



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1982

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COMING U.C. ELECTIONS 'NEW AND DIFFERENT'

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THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS NEXT MARCH WOULD BE +NEW AND SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT+ AND PRODUCE A MORE COHESIVE AND INTEGRATED ADMINISTRATION FOR THE CITY, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY.

THE ELECTIONS WOULD ALSO COMPLETE FOR THE TIME BEING THE REFORMS OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OUTLINED IN THE WHITE PAPER ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, HE ADDED.

IN A SPEECH TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF TSIM SHA TSUI EAST, MR AKERS-JONES OUTLINED SOME OF THE NEW ELEMENTS OF THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS WHICH INCLUDED:

- * THE SIZE OF THE ELIGIBLE ELECTORATE HAS BEEN INCREASED FOUR TIMES FROM 500 000 IN 1981 TO 2 000 000;
- * THE SIZE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORATE AT THE CLOSE OF THE LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD EARLIER THIS MONTH WAS 708 305 -- 20 TIMES THAT OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN RECENT YEARS;
- * FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON A CONSTITUENCY BASIS UNDER WHICH PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF HONG KONG WILL ELECT THEIR OWN LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES;
- * THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF 15 SINGLE-MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES WITH AN AVERAGE POPULATION OF ROUGHLY 250 000 EACH;
- * THE NUMBER OF APPOINTED URBAN COUNCILLORS WILL BE CORRESPONDINGLY INCREASED BY THREE TO 15, BRINGING THE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL TO 30; AND
- * THE COMPOSITION OF DISTRICT BOARDS IN URBAN AREAS WILL ALSO BE ENLARGED AFTER THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS WITH THE FIVE LARGER DISTRICTS HAVING TWO ELECTED AND TWO APPOINTED URBAN COUNCILLORS AND THE FIVE SMALLER DISTRICTS ONE EACH.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID THAT THIS ENLARGEMENT WOULD NOT ONLY STRENGTHEN THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS BUT WOULD +PRODUCE A MORE COHESIVE AND INTEGRATED ADMINISTRATION FOR OUR CITY WITH INVOLVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE AT ALL LEVELS, FROM THE STREETS OF KWUN TONG TO THE CITY HALL IN CENTRAL+.

+FROM THEN ON THE ELECTED URBAN COUNCILLORS RETURNED BY THE CONSTITUENCY-BASED ELECTIONS WILL BE DIRECTLY ANSWERABLE TO THE PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT AND CONVERSELY THE URBAN COUNCILLORS THEMSELVES WILL HAVE A MORE INTIMATE AND RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH A PARTICULAR DISTRICT AND CONSTITUENCY,+ HE SAID.

+AT THE CENTRE, THE URBAN COUNCIL ITSELF WILL BE KEPT IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE WISHES AND ASPIRATIONS OF EACH LOCALITY.

+THIS WILL

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+THIS WILL ENSURE A BETTER AND MORE INFORMED RESPONSE FROM THE CENTRE TO DISTRICT PROBLEMS.

+FINALLY, BECAUSE IT WILL INCREASE THE ELECTIVE ELEMENT OF THE BOARDS, IT WILL STRENGTHEN THEIR REPRESENTATIVENESS AND AUTHORITY TO SPEAK ON THE LOCAL IMPACT OF CENTRAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES.+

IN HIS SPEECH, THE SECRETARY TRACED THE HISTORY OF THE URBAN COUNCIL BACK TO 1883 WHEN THE FIRST SANITARY BOARD WAS ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH THE FLEDGLING CITY'S MUNICIPAL PROBLEMS.

HE OUTLINED THE CHANGES THAT TOOK PLACE RIGHT UP TO THE WHITE PAPER ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, DESCRIBING THE PROCESS AS +A CONTINUOUS EVOLUTION AND RESPONSE TO CHANGING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN KEEPING WITH THE DYNAMIC CHARACTER OF HONG KONG+.

+AND YET UNDERLYING THE PROCESS OF CHANGE AND ADAPTATION WE FIND ENDURING QUALITIES, THOSE FUNDAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WHICH ARE SO VITAL TO ITS STABILITY AND PROSPERITY.

+THE HISTORY OF HONG KONG SHOWS THAT THE BULK OF THE ISSUES AND PROBLEMS IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE MINDS OF PEOPLE TODAY -- ECONOMIC RECESSION, DECLINING LAND VALUES (OR CONVERSELY LAND SPECULATION DEPENDING ON OUR PREVAILING ECONOMIC FORTUNES), LAW AND ORDER, OVERCROWDING, IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND WATER SUPPLY HAVE BEEN ALWAYS WITH US.

+SELDOM IN THE PAST HAVE THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE BEEN FREE FROM THE NEED TO GRAPPLE WITH ONE OR ANOTHER OF THESE PROBLEMS, AND WE CAN LOOK WITH PRIDE AND SATISFACTION OVER THE PAST THAT WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN RESILIENT ENOUGH TO RISE TO THE CHALLENGE, AND GET THE BETTER OF THEM.

+IF HISTORY HAS ANY LESSONS TO TEACH IT WILL TELL US THAT WE CAN FACE THE FUTURE CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL FIND A HONG KONG SOLUTION TO HONG KONG'S PROBLEMS.+

MR AKERS-JONES ADDED : +WE NOW HAVE AN INTERNAL LIFE AND AN IDENTITY OF OUR OWN AND THE URBAN COUNCIL IS YOUR COUNCIL+.

HE URGED +ALL AS CITIZENS OF THIS GREAT AND WONDERFUL CITY, WHICH HAS GROWN FROM NOTHING, TO PLAY YOUR PART IN THE ELECTIONS FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL NEXT YEAR. FOR IT IS YOUR CONCERN+.

THE URBAN COUNCIL IS NOW THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR A BROAD SPECTRUM OF PUBLIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES RANGING FROM STREET CLEANSING, FOOD HYGIENE, HAWKERS, RUNNING PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS, BUILDING AND MANAGING MARKETS AND HAWKER BAZAARS, SWIMMING POOLS, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND SPORTING STADIA.

THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES WILL BEGIN ON JANUARY 7, AND LAST FOR THREE WEEKS. ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 8.

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APPLICATION INVITED FOR YEAR OF THE PIG GOLD COIN

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THE ISSUE OF A LIMITED QUANTITY OF \$1 000 GOLD COINS TO MARK THE COMING LUNAR NEW YEAR - THE YEAR OF THE PIG.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM ALL OFFICES OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION AND DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION. THE CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR APPLICATIONS WILL BE JANUARY 5, 1983 AT 4.30 PM.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THIS YEAR, THE PROOF VERSION OF THE COIN IS PRICED AT \$3 300 WHILE THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED COIN COSTS \$2 200.

+THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE IS THE SAME AS THAT OF LAST YEAR IN THAT CHEQUES ON PERSONAL ACCOUNTS ARE ACCEPTED AS WELL AS CASHIER'S ORDERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+HOWEVER, APPLICATIONS ARE RESTRICTED TO RESIDENTS WITH A HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD. IN THE EVENT OF OVER SUBSCRIPTION, ONLY ONE APPLICATION FOR EACH TYPE OF COIN WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE BALLOT FOR ANY ONE HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD HOLDER,+ HE ADDED.

THE YEAR OF THE PIG GOLD COIN IS THE EIGHTH IN A SERIES TO COMMEMORATE THE 12 LUNAR YEARS WHICH FALL IN THE WESTERN CALENDAR YEARS 1976-87.

WORLD-WIDE MINTAGE FOR EACH COIN IN THE SERIES IS LIMITED, AND THE YEAR OF THE PIG COIN IS NO EXCEPTION. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT 12 000 PROOF AND 15 000 UNCIRCULATED COINS HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE FOR HONG KONG RESIDENTS.

UNLIKE THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED COIN, THE PROOF VERSION USES A SPECIALLY SELECTED BLANK AND THIS IS STRUCK WITH CONSIDERABLE FORCE BETWEEN CAREFULLY PREPARED AND ULTRA SHARP DIES. THIS BLOW PRESSES THE DESIGN ON EACH SIDE OF THE BLANK AND ALSO AROUND THE EDGE.

THE PROOF VERSION IS FURTHER ENHANCED BY AN ATTRACTIVE FROSTING OF THE RELIEF DESIGN AND THIS IS ACHIEVED BY BLASTING THE DIES WITH IMMENSELY HARD PARTICLES. THE TABLE OF THE PROOF COIN DIE IS PAINSTAKINGLY POLISHED WITH DIAMOND PASTE TO ACHIEVE A MIRROR-LIKE FINISH. THE COIN IS THEN IMPRESSED WITH EXTRA FIRM PRESSURE TO ENSURE THE CLARITY OF DETAIL THAT IS UNIQUE TO PROOF COINS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT, AS IN THE PAST, THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE COIN WILL BE PUT INTO A SPECIAL COIN SUSPENSE ACCOUNT WHICH HELPS TO FINANCE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROJECTS FOR THE GROWING NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

A TOTAL OF \$70 MILLION FROM GOLD COIN PROFITS HAD BEEN USED TO FINANCE THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS :

\$15 MILLION QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM

\$55 MILLION SILVER JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE

AND INITIALLY \$33 MILLION HAD BEEN SET ASIDE TO PURCHASE FLATS TO PROVIDE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED RESIDENTS TO HAND IN THEIR APPLICATIONS EARLY. COMPLETED FORMS, TOGETHER WITH CASHIER'S ORDERS OR CROSSED CHEQUES DATED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 5, 1983 AND MADE PAYABLE TO +HONG KONG GOVERNMENT 1983 SPECIAL COIN ACCOUNTS+, MUST REACH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING BRANCHES OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION BY 4.30 PM OF THAT DAY :

7 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

82-84 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

673 NATHAN ROAD, MONG KOK, KOWLOON.

192 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG, NEW TERRITORIES.

455-457 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

306 KING'S ROAD, NORTH POINT, HONG KONG.

40-50 DES VOEUX ROAD WEST, HONG KONG.

1 YUE MAN SQUARE, KWUN TONG, KOWLOON.

42 WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, ABERDEEN, HONG KONG.

1 HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

STRUCK IN 22 CARAT GOLD, EACH COIN MEASURES 28.4 MM IN DIAMETER AND WEIGHS 15.976 GRAMMES. THE OBERSE CARRIES A WELL-KNOWN PORTRAIT OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN WHILE THE REVERSE DEPICTS A +SWAY-BACK+ PIG, A DESIGN WHICH WAS SPECIALLY COMMISSIONED FOR THIS ISSUE.

EACH COIN WILL BE PACKAGED IN A PLASTIC SCREW TOP CAPSULE AND SUPPLIED WITH A PRESENTATION CASE AND A DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET.

GOLD COINS WITH A FACE VALUE OF \$1 000 WERE MADE LEGAL TENDER ON MAY 5, 1975.

THE YEAR OF THE PIG BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 13, 1983 AND ENDS ON FEBRUARY 1, 1984. THE PIG IS REGARDED AS THE BIRTHDAY ANIMAL FOR PEOPLE BORN BETWEEN THESE DATES AND FOR ANYONE BORN IN PREVIOUS YEARS OF THE PIG:

1911 - 1912 (JANUARY 30, 1911 TO FEBRUARY 17, 1912)

1923 - 1924 (FEBRUARY 16, 1923 TO FEBRUARY 4, 1924)

1935 - 1936 (FEBRUARY 4, 1935 TO JANUARY 23, 1936)

1947 - 1948 (JANUARY 22, 1947 TO FEBRUARY 9, 1948)

1959 - 1960 (FEBRUARY 8, 1959 TO JANUARY 27, 1960)

1971 - 1972 (JANUARY 27, 1971 TO FEBRUARY 14, 1972)

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SECURITIES AND COMMODITIES CHAIRMAN TO RETIRE

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AFTER NEARLY 10 YEARS SERVICE STEERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN IMPORTANT PART OF HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL SECTOR, MR Y.H. KAN WILL RETIRE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITIES COMMISSION AND OF THE COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION.

AT A LUNCHEON GIVEN IN MR KAN'S HONOUR TODAY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, EXPRESSED THE GOVERNMENT'S WARM APPRECIATION OF HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION OVER THE YEARS. DURING THIS TIME, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUND REGULATION HAD BEEN A KEY FACTOR IN THE SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STOCK AND COMMODITIES MARKETS IN HONG KONG AND THE EMERGENCE OF HONG KONG AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

MR Y.H. KAN WAS INVITED IN JANUARY 1973 TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL, THE FORERUNNER OF THE SECURITIES COMMISSION. IN MARCH 1974, MR KAN BECAME THE FIRST CHAIRMAN OF THIS STATUTORY BODY APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO REGULATE TRADING IN SECURITIES IN HONG KONG.

IN 1976, UNDER THE LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HONG KONG COMMODITY EXCHANGE, MR Y.H. KAN BECAME ALSO THE FIRST CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION.

A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT DURING MR KAN'S LONG TERM OF OFFICE WAS THE MOVE TO UNITE THE FOUR STOCK EXCHANGES. AFTER YEARS OF PATIENT NEGOTIATION, THE FORMING OF THE NEW STOCK EXCHANGES OF HONG KONG LIMITED AND THE PASSING OF THE ENABLING LEGISLATION WAS A MARKED SUCCESS FOR THE WORK OF THE SECURITIES COMMISSION. DURING THIS PERIOD MR KAN WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING UP AND DEVELOPING SEVERAL IMPORTANT COMMITTEES OF THE COMMISSION, SUCH AS THE COMMITTEE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS AND THE COMMITTEE ON UNIT TRUSTS AND MUTUAL FUNDS.

THE GOVERNOR SAID MR KAN'S UNDOUBTED SUCCESS WAS DUE PARTLY TO HIS LONG BANKING EXPERIENCE IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS. BUT OF MORE IMPORTANCE WAS MR KAN'S UNDOUBTED INTEGRITY AND PERSONAL QUALITIES. THE GOVERNOR SAID HONG KONG WAS VERY FORTUNATE IN HAVING SUCH LEADERS AS MR KAN WILLING TO DEVOTE THEIR TIME AND ENERGIES TO THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS.

SUCCEEDING MR KAN IS MR ARCHIBALD ZIMMERN, CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES COMMISSION. MR ZIMMERN RECENTLY RETIRED FROM THE BENCH AS A JUSTICE OF APPEAL. HIS APPOINTMENT WILL BE EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1, 1983.

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CONFISCATED TORTOISES LEFT FOR NEW HOME

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A CONSIGNMENT OF 57 TORTOISES HAVE LEFT FOR A NEW HOME IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AFTER SPENDING ABOUT TWO MONTHS IN HONG KONG.

THE REPTILES, KNOWN AS RADIATED TORTOISES BECAUSE OF THEIR COLOURFUL SHELLS, WERE ILLEGALLY IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG BY A SEAMAN IN OCTOBER.

AS RADIATED TORTOISES ARE A HIGHLY ENDANGERED SPECIES, THE SEAMAN WAS CHARGED UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE. RADIATED TORTOISES ARE VEGETARIANS AND ARE AMONG THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND VALUABLE OF TURTLES.

A COURT LATER IMPOSED A FINE OF \$2 000 ON THE SEAMAN WHO PLEADED GUILTY TO THE CHARGE.

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SOON BEGAN LOOKING FOR A PERMANENT HOME FOR THE TORTOISES.

IT HAS SINCE BEEN DECIDED THAT THE JERSEY ZOOLOGICAL PARK OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS GROUP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM BE GIVEN THE TORTOISES. THE PARK IS WELL KNOWN FOR BREEDING ENDANGERED SPECIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE TO IMPORT OR POSSESS ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS WITHOUT AUTHORISATION.

POSSESSION AND IMPORTATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS, INCLUDING PARTS, IS REGULATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE WHICH GIVES EFFECT TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES). THE CONVENTION IS A TRADE AGREEMENT AND IS ENFORCED AT INTERNATIONAL BORDER CROSSINGS.

SOME LOCAL RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO BRING ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS INTO HONG KONG AFTER VISITS TO NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

THESE ARE CONFISCATED WHENEVER FOUND AND THE IMPORTERS BROUGHT BEFORE COURTS UNDER RELEVANT CHARGES.

SINCE APRIL THIS YEAR, THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAS SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTED 200 CASES UNDER THE LEGISLATION.

FINES TOTALLING \$93 000 WERE IMPOSED BY THE COURTS WITH GOODS VALUED AT \$170 000 HAVING BEEN CONFISCATED.

THE CONFISCATED GOODS INCLUDE 391 SEA TURTLE EGGS, 21 SEA TURTLE SPECIMENS, 14 LIVE PANGOLINS, 25 DEAD PANGOLINS AND 165 PIECES OF PYTHON SKIN.

ABOUT 80 OTHER CASES WERE AWAITING COURT HEARINGS.

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STEVEDORING SAFETY GUIDE ISSUED FREE

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A POCKET-SIZE CODE OF SAFE WORKING PRACTICES IN CHINESE FOR PERSONS EMPLOYED IN CARGO HANDLING AFLOAT HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY THE MARINE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SECTION OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND IS BEING ISSUED FREE OF CHARGE TO STEVEDORES.

THE FIRST SECTION OF THE STEVEDORING SAFETY GUIDE EXPLAINS THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS OF VESSELS, OF PERSONS IN CHARGE OF CARGO HANDLING OPERATIONS AND OF THE WORKERS THEMSELVES.

FURTHER SECTIONS DEAL WITH GANGWAYS AND MEANS OF ACCESS, WORK PLACES, THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF HATCHES AND THE USE OF SHIPS' CARGO HANDLING GEAR AND STEVEDORES' GEAR. THE SAFE HANDLING OF CARGO INCLUDING DANGEROUS GOODS AND WORKING CONDITIONS, LIGHTING, VENTILATION, PERSONAL BEHAVIOUR AND HEALTH ARE ALSO COVERED.

THERE ARE LISTS OF +DO'S AND DON'TS+ FOR STEVEDORES, SIGNALMEN, WINCH AND CRANE DRIVERS AND HATCH FOREMEN. SIMILAR SAFETY RULES ARE PROVIDED FOR LIGHTER, TUG BOAT AND LAUNCH CREWS AND FOR MEN WORKING ON BOARD RO RO SHIPS.

THERE IS SENSIBLE ADVICE ON HOW TO LIFT HEAVY OBJECTS WITHOUT STRAINING THE BACK AND A WARNING TO ALL TO TAKE PARTICULAR CARE TO AVOID SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS WHICH CAUSE A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF ACCIDENTS ON BOARD VESSELS, MOST OF WHICH ARE AVOIDABLE IF CARE IS TAKEN BY THE INDIVIDUAL.

FINALLY, A SUMMARY OF THE SHIPPING AND PORT CONTROL (CARGO HANDLING) REGULATIONS, CAP. 313 IS GIVEN TO ACQUAINT STEVEDORING WORKERS WITH THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS MADE BY GOVERNMENT FOR THEIR PROTECTION AGAINST ACCIDENTS.

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GIFTS TO LAST EVERY DAY OF 1983

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SHOPPERS HAVE ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT BEFORE CHRISTMAS TO BUY TWO OF THE MOST COLOURFUL AND REASONABLY-PRICED PRESENTS AVAILABLE THIS FESTIVE SEASON. THESE ARE THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR AND THE GOVERNMENT CALENDAR, AVAILABLE AT \$32 AND \$29 RESPECTIVELY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

THE OBSERVATORY CALENDAR, WHICH IS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM LEADING BOOKSHOPS, FEATURES A WEALTH OF INFORMATION ON WIDE-RANGING TOPICS SUCH AS WIND STUDIES, JET STREAMS AND EVEN THE BLOSSOMING OF PEACHES AT LUNAR NEW YEAR. EACH SUBJECT IS WELL ILLUSTRATED AND ACCOMPANIED BY METEOROLOGICAL DETAILS FOR THAT PARTICULAR MONTH.

THE GOVERNMENT CALENDAR HAS AS ITS THEME THE CONTRIBUTION MADE TO THE COMMUNITY BY THE MANY YOUTH GROUPS OF HONG KONG. IT COMES COMPLETE WITH A LARGE ENVELOPE READY FOR POSTING.

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NEW COMMUNITY HALL FOR AP LEI CHAU
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A NEW COMMUNITY HALL HAS BEEN OPENED ON AP LEI CHAU, PROVIDING THE 13 000 RESIDENTS THERE WITH A MUCH NEEDED VENUE FOR CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.

THE SPECIALLY-DESIGNED BUILDING, LOCATED AMID LOW-COST HOUSING BLOCKS, IS COMPLETE WITH FACILITIES FOR ORGANISING DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES AND IS THE FIRST COMMUNITY HALL IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

THE MULTI-PURPOSE AUDITORIUM HAS A CAPACITY OF 400 PEOPLE AND IS EQUIPPED WITH A STAGE AND LIGHTING AND SOUND SYSTEMS SUITABLE FOR EXHIBITIONS, PARTIES, DRAMA PERFORMANCES, VARIETY SHOWS AND INDOOR SPORTS.

OTHER FACILITIES INCLUDE A CONFERENCE/STUDY ROOM, A RECEPTION AREA, OFFICES AND CHANGING ROOMS.

SINCE ITS OPENING LAST MONTH, THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL HAS BEEN ORGANISING A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS HOME WORK GUIDANCE SESSIONS FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS, FAMILY CAMPS, SINGING COMPETITIONS AND MUSIC PROGRAMMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

+TO BOOST COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR THE DISTRICT, WE ARE NOW RECRUITING YOUNG VOLUNTEERS TO HELP US OUT,+ THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE COMMUNITY HALL, MR LAM HANG-KWONG SAID TODAY.

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INSIGNIA FOR OFFICER CADETS
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FIFTY ASSISTANT OFFICERS OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WERE APPOINTED OFFICER CADETS TODAY (MONDAY).

AT A SPECIAL CEREMONY HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY, SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR ALOYSIUS WONG, PRESENTED RANK INSIGNIA AND APPOINTMENT LETTERS TO THE NEWLY PROMOTED OFFICER CADETS.

ADDRESSING THE CEREMONY, MR WONG POINTED OUT THAT THE OFFICER CADETS HAD BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE AS THEY NOW HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF REACHING THE TOP.

HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT MUCH MORE WAS DEMANDED OF AN OFFICER THAN OF AN ASSISTANT OFFICER IN THE WAY OF TACTFULNESS, INITIATIVE AND DECISION MAKING.

THE NEWLY APPOINTED OFFICER CADETS WILL UNDERGO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT TRAINING IN VARIOUS PENAL INSTITUTIONS AND IN THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE SO THAT THEY MAY CARRY OUT THEIR WORK EFFECTIVELY.

IF THEY PASS THE REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS AND WORK HARD, THEY WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR PROMOTION TO THE OFFICER RANK IN DUE COURSE.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY)
STOOD AT 76.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 443.409 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR, THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 264.244 MILLION
CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 45.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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TRAFFIC RE-ROUTING IN SHAU KEI WAN

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TRAFFIC ON ALDRICH STREET BETWEEN FACTORY STREET AND NAM ON
STREET IN SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND FROM
10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 22).

THIS IS TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF MTR SHAU KEI WAN
STATION.

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