ON SEPTEMBER 15.

"BY ELECTING CAPABLE REPRESENTATIVES WHO CAN FIGHT FOR MORE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS AND BENEFITS FOR THE PEOPLE AT LARGE, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO CREATE A MORE IDEAL COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY NOTED THAT AS A COMMUNITY BECAME MORE AND MORE AFFLUENT, PEOPLE'S ASPIRATIONS FOR ITS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE MUCH HIGHER.

NO GOVERNMENT COULD PROGRESS IF THERE WAS A LACK OF CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT FROM ITS PEOPLE, HE ADDED.

MR LAN ALSO GAVE AN ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST 20 TO 30 YEARS.

"WE SHOULD NOT BE COMPLACENT WITH WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED," HE SAID, ADDING THAT MORE NEEDED TO BE DONE TO MAINTAIN THAT MOMENTUM.

MR LAN ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAISE THE LIONS CLUB FOR ITS EFFORTS IN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT.

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PARA 8(M) DOES NOT INFRINGE BILL OF RIGHTS

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IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA ENQUIRIES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT PARAGRAPH 8(M) OF THE RADIO ADVERTISING STANDARDS CODE OF PRACTICE DOES NOT INFRINGE THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 16 OF THE HONG KONG BILL OF RIGHTS ORDINANCE.

HE SAID THAT SOME RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT IN THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA ARE DESIRABLE TO TRY TO ENSURE THE IMPARTIALITY OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS.

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THIS IS BECAUSE POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENTS COULD FAVOUR THOSE PARTIES WHO CAN AFFORD TO LAUNCH ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS THROUGH THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA. OTHER PARTIES WHOSE RESOURCES DO NOT PERMIT SUCH ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS COULD THEREBY BE PREJUDICED.

THE RESTRICTION WOULD NOT BE INCONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE 16 OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS (FREEDOM OF OPINION AND EXPRESSION); INDEED THE RESTRICTION PROVIDES SAFEGUARDS FOR THE RIGHT OF PEOPLE TO TAKE PART IN A FAIR ELECTION WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION UNDER ARTICLE 21.

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HK PEOPLE ADVISED TO POSTPONE
NON-ESSENTIAL TRIPS TO SOVIET UNION
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ON THE ADVICE OF THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ADVISED HONG KONG RESIDENTS TO POSTPONE ALL NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL TO THE SOVIET UNION, WHERE A STATE OF EMERGENCY HAS BEEN DECLARED.

"WE SEE NO NEED FOR VISITORS ALREADY THERE TO CUT SHORT THEIR VISITS, BUT THEY SHOULD ACT SENSIBLY, AVOID DEMONSTRATIONS, LISTEN TO THE RADIO FOR NEWS AND CONTACT THE BRITISH EMBASSY ON TELEPHONE NUMBER 231 8511 FOR ADVICE IF NECESSARY," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

PEOPLE WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES IN THE SOVIET UNION MAY CONTACT THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE NUMBER 829 3075 OR 829 3076 DURING OFFICE HOURS, AND ON 543 1958 AFTER OFFICE HOURS.

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RC COMMITTEE BRIEFED ON BCCHK DEVELOPMENT
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THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION SELECT COMMITTEE WAS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BRIEFED ON THE LATEST EVENTS CONCERNING THE BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE (HONG KONG), FOLLOWING AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL EARLY THIS MONTH.

AT THAT COUNCIL MEETING, IT WAS DECIDED THAT:

- * THE COUNCIL WELCOMES ANY REASONABLE PROPOSAL WHICH WILL ENABLE IT TO SECURE ALL OF ITS REMAINING DEPOSITS WITH THE BCCHK;
- * IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE CONVERSION OF PART OF THE REMAINING DEPOSITS WITH THE BCCHK INTO LONGER TERM INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS, SUBJECT TO THE NECESSARY APPROVAL BEING OBTAINED FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, IF THIS WOULD ASSIST IN ACHIEVING THE ABOVE OBJECTIVE;

- * AT THIS STAGE, THE COUNCIL SHOULD NOT COMMIT ITSELF TO ANY SINGLE RESCUE PROPOSAL BUT SHOULD MONITOR CLOSELY THE DEVELOPMENTS AND THE DETAILS OF THE VARIOUS RESCUE PROPOSALS; AND
- * THE COUNCIL'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION SELECT COMMITTEE WOULD BE DELEGATED WITH AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE TO HANDLE THE ISSUE.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE EVENTS WILL BE MONITORED CLOSELY BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

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RECEPTION TO COMMEMORATE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF POST OFFICE
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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THE POST OFFICE WILL ISSUE A SET OF COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 25 TO MARK ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY.

AS THIS IS A HISTORIC OCCASION, ALL BRANCH POST OFFICES WILL OPEN FOR A FEW HOURS ON THAT DAY TO SELL THE NEW STAMPS AND TO DATESTAMP FIRST DAY COVERS.

THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF SALE AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, 2 CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT 9 AM ON SUNDAY AND AT THE CELEBRATION PARTY THAT FOLLOWS.

THIS FUNCTION, TOGETHER WITH THE PUBLIC CONCERT TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 26 AT THE SHATIN RACE COURSE, MARKS THE CLIMAX OF THE SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER.

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249 VM'S RETURN TO VIETNAM
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A GROUP OF 249 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 107 MEN, 60 WOMEN, 41 BOYS AND 41 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 64TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 9,052 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY.

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HOLIDAY CLINIC SERVICES

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT EIGHT GENERAL OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL STAY OPEN ON AUGUST 24 (THE SATURDAY PRECEDING THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST) AND AUGUST 26 (LIBERATION DAY AND THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST) WHICH ARE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THEY ARE THE VIOLET PEEL HEALTH CENTRE AND SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC ON HONG KONG ISLAND; KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE, THE ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE AND YAU MA TEI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN KOWLOON; THE LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC, SHEK WU HUI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC AND YUEN LONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THESE CLINICS WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM. ALL OTHER GENERAL OUT-PATIENT AND EVENING CLINICS WILL BE CLOSED.

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TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ROADSIDE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT ALL ROADSIDE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICES ALONG TUEN MUN ROAD, TSUEN WAN ROAD, TSING YI NORTH AND SOUTH BRIDGES, SHA TIN ROAD, TOLO HIGHWAY, NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD AND THE LOK MA CHAU BORDER LINK WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM SEPTEMBER 24 (TUESDAY) TO OCTOBER 14 (MONDAY).

THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SERVICES IS TO FACILITATE THE RELOCATION OF THE POLICE REGIONAL COMMAND AND CONTROL CENTRE FROM KWAI CHUNG TO TAI PO.

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GOVT LOT IN WESTERN TO LET BY TENDER

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCY OF A GOVERNMENT SITE IN WESTERN DISTRICT, ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

LOCATED AT 5-17 QUEEN STREET, THE SITE MEASURES 775 SQUARE METRES AND IS FOR OPEN STORAGE (EXCLUDING DANGEROUS GOODS, CONTAINERS, CONTAINER VEHICLES AND TRAILERS), AND/OR FOR A FEE-PAYING PUBLIC CARPARK FOR LICENSED PRIVATE CARS.

THE TENANCY IS FOR SIX MONTHS, RENEWABLE MONTHLY AFTERWARDS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON SEPTEMBER 6.

FORM OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT THE HONG KONG WEST AND KOWLOON DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES, AND THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	20.8.91	600
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	21.8.91	-72
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+72
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 113.5 *-0.3* 21.8.91		

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

	20.8.91	21.8.91
MATURING IN 1 WEEK	4.61 PCT	4.52 PCT
1 MONTH	4.96 PCT	4.90 PCT
3 MONTHS	5.49 PCT	5.49 PCT
6 MONTHS	5.86 PCT	5.87 PCT
12 MONTHS	6.40 PCT	6.38 PCT
TOTAL BILLS TRANSFERRED	5,370 MN	6,338 MN

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